

(These minutes are unofficial until approved by the Oakley City Council.)

Oakley City Council Meeting Minutes

OAKLEY CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting
February 2, 2026
The Oakley City Council met in regular session on February 2, 2026, in the meeting room at the Oakley City Office, 415 W. 2nd Street, at 7:00 P.M. Mayor Russ Kahle presided.

Council members present. Steve Badger, Doug Reed, Brian Joseph, Lisa Huddle, and Caleb Baalman.

City staff present. Police Chief Daniel Cooper, General Manager of Public Works Russ Moellering, City Clerk Leann Hughes, and Deputy City Clerk Barbara Kelly.

Others present. None
Call to order. Mayor Kahle called the regular meeting to order at approximately 7:00 PM.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s). Badger moved to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2026, regular meeting, as presented. Reed seconded. Motion carried unanimously, (5-0).

Approval of AP Payment Registers. Reed moved to approve the

January 30, 2026, AP Payment Register in the amount of \$10,744.79 (Check Nos. 973, 981, and 52893, 52897, 52899, and 52900.) for checks dated January 30, 2026, for 2025 expenses. Huddle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. (5-0).

Badger made a motion to approve the January 30, 2026, AP Payment Register in the amount of \$713.75 (Check No.25000110) for Direct Deposit Expenses dated January 30, 2026, for 2025 expenses. Baalman seconded. Motion carried unanimously.(5-0).

Reed made a motion to approve the January 30, 2026, AP Payment Register in the amount of \$129,041.51 (Check Nos. 972,974-980,982, and 52898,52901-52930) for checks dated January 15, 2026, for 2026 expenses. Badger seconded. Motion carried unanimously (5-0).

Approval of Time Entry Report. Badger moved to approve the Time Entry Report for January 4, 2026 to January 17, 2026, dated January 21, 2026, for the January 23, 2026, payroll, in the amount of \$60,933.32 for 2,105.33 hours (Check Nos. 17843-

17845; ACH Nos. 100811-100848; AP Check Nos. 52894-52896; and Wire Nos. 1170-1174). Reed seconded. Motion carried unanimously, (5-0).

CITIZEN REQUEST TO SPEAK: None.

NEW DISCUSSION/ ACTION ITEMS:

Manhole Rehabilitation – Mayer’s Specialty Services, LLC. General Manager Moellering discussed that the City Council unanimously approved a quote from Mayer’s Specialty Services, LLC, at the June 16, 2025, Council Meeting, to rehabilitate the interior of 16 manholes around town. During the year end process in the City Office, staff was updating an approved spending spreadsheet for the auditors and it was discovered the project never happened. Staff spoke with Mayer and they said they never received a signed agreement and they were under the impression the City was not going to proceed. Clerk Hughes contacted the auditor and she advised we did not have to encumber it as a 2025 expense because an agreement was not signed; however, the Council should acknowledge it and rescind that motion (Action #15736). Staff does not know what happened, but Russ Moellering, GM of Public Works, and Rod Huffman, Water/Wastewater Department, both feel the City should proceed with the project. Huddle moved to rescind a motion made at the June 16, 2025, the City Council Meeting, Action #15736, which approved having Mayer Specialty Services, LLC, rehabilitate 16 manholes in the amount of \$26,315.00 to be paid from the Sanitation Reserve Fund. Badger seconded. Motion carried unanimously, (5-0).

Reed moved to approve the Quote from Mayer’s Specialty Services, LLC, to rehabilitate 16 manholes in the amount of \$26,315.00 to be paid from Sanitation Reserve. Huddle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. (5-0).

Municipal Airport – Agreement Regarding Removal of Building – Hanger 7. General Manager Moellering informed the council that Larry Berggren, Owner of a building on property identified as Hanger 7 at the Oakley Municipal Airport, contacted City Employee Edwin (Butch) Burris about turning his building over to the City to be torn down and not renewing his lease. The building is in disrepair. Both Burris and Russ Moellering, GM of Public Works, as well as John Holzmeister, Airport FBO, are in favor of proceeding with this. Berggren

has submitted a short agreement to facilitate his transfer of ownership with the intent for the City to tear it down and dispose of the building, including all contents, at no charge. This would be done by the city crews and take approximately a day to demolish and dispose of the materials and contents. Huddle moved to approve entering into an agreement with Larry Berggren, for the City to accept ownership of his building at the Oakley Municipal Airport, located on property Identified as Hanger 7, and for the City to tear down the building and dispose of the materials and contents at no charge to Berggren. Badger seconded. Motion carried unanimously, (5-0).

NWKP&DC DUES. Clerk Hughes informed the council that Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission (NWKPDC) has sent its annual statement for 2026. Costs are based on 1/10th of a mill on the County’s total assessed property valuation, and then split between Logan County and the City of Oakley. The City of Oakley has used the services provided by NWKPDC on several projects. The cost is actually down slightly from \$3,367.00 last year. Reed moved to approve the City’s portion of the annual payment to Northwest Kansas Planning and Development commission in the of amount of \$3,257.00 to be paid out of the General Fund, Misc. Expense. Baalman seconded. Motion carried unanimously, (5-0).

