

Triplains Weekly Bulletin #3 – 2026-2027



Monday, September 7

Labor Day

No School

2:00 pm HS Cheer practice

Tuesday, September 8

*Country Fried Beef Patty 5:00 pm HS VB Dual @ Logan bus @ 2:00 pm

(Best 3 out of 5)

Wednesday, September 9

*Goulash Hall KAY Meeting during Study

Thursday, September 10

*Shredded Roast Beef Sand. Staff PLC

JH VB/FB @ Winona vs. Northern Valley Volleyball (A Team only) @ 4:00 pm; Tackle Football @ 5:30 pm

5th Quarter of Flag Football after Tackle

Friday, September 11

*Tater Tot Casserole ACT test registration deadline

K-6th - Fort Wallace Day bus @ 10:45

“150th Anniversary of the Battle of the Little Bighorn”

Freshman Class mtg. during Study Hall

No HS FB Game – Bye

*Menu may be subject to change

Picture Day will be Tuesday, Sept. 15th and picture re-takes will be on Friday, Oct. 2nd.

KDA to Host 20th Annual Kansas Grape Stomp at the Kansas State Fair

MANHATTAN, Kansas — Feel the squish of the grapes in the time-honored tradition of grape stomping as you help celebrate the grape and farm winery industries in Kansas. The Kansas Department of Agriculture will host the 20th annual Kansas Grape Stomp on Saturday, September 12, at 1:00 p.m. in Gottschalk Park at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson.

Gather around the grape tubs to watch state and local leaders and others stomp grapes to salute the Kansas grape and farm winery industries. The competitive stomp-off will lead the event and an open stomp for all Kansas State Fair attendees will follow.

As of August 2026, there are 52 farm wineries throughout Kansas, which contribute to the local economy and are a growing part of agritourism. KDA is committed to advocating for and promoting the agriculture industry, the state’s largest industry, employer and economic contributor, and encourages all fairgoers to attend the grape stomp to have fun while learning about the grape and farm winery industries in Kansas.

For more information about the event please contact Robin Dolby, *From the Land of Kansas* marketing coordinator, at Robin.Dolby@ks.gov or 785-564-6756.

Movie Corner - Palace Community Theatre

Visit our website at www.palacetheatreoakley.com



END OF OAK STREET

September 11, 12, 13

Runtime: 1 Hr 39 Min

Rated: PG-13

Sponsored By:

Campbell Insurance

The Platt family bands together to navigate their new surroundings after a cosmic event transports their suburban neighborhood to someplace unknown.

Times: Friday @ Closed, Saturday @ 7:30, Sunday @ 7:00

Regular Meeting OAKLEY CITY COUNCIL September 2, 2026

These minutes are unapproved

The Oakley City Council met in regular session on September 2, 2026, in the meeting room at the Oakley City Office, 415 W. 2nd Street, at 7:00 P.M. Council President Leasa Huddle presided.

Council members present. Caleb Baalman, Steve Badger, Brian Joseph, and Doug Reed; Mayor Russ Kahle joined by phone.

City staff present. Operations Administrator Russell Moellering, Finance Administrator Leann Hughes and City Clerk Joy Huffman.

Others present. John Holzmeister and Kent Braun; Jodee Reed and Donnette Ellegood arrived late.

Call to order. Council President Huddle 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 August 19, 2026, regular meeting, as presented. Reed seconded. Motion carried unanimously, (4-0).

Approval of AP Payment Registers. Baalman moved to approve the August 31, 2026, AP Payment Register, in the amount of \$165,941.48 (Check Nos. 1132-1141; 2068; and 53368-53392), for checks dated August 31, 2026. Joseph seconded. Motion carried unanimously, (4-0).

City Clerk Huffman informed Council she found an error in the Direct Deposit, so the report provided has the accurate amount. Badger moved to approve the August 31, 2026, AP Payment Register, in the new amount of \$2,941.34 (Check Nos. 26000076-26000080) for Direct Deposit Expenses dated September 2, 2026. Baalman seconded. Motion carried unanimously, (4-0).

