

REGULAR MEETING OF THE OACOMA TOWN BOARD
September 6, 2023

The Oacoma Town Board met in regular session at 7:00 P.M. on September 6, 2023, in Meeting Room #2 at the Oacoma Community Center. Board members present were Gary Dominiack, President; Richard Kirkpatrick, Vice President; Kyle Fuchs; and Justin Rabern. Robin Hutmacher was absent. Also present was Valerie Moore, Finance Officer.

MINUTES

Motion by Rabern, second by Kirkpatrick, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on August 21, 2023.
Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Time was reserved for public comments pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1. No comments were offered.

EQUIPMENT

A quote of \$41,909 was obtained from Billion Automotive for a 2023 Dodge Ram 1500 Tradesman pickup which was available on the dealer's lot and a \$500 credit card deposit was placed on the vehicle to hold it for board consideration. Motion by Kirkpatrick, second by Rabern, to cancel a previous order with Wegner Auto for a Dodge Ram Special Service pickup and authorize purchase of the Dodge Ram 1500 Tradesman from Billion Automotive for \$41,909. Motion carried.

Motion by Rabern, second by Fuchs, to declare the town's 2005 Chevrolet Silverado pickup as surplus property and authorize its sale to another government entity or by public auction in December. Motion carried.

A quote for a used Bobcat skid loader from Cook Implement was reviewed. A recommendation was made to request a quote from Riverview Chevrolet and the topic was tabled to a later date.

WATER STORAGE TANK

The board reviewed a quote for maintenance work of \$97,288 from Great Plains Structures to reseal interior seams on the storage tank located at the Water Treatment Plant. Any anodes needing to be replaced will be billed at the rate of \$650 per anode. The work needed is based on an inspection performed by MIDCO divers in May 2023. The board discussed the possibility of installing a mixer in the tank while it is drained for maintenance. Motion by Kirkpatrick, second by Fuchs, to accept the quote of \$97,288 from Great Plains Structures for maintenance work and to request an option to install a mixer. Motion carried.

WATER FACILITY PLAN

Hard copies of the Water Facility Plan completed by Banner Associates were distributed to board members. The board discussed the water intake extension project recommended in the plan and its cost estimates. The project is necessary because sedimentation at the current intake site has forced the town to raise the intakes above the sediment level several times over the last 20 years and the intake screens are now at their maximum operating elevation. The recommended intake extension project extends the town's raw water intake lines to the river channel where sedimentation problems are mitigated. The total estimated cost of the project is about \$6.3 million. The board discussed the revenue sources needed to fund the project while also maintaining operations of the water system.

Engineers from Banner Associates will attend the board's September 18 meeting to present the Wastewater Facility Plan and address any questions. The board will determine which projects to submit on State Water Plan applications and public hearings will be conducted in November prior submission of state funding applications.

WATER & SEWER RATES

The board discussed eligibility requirements for substantial funding assistance needed to accomplish major water and wastewater projects. Financial reports summarizing year end fund balances for both enterprises reveal that operating expenses are climbing higher than revenues causing stagnant growth which is insufficient to support costs for routine operations, improvements, debt service, and reserves combined. The board reviewed a schedule of proposed water and sewer rates for the years 2024, 2025 and 2026. Recommendations were made to increase the total combined monthly minimum rates in 2024 by \$10 to \$15 for all customers but the board decided to table their decision until after their review of the Wastewater Facility Plan.

2024 BUDGET REVIEW

The board reviewed updated 2024 budget worksheets which included appropriations for approved 2024 funding applications.

2024 APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE NO. 2023-02

Motion by Kirkpatrick, second by Rabern, to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2023-02, Appropriations Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024 for the Town of Oacoma. Motion carried. The second reading and adoption of the ordinance will be held at the next regular meeting on Monday, September 18, 2023.

PLANNING COMMISSION RESIGNATION

The board acknowledged a letter of resignation from the Oacoma Planning Commission submitted by Donna Neeman. Dominiack reported Neeman served on the Planning Commission for over 20 years and he offered comments of appreciation for her dedication to the community. The Oacoma Planning Commission now has one vacant seat, and anyone interested in serving on that board may contact any Town Board member or the city finance officer.

OCC VENDING MACHINE

Due to low sales volume generated by a soda vending machine located at the Oacoma Community Center, board members decided to have the supplier remove the machine from the building.

OTHER DISCUSSION

Rabern reported on a citizen complaint about a nuisance property. The citizen was advised to submit a written complaint or attend a town board meeting to file a formal complaint.

PAY BILLS

The following bills were approved for payment: Payroll: Gov Board-1300.00, Finance-4221.20, Streets-3793.43, Sewer-2743.34, Water-4681.18, Cemetery-324.90, Parks/Rec-270.75; AFLAC, withholdings-40.40; Ace Hardware, supplies-61.14; Bender's Sewer & Drain, clean and inspect lagoon bypass line-2297.00; Billion Automotive, 2023 Dodge Ram-41409.00; Bomgaars, tool box, humidifier & supplies-647.31; Burke Oil, fuel-1437.45; Byre Bros., garbage service & pull tree containers-1334.00; C&B Operations, tractor repairs & parts-1815.84; Cardmember Services, lodging, software, parts, postage & fuel-1060.03; Central Dakota Times, publishing-237.37; Chamber of Commerce/CVB, subsidy-2938.00; Core & Main, meter readers-1075.94; Cutler Law Firm, legal fees-480.00; Dakota Pump, repair water pump-2600.56; Jack Dooley, OCC custodian contract-500.00; GF Advertising Services, billboard lease-1310.00; Hawkins Inc, chemicals-3517.44; IRS, payroll tax-4190.00; Middle America Communication Solutions, social media mgt-650.00; Midstate Communications, phones & internet-414.84; Midwest Fire Safety, inspect extinguishers-247.00; NAPA Auto Parts, parts-72.32; Office Products Center, service contract-44.41; Riverview Chevrolet, pickup repairs-639.59; SD DANR, exam fee-60.00; SD Dept of Revenue, title & license fee-26.70; SD Municipal League, handbook updates-160.00; SD Public Health Lab, lab samples-1359.00; SD Retirement System, contributions-1829.32; SD Supplemental Retirement Plan, contributions-410.00; Servall, OCC supplies-142.23; Tri-County Landfill, rubble fees for trees-2844.66; Verizon Wireless, cell phones-165.44; Wall Drug Store, Inc., billboard lease-200.00; WEERC, lab samples-89.00; Wellmark BCBS, health insurance-741.34; West Central Electric Coop, utilities-4372.72; Anthony Farnsworth, refund deposit-25.00.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Rabern, second by Fuchs, to enter executive session at 8:15 P.M. pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2 (1) for discussion of personnel matters. Motion carried. Executive session ended at 8:20 P.M. with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Kirkpatrick, second by Rabern to adjourn. Motion carried. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 18, 2023, beginning at 7:00 P.M. in Meeting Room #2 at the Oacoma Community Center.

Gary Dominiack, President

Valerie J. Moore, Finance Officer

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