

The Oakley City Council met in regular session on April 20, 2020, via Zoom Video Conferencing, and streamed live at <https://www.facebook.com/discoveroakley/live> at 7:00 PM. Mayor Whyte presided.

Council members present. Jordan Burris, Chris Dorman, Leasa Huddle, Ilene Nickel, and Shane Stephenson were present.

City staff present. City Administrator Bradley Pendergast, City Clerk Leann Hughes, Parks/Cemetery Director Russell Moellering and Refuse Director Marc Burris.

Others present. Jerry Glassman.

Call to order. Mayor Whyte called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM, following technical difficulties.

Minutes Stephenson moved to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2020, regular meeting as presented. Dorman seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#11291).

AP Payment Registers. Dorman moved to approve the April 17, 2020, AP Payment Register, dated April 15, 2020, for 2019 expenses, in the amount of \$1,154.13 (Check No. 46485). Huddle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#11292).

Stephenson moved to approve the April 17, 2020, AP Payment Register, dated April 15, 2020, for 2020 expenses, in the amount of \$227,925.49 (Check Nos. 292; 294; 46437-46440; 46447-46484; and 4062020). Dorman seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#11293).

Time Entry Report. Stephenson moved to approve the Time Entry Report for March 22, 2020 to April 4, 2020, dated April 8, 2020, for the April 10, 2020, payroll, in the amount of \$43,790.57 for 2,262.64 hours (ACH Nos. 94816-94850; Check Nos. 17250-17255; AP Check Nos. 46441-46446; Wire Nos. 549-552). Huddle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#11294).

NEW DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

COVID-19 Update. Administrator Pendergast provided a COVID-19 update with regard to staffing, revenue and expenditure projections, fund balances, summer help positions and large projects planned for 2020. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to proceed with chip sealing and street cracking projects. Pendergast also reported on the prom cruise event, wherein he and the Police Department had agreed it was ok for the group to proceed with this event as long as no one got out of their vehicles. However, the attendees did not follow the guidelines. Pendergast posted a message concerning the matter on Facebook.

City Landfill Discussion. Administrator Pendergast reported the landfill has been closed to the public with the exception of a few essential businesses and there has been an increase in calls/complaints about items left beside hoppers. Pendergast stated he discussed the matter with Marc Burris, Refuse Director, and he has no problem opening to the public partial days such as Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM. No money will be collected by landfill staff; everything will be billed or added to the utility bills. Stephenson moved to open the landfill to the public on Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, with the billing to be added to utility bills. Nickel seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#11295).

Oakley Municipal Pool Discussion. Administrator Pendergast and Parks/Cemetery Director Russell Moellering discussed whether or not it will be feasible to open the swimming pool for the season. Moellering estimated the earliest open date would be the second weekend in June due to mowing and other preparations for Memorial Day and the fact that his department is short staffed. Council Member Burris expressed a desire to have the pool open Memorial weekend, as it has been in the past. Moellering stated the only way that could be accomplished is if his staff is brought back to work

immediately. Council Member Burris felt the pool should be filled and the valves exercised even if the City ends up not opening. Moellering thought this was probably a good idea, but noted it might be better to wait to fill it if it will not open due to the cost of chemicals once it is filled. Following considerable discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to wait until the May 4, 2020, meeting to make a decision on opening so they can see if the stay at home orders are extended again.

Jerry Glassman – Rental of City Property for Grazing Land. Administrator Pendergast reported Jerry Glassman contacted him about the possibility of renting 22.4 acres of land located north of Logan County Implement to graze cattle. He noted that this is outside the City Limits so there is no concern with zoning. Glassman stated he would like to rent the land by the season which is typically April 15 to October 15 and the area rate is \$15 per acre. Discussion followed. Council Members Burris and Nickel felt this should be offered to other taxpayers who might be interested. More discussion followed. Glassman indicated he might be interested in purchasing the property if it works out well the first year. Stephenson moved to approve a lease to Jerry Glassman for 22.4 acres of land located north of Logan County Implement to graze cattle, at a cost of \$15.00 per acre, for one season from April to mid-October, 2020. Huddle seconded. Motion carried. Dorman, Huddle and Stephenson voting yes; Burris and Nickel voting no. Action (#11296). **(This motion was rescinded at the May 4, 2020, regular meeting.)**

Kansas Water Fee/Sales Tax. Administrator Pendergast explained the City currently pays sales tax on all water department purchases, but the State offers an option to pay a Clean Drinking Water Fee of \$.03 per 1,000 gallons of water sold instead of paying the sales tax and this would save the City, on average, about \$2,000.00 per year, especially in years where large equipment purchases are made. Pendergast explained the reason the City did not opt in when the fee was originally implemented is because the Water and Electric Department was one department and electric purchases are not excluded from sales tax. Stephenson moved to approve the Irrevocable Election to Pay the Clean Drinking Water Fee to the Kansas Department of Revenue, effective July 1, 2020. Huddle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#11297).

UNFINISHED DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

200 Center Avenue Building Discussion. Administrator Pendergast reported that some Council Members have been asked by the public about a timeline on the building at 200 Center Avenue. Pendergast stated he had a lengthy discussion with Tim Whyte, the property owner. Whyte updated the Council on the options he has been exploring. Considerable discussion followed. Council Member Stephenson suggested that if it is a possibility, the City will condemn the property and be faced with the cost to tear it down, this amount should be budgeted. Further discussion followed along with suggestions for the building. It was the consensus of the Council to have Administrator Pendergast gather some estimates for taking the building down.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS/DISCUSSION:

Bradley Pendergast, City Administrator. Administrator Pendergast reported he has been in contact with the furloughed employees and they have all created accounts with the Department of Labor and have been making claims.

Leann Hughes, City Clerk. No report.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS/DISCUSSION:

Council Member Dorman thanked the City for the involvement in the distribution of food during this time.

Council Member Nickel noted one of the announcements on Community Channel 117 still says the parks are open. Pendergast will get this corrected.

Council Member Burris requested information be gathered and a list made of all Leases the City has, who they are with and the terms. Pendergast will work on this.

Mayor Whyte stated the next meeting on May 4, 2020, will again be via Zoom Video Conferencing.

Adjourn. Huddle moved to adjourn the meeting. Dorman seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#11298). Mayor Whyte adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:07 PM.

Leann M. Hughes, CMC
City Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The members of the Council acknowledged receipt of a copy of the minutes; said minutes were approved as presented at the May 4, 2020, regular meeting. However, Action #11296 was rescinded at the May 4, 2020, regular meeting.