

September 22, 2009 **Common Council Minutes**

The City of Owen Common Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 22, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. Mayor Timothy Swiggum presided and City Clerk/Treasurer Terri Ernst served as secretary. Present Alderpersons: Tolzmann, Lulloff, Lorence, and Riihinen. Absent were: Shelton and Heggemeier. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order. Also present were Deputy City Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Cardinal, and Police Chief Randy Poirier.

Approve Minutes

A Tolzmann/Riihinen motion and subsequent vote approved the minutes for the 9/8/09 meeting.

Public Opinion

Present: Gary Smith, Nathan LePage with the OW Enterprise, Jim Hackbarth, President of the Central Wisconsin Agribusiness Innovation Center Inc. (CWAIC).

Financing

A Lorence/Riihinen motion and subsequent vote approved the financing of the 71 acre County land purchase with Community Bank of Central Wisconsin under Resolution #2009-18.

State Trust Fund

A Tolzmann/Lorence motion and subsequent vote approved Resolution #2009-19 to apply for a loan with the State Trust Fund.

CWAIC Report & Pilot Agreement

Jim Hackbarth, President of CWAIC, presented the Council with a brochure explaining the facts and goals of their facility project. CWAIC has already secured a \$4 million grant from the Federal Economic Development Administration for the design and construction of the Central Wisconsin Agribusiness Innovation Center. The Corporation will be in charge of raising the grant matched \$4 million. The CWAIC continues to meet weekly. The Innovation Center will be considered a tax exempt property but in lieu of real estate taxes the CWAIC Corporation proposes to enter into a Pilot (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) Agreement with the City of Owen of \$20,000.00 per year.

Owen Jr. Fair

Cindy Cardinal presented a Treasurer's Report for 2009. The itemized report shows no profit for 2008 but in 2009 due to increased raffle ticket sales by the Queen candidates and the addition of 2 other events and a second raffle, this years event came out with a profit. A Lulloff/Lorence motion and subsequent vote approved the 2009 report.

Waterworks Agreement

Village President Everett Lindgren, Mayor Tim Swiggum, DPW Gary Smith and Clerk Ernst met on 9/14/09 to discuss renewal of the City of Owen/Village of Withee Waterworks Agreement. The Council was presented a copy of the agreement which will have a term up to the completion date of the current Withee Water Plant update project. A Tolzmann/Riihinen motion and subsequent vote approved the agreement as presented.

Insurance Renewal

A Lorence/Lulloff motion and subsequent vote approved the renewal with Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Mgt. Services Inc. for Workers' Compensation, General Liability, Police Professional Liability, Commercial Automobile, Equipment Breakdown, and Public Officials Liability.

Utility Training

A Lorence/Riihinen motion and subsequent vote approved to send Clerk Ernst to the Wisconsin Rural Water Utility Clerk Training in Eau Claire, WI.

Brownfield Grant

A Tolzmann/Riihinen motion and subsequent vote approved the intent to apply for a Brownfield Grant.

Urban Forestry Grant

The Owen Tree Board would like to plant trees along the railroad track near the baseball field in

Crowley Park to create a sound buffer for the campground. A Riihinen/Tolzmann motion and subsequent vote approved the intent to apply for an Urban Forestry Grant under Resolution #2009-17, pending railroad permission to plant on right of way.

Land Offer

An offer to purchase 3.47 acres of land on the north side of Highway 29 was received from Deanne and Jerry Wells of Withee to construct the O-W Travel Center. A Riihinen/Tolzmann motion and subsequent vote approved to send the proposal to the Owen Planning Commission.

No thru street

The Public Works Dept. has posted signs behind the T & C Service garage and the Old School to deter thru traffic in that area.

Parks & Rec. Committee

No action taken.

Operator's License

A Lorence/Lulloff motion and subsequent vote approved the following for operators' licenses: Gena Leonhard and Leanne Strobach, pending background check.

Handbook Changes

A Tolzmann/Riihinen motion and subsequent vote approved to change the probationary period of 6 months to 1 year in both the Police Policy & Procedures Handbook and the Employee Handbook.

Vouchers

A question was raised and answered for Check #40789. A Tolzmann/Lorence motion and subsequent vote approved paying the following vouchers: City Pooled 40759-40798, City Total \$251,380.75, Water Total \$4,083.69, Sewer total \$2,931.69.

Closed Session

A Lorence/Tolzmann motion and subsequent vote approved to convene into closed session at 8:36 p.m. At 9:17 p.m., the Council reconvened to Open Session.

Announce Actions

The Mayor will set-up a joint meeting with the Village of Withee to discuss the Owen Police Service Agreement and salary requirements.

Adjourn

A Riihinen/Lulloff motion and subsequent vote approved to adjourn the 9/22/09 open session meeting at 9:18 p.m.