MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF OAKLEY
August 10, 2023

Mayor: Larry Mickelsen

Council Members:
Ralph Barnard
Tuck West (absent)
Al Lowe
Buffy Cooper

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

Visitors: Tim and crew (Elsing Drilling) Jan Davis, Zane (OVAC) Carol Cooper

Public Hearing: The Public Hearing for the 2023-2024 budget was opened, there was no public comment so Buffy moved and Al seconded that the hearing be closed, vote was unanimous.

First Item of Business: Buffy moved that Appropriation Ordinance 23-8-10 be approved. Ralph seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Second Item of Business: The well drillers attended the meeting. They reported that they are at a depth of 800ft and the drilling is going well, but we are still not seeing any water. They can't gauge the quantity or quality of what little water there is because they are in sand. Al asked for recommendations on how to proceed. Tim recommended that we continue to drill another 200 ft with no domestic 6-inch pipe. The estimated cost would be $34,550. This is the most cost-effective way. The drilling could start as soon as Monday August 14, 2023, and be done by the end of the week. Buffy moved that the change order for 200 more feet at $34,550 be approved, Ralph Seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Third Item of Business: Jan Davis with OVAC proposed a grant idea to collect the rest of the funds for the Oakley Opera House. The Idaho Gem Grant will provide the last of the funds they need to finish renovations on the opera house, but it needs to go through a city entity, OVAC has the funds to match the grant, they would just need the city to apply for the grant, and the city submit receipts on OVAC's behalf and pay the invoices and the grant would refund the city. Money would be available as soon as

October. Buffy moved to approve the City to apply for and carry out responsibilities for the grant, Ralph seconded and the vote was unanimous.

<u>Fourth Item of Business:</u> Carol Cooper came to discuss her property. She has an old, abandoned road that is part of her property and she has been keeping it closed off to avoid people cutting through her property and avoid any liability, she has no problem allowing certain access for emergency vehicles and such but wants to avoid the public using her property as a shortcut. She offered to quick claim it to the city under conditions. One: that a dead-end sign be placed to deter unnecessary traffic, and two: that the city chip seal the road. After much discussion the council found that it would be in the best interest of the city and Carol for her to keep her property and just gate it off to avoid any liability.

<u>Fifth Item of Business:</u> The Senior Citizens would like to pay for a new marquee to be placed on the corner of the city's parking lot. Jared told Al that the approval would have to go through the State because that is technically a state highway easement that. Also, the seniors want to replace the existing aluminum refrigerator evaporator with a stainless steel one. The city owns the fridge and wants permission to replace that part for a longer-term fix. The council approved.

<u>Sixth Item of Business:</u> Jared was able to secure additional funding through DEQ for the water storage tank project. The storage tank should now be able to be completed without a bond. This will require the city to do a lot more inhouse work, but Jared and Moroni are working on excavating the hole for the tank and are about halfway done with that. DEQ has approved $402,000 and Jared asked that the council give the Mayor permission to sign needed documents once they show up. Al moved that permission be granted to the Mayor to sign the documents once they arrive, Buffy Seconded and the vote was unanimous.

<u>Seventh Item of Business:</u> Water storage tank contract. Dave said that the contract for the water tank must be signed with the contractor for the original quote and then they would deduct the change order for all the in-kind work that the city is doing. Al moved that the original contract be signed with immediate deduction of the change order, Buffy seconded and the vote was unanimous.

<u>Eighth Item of Business:</u> Jared mentioned to the council that they begin thinking about raising new water meter hook up rates along with the raise of water rates. With the subdivision going in, there will be several new water meters that need to be placed and the parts for those have gone up, and the $1000.00 rate barely covers that cost if there are no hiccups in the process.

<u>Ninth Item of Business:</u> Wages and wage policies were discussed at length. The council agrees that the wages need to be raised and that cost of living and performance-based raises need to be implemented to keep wages competitive. No decisions were made, Council to think about these issues.

Tenth Item of Business: Resolution 2023-8-10 Americans with Disabilities Act was brought forth for approval by the council. Buffy moved that Resolution 2023-8-10 be approved, Al seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Eleventh Item of Business: Jared proposed that Resolution 2023-8-10A Idaho Gem Grant Application be added to the agenda for approval. Al moved to add the item to the agenda, Buffy seconded and the vote was unanimous.
Buffy moved to approve Resolution 2023-8-10A Ralph seconded and the vote was unanimous.

City Managers Report: Jared and Moroni have installed 3 water connections for the new subdivision

Twelfth Item of Business: Buffy moved to approve July's meeting minutes, Ralph seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Thirteenth Item of Business: All moved to approve the bills, Buffy Seconded and the vote was unanimous.

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