

# Regular Meeting OAKLEY CITY COUNCIL JUNE 1, 2026

These minutes are unapproved. The Oakley City Council met in regular session on June 01, 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.** Caleb Baalman, Steve Badger, Brian Joseph, Doug Reed; absent Leasa Huddle.

**City staff present.** Operations Administrator Russ Moellering, Finance Administrator Leann Hughes, Police Chief Daniel Cooper, and City Clerk Joy Huffman.

**Others present.** Dawn Gabel and Jodee Reed.

**Call to order.** Mayor Kahle called the regular meeting to order at approximately 7:00 PM.

**Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting.** Reed moved to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2026, regular meeting, as presented. Baalman seconded. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0). Action (#)

**Approval of AP Payment Registers.** Badger moved to approve the May 29, 2026, AP

Payment Register in the amount of \$90,421.61 (Check Nos. 1064-1072; 53129; 53159-53186) for checks dated May 29, 2026. Baalman seconded. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0). Action (#)

Baalman moved to approve the May 29, 2026, Direct Deposit AP Payment Register in the amount of \$613.30 (Check Nos. 26000040-26000042) for Direct Deposit Expenses dated June 01, 2026. Joseph seconded. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0). Action (#)

**Approval of Time Entry Report.** Badger moved to

approve the Time Entry Report for May 10, 2026 to May 23, 2026, for the May 29, 2026, payroll, in the amount of \$69,317.01 for 2,410.63 hours (Check Nos. 17871-17877; ACH Nos. 101133-101183; and Wire Nos. 1212-1216). Baalman seconded. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0). Action (#)

**CITIZEN REQUEST TO SPEAK.** None.

**NEW DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS.**

**Options - 2027 Funding Request - Dawn Gabel.** Dawn Gabel, with Options Domestic and Sexual Violence Services, Inc. Hays, Kansas, met with the Council to present and review the services provided to our area, a total of 18 countries, along with some of their statistics. Gabel thanked the Council for their continued support and requested to be considered for funding in the upcoming 2027 budget. Reed moved to approve funding for 2027 in the amount of \$5,000.00 to Options Domestic and Sexual Violence Services to be paid out of the General Fund - Options. Baalman seconded. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0). Action (#)

**Main Street Arts Council, Inc. - Partnership.** Jodee Reed requested the Council to consider a Community Partnership Application for Main Street Arts Council, Inc. Reed stated they originally asked for \$1,000.00, but asked the Council if they would consider \$2,500.00 instead. The Oakley production of "Disney's Frozen Jr" is the biggest production in the area, as it has over 60 local kids participating in it. Baalman moved to approve a Community Partnership with Main Street Arts Council Inc. by approving the amount of \$2,500.00 towards the Oakley production of "Disney's Frozen Jr." to be paid out of the Convention and Tourism

Fund. Joseph seconded. Motion carried (3-0, Reed abstained). Action (#) **Dispatch Agreement - Logan and Gove Counties.** Operations Administrator Russ Moellering informed the Council a Dispatch Committee meeting was held in the City Hall Council Meeting Room on May 26, 2026 at 9 A.M. Increases and percentages for each entity for 2027 were discussed. Moellering discussed the breakdown of costs for dispatch with the Council. The next Dispatch Committee meeting will be June 9th at 9 A.M.

**Employee Handbook Changes.** Finance Administrator Leann Hughes presented some proposed changes to the Employee Handbook. Discussion followed.

Baalman moved to change Article F-1-a in the Employee Handbook to strike the current language and replace it with: "All full-time employees, City Council Members, Mayor and regular part-time employees who work an average of 32 hours or more, per week, shall be eligible for the City's group health care insurance program. The effective date of coverage is per the requirements of the group health plan. A regular part-time employee who becomes a full-time employee shall be eligible for the group health care insurance as of the date of change in employment status." This change is to be effective for all employees who begin work June 1, 2026, or later. Badger seconded. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0). Action (#)

Reed moved to change Article E-8 in the Employee Handbook, to strike the current language in this article and replace it with: "Vacation leave is for the purpose of rejuvenating both physical and mental well-being. Employees

may not receive pay in lieu of earned vacation except upon retirement or separation from city service in good standing. Vacation leave shall be earned beginning with the enrollment date for health insurance under the conditions hereinafter stated." Baalman seconded. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0). Action (#)

Badger moved to change Article E-8-a-1 in the Employee Handbook, to strike the current language in this article and replace it with: "Vacation time shall be earned on the basis of complete calendar months of service. Accrual of vacation shall start on the enrollment date for health insurance and will accumulate; however, no paid vacation leave time may be taken during the first six months of employment. Vacation may not be used for any periods spent on unauthorized leave." Joseph seconded. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0). Action (#)

**2027 Budget.** Finance Administrator Leann Hughes reported Adams Brown, the City's audit firm, provides services for Budget Preparation so she asked them for pricing. Following is what they provided:

Option 1 - Full preparation \$375 per hour, not to exceed \$3,750.00

Option 2 - Review a prepared Budget \$375 per hour, not to exceed \$2,250.00. Reed moved to approve to pay \$375 per hour, not to exceed \$2,250.00 to Adams Brown to review the 2027 Budget. Joseph seconded. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0). Action (#)

Hughes asked the Council if they still wanted to do another Budget workshop. After a discussion the council was in a consensus to have another session at 6 P.M. on June 15, 2026.