City Billboard West of Campus Exit on I-70, Westbound. General Manager Moellering, met with Brook Plummer at the Buffalo Bill Cultural Center about the sign west of Campus exit on I-70 westbound that had been damaged. She is going to contact Commercial Sign Company to get some cost information, etc., and will get back to the City. She noted this may take a little while to gather all the information.

Mayoral Appointments – Prosecutor’s Charitable Trust (PCT) Scholarship. Clerk Hughes informed the council that they had approved a Policy regarding diversions issued by the City Attorney, and continuing the Prosecutor’s Charitable Trust Fund, at the January 5, 2026, regular meeting. This policy provides that on, or around, the 1st day of February of each year the PCT Fund is in existence, the Mayor will appoint a scholarship committee consisting of at least 3 persons. Reed volunteered to be on the committee to review the

applications turned in along with Mayor Kahle, and Clerk Hughes.

UNFINISHED DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

Procurement Policy. Clerk Hughes discussed that the FAA recommends reviewing the City’s Procurement Policy (Resolution 2022-06) every three (3) years. The latest Procurement Policy was adopted in July 2022; a copy was included in the packets.

This item was tabled at the November 17, 2025, Council Meeting, until a replacement was decided for the City Administrator position; and again, at the January 20, 2026, meeting, since Russ Moellering, General Manager of Public Works, was not present at the meeting. The council discussed changing the spending limits for Departments to \$500.00 and leaving the spending limits for city Administrator at \$10,000.00. It was also decided to change Russ Moellering’s title from General Manager of Public Works to Operations Administrator; and to change City Clerks Hughes title to City Clerk/ Finance Administrator. After discussion the council requested that a new Resolution be drawn up detailing the changes in the policy for the next council meeting.

Executive Session – Non-Elected Personnel. Huddle moved to recess to Executive Session for personnel matters of nonelected personnel for ten (10) minutes with the Mayor, Council, General Manager Moellering and City Clerk Hughes present, pursuant to the non-elected personnel exemption under K.S.A. 75-4319 (b) (1). The meeting will resume at the Oakley City Office, 415 W 2nd Street at 7:30 PM. Reed seconded. Motion carried unanimously. (5-0).

Mayor Kahle reconvened the meeting at 7:30 PM with no action taken. Badger made a motion to recess to Executive Session for personnel matters of nonelected personnel for ten (10) minutes with the Mayor, Council, General Manager Moellering and City Clerk Hughes present, pursuant to the non-elected personnel exemption under K.S.A. 75-4319 (b) (1). The meeting will resume at the Oakley City Office, 415 W 2nd Street at 7:46 PM. Reed seconded. Motion carried unanimously. (5-0).

The meeting reconvened at 7:46 PM with no action taken.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS/DISCUSSION:
Russ Moellering – General Manager
General Manager

Moellering reported on various items, including:

The city is once again a Host City for commodities that are distributed through the county.

The backup trash truck will need to have a cylinder replaced.

Jodee Reed, Museum Director had 624 children in the museum for Kansas Day celebration.

Discussed the Revive and Thrive Grant

Reviewed several duties/projects the City staff have been doing, and will be addressing in the coming weeks.

Leann Hughes, City Clerk.

City Clerk Hughes discussed an email between Chief Cooper and USD #274 Superintendent Julie Crum regarding the Bicycle/E-Scooter safety Training/Presentation. This will be postponed until March due to scheduling conflict with the school. Chief Cooper explained that Officer Jon Schroeder will be presenting the training at St. Joseph’s School on February 23, 2026.

Clerk Hughes informed the council that the city received two updated copies of the Governing Body Handbook from the League of Kansas Municipalities, which are available for Council Members to take home and review. Also, the City Leaders Academy will be in Salina, April 17, 2026, and if any of the council members would like to attend contact the City Office.

The next regular City Council Meeting will be on February 17, 2026, which is a Tuesday. Monday is a city observed Holiday, Presidents Day, so the meeting will be held Tuesday evening.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS/DISCUSSION:

Badger inquired about a light at the back of the city building. Moellering stated it is being worked on.

Reed commented that he talked to Officer Jon Schroeder and was impressed with what he has started for the bicycle/e-scooter safety program. Reed informed the council that Jon had talked to several businesses and they have donated toward the training and that the Kansas Department of Health and Environment will donate 50 safety helmets.

Mayor Kahle thanked the city crew for the snow removal from the streets throughout the city.

Adjourn. Badger moved to adjourn the meeting. Huddle seconded. Motion carried unanimously. (5-0). Mayor Kahle adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:07 P.M.

Barbara Kelly
Deputy City Clerk

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Windbreak Award Kevin & Kezia Uhrich
Water Quality Award Lone Butte Farm (Keith/Cameron Edwards)

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