

CITY OF OWEN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES Approved 10/8/24

DATE: Tuesday, September 24, 2024

LOCATION: Owen City Hall

TIME: 6:00 pm

CITY OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor Scott Jalling

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

ATTENDANCE LIST: Deputy Kelly Booth

COMMUNITY ATTENDANCE: Cindy Cardinal/ES-Enterprise Sentinel and Earl Martin

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

Public Comment: None

Approve 09.10.24 Meeting Minutes: A Martine/Wilczek motion to approve minutes as written. Motion carried.

Operator License-Laura Lenzen: A Wilczek/Mauel motion to approve. Motion carried.

Trees by Martins: Mr. Martin was present; he contacted the DNR as well as the County and the numbers/names for the contacts were provided. Per the DNR it is less than 1 acre, and the County said it was a City Ordinance. Mr. Martin is willing to sign a waiver to hold the city harmless if something should happen. An amended motion by Wilczek/Mauel to allow Mr. Martin to do the work if he so chooses and to sign a hold harmless agreement so the city is not liable. Motion carried.

Review Policy Related Contracts: A Wilczek/Martine motion to send all contracts to the city attorney for review before signing by the city. Motion carried.

Police Meeting: Alderperson Jaffke and Alderperson Wilczek shared the highlights of the meeting. Both municipalities needed to approve the hiring of the 3rd officer along with the changes in the budget. Both municipalities will be affected differently. Some misconceptions needed to be cleared up.

Hiring a 3rd Police Officer: The Village of Withee approved last night at a special meeting. A Jaffke/Martine motion to approve hiring a 3rd Police Officer. Motion carried.

Approve Amended Police Budget: Alderperson Wilczek went over the changes to the budget. A Martine/Jaffke motion to approve the amended Police Budget. Motion carried.

Update on Nuisance Property: Chief was not present to shed light on this. The mayor thought he had contacted our city attorney regarding a letter and our attorney thought the Chief was handling it. Alderperson Wilczek thought it was sent to the courts, and they were waiting for a date, but he would follow-up.

Mayors Report: Last night was the Mayors Meeting in Dorchester, Alderperson Ray Kilty was also asked to attend by the mayor. They had a guest speaker from Xcel that was very informational. With input from Kilty this would be a win-win for the city. There will be more to come.

Other Reports: The DRC is hosting Autumnfest on Saturday, Sept. 28th. The Dog Park is behind schedule due to the fencing company being behind, but it is set to be done this year, possibly by November. The finance committee met to discuss preliminary budgets for 2025; was not serious as no number crunchy was completed. The Director of Public Works, Chad Smith gave a report, update by Jason Thornton on the fire district numbers, our City Clerk/Treasurer gave a preliminary report as the numbers have not been processed yet, the board was given the library as well as the police budget to mull over. The next meeting for this group will be Monday, October 7th.

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

Future Agenda Items: Nuisance Property, Budget

Adjourn: A Wilczek/Kilty motion at 6:52 pm. Motion carried.

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