

CITY OF OWEN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**DATE:** Tuesday, March 14, 2023,

**LOCATION:** City Hall

**TIME:** 6:00pm

**CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Mayor Charles Milliren

Alders: John Mauel, Pam Jaffke, Bob Wilczek, Ken Martine, Matt Riihinen, and Joan Jalling

**ATTENDANCE LIST:** Clerk/Treasurer Tracy Rau, DPW Chad Smith, Officer Haugstad

**COMMUNITY ATTENDANCE:** Cindy Cardinal/Enterprise Sentinel

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

**Public Comment:** None.

**Approve Minutes from 2.28.23 Meeting:** Martine/Jaffke motion to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**Treasurers Report:** Wilczek/Martine motion to approve Treasurers Report. Motion carried.

**Community Clean-up Day:** Wilczek contacted GFL and thinking we will only need one dumpster. GFL is keeping the same price that they had last year which was \$375 plus \$59 a ton after that. Jim Bohl is still willing to help with tires. He gave some prices of what it cost to get rid of tires. We always charge people for tires. \$5 per normal automotive tires, \$15 per semi tires, \$28 per tractor tires and \$3 per lawn mower tires. \$250 a ton if enough tires for a load. No pricing for tv and computers due to no call backs; can update at next meeting if hear back. What about paint? Not a liquid. Dry it out, add something to make it dried out. No chemicals. Maybe next year asking the other communities about doing a co-op. It would be a larger undertaking. Switching the date to May 6<sup>th</sup>. Mauel/Martine motion to move the date to May 6<sup>th</sup>, wait on refrigerator cost and more information for paint, approve tire costs. Motion carried.

**City Hall Clean Out:** It is done, everything is in a dry secured spot. Just have to wait for the Police Department to remove some items.

**Cedar Corporation:** None.

**Excel Sub Station Updates:** Chad has not heard anything back from them.

**Public Works Report:** Water main break across the road on the main line. Third one on this line. Worrisome pipe that goes under the bike trail. Have to think if we want to continue with the bike trail grant and if another break was to happen. Could we replace the pipe and the trail at the same time? Something to think about down the road. Maybe put in a secondary line. First break, right before Chad started working here, second was last fall and now this third break. Brandon took his two-week class for Water Certification. Now just taking tests. Working on the PSC Reports for the Auditors. Sanitary Sewer - DNR inspection for the new permit. Had to go through everything. She sent back some things that need to be taken care of. Solid Separation Certification needs to be taken. Our plant is an Advanced plant, so need to have an Advanced Wastewater test done. Was told Chad's test was no longer valid. 2012 the test was taken and then changed everything in 2013. Will have to take the test again. Everything else was good and great comments back from DNR. Streets Department – plowing dates. Talked about the bike trail. Haas is still digging ponds out at the Business Park. Maintenance on equipment. Changing plow blades. The roads are ‘moving’ and manholes are sticking up. Withee – worked on the plant, doing some flushing. Some pipes had plugging in them. Have to do some things manually. Found a note from Troy saying he flushed those pipes once a month. Submitted some paperwork. Withee's new Department of

Public Works, Derrick Schad, started today. He is certified in Water and we will help out to get him up to speed. Wilczek wondered if we could do a mutual aid agreement. We have been billing Withee every pay period. Wilczek is very happy with everyone's work.

**Owen-Withee Police Meeting Report:** Jaffke reported how happy the school has been with the Police Department being involved. Nothing too specific with the call report. Getting caught up on reports. Unofficial someone missing. Still working on a Withee property, going through proper procedures. Equipment has been purchased for their grant. Everything is working well. Minor corrections on Chief Contract, sending to Bonnie to make sure everything is just right. A lot of discussion on Ride Alongs. They must sign a waiver; something could always happen. Ride Alongs are not mandatory, anyone can participate. Just need to contact Chief or Jake. Each Municipality should be paying their own members on the commission. Wilczek added that the Police Commission is only for financial aspects not for airing out each municipality's issues. That would be for individual councils and boards.

**Operator Licenses:** Martine/Jaffke motion to approve the Operator Licenses for Paine and Mahler. Motion carried.

**Personnel Meeting:** Jaffke reported that the committee went through the entirety of the Handbook. Corrections were made and will be passed along to the attorney. Very nice to have done.

**Planning Meeting:** Wilczek reported that there was an offer to purchase half an acre of the old dump from Aaron and Kristi Ruggles, not to build anything on, but for the setback. The Township of Longwood requires a ten-foot setback. They would like to build a very large shed that would be utilized for practices when the other gyms are full. Need to look into if the land can be sold. Just need it for the easement. Wanted to double check it was something that could be done and about the drainage field. All the proper permitting. Whether or not we can legally sell a portion of the dump. Mauel asked why he couldn't do a variance. Ruggles would have to pay \$2000 just to start the process of a variance in Longwood. He offered \$1500 for a half-acre. No recommendation to the council and an April 6<sup>th</sup> at 5pm meeting is set.

**Other Reports:** None.

**Disbursements/Accounts Payable:** City \$121,319.79, Water \$11,649.19, Sewer \$10,314.36, TIF #4 \$400.00, Totaling \$143,683.34. Wilczek/Jalling motion to approve the disbursements and accounts payable. Motion carried.

**Future Agenda Items:** Organizational Meeting April 6th, Prices for the TVs, Microwaves, Refrigerators and Paint for the Clean Up Day, Closed Session requested by Charlie.

**Adjourn:** 6:49pm

Respectfully given to the best of my ability, Jessi Stolfi Deputy Clerk