April 27, 2010 **Common Council Minutes**

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The City of Owen Common Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 27, 2010 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, Kiviko, Lorence, Riihinen and Heggemeier. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order. Also present was Deputy City Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Cardinal.

Approve Minutes
A Heggemeier/Tolzmann motion and subsequent vote approved the minutes for the 4/13/10 and 4/20/10 meetings.

Public Opinion
Present: Bill Benzschawel and Sid Borgeson. Concerns were expressed that semi-trucks traveling to Kerry are being routed in error by GPS systems into residential areas of Harding Avenue, Altenburg Avenue, Meadowview Court and N. West Street. A suggestion was made that maybe Kerry Ingredients needs to install a sign to assist these trucks traveling through town to find them.

Withee Softball Park
Sid Borgeson, President of the Withee Softball League presented a fund raising project for their Withee Softball League Building Fund. For an annual rental of $100 per year, sponsors will be able to display their name and advertisement or message in a 4&#65533; x 8&#65533; space on the outfield fence at the Withee Softball Park. For the initial fee of $135 they will assist in the development of your sign and you will be able to review it before it&#65533;s completed. A Tolzmann/Lulloff motion and subsequent vote approved to table the issue until a future meeting.

Final draft Option Agreement
A Heggemeier/Lorence motion and subsequent vote approved the Option Agreement with the changes made during the meeting. Those changes will be submitted to the City Attorney and the final document will be presented to Dee and Jerry Wells.

Railroad Property Acquisition
A Lulloff/Tolzmann motion and subsequent vote approved to offer the railroad $4,500 for parcel numbers: 265.0353.000, 265.0343.001, 265.0442.001, 265.0442.000 and the alley behind the Owen Library all the way to County Highway X.

Executive Director Position
CDA Chairman, Steve Heggemeier reported that the CDA met on 4/21/10. They approved to recommend to the Council, that the City give $100,000 to the CWAIC group and for CWAIC to be responsible for the hiring and paying of this position. The Council discussed that time is of the essence and the Council needs to do something immediately so that an executive director can be hired and take on the full-time role of getting pledges of $5.8 million to match the EDA grant of $4 million by November 1, 2010. A Lorence/Heggemeier motion and subsequent vote approved the City would pledge up to $100,000 to the CWAIC group for hiring an executive director which will be paid out as needed.

Parks & Rec.
Chairman, Denny Lulloff reported that the DNR had conducted a fish netting inventory of the Mill Pond. After two days of netting, the results showed that mostly bullheads are present in the Mill Pond. The next highest numbers were for crappies, bluegills and northern pike. It was discussed that walleyes will eat bullheads and maybe we need to stock more of that species. Lulloff is waiting for a recommendation from the DNR of what should be done with the high population of bullheads. Lulloff reported they also oiled goose eggs in five nests on the Mill Pond.

Board of Review
Owen Open Book is scheduled for Friday, May 7th at 1:00-3:00 pm. Owen Residents may take this opportunity to come to City Hall and talk to the City Assessor about their property assessments. The Board of Review is scheduled for Thursday, May 13th at 3:00-5:00 pm. Two more Council members

are needed for the BOR with Heggemeier and Lulloff volunteering.

Disbursements
A Tolzmann/Riihinen motion and subsequent vote approved paying the following disbursements: City Pooled 41596-41631; City Total $52,581.26, Water Total $478.42, Sewer Total $22,976.98.

Adjourn
A Heggemeier/Riihinen motion and subsequent vote approved to adjourn the 4/27/10 open session meeting at 8:43 p.m.