

CITY OF OWEN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, April 13th, 2021

LOCATION: New Owen City Hall 833 W. 3rd Street, Owen WI 54460

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Charles Milliren

Alderpersons: Joan Jalling, Pam Jaffke, Ken Martine, John Mael, Bob Wilczek & Al Wagner

CITY OFFICIALS EXCUSED:

ATTENDANCE LIST: Clerk/Treasurer Kind, CDC Swiggum, Officer Juzwiak and DPW Smith.

COMMUNITY ATTENDANCE: Renee Swenson of Cedar Corp via Zoom, Amanda Mahnke via zoom, Nicole Rogers/Sentinel & Rural News via Zoom and Cindy Cardinal/O-W Enterprise.

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by Mayor Milliren at 6:03 pm & the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Hearing:

Motion by Wilczek/Martine to open the CDBG Citizen Participation Hearing for proposed application for Community Development Block Grant – Public Facilities Program (CDBG-PF) Funds Project with Cedar Corp. Motion carried. Items reviewed with Renee Swenson of Cedar Corp were: Identification of total potential funds, eligible CDBG activities, presentation of identified community development needs, identification of any community development needs by public, presentation of activities proposed for CDBG application, including potential residential displacement, citizen input regarding proposed and other CDBG activities. This project is regarding the proposed Paul Ave. (County Road D) reconstruction in cooperation with Clark County Highway Department. Complete reconstruction from 3rd St. to 5th St., Water and Sewer lining from 5th to 9th St. and street resurfacing from 3rd St. to 9th St.

Motion by Mael/Jaffke to close the CDBG Citizen Participation Hearing at 6:22 pm, Motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Minutes:

Motion by Wilczek/Jaffke to approve the minutes from March 23rd, 2021. Motion carried.

Resolution Authorizing Submission of a CDBG Application:

Motion by Mael/Wilczek to approve Resolution 2021-01 to authorize the application. Motion carried.

Mill Pond Lake Shore Erosion Control project DNR Permit & dry hydrant and landscaping plan:

Discussion was held regarding the need for final plans before submitting the application. Application fees should be \$303 and were previously approved. A meeting will be needed between the Maki Foundation and Parks and Recreation to finalize a plan to submit with the application.

Building Committee:

Motion by Mael/Jaffke to approve the installation of rain gutters for \$1,622 with Comstock Seamless Gutters for the new city hall building. Landscaping will be done by Public Works and the Growin' Owen Committee. Motion carried.

Funding Proposal From Forward Bank-Resolution 2021-2:

Motion by Martine/Jalling to approve Resolution 2021-2 approving the loan of \$375,000 at 2.49% with Forward Bank for short term financing, no prepayment penalty and funds may be drawn as needed. Resolution passed unanimously.

Finance Committee:

Prevail Bank has also offered a similar account for city checking that has a more favorable interest rate. This will be discussed and decide at the Organizational Meeting next week. Finance Committee to meet Thursday 4/15 at 6pm

OWPC Committee:

Jaffke reported on the referendum and the somber tone at the OWPC meeting. It is still an issue that needs to be addressed as part time officers will continue to seek employment that puts them on the full time career path. Soundproofing between the city hall offices and the Police Chiefs Office was discussed. Public Works will look into solutions.

Personnel Committee:

Jaffke reported that Personnel Committee business will be held in the closed session.

Police Dept Report

78 calls were recorded in March. Prevail bank is doing a fundraiser for the OWPD K-9 Project, a paper shredding event will be held on May 11 from 10am-1pm please donate your papers to be shredded for \$1/pound donation. Discussion of the O-W School cooperating with the OWPC to create a School Resource Officer to possibly make funding room for the third full time position.

Public Works Report

Smith reported that he has completed the Consumer Confidence Report early. They repaired a water leak on Altenberg. Discussed the sewer line from the school that runs across the Meadowview Golf Course instead of directly to County X. The phosphorus counts are holding good at the sewer plant and adjustments are being made to hold costs down as much as possible. Working to determine the fuel tax refund with the clerks office. Looking at renting a ditcher from a local source which is cheaper than the usual equipment dealers. Looking into a used crane truck on the Wisconsin Surplus site under the City of Medford.

Library Report

Library meeting was postponed until next week.

CDC Report

Swiggum reported that he had completed the ad for the Community Guide and put a 5% discount for the campground to see how many came because of the ad. This Saturday is a cleanup day along the Black River and its watershed. The Popple River is a tributary to the Black River. Swiggum thanked DPW Smith, Mayor Milliren, Alderman Mael and Tracy Rau for taking a lead on the cleanup as Swiggum will not be in town. A letter to the newspapers was written to ask for volunteers for not only the cleanup day but flower watering and garden tending as well. The Showcase Garden(s) will be a priority for the Growin' Owen Committee but volunteer levels need to grow. Still working with the developers on the Business Park offers and a Planning Committee will need to be held soon. Swiggum will be attending the CCRLC monthly meeting in May to discuss the upcoming development.

Clerk/Treasurer Dept Report:

Election review, Audit work Continuing, 2021 Open Book and Board of Review dates, Dog tags were due 4/1, Red Daisy Girl Tobacco License issued, Organizational meeting next week. Sewer rates are now \$9.00 per 1,000 gallons starting the 2nd qtr of 2021.

Disbursements/Accounts Payable:

Motion by Mael/Jalling to approve the accounts payable of \$339,885.92 as presented. Motion carried.

Convene into Closed Session:

Motion by Wilczek/Jaffke to go into closed session at 7:35pm for Consideration of Wages & Benefits Under WI S. S. 19.85(1)(c) Consideration of employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. Motion carried.

Reconvene in Open Session:

Motion by Martine/Wagner to reconvene in open session at 8:10 pm. Motion carried.

Announce Recommendations:

It was announced that Kind will be given 24 hours to tender her resignation or face termination. A Martine/Jalling motion/second to accept the recommendation passed unanimously.

Suggested Items for Future Agendas:

Committee meetings for Finance, Planning/Zoning, Park & Rec, and Personnel.

Mayor Milliren adjourned the meeting at 8:13 pm.

Next Council meeting is Tues. April 20th, 2021 at 6pm at 833 W. 3rd street for the Organizational meeting.

Submitted by Tim Swiggum,

Owen CDC