

CITY OF OWEN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES **Approved 10/22/24**

DATE: Tuesday, October 8, 2024

LOCATION: Owen City Hall

TIME: 6:00 pm

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Scott Jalling

Alderpersons: Ray Kilty, Ken Martine, Jason Thornton, Bob Wilczek, Pam Jaffke, John Mauel

ATTENDANCE LIST: Clerk/Treasurer Tracy Rau, DPW Chad Smith, Deputy Kelly Booth

COMMUNITY ATTENDANCE: Cindy Cardinal/ES-Enterprise Sentinel, Sandy Deacon

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jalling at 6:00 pm & the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment: None

Approve 09.24.24 and 09.26.24 Meeting Minutes: A Wilczek/Jaffke motion to approve minutes as written. Motion carried.

Operator License-Thomas Swiggum & Alexander Dunnivant: A Martine/Mauel motion to approve contingent on police chief recommendation. Motion carried.

Centennial Donation: They would like the Finance Committee to Budget \$5000, which is what was penciled in for 2025. They are also doing a tree planting, a time capsule for 2025, a talent show with the concession stands open, the Lumberjack show, jail and bail, and possibly something on July 4th per the Mayor, Scott Jalling and Cindy Cardinal.

House of Friends Donation: Sandy Deacon said the House of Friends is running the after-school program at the Nazareth Church on M/TH. They have a light snack, then complete any homework, reading, and play outside. They are asking for donations for the 2024-2025 school year to keep the program going. A Mauel/Wilczek motion to approve \$1500.00 for 2025. Motion carried.

Budget Update: They met last night, and a few things need to be nailed down; but most of the budget was gone through. The Clerk/Treasurer will get a copy to the committee earlier so it can be looked through and changes possibly made before the next meeting date of Monday, October 28th.

Nuisance Property Update: Tabled; Alderperson Wilczek sent a text to the Chief; and he responded that our Attorney was working on it and sending out a letter.

Public Works Report: The lead and copper survey are complete and submitted. If someone wants to see the report, they can call for an appointment to view at the city hall or the garage. This Sunday, Chad Smith received a call regarding the water tower. The bowl seemed to be in good shape, it was the stem that was bad. He requested a meeting on Monday morning with the Mayor, Scott Jalling, and the Clerk/Treasurer, Tracy Rau to go over stopping the project or moving forward. It was decided the board said complete, so it is to be completed. It will be about October 21st before the tower is done and ready to start the filling process. They also fixed a water leak on Central Avenue. The sink hole on 4th Street has been repaired; the Phosphorus Report for 2024 has been completed. They are meeting with Cedar Corp. in regard to the plant upgrade/standpipe repair; as of right now the DNR is satisfied, more numbers to come. They have replaced sidewalks and curbs on the main street and well as by the mill pond area. The light by the sign in Curtiss has been changed out and an LED has been put in. The bathrooms by the mill pond have been vandalized again; they are working on leads, but it was stated that the bathrooms should be winterized and closed and not open; like the ones at the campground. We will have to fill the bike trail grant out again; and the safe crossing grant funding is just about used up. The DPW will also take the police shed out back and put on a cement slab for cold storage, the depot roof is almost gone so it may be time to tear this down as well, just a thought.

Clerk Report: We are continuing to work on the budget and audit. The Clerk/Treasurer went to a training on the levy report, transfer of money to complete tower; getting ready for elections (training in the am and pm on Oct. 24th)

Mayors Report: Talked about having a meeting on November 19th (instead of two meetings that month); the public hearing for the budget could be at 5:30 pm with the regular meeting to follow. By doing it this way it would give us plenty

of time to finalize the budget and put in the paper for the amount of time needed. If needed, we could have a closed session this evening with the city attorney as well; we can word it so one flows into the other. Asked about any updates on dog park.

Other Reports: A shout out by Alderperson Jaffke was given to Linda Barna for all of her hard work with the Farmer's Market, and to her husband John for taking the time on these weekends to run the train. A recognition was also given to Terry Plautz for the taking care of the Community Gardens; even though it was a tough year for the gardens. Alderperson Wilczek will send by email the Hold Harmless Agreement from the Fire Dept. that they use from their insurance company; to be used with Mr. Martin we can tweak and use it for the city.

Treasurer's Report: A Thornton/Wilczek motion to approve. Motion carried.

Disbursements/Accounts Payable: A Mael/Kilty motion to approve. Motion carried.

Future Agenda Items: Nuisance Property, Budget, Municode, Closed Session with City Attorney

Adjourn: A Wilczek/Jaffke motion to adjourn at 7:05 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully given to the best of my ability, Kelly Booth, Deputy Clerk