Approval of Time Entry Report. Reed moved to approve the Time Entry Report for August 2, 2026, to August 15, 2026, dated August 18, 2026, for the August 21, payroll, in the amount of \$83,481.47 for 3,404.48 hours (Check Nos. 17908-17913; ACH Nos. 101489-101548; AP Check Nos. 53364-53367; and Wire Nos. 1241-1245). Badger seconded. Motion carried unanimously, (4-0).

Mayor Russ Kahle joined by phone at approximately 7:03

HEARINGS

7:00 – Public Hearing – Intent to Exceed Revenue Neutral Rate, Resolution 2026-05 – Levy a Property Tax Rate Exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate – Roll Call Vote. Council President Leasa Huddle recessed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing for Intent to Exceed Revenue Neutral Rate, Resolution No. 2025-05, at approximately 7:03 PM. There was no public comment. Finance Administrator Leann Hughes asked if Council had any questions and briefly explained the Revenue Neutral Rate. Council President Huddle closed the public hearing at approximately 7:05 PM. Badger moved to approve Resolution 2026-05, to levy a property tax rate exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate. Baalman seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote: Caleb Baalman voted yes; Steve Badger voted yes; Brian Joseph voted yes; Doug Reed voted yes; and Lease Huddle voted yes. (Unanimous – 5-0).

7:00 PM – Public Hearing – Budget 2027 – Approve and Sign Budget

Certification Page and Approve 2026 Budget Workbook. Council President Leasa Huddle recessed the regular meeting and opened the Public Hearing for the 2027 Budget, approving and signing the Budget Certification Page, and approving the 2027 Budget Workbook at approximately 7:07 PM. There was no public comment. Finance Administrator Leann Hughes asked if Council had any questions. Council member Badger agreed that we should stay at the same mills as last year. Hughes stated the Auditor also agreed with staying at the same mills as last year. Council President Huddle closed the public hearing at approximately 7:09 PM, and returned the meeting to regular session. Badger moved to approve the 2027 Budget and workbook, as presented, with the mill levy set at 90.474; and to authorize the Mayor and Council to sign the Budget Certification page (3 Copies). Baalman seconded. Motion carried unanimously, (4-0).

Citizen Request to Speak. None.

Moved to unfinished discussion/action items.

UNFINISHED DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

John Holzmeister – Fly Kansas Air Tour. John Holzmeister presented the Council updates on Fly Kansas Air Tour event. Holzmeister stated the event will be October 1&2, 2026. Airplanes will start arriving around 5 PM on Thursday evening. Around 15 to 30 airplanes are expected. This will be a free event for anyone. The main reason for this event is to get children educated and interested in aviation. There will be a couple of sessions with Oakley and surrounding schools. They plan on having food trucks, drone demonstrations, flight simulators, airplane displays allowing attendees to look into cockpits, and more. Friday morning the kids will be bused out to the event and the airplanes will start departing around 10. Council discussed the possibility of a \$750.00 community partnership out of Convention and Tourism to help with cost for the event. Finance Administrator Hughes also suggested the Mayor may like to issue a proclamation for the event.

Moved back to new Discussion/action items.

NEW DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

Oakley Gun, Coin, and Knife Show. The Council reviewed a Community Partnership Application from VFW Auxiliary Post 2981 for the Oakley Gun, Coin, and Knife Show. The Event is September 19-20, 2026. Baalman moved to approve the Community Partnership Application of VFW Auxiliary Post 2981, in the amount of \$1,000.00, to be paid from the Convention and Tourism Fund, Annual Tourism Events Fund. Joseph seconded. Motion carried unanimously, (4-0).

Directional Signs. Operations Administrator Russell Moellering explained he met with Brook Plummer and Sheryl Johnson about signage around town to show what Oakley has to offer and locations for tourist. Plummer and Johnson found a company that could make 36” x 38” signs. Moellering thought four signs would be good to put up at the Buffalo Bill Cultural Center, Fick Fossil Museum, Annie Oakley Park, and the park

located at the junction of US Highway 83 and US Highway 40. Council discussed and came to a consensus to table this item and have either Plummer or Johnson come to the next meeting to answer more questions.

