

CITY OF OXBOW

Council Meeting Minutes 4-16-2025 Oxbow Country Club

Present: Jim Nyhof, Mike Bindas (phone), Mark Sanders, Bryan Triebold, Stacey Fett

Absent: Cody Furstenau

Meeting called to order by Mayor Nyhof at 6:01 pm.

Motion by Triebold, second by Sanders, to approve the minutes from March 12, 2025. Motion carried.

Tax equalization – 9 sales in the last year; examples of sales are appreciating; mass appraisal of the entire city; median increase in tax value is 4.6%; values are based on the market; equalizes values for comparable properties. Mayor commented that the old driving range lots are valued less than what was paid for them. Motion by Bindas, second by Sanders, to approve the values as presented. Motion carried.

Building plans – none to approve.

Landscaping plans – none to approve.

Sheriff's report – few calls. Crime trends for this time of year and entering the summertime is more vehicle break-ins and burglary thefts in construction trailers. Corporal Krause recommends to make sure the personal vehicles and such are locked to prevent any thefts.

Southern Valley Fire & Rescue – 7% of the calls for the SVFR are for Oxbow with the call volume being higher than last year. The fire truck housed in Hickson is a 1000-gallon truck, if a house was on fire, it would take approximately 10k to 15k gallons of water to extinguish the fire. Question by Mayor about restricting the access to the SW pond for usage – Chief Mahoney says no, the SVFR does not like to use ponds/static water sources because of the muck, fish, etc. SVFR to complete hydrant testing and flow testing. Flow tester to be purchased by the City to complete these tasks.

City Engineer update:

- Application for cost share assistance with a feasibility study to be submitted to the Dept of Water Resources with the cost and scope of work:
 - Study - \$29k, site visit well evaluation & analysis, water treatment plant evaluation & analysis, coordination with rural water, cost estimates, alternatives analysis, narrative report, life cycle cost analysis, and reimbursement submittals. City share would be \$11,600.
 - Funding assistance - \$4,200 city share
 - Motion by Bindas, second by Sanders, to approve the cost share application to Dept of Water resources. Motion carried.
 - Noted by Engineer Aakre – work that is eligible cannot begin until the cost share agreement is executed by both the City and Dept of Water Resources.
- Water pond lot on S Schnell Dr – was not originally included in the lots because of the proximity to Hwy 81. Council to hold off on the replat and sewer hook-up. Council needs to approve the legal description and drawing as well as price per square foot comparable to a lot this size, which will include the infrastructure cost.

- Water service line inventory – Moore Engineering is currently going door to door, fulfilling the requirement from the NDDEQ to get rid of all lead across the nation. The engineering team is only going to houses that are built in 1988 and older.

Water treatment plant: Stu from WaterSmith to be pulling well #3 sometime next week, no exact date given; 15th of May for hydrant flushing. Well #3 discuss happened in the city engineer update.

Motion by Bindas, second by Sanders, to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Motion by Bindas, second by Triebold, to approve financials. Municipal Infrastructure fund to be moved to the Prairie Dog Fund. Motion carried.

Yield to Pedestrian signs proposal – lengthy discussion on this. The proposed signs would be similar to the signs that one would see at Hornbachers. They are break-away signs that would be kept up during the spring, summer, and fall, especially by the park and by the Adams crossway. Corporal Krause's opinion was that stop signs are the best for safety. He suggested that a traffic surveyor comes out to do a study (Sheriff Jahner also suggested this via email). Council comments were that stop signs are annoying but if they get taken away, people won't have a reason to slow down. Suggested by the Mayor was to replace the speed bumps with said 'yield to pedestrian' signs. The speed limit on these signs cannot be enforced by the Sheriff's department.

Mark Adams curb/gutter discussion – Mudjacking would cost \$2/ft for 80 ft. Motion by Sanders, second by Bindas to approve this cost. Motion carried. This will take place once construction is complete on the house due to large trucks coming and going.

Swale land by Hole 17 – advertise it or auction it? Mayor suggests auctioning it. A legal description of the land will need to be done, which will be handled by Engineer Aakre. Appropriate notices will need to be given prior to said auction.

Motion by Sanders, second by Triebold, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Mayor Jim Nyhof

Stacey Fett – City Auditor