

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF OAKLEY
June 15, 2023

Mayor: Larry Mickelsen

Council Members:

Ralph Barnard (absent)

Tuck West

Al Lowe

Buffy Cooper

City Attorney: Peter Wells

Public Works Director: Jared Mitton

City Clerk: Dannika Colson

Cassia County Deputy: Tyler Matthews

City Engineer: Dave Waldron

Visitors: Devon Colson and Jerry Wells

Public Comment: No public comment

Swore in new City Clerk Dannika Colson

Sheriff's Department: Tyler Matthews reported that things were quiet. 1 sick person call, 2 traffic stops, 1 minor accident, 4 991 hang ups, 1 missing adult male.

Larry read thank you note from Beckie Clark. And a retirement party/open house was discussed in her honor.

First Item of Business: Discussed right of way on Road in question Aspen Lane where it connects to E. Cottonwood St. This road is on private property, the city has never maintained. Pete mentioned that the Lloyds could force the issue of its use for public access because it has existed for 52 years, but they would have to get a lawyer. The city could force emanate domain if they could prove that it would provide adequate fire and or medical access. He also mentioned that the city might be able to convince the owner to allow the city to maintain the road, because having a city road would increase the value of all surrounding properties. Jared will talk to carol (owner) about possibly quick claiming the right of way to the city. There would need to be adequate signage on the bridge there, warning people of weight limits to avoid any liability for the city.

Second Item of Business: BLM right of way grant. Combining existing right of way to incorporate storage tank for well. Jared suggested the item be tabled until they have

had adequate time to read through the grant. Pete suggested that we either sign it or don't, because fighting with the federal government is not in our best interest. He did point out some requirements of the grant that might hinder the project in moving forward, but all in all we should just sign it to get the ball rolling on the grant. AL moved that the grant be approved and signed, Buffy seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Third Item of Business: Bids for the storage tank project were turned in today. 23 bid invites were sent, and 3 came back. The bids came in way over budget. Even with the lowest bid the city would still need to come up with 668,000 to match. There are some aspects of the project that allow for self-performed work and the city is willing to put in the man hours for those projects, but even still the city would need to find about 300,000 dollars in the budget to complete the storage tank. Al questioned if there was enough workforce to complete the self-performed projects, Jared said they may need to hire a temp worker or 2. Right now there is only about 138,000 to pull together from the budget to put towards this project. Buffy asked if it were possible to finance the project, Jared said it could be, but there are still more options he would like to explore. We may need to rebid for tank only and no well house. The question was asked if the whole well project is going to be stopped if we can't figure out the storage tank. Jared said that the well will stand on its own, not having a storage tank will not hinder the completion of the well. The well will function without the tank but will not replace the tanks. Th water can be pumped into the existing tanks. Jared requested another meeting in a week to gather more information for discussion. Item was tabled till next week's meeting.

Fourth Item of Business: Tuck is putting together a car show for the 24th celebration. He is looking at possible holding it in the practice field at the high school, or in the tabernacle field beside the fire house. He has talked to 8 or 10 people that said they would bring their cars so far. He wants to keep it small; no charge no prizes people just come look and then the cars drive in parade. Then depending on the turnout maybe it could be a bit bigger next year.

Fifth Item of Business: Pete and Jared met about the housing ordinance and decided that it's a much bigger process than was thought. Pete would like a bit more time to continue looking over the ordinance. They discussed the possibility of changing the Hales Airbnb's to a cabin/ campground type situation so that they could continue to operate outside the ordinance, because as it stands now, they would have to do some serious upgrades to comply with the ordinance. The item was tabled until Pete could study it further.

Sixth Item of Business: Buffy moved to approve 2nd reading of 2023-2024 budget, Al seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Seventh Item of Business: well status update: the well is currently at 600 ft there is water but it is unclear how much, Bad news, the las 300ft have been sand layers and could possibly plug screens if it is fine enough. Both Dave and Jared think that the drillers should drill 60ft more. This will result in a \$22,560 change order. Buffy moved to

approve the change order to drill 60 more feet at the quoted price, Al seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Eighth Item of Business: Jared reported to the council that there has been some interest from a member of the city in some inverters from an old turbine set up that once existed at the well. Al asked if Idaho power would allow the city to upsize the solar grid, Jared said they would, he was just unsure what that process would look like. The council questioned whether they wanted to get rid of the parts for that or repurpose them. Wondering if the parts could be used elsewhere in the city. Al suggested that the parts be system be kept until further research can be done to see if the system can be used. Al to follow up with research and discuss at next meeting.

Ninth Item of Business: Buffy moved to approve the minutes from the May 11, 2023, city council meeting, Al seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Tenth Item of Business: Al moved to approve the bills, Buffy seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Eleventh Item of Business: Buffy moved that the council move into executive session Al seconded and the vote was unanimous.

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Twelfth Item of Business: Buffy moved that the council leave executive session, Tuck seconded, the vote was unanimous.

Thirteenth Item of Business: Buffy moved that the budget discussion item be reopened, Tuck seconded and the vote was unanimous. Buffy suggested that the money that is saved on not having to pay insurance premiums for Beckie after she retires should be reallocated to salaries. All the council agrees that the salary budget for the city employees needs to be raised and will discuss plans of action in next meeting.

Fourteenth Item of Business: Buffy moved and Al seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting and the vote was unanimous.