

**CITY OF OWEN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE:** Tuesday, May 25, 2021

**LOCATION:** Owen City Hall 833 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Owen WI 54460

**CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Mayor Charles Milliren

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

**CITY OFFICIALS EXCUSED:**

**ATTENDANCE LIST:** Brian Reilly, Ehlers and Assoc. via zoom/phone, Tracy Rau/ Deputy Clerk, Tim Swiggum/CDC.

**COMMUNITY ATTENDANCE:** Andrea Mahnke via Zoom, Gail Stuttgen, Dennis Liepke, Pete and Kathy Johnson, Mark and Mary Meyer, Nicole Rogers/Sentinel & Rural News and Cindy Cardinal/O-W Enterprise. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by Mayor Milliren at 6:00pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.

**Public Comment:** Gail Stuttgen spoke to the issue of a property line correction that affected 4 property owners on S. 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. The other owners were present as well. Rau reported that Andrea Mahnke had complained about the mowing of the duplexes on N. Paul Ave. and asked her to report. Rau also was asked to extend an invitation to council members, by Larry Hodnett and Dick Peterson, to come and see the progress at the Woodland Hotel.

**Minutes:**

A Wilczek/Martine motion/second to approve the minutes from May 11, 2021 passed unanimously.

**Property Line Correction 5<sup>th</sup> Ave.:**

Discussion was held regarding what is assumed to be a faulty survey or property line error committed long ago and not certain by who. The group of owners, Stuttgen, Liepkes, Meyers and Johnsons, believe that the error was caused by past city practices and would like the city to pay for the survey costs which are also uncertain at this time. A Mauel/Wilczek motion/second to Table the issue to get more information from Clark County on the history of the properties passed unanimously.

**Resolution 2021-5: Providing for the Sale of Approximately \$1,335,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021B:**

Brian Reilly was present via Zoom and on the phone, he spoke to the council regarding the numbers and the savings the city would see as the result of the re-funding. He also explained the process and the fees involved which will be included in the loan. A Martine/Jaffke motion and Second to approve Resolution 2021-5 approving the sale of \$1,335,000 in General Obligation Refunding Bonds Series 2021B passed unanimously.

**Countryside Estates Notice of Injury and Claim:**

Andrea Mahnke was present via Zoom and by phone. The claim is incorrect as it says that the city does not intend to do "Bluebird" Street. It is the intent of the city to complete the street, curb and gutter by next September as it is a TIF#4 project and must be done by then. After discussion, a Martine/Mauel motion and second to send the issue to legal council for a recommendation passed unanimously.

**Clark County Attorney Letter Re: Sales and Use Restrictions in Business Park:**

Discussion was held regarding the opposition letter from Clark County concerning the approval of the Tire Recycling Facility in the Business Park. Swiggum had assured the County that the Deed Restrictions listed in the original sale are being followed regarding dust, noise, vibrations, cleanliness etc. The County Resolution states that for 15 years the city would promote Agribusiness and Renewable Energy projects. The proposed businesses loosely fit the requirement. Swiggum also pointed out that he had explained to the County that this

was not our dream when we created it but with the TIF#4 project period winding down that it was time to do something before next September. No action was taken at this time.

**Clerk/Treasurer Position:**

Jaffke explained that the Personnel Committee had completed interviews and recommend the promotion of Tracy Rau from Deputy Clerk/Treasurer to Clerk/Treasurer. A Wilczek/Wagner motion and second to Appoint Tracy Rau as Clerk/Treasurer passed unanimously.

**Community Clean-up Day Report:**

Wilczek explained the revenues for the cleanup from the TV recycling fees and the scrap value came to \$1840.60, and the expenses of Dumpsters and TV disposal came to \$1480.60 leaving a profit of \$360.00. Withee Tire owner Jim Bohl was very generous to not charge for the tires which kept the project in a positive cash position. Discussion was held about whether to hold a cleanup every year and the consensus was that we should. A Wilczek/Martine motion and second to set aside the \$360.00 toward a cleanup to be scheduled in 2022 passed unanimously.

**Phone System at Garage/City Hall:**

Problems at the garage with the phones taking up all the Wifi bandwidth leaving little for the utility computers has been solved through an internet upgrade. We have a 3 year contract with TSI so we need to work with them. City Hall would like to be able to FAX without having to send emails as well. We will contact TSI and work through the system to make it work for us.

**Committee and Department Reports as Provided:**

No reports were presented at this time.

**Disbursements/Accounts Payable:**

There were no questions on the disbursements. A Martine/Jalling motion and second to approve the disbursements of **City**:\$45,901.79, **Water**:\$7,437.84, **Sewer**:\$2,012.49 and **TIF #4**:\$87,237.50 with a total disbursement of \$142,619.62 passed unanimously.

**Suggested Items for Future Agendas:**

Property Line Correction, Police Committee Report, Countryside Estates Claim,

Mayor Milliren adjourned the meeting at 7:47pm.

Next Council meeting is Tues. June 8, 2021 at 6pm at City Hall.

Submitted by Tim Swiggum, CDC