

**NOVEMBER 26, 2019**  
**CITY OF OWEN COMMON COUNCIL**

The City of Owen Common Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 26, 2019 at 7:00 pm at City Hall. In the absence of Mayor Charles Milliren, Council President Pam Jaffke presided. Carol Devine-City Clerk, served as secretary. Roll call of Alderpersons: Jalling, Mauel, Wagner, Jaffke, Martine and Wilczek. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order. Also present were Chief Ibarra, DPW Chad Smith and Tim Swiggum-CDC and Eric VanLaanen-Core & Main.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Minutes**

A Wilczek/Jalling motion/second and subsequent vote approved the minutes for the 11-12-19 council meeting.

**Public Opinion**

Under Public Opinion: Dan Hooks, again, had several comments, ranging from people not paying their fair share for water, to the City Clerk wages increasing \$10,000 not acceptable to overpaying Bowmar Appraisal to funding being pulled from the city.

**Public Present:** Nicole Rogers-Sentinel & Rural News, Dan Hooks and Cindy Cardinal-OW Enterprise.

**Open Public Hearing for Consideration for Adoption 2020 Budget: Time: 7:07 p.m.**

**Review/Consideration for Adoption of the 2019 Budgets for the following:**

City General \$1,073,195, Owen Water UT \$542,748 and Owen Sewer UT \$635,750

The Water Utilities budget included the amount of \$65,100 for the purchase of Remote Water Readers. Eric VanLaanen gave an informative presentation on how the remote readers worked and the numerous advantages to using them; such as constant monitoring of water usage, actual reads monthly and time saved in both the reading and recording of meter reads.

**Close Public hearing. Time: 7:35 p.m.**

**Consideration for Adoption of 2020 Budgets:**

A Wilczek/Mauel motion and subsequent vote approved the 2020 budgets as submitted.

**OW Police Commission Report**

Chair Jaffke reported the Wisconsin Retirement funds for the officers need to be paid separately by each municipality, but the money would be coming from the Police fund. WRS payments would start with the December payroll. The police are looking for a new squad to replace the Crown Vic. Chief Ibarra is looking to hire two more part time officers, not to exceed budget. This will allow him more options in scheduling. The police, along with the Commission, will also be looking into purchasing a drug dog.

**City Utility Plow Truck**

A Martine/Mauel motion and subsequent vote approved the purchase of a 2012 Chrysler Dually Diesel to replace the '84 Dump Truck. The price for the Dually is \$33,500 including a Voss Plow. We will be putting \$10,000 down from existing funds and look to obtain a short-term loan for remainder.

**Parks and Rec Report**

Bob Wilczek presented the new park fees to the Council for approval. Campsites at Crowley Park will increase from \$15 per night to \$18, with a 7-night stay being offered at \$120. The Concession Stand at the Mill Pond Park rate would increase from \$25 to \$50, but that would also include one of the park shelters. The fee for renting either pavilion by itself would be \$25. The Parks & Rec Committee also wished that any profits from the park and camping rental should be designated to the Park itself. A Martine/Mauel motion and subsequent vote approved both the park rental fees and the designation of monies to the Parks Department.

**CDC Report**

CDC Swiggum reported that he was covering at City Hall when Clerk Devine was gone to training. He has also been helping with the FEMA Grant, which takes a lot of time. Working on customs paperwork for the train. New business committed to Main Street-a photography studio. VPLE meeting with Cedar Corp. Next step is DNR Approval. Hosted the Untied Communities meeting at the Woodland.

**Disbursements**

A Martine/Wagner motion and subsequent vote approved to pay disbursements: City Pooled Check #29051-29092. City \$175,667.91; Water \$5,240.68 and Sewer \$5,715.04.

**Suggested Items for Future Agendas:**

Personnel Committee, X-mas bonus, meeting cancelation,

Council President Pam Jaffke adjourned the 11-26-19 Open Session Meeting at 8:21.

**(To be considered for approval at the 12-10-19 Council Meeting. Published 12-3-19)**