

CITY OF OWEN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**DATE:** Tuesday, May 28, 2024

**LOCATION:** City Hall

**TIME:** 4:00 pm

**CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Mayor Scott Jalling

Alderspersons: Ray Kilty, Ken Martine, Jason Thornton; Bob Wilczek, Pam Jaffke, John Mael(ate)

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

**COMMUNITY ATTENDANCE:** Cindy Cardinal/ES-Enterprise Sentinel, Dominic from CCHCC

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jalling at 4:00 pm & the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Public Comment:** None

**Approve 05.14.24 Meeting Minutes:** Martine/Kilty motion to approve minutes as written. Motion carried.

**Owen Water Facility Site Visit:** The City of Owen has 5 active wells. We started the visit with Well #7 outside of Mael's Dairy. The well pumps an average of 15.15 gallons per minute. The next stop was across the street to a ground reservoir/booster station. The ground reservoir is a concrete 100,000 storage tank the was built in 1907. The water from 4 of the city wells and the water from Withee is stored here until the tower needs water. This ground reservoir will need to be replaced soon! We then went to the water tower. The tower is 166 ft high. The high-water level is 157'6". The low water line is 126'3". We learned the tower stores 250,000 gallons of water and the pressure is around 58 to 69 PSI depending on the barometric pressure. The tower was built in 2000; in the event of a tornado in a town, the tower will still be standing! We are going to be painting the inside bowl of the water tower and washing the outside to clean it up; this process will shut the tower down. We then went to the Owen lift station located behind the old school. Owen has 5 lift stations. Lift stations 2,4, and 5 pump through force mains to Owen 1 (where we are). This station has 1-20 hp pumps that are in lead 99% of the time though the year. There are also 2-120 hp pumps in this lift station to handle high flow events. Once we have a heavy rain event over 3 inches an hour or a fast snow melt, these pumps will take over until the station can keep up with the flow. Owen lift 1 pumps directly to Withee 3 lift station. Everything comes here and talks to Withee. We also have a valve structure outside Meadowview that controls the water from Withee and the water from our tower. When the ground reservoir needs water, the valve will close to our tower and open to the reservoir. The valve structure and the metering station (located on Hwy X off the bike trail) will talk to the SCADA system. When the valve structure closes the line to the tower it is opening the valve at the metering station so Withee can supply water to help fill the ground reservoir. The metering station controls the water purchased from Withee or sold to Withee. We the completed the water tour with a stop at Withee 3 lift station. The lift station on Pine Street receives wastewater from Owen and Withee and is pumped 4 miles in force main out to the wastewater treatment plant. The lift station has 2-60 hp pumps that were installed last year for \$64,000.

**Owen WWTP Site Visit:** We completed the tour at the "Sewer Plant" better know as the Wastewater Treatment Plant. At many Council meetings things are explained but this will start to paint a picture of what the DPW is wanting to replace, and the cost associated with it being the water or the sewer. This plant was moved from the end of Altenburg out in the Town of Longwood. The force main from Withee is 4 miles long on both sides of the road. The treatment plant was built in 1985 and updated in 2011. The plant was designed to treat up to 488,000 gallons with a population of 1,526. They have four ponds totaling four and a half acres in size, they are fourteen feet deep and hold 3,310,000 gallons. There are many things that they remove from the wastewater that were explained to us. The water coming in looked dark brown and murky and after they are done it is very clear in color. We are very pleased with the numbers and sampling that is consistently done. The whole department is cross trained in the sampling area.

**Kerry Tax Settlement Update:** Alderperson Jaffke has emailed Hurds office; they have said to appeal and will be in contact with the Clerk/Treasurer. Our Clerk/Treasurer said she needs to get the charge backs going and that they have gone passed the 60 days the office that she contacted said there was nothing she could do to fight back. More information to come later; tabled for now.

**Resident Water:** The city hall has gotten the May bills done and out with a note on each bill that if not paid we will be hanging tags. June is the quarter in which actual reads will be done by the DPW. Our DPW, Chad Smith will coordinate with Clerk/Treasurer Rau and put together a 10-day letter, followed by a 10-day notice, 10 day hanging tag, and if not paid water will be shut off to comply with PSC.

**Mayor's Report:** Would like to start by thanking Dominic and Jane from the CCHCC for allowing us to use the bus for our tour. He would like the agenda by 10 am Wednesday along with emailing other Alderpersons so changes can be made, and the final posting will be at the end of day on Thursday. The mayor was also informed that the Centennial Committee will be receiving a \$5,000 donation from Master Package.

**Other Reports:** The OWEDC met and approved a local business for a loan; this was mentioned by Alderperson Jaffke who is on the board. They are trying very hard to develop the Owen-Withee area. The whisky barrels (2) have disappeared and have been reported as stolen to the Police Department.

**Disbursements/Accounts Payable:** Martine/Mauel motion to approve both Council and OW Police. Motion carried.

**Future Agenda Items:** Police meeting, Delinquent Water Bills, Closed Session, Liquor License

**Adjourn:** 7:21 pm Wilczek/Jaffke motion. Motion carried.

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