

CITY OF OWEN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, July 22, 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: DPW Director Chad Smith, Clerk/Treasurer Tracy Rau

COMMUNITY ATTENDANCE: Cindy Cardinal/ES-Enterprise Sentinel, City Attorney/Harold Wolgram, and Kelly Booth

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

Public Comment: None

Approve Council Meeting Minutes 7.08.25: A Jaffke/Martine motion to approve. Motion carried

Convene into Closed Session –WI S. S. 19.85(1)(g) Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to the following litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved: Police Agreement, ~~Countryside Estates Agreement~~, Fire District and Ordinance 7-1-16

The committee may go in and out of closed sessions, take any action deemed appropriate from closed sessions and may return to open sessions to continue transacting business.

A Martine/Wilczek motion to go into Closed Session. Motion carried; roll call taken

Reconvene to Open Session: A Wilczek/Jaffke motion to go into open session. Motion carried; roll call taken

Announce Recommendation(s): A Martine/Wilczek motion to authorize the Chief of Police to take an abatement at 613 E 2nd Street following proper procedures. Motion carried

Discuss Ordinance 7-1-16: We had a meeting with the committee regarding snakes and farm animals, to allow chickens in the city. It was discussed at length; a handout was presented at the last meeting regarding health and nuisances, our current ordinance does not allow chickens in the city, and we should start practicing that ordinance as of now. As a police department we have a lot to deal with whether it is a cat or dog and now you are asking us to deal with chickens as well. We also talked about the health and sanitations the residents are not going to abide by that. As the Ordinance Committee we are passing our recommendation to the council as it has never allowed chickens since 2012. We will give them 45 days to get rid of the chickens they have now. Since no change is going to be made, there is no motion on the subject.

Appoint/Replace a member of the Planning and Park Committee: Dan Renderman has moved outside of Owen, so he has to be replaced, and Jim Scheuer wants off of the Park Committee. So, Jim Scheuer will now be a part of Planning and Hailey Wyro will be a part of the Parks Committee per the mayor. A Mauel/Jaffke motion to approve. Motion carried

Clerk/Deputy Clerk WMCA Training-Lacrosse 8/19-8/22: A Wilczek/Mauel motion to approve training and closing the office for these dates. Motion carried

Mayor's Report: Centennial Celebration was held with the best fireworks show seen and band was good.

Other Reports: A thank you from Alderperson Wilczek to the DPW for cleaning up the bridge from the fireworks. Also, Alderperson Kilty reported talking to Bowmar Appraisal and the reassessment is complete, letters will be going out on Monday totally 574(changes made and corrections were done), uncovered concerned properties, will be getting back two years, there was an increase of 87% on residents and 67% on business assessments. The assessment went up so your property as a resident is worth more, your assessment does not have anything to do with your taxes. Some taxes can go up, some will stay the same, and some will go down depending on the mill rate when it is determined. We do not know what the mill rate will be at this time.

Disbursements/Accounts Payable: A Wilczek/Kilty motion to approve. Motion carried

Future Agenda Items: 613 E 2nd Street/Update from City Attorney, Fire District, Police Agreement, Finance

Adjourn: A Wilczek/Thornton motion to adjourn at 7:36 pm. Motion carried

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