

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF OAKLEY
March 14, 2024

Mayor: Elizabeth Cooper
Council Members:
Ralph Barnard
Al Lowe
Brett Arnell

City Attorney:	Peter Wells
Public Works Director:	Jared Mitton
City Clerk:	Dannika Colson
Cassia County Deputy:	Tyler Matthews
City Engineer:	Dave Waldron

Visitors:

No public comment

Tyler Matthews gave the incident report.

First Item of Business: Jared received an email from a Hindu leader requesting to read a prayer at next month's council meeting. Mayor cooper to reach out with the invitation.

Second Item of Business: The well is still on the list to get the pump test done. The equipment that Layne pumping uses is currently stuck in a field and cannot be removed due to muddy conditions. Once conditions are dry enough to remove the equipment, we are next on the list. The storage tank is complete, and once the weather warms up, Jared and AJ will begin working on the plumbing. There was discussion on moving the old pump house down to the new well site to become the pump house for the new well. This would reduce costs; Jared had mentioned it to Tony with the DEQ and he said he would work to get it approved. Tony has since retired, so the issue didn't go any further. Jared to follow up on with the person who took Tony's place. Dave presented Change Order #7, to the council for signatures which corrected some figures and was a deduct of about \$18,000. Dave said that the city can get ready to move forward with acquiring bids for the pump and well house. Jared predicts that water will still be restricted for the summer, because the well will not quite be operational by then.

Third Item of Business: East Poplar project was discussed, Jared asked Dave if the project could be done unbonded to cut costs. Removing the bond requirement would bring in lower bids and save the city money on the project. With bonds in place, it would guarantee the work of contractors. After some discussion the council decided that most of the contractors in the area have very good reputations and don't think it would be an issue to remove the bonds from the contracts. Ralph moved, Al seconded the motion and the vote to forfeit the bonds on the poplar project, was unanimous.

Fourth Item of Business: Jared is still researching the idea of building a mobile home park. Al is concerned about public perception if Jared is the one to build the park. Worried that people might think it is city sanctioned, or that Jared is being favored

because he is a city employee. There really is nothing that the city can do to avoid this, but the city can investigate the current mobile home park ordinance, and make sure that anyone who wants to take on such a venture is following the ordinance. The council requested that the current ordinance be reviewed at next month's meeting.

Discussion Items: Buffy updated the council on Larry Mickelsen's condition. City to send flowers.

City Mangers Report: Jared and AJ are planning to continue working on the storage tank as weather permits, they will be continuing work on east Poplar and preparing for concrete to be poured behind the city office.

Jared reported that the seniors are locking up trash bags, because too many are being used with other events. They've said that the city will need to provide trash bags for events. They are also upset that they are not receiving at least half of the revenue that the city generates in rental fees. There was mention that they wanted to renegotiate their contract with the city for use of the senior center.

Pete was able to look over the contract and determined that the contract is up for review this year and advised the city to look over the lease and discuss it at next month's meeting. Al will discuss this with the senior citizen board in their meeting on Monday March 18th.

Seventh Item of Business: Al moved and Brett seconded the motion to approve February's meeting minutes, the vote was unanimous.

Eighth Item of Business: Ralph Moved and Al seconded, and the vote to approve the bills was unanimous.

Ninth Item of Business: Al moved to adjourn the meeting, Ralph seconded and the vote was unanimous.