**U N F I N I S H E D**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS.**

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS/DISCUSSION:** Leann Hughes - Finance Administrator. Finance Administrator Leann Hughes reviewed several topics with the Council:

We hired a new AP Clerk, Shannon Shippy; she will start on Wednesday June 3, 2026.

Alexis Crispin with Adams Brown was in the City Office on May 19, 2026, for their onsite portion of the 2025 audit. We have not been informed of any issues.

League of Kansas Municipalities is hosting a city Forum at the Oakley Country Club on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, from 5 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.

Bicycle Rodeo is scheduled for June 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 A.M.

The Pool is scheduled to open Saturday, June 9, 2026 at 12 P.M.

Russ Moellering - Operations Administrator. Russ Moellering reviewed several of the duties City staff have been doing:

BSB Construction, Inc. is working on the new pipes for the Water System Supply Improvements, and they will be patching the roads with 6' concrete patches.

Sand Filter at the pool is installed, there were some issues but staff has it working now.

A community service worker will be starting this week.

Joy Huffman - City Clerk. No report.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS/DISCUSSION:**

Steve Badger has had Citizens complain about one-way streets being too congested where vehicles/emergency vehicles cannot get through safely. Badger asked if anything can or is being done about it; and he asked if the City is exploring options for new housing developments and about applying for RHID (Reinvestment Housing Incentive

District). He also inquired about the cell tower going up, if the project has started. Operations Administrator Moellering stated they were moving forward with the cell tower.

Doug Reed mentioned that the new billboard on I-70 is finished and looked very good.

Mayor Russ Kahle suggested the community service worker start by picking up the trash along the trees at Bertrand Park. Kahle also wanted to thank all the City employees for all their hard work.

**Adjourn.** Badger moved to adjourn the meeting. Baalman seconded. Motion carried unanimously. (4-0). Action (#). Mayor Kahle adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:57 P.M.

Joy L. Huffman  
City Clerk

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**Movie Corner**

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**The Bread Winner**  
June 12,13,14  
Runtime: 1Hr 35Min  
Rated: PG

A supermom lands a Shark Tank deal, switching roles with her breadwinner husband. He struggles to adapt as a stay-at-home dad to their three daughters.

Sponsored By:  
**Campbell Insurance**  
Times: Friday @ 7:30, Saturday @ 7:30, Sunday @ 7:00

## Joe Newland to Host Town Hall Meeting in Oakley

Residents of Logan County and surrounding communities are invited to attend a Town Hall Meeting featuring Lieutenant Governor Candidate Joe Newland on Wednesday, June 17th, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at the Western Vista Complex in Oakley.

Newland previously served as President of Kansas Farm Bureau and was recently named by Vicki Schmidt, who is running for governor on the Republican ticket, as her choice for Lieutenant Governor in the 2026 election. Attendees will have the opportunity to hear directly from Newland and participate in an open discussion about the challenges and opportunities facing rural Kansas.

Joe Newland is a 5th Generation Kansan. He was born and raised in Neodesha where he still resides today with his high school sweetheart and wife of 51 years, Dana. He is a first-generation

full-time farmer/rancher and has grown his operation through years of hard work.

Joe understands the importance of giving back and consistently answers the call to serve, including 16 years on the Neodesha School Board, 25 years on the Bank of Commerce board and a lifetime of service on agricultural boards like the Farm Service Agency and the Farm Bureau organization.

In 2019, Joe was appointed to fill a vacancy in the Kansas House of Representatives and served three years representing House District 13, including Greenwood, Wilson and Woodson Counties and parts of Elk County. He stepped down from that post in 2022 when he was elected Kansas Farm Bureau President.

Joe and his wife, Dana, operate a diversified farming operation in Wilson County. They farm 4,000 acres of wheat, corn, soybeans and hay and manage a 400 head cow-calf herd. They have four children and 11 grandchildren.

Event Details  
What: Town Hall Meeting with Joe Newland  
When: Wednesday, June 17th, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.  
Where: Western Vista Complex, Oakley, Kansas  
Who: Open to residents of Logan County and surrounding communities

**AL TEMAAT Construction Tool & Equipment Sale**

**Fri-Sat, June 12 & 13, 2026**

**7 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

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