

CITY OF OWEN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, May 13, 2025

LOCATION: City Hall

TIME: 6:00 pm

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Scott Jalling

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

ATTENDANCE LIST: Clerk/Treasurer Tracy Rau, DPW Chad Smith, Deputy Kelly Booth, Officer Scheffler

COMMUNITY ATTENDANCE: Cindy Cardinal/ES-Enterprise Sentinel, John Hansen

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

Public Comment: None

Approve 04.22.25 Meeting Minutes: A Kilty/Wilczek motion to approve. Motion carried.

Lot Trading: Mr. Bohl would like to trade two lots he currently owns for two different lots so he can put up two more duplexes. The board would like more information; what he paid for the lots he currently has, what lots does he want to trade for, and he will have to sign a new agreement if this all goes through. Once the information is compiled it will have to go on the agenda for approval.

Update on CBU/Clusters: The Mayor, Scott Jalling and DPW, Chad Smith are going to talk to the postmaster. The residents will have two places to get their mail depending on the current route. We will have mailboxes to put on the post for them.

Combined Meeting with Withee Trustees: It will be in open session; the meeting time is 6:00 pm vs. 6:30 pm; the agenda will consist of the Police Agreement and Bike Trail with discussion and action.

Discuss Land for OWC Fire District: Thornton stated the fire department wants to stay in Owen; considering land on County Road X(looking for 10 acres to put up a 250X80 ft building) where the bees are. They need to bore for a soil sample to make sure it is ok to build there. The grant is currently on hold, but they have been told to vacate the premises. After much discussion a motion by Martine/Mauel to move forward with the soil sample(boring the land) with the city holding this land until January 1, 2026, with a letter of intent from the fire district to build here to the city; motion carried with Wilczek abstaining

Special Event Block Party: A Wilczek/Thornton motion to approve all four dates in 2025. Motion carried.

Bike Trail Contract: The Mayor, Scott Jalling, signed the contract to governor. A Wilczek/Martine motion to allow the mayor to sign contract; motion carried.

Ammend B-3 Zoning to Allow Retail Conditional Use: A Thornton/Mauel motion to add conditional use permit; motion carried.

Public Works Report: On Well 7 they have been troubleshooting; The booster pumps bearings will be replaced this week, as well as the flushing of the mains completed. Everything seems to be going very well. We received a quote from August/Winters to rebuild the Standpipe for \$280,000; we will be having a Sewer Commission Meeting to get it all approved soon. We located the force main on CTH-X; blueprints are from 1986, so we had to mark the line as they went. I had a meeting with Xcel, the remodeling of the upstairs bathroom of the Senior Center is complete. It took a little longer than planned to be, the walls and floor were both rotten. The farmland has been rented to Berry Farms(Kathy Berry) for \$195 per acre, she has given a full payment for 110 acres. All bathrooms at Crowley Park and the Mill Pond have been opened for the season. Per Alderperson Wilczek, the DPW has offered a job, and he accepted the offer and will start Monday, May 19th; his name is Carter Sapinski; we interviewed two and had five applicants. He will do a good job and will be going through the process of obtaining his CDL which will increase his wage; he has also committed to the Zoning Administrator. He does have a commitment to the last week of the month that will be honored. A contract is in place for

the bike trail grant with design in 2027, construction in 2028 and completion finalized in 2029. They hope to survey in August/September 2025 and hold this payment till January 2026. He forgot to add that street sweeping is being done as well as CBS Squared will have a truck parked in the DPW lot and the company will pay for electricity; if more payment is needed let them know.

Mayor's Report: A thank you to Chad Smith, DPW Director, for putting out benches on the walking trail. The mayor was talking to Alderperson Mauel when a resident came up to him and suggested putting these along the trail for a "rest" stop; little did he know that it would be done the next day; resident was very happy to see.

Other Reports: Alderperson Wilczek gave an update on the Personnel Committee, and that the next meeting is planned for 5/15/25 at 4:00 pm. Alderperson Jaffke gave an update on the Finance Committee meeting. They will be moving line items and putting money into a separate account for the bike trail totaling \$30,000. They can then budget for the bike trail in 2026. She went over the dates of the project and said that the city may need a short-term loan in the event they have to wait for reimbursement of monies. We may need to ask all residents for a donation(s) to the bike trail project even though a grant was given, the city still needs to come up with extra money.

Treasurer's Report: A Wilczek/Jaffke motion to approve; motion carried.

Disbursements/Accounts Payable: A Mauel/Thornton motion to approve; motion carried.

Future Agenda Items: Lot Trade, Update on Mailboxes, Personnel

Adjourn: 7:23 p.m. A Martine/Thornton motion; motion carried.

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