

CITY OF OWEN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, January 11th, 2021

LOCATION: City Hall 833 W 3rd St

TIME: 6:00pm

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Charles Milliren

Joan Jalling, Pam Jaffke, Bob Wilczek, John Mauel, Al Wagner, Ken Martine

CITY EMPLOYEES PRESENT: Clerk/Treasurer Tracy Rau, DPW Chad Smith, CDC Tim Swiggum

COMMUNITY ATTENDANCE: Nicole Rogers/Sentinel & Rural News, Cindy Cardinal/O-W Enterprise, Brian Chapman/Cedar Corp

A quorum being present, Mayor Milliren called the meeting to order at 6:05pm & all participants recited the Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment: none

Minutes: A motion made by Wilczek to approve the minutes from 12/14/21. And seconded by Jalling. Motion carried.

Cyber Insurance: Motion made by Martine and seconded by Jaffke. To approve the Cyber Insurance for \$500,000.00 coverage. Motion carried.

Public Works Report: Smith reported that he had gotten his DNR, and PSC cross connection spreadsheet finished that they had been working on for a while now. Jen Hogan sent in a complaint to the PSC on her high-water usage, Smith also sent information to the PSC upon their request. Trying to keep the heaters working. Checking the water temperature at the tower and the boosters so they are not freezing. Finished the Nitrate sampling report for the first quarter. **In Sanitary Sewer:** We had the Sewer Commission meeting on the budget on 12/6/21 we talked about a sewer rate increase. Smith worked through the night on 12/15/21 when we had the bad windstorm because the alarms kept going off. The new control panel screen Lift Station 3 has been delivered and installed. The sewer bar screen rebuilds ended up costing around \$7642. **In Street Department:** The Owen-Withee sign on highway 29 before Curtiss is too far gone it needs to be rebuilt next year and should be moved. Helped CN railroad and the Fire Department control traffic on CTH D, CTH X and 5th St until the rail was up and running again. Public Works Department have been out plowing the streets five times already this year. CJ Kreuscher, who is part of the Public Works team has been fixing the electric and pipes in the bathrooms at the parks he is also installing shelves to keep the extra toiletries off the floor. The ice-skating ring is already to go, people have already been down there using it. Wilczek asked DPW Smith to keep a tally on what equipment he rents for the year.

Sewer Rate Increase: Smith explained what the auditors had recommended doing because the sewer has always been in the red. Withee charges \$9.63 per 1000gal, and they also charge a \$1.80 service charge with all their fixed rates being higher than ours. Smith explained that we are not going to raise our fixed rate. Motion made by Wilczek and seconded by Mauel to increase the sewer rates by 9% and add a \$1.20 service charge. Motion carried

Adopt Sewer Budget: Mauel made a motion to adopt the sewer budget seconded by Jaffke. Motion carried.

Owen-Withee Police Meeting Report: Jaffke gave the report on the police meeting. The police are working on their computer program to get it up and running so they can give us a monthly call report. Once that is up and running, they will be able to compare month to month and year to year. Police have reported an uptake in school calls, but the drug activity is down at school compared to last year. The vehicles are getting outfitted, and the sale of the truck is still pending. At the end of the meeting Lindgren had asked about time clocks and punching in. Chief explained to the committee that the minute they log into their computer in their squad Clark County knows where, when, and what they are doing and how long it is taking them, and this is public record.

Business Park Street Names for Survey: Names came up to name the new Business Park roads, but the winners were DPW Smith with Blackhawk Drive running (north and south), and Wilczek with Badger Ave (east and west). A motion made by Mauel and seconded by Wilczek. Motion carried.

Discontinue Agribusiness Blvd. and Innovation Drive: Brian Chapman from Cedar Corp said we are only dropping Innovation Drive, Agribusiness Blvd is now the new Badger Ave. A motion made by Mauel, seconded by Wagner. Motion carried.

Cropland Rental Bid Opening: Josh Nielsen from Granton, had the highest bid of \$190.00 an acre to rent approximately one hundred acres. A motion by Wilczek and seconded by Mauel to accept the \$190 bid per acre. Motion carried.

Other Committee Reports: Swiggum talked about the "Murder on the Yellowstone Trail" dinner theater that will be playing this weekend sold one hundred tickets for Saturday and over sixty tickets for Friday, so we will make a profit.

Disbursements/Accounts Payable: A motion by Martine and second by Jalling to accept the disbursements.

Payroll/Taxes/Ins \$23,362.14, City \$116,249.70, Water \$58,400.60, Sewer \$14,186.65, TIF #4 \$12,361.45, Tax Roll \$154,008.15 Motion carried.

Future Agenda:

Adjourn: 6:56 PM