Temporary Liquor License – Logan County Healthcare Foundation – Fall Social. Logan County Healthcare Foundation has applied for a temporary liquor permit for a fundraising event on October 16-17, 2026. The event will have alcohol being served, the foundation has received a temporary liquor license from the state. Enclosed is a copy of the permit application. Baalman moved to approve the Temporary Liquor Permit for the Logan County Healthcare Foundation Event at the Buffalo Bill Cultural Center on October 16-17, 2026. Joseph seconded. Motion carried unanimously, (4-0).

UNFINISHED DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Community Channel 117. Finance Administrator Hughes reported she got in touch with Kim Newel with S & T, after the discussion from the August 19, 2026 meeting. Newel explained the City would not be able to put any advertising on this channel, it is against state law. We can put the theater weekly shows on it because it is allowed to put information on for the schools. Jodee Reed and Donnette Ellegood suggested maybe making signs/cards to take out to the motels to put in every room with websites and QR codes to look up what was going on with Oakley, menu and hours of restaurants, and other events. After discussion the Council came to a consensus to not move forward and to add this to the September 16, 2026 meeting to rescind the motion from August 5, 2026.

Electric Scooters. Operations Administrator Moellering stated he has received personal texts and there has been many citizens contact the City staff with safety concerns about e-scooters. Moellering got the Ordinances from Goodland and Colby to discuss with the Council about their rules. The Council discussed about educating the kids and parents and the possibility of issuing warnings or citations to the ones who don’t follow street rules. The Council suggested getting a hold of the City Attorney to see what The City can legally do to try and stop it before someone gets hurt or killed. It was a consensus to table it until more information could be gathered.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS/DISCUSSION:

Russ Moellering – Operations Administrator. Operations Administrator Moellering reported on several of the duties/projects City staff have been, and will be, addressing in the upcoming weeks, including:

Mayer Specialty Service, LLC got one third of the town’s sewer cleaned and they found 5 locations in the sewer lines that will need to be fixed. Moellering stated this could be fixed in house.

The Council suggested having inspections to all taps added to the sewer lines before they get closed back up.

Three manholes will need to be rehabilitated.

Brook Plummer informed The City of the CLIP Incentive Program, which for eligible participants could receive up to \$10,000.00 who relocated to Logan County to start their careers and build a life here more appealing.

Corina Cox from Wilson and Company is working on a grant that could possibly reward the City \$900,000.00 to the Water Treatment Plant.

Asked the Council to consider purchasing portable carbon monoxide detectors for the Fire Department and Water Department

New signs have been installed around the schools and the street and curbs have been painted.

The flashing lights by the school will be fixed soon, the control panels have been ordered already.

Leann Hughes, Finance Administrator. No report.

Joy Huffman, City Clerk.

The membership for the Main Street Program was discounted from \$300.00 to \$150.00 for this year and next.

The new water rates with implemented on August bills and were mailed out August 31, 2026.

Updated the Council on the cost of the Civil Case.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS/DISCUSSION:

Mayor Russ Kahle wanted to thank the staff for getting the signs up for the school.

Caleb Baalman had some questions and concerns about the dog shelter. Operations Administrator explained the City pays for utilities and offers the building in exchange for no bills for housing stray dogs, but that Sara McDonald pays for all other costs.

Steve Badger noted he would like to see City equipment put into buildings when not in use, whenever possible.

Doug Reed would like the City to trim up the trees along the walking path at Bertrand Park.

Adjourn. Badger moved to adjourn the meeting. Baalman seconded. Motion carried unanimously, (4-0). Council President Huddle adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:21 PM .

Joy L. Huffman

City Clerk



Stick

with over 800 weekly readers

Thinking of advertising?
Why not go with a sure thing!

The Oakley Graphic

404 E. Front St.

785-672-3228

graphic@st-tel.net