

Approved

CITY OF OWEN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, July 23, 2024

LOCATION: City Hall

TIME: 6:00 pm

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Scott Jalling

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

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

COMMUNITY ATTENDANCE: Cindy Cardinal/ES-Enterprise Sentinel, Karen Hurd, Mark Hanson, Dan Renderman, Laken Potocnik, Christine Poppe, Kevin, Julie, & Sebastian Baker, Terri Ernst, Carey and Travis Hargot, Erl Martin, Jackie Baures, Tony & Stacy Wallace, Tim Swiggum, Laura Harmon, Danielle Harmon, Rick Nelson, Roger and Chris Zager, Travis Serocki

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

Public Comment: Karen Hurd introduced herself, she is running for 69th Assembly. She went on to explain the MOE form that was received that all the clerks needed to fill out for the Fire and EMS districts and how that will affect the shared revenue; talked a lot about the larger districts.

Approve 07.09.24 Meeting Minutes: A Wilczek/Jaffke motion to approve minutes as written. Motion carried.

2022 Final Audit Update: The final audit that was provided to all council members was gone over by Bauman's; questions were answered as well. A Kilty/Mauel motion to approve the 2022 Audit. Motion carried.

Abatement of nuisance dogs at 730 E 4th Street: There have been many complaints of dogs running at large. The Sheriff Department also took a report of these dogs biting a minor child and now a cat has died by these same dogs. Many residents spoke to these facts. It is now in the Council's hands; the owner has two weeks (August 6th) from the date of the meeting to install a covered fence, license and vaccinate the animals, follow the ordinances of the city. The Chief will send the owner a certified letter, so they know what to do to comply. If these dogs/owners slip up once, the police have the authority to take matters into their own hands. The OW Police along with DPW will make sure the fence does not interfere with the reading of the water meter for their safety. A Wilczek/Martine motion to deem these dogs as vicious and potentially dangerous animals. Motion carried.

Abatement of nuisance property at 613 E 2nd Street: The property has six citations currently; our chief has been working with the property owner consistently; they have been warned, cited, given several chances to clean it up/change etc. We are concerned about the safety of all; community residents were at the meeting to discuss concerns as well as recent pictures of the property were passed to the council members. The property owner had to leave and wrote a note to the Chief of Police. A Wilczek/Kilty motion to deem a nuisance property and move the issue to the attorney. Motion carried.

Change August Meeting Date/Place: A Martine/Jaffke motion to keep it Tuesday, August 13th at 6:00 p.m. but move to the Owen Senior Center. Motion carried.

TAP Grant: Currently working with the DOT and Dennis from Cedar; A Wilczek/Jaffke motion to postpone until 8/13/24. Motion carried.

PFOS Testing: The council in the past approved moving forward with the litigation and now they want to test all our wells at a cost with no guarantee of what we will get out of the litigation. They are requesting all separate wells be tested at \$450 per well. Currently the DNR is happy with our numbers as they are. A Martine/Wilczek motion to not proceed with the testing. Motion carried.

Building Permit Procedures: We need changes in how we have done our building permits going forward. Our procedures need to be updated, along with our guidelines. Our Zoning Map may need to be changed as well. We will have a Planning Meeting scheduled in the next week with a quorum present.

Fire Chief Report: Mr. Travis Serocki was on hand to discuss. We have several occupancy/use changes; these businesses need state approved plans drawn up. They are looking at the cubic footage of the building, these buildings have different fire codes, along with what are they going to do or is the building classified as (industrial to mercantile). No one needs a permit that day, so things are not missed, be it a new house or a new business. The State has the final say on completion/changes to the building. They are cracking down on even small municipalities so see many changes coming down the pipe.

Car Show Special Permit: The fee has been paid. A Wilczek/Thornton motion to approve. Motion carried.

Gary Petersen Scholarship Temp License: The permit is cancelled! It is too wet, and the corn has not grown, one team has backed out; next year looks better. The corn will be taken care of by Jeff Petersen

Discuss/Act on Class B Combo Liquor License: L.A.S.T Ace, Again, is waiting for State Approval of electrician which was sent in. He had the electrician's business card in hand as well; submitted to the state waiting for approval of permits. Wallace said he will be open as soon as all is complete. Red Daisy Girl said according to the DOT she does not need State approved plans, or any changes need to be made to her building. The upholstery business in the back will be moved across the street if that is an issue. We had several community members give pluses and minuses on both businesses as to why the board should sway one way or the other regarding the license. A Jaffke/Kilty motion to give the available license to Red Daisy Girl, who is ready to open. Thornton abstained. Motion carried.

Mayors Report: The community picture after the parade went well will be in the 100th year Centennial Book.

Other Reports: Finance Report, progress is being made on the budget, not one department will share the brunt of reductions. There will be a United Community Meeting on September 23rd in Dorchester. At our next meeting they would like a photo of the Council Members, also Mary Ellen Hughes would like the questions answered by all council members that is included in all the packets for the 100th year milestone.

Disbursements/Accounts Payable: A Martine/Wilczek motion to approve. Motion carried.

Future Agenda Items: Building Permit, TAP Grant, Finance update, Business Park, Property & Dog Nuisance update, Laken Potocnik

Adjourn: A Martine/Thornton motion at 7:52 pm. Motion carried.

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