

August 10, 2010 **Common Council Minutes**

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The City of Owen Common Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 10, 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 and Heggemeier. Absent was: Riihinen. 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 Lorence/Heggemeier motion and subsequent vote approved the minutes for the 7/27/10 meeting.

Treasurer's Report

A Tolzmann/Lulloff motion and subsequent vote approved the Treasurer's report for July 2010.

Police Report

A Heggemeier/Lorence motion and subsequent vote approved the Owen-Withee Police report for July 2010. Chief Poirier reported that two juveniles, one from Owen and one from Greenwood, have been referred to Clark County for the bus fire at Town and Country Service.

Public Opinion

Present: Judy Vollrath with OW Enterprise and Tony Suda. Tony Suda was present and expressed to the Council members his concerns about the amount of money the City is going into debt for the development of the Agribusiness Park south of Highway 29. Suda stated that our current streets, curbs and sidewalks need attention now and the new development is going to push those improvements off even further. Suda remarked that he doesn't want to see residents suffer a future tax increase because of this development. The Council suggested that maybe an article in the OW Enterprise or a letter sent directly to residents explaining the development project in the Agribusiness Park, how a tax incremental district works, and what a bond is. The bridge behind Creekside suffered some damage during the recent high waters. The company that built it will take a look at it within the next week.

Resolution #2010-14

A Tolzmann/Lorence motion and subsequent vote approved Resolution #2010-14 approving adoption of the Clark County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan, 2010-2015 as the official all hazards mitigation plan for the City of Owen. The resolution can be viewed in its entirety at City Hall or on the City website at www.cityofowen.com.

Election Precinct Counter

Discussion took place regarding the County Executive Committee's decision to not fund half of the cost for a precinct counter for municipalities in Clark County. The County's Model 150 Central Count machine will be phased out at the end of 2010 and each municipality will either hand count their own ballots or may purchase their own precinct counter for \$5,000. A survey was sent out to all municipalities by the Clark County Clerk's office. One of the options on the survey was the County would pay half the cost of a precinct counter for any municipality that chose to purchase one. On July 26, 2010, Clerk Terri Ernst obtained from County Clerk Chris Jensen a tally of survey results she received. 6 responded to utilize the current Ivotronic unit along with paper ballots; 4 responded that the County purchase a new Central Count machine; 5 responded they would like to purchase a M100 precinct counter but only if the county pays half the cost; 1 responded the plan to purchase a M100 precinct counter even if the County does not pay half the cost. There are a total of 45 municipalities in Clark County. Survey results only reflected approximately 1/3 of the County. Owen's response was they would purchase a counter if the County pays half. Clerk Ernst feels the County could have assisted with some amount of funding and that the County has let us down. A Heggemeier/Lorence motion and subsequent vote approved that the County has a responsibility to all the voter in Clark County and that the City of Owen is willing to purchase their own Precinct Counter as long as the County pays half, and that this topic be brought back before the Executive Committee and full County Board.

Operator's License

A Lorence/Tolzmann motion and subsequent vote approved an operator's license to Tasha Cheever.

Training Update

Clerk Terri Ernst reported on the sessions she took part in at the UW Green Bay 2010 Master Academy on July 27-29, 2010. Sessions were: Handling difficult conversations, branding yourself as a great leader, managing millennials and coaching and motivating employees. Clerk Ernst reported that most sessions were very interactive and sometimes would break down into smaller groups and do exercises that allowed students to understand how different people are, how differently people think, how different generations need to be motivated and rewarded. Clerk Ernst found the sessions to be very enlightening and they have given her some very useful tools to use in her position as City Clerk.

Disbursements

A Tolzmann/Lorence motion and subsequent vote approved paying the following checks: City Pooled 41942-41995. City Total \$56,384.94; Water Total \$11,696.86; Sewer Total \$27,747.64.

Motion to Convene into Closed Session

A Heggemeier/Lulloff motion and subsequent vote approved to convene into closed session at 8:09 p.m., under 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 litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.

Meeting Reconvened to Open Session at 9:03 p.m.

Consideration of actions in Closed Session

The Council agreed to follow the City Attorney's suggestions regarding the claim against the City.

Adjourn

A Tolzmann/Kiviko motion and subsequent vote approved to adjourn the 8/10/10 open session meeting at 9:05 p.m.