

January 27, 2009 **Common Council Minutes**

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The City of Owen Common Council met in regular session on Tuesday, January 27, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. Mayor Timothy Swiggum presided and Deputy City Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Cardinal served as secretary. Present Alderpersons: Tolzmann, Nelson, Shelton, Lorence, Riihinen and Heggemeier. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order. Also present was DPW Gary Smith.

Approve Minutes

A Tolzmann/Nelson motion and subsequent vote approved the minutes for the 1/13/09 meeting.

Public Opinion

Present: Nathan LePage of the OW Enterprise and Mike Voss of MSA Professional Services. Alderperson Tolzmann stated that residents had contacted him to ask if there would be a place as part of the agri-business campus that would be available for use as an arena for horse shows, etc and he was asked if the City Garage was being used after hours for an employee to work on his snowmobile.

Steve Heggemeier arrived at 7:10 p.m.

Agri-Business Park

Mike Voss of MSA brought a preliminary plan for water, sewer, and streets. He stated that only one lift station would be needed on the south side of Highway 29. He also presented new cost estimates for the utilities and streets. A Shelton/Riihinen motion and subsequent vote approved the preliminary plan for water, sewer, and streets to the Agri-Business Park with the road in the section south of Highway 29 to be put in straight rather than with a jog in it if the DOT will allow and the moving of the holding ponds.

Mike Voss of MSA handed out a contract for design and construction services for Owen's 38 acre Business Park and the Agri-Business Campus. He projected a completion date of July 1 for the design work with construction to start August 1. Council members will look over the contract and discuss it at the next Council meeting.

The draft of the CDA Bylaws was discussed. Mike Voss will get answers to questions asked. The City attorney will also look at the draft. A revised copy will be sent to Council members before the next meeting so that it can be discussed and voted on at that time.

Resolution #2009-5 Finance Wheel Loader

A Tolzmann/Heggemeier motion and subsequent vote approved Resolution #2009-5 to finance the Wheel Loader through Community Bank for 10 years at 3.95% interest.

Community Guide Ad

A Riihinen/Shelton motion and subsequent vote approved a half page ad in the Community Guide at a cost of \$170.

Employee Handbook Procedure for Revision

Employees have been given the opportunity to comment on needed changes for the Employee Handbook. Annotated copies of the handbook will be given to the Council at the next meeting. A Special Council meeting has been scheduled for February 23rd at 6 p.m. to give the Council an opportunity to discuss the changes that they want to make.

Parks & Rec.

Committee member Mike Riihinen reported that there is no information yet on the final pay request for the grant or on the egg oiling permit. Alderperson Shelton said that his employer might be willing to help with the moving of the volleyball courts after Parks & Rec makes a final decision on location. A question was also asked about the snowmobile trail during the ice fishing contest. DPW Gary Smith said that the snow would be removed for the weekend only and put back on Monday.

Vouchers

A Heggemeier/Tolzmann motion and subsequent vote approved paying the following vouchers: City Pooled Account 39898-39949; CDBG 2008 Account 1002.

Adjourn

A Shelton/Lorence motion and subsequent vote approved to adjourn the 1/27/09 open session meeting at 8:24 p.m.