

November 9, 2010 **Common Council Minutes**

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The City of Owen Common Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. Council President Steve Heggemeier 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. Absent was: Mayor Timothy Swiggum. Also present were Deputy City Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Cardinal and Chief of Police Randy Poirier.

Approve Minutes

A Tolzmann/Lorence motion and subsequent vote approved the minutes for the 10/26/10 meeting.

Treasurer's Report

A Lorence/Lulloff motion and subsequent vote approved the Treasurer's report for October 2010. Clerk Ernst reported the final payment for shared revenue will be received 11/15/2010 for \$403,331.00.

Police Report

A Tolzmann/Lorence motion and subsequent vote approved the Owen-Withee Police report for October 2010.

Police Service Agreement Village of Withee

A Lorence/Kiviko motion and subsequent vote approved the 2011 Police Service Agreement with the Village of Withee with a 3% increase for \$54,114.00.

Public Opinion

Present: Linda Wyeth-OW Enterprise, Rebecca Baumann-Newly hired CWAIC Executive Director, Mike Kawleski-recently resigned CWAIC Executive Director and Daniel E. Hooks, Sr.. Mr. Hooks commented on what is the name of the Company from Spain, why the City was constructing a new sewer treatment plant and if a new squad vehicle is being considered in 2011. Answers given to Mr. Hooks were Gestamp from Spain, the City is not constructed a new sewer treatment plant and yes the City is budgeting in 2011 to purchase a new squad. Mike Kawleski, recently resigned CWAIC Executive Director introduced the newly hired CWAIC Executive Director as Rebecca Baumann. Rebecca reported to the Council she is currently living in Minnesota and was most recently the executive director of The Minnesota Project. Baumann was raised on a family owned dairy farm in Ohio and has extensive experience and education in agribusiness. Kawleski also reported about Cherney Microbiological Services as being the 1st tenant in the Agribusiness Innovation Center and Cindy Cardinal reported on potential financing of the Innovation Center in cooperation with the City and EDA.

Highway 29 Partnership

City Clerk Ernst reported that the Highway 29 Partnership met on November 1, 2010 at the CWAIC office in Owen. Attendance by members was light but the group had a lot of productive conversation and worked on a plan for holding a roundtable discussion with SCORE of Marshfield, WI and to eventually offer local businesses a meeting with SCORE representatives to discuss their current business structures and develop plans for the future, in order to keep local businesses running and prospering in the Hwy 29 communities. SCORE is a premier source of free and confidential small business advice for entrepreneurs and business owners.

2011 Budget Report #4

City Clerk Terri Ernst presented report #4 of the 2011 proposed City budget. Report #4 shows a proposed budget of \$1,116,474.38 which will be published in the OW Enterprise on 11/10/10 along with the notice of the Public Hearing scheduled for Tuesday, November 23, 2010 at 7 pm. Clerk Ernst reported that report #4 shows budgeted for 2011 the sewer lining projects of \$114,000 have been split into two projects with \$42,350 budgeted in 2011 plus another \$22,937 put into reserves to use in 2012 towards the sewer lining cost of \$71,665 in 2012.

Res. #2010-16 Public Fire Protection

Clerk Ernst reported that a resolution was not available for tonight's meeting. A report from the Public

Service Commission was provided showing quarterly and monthly public fire protection fees that would be charged on customer utility bills if the Council chooses to implement this fee in 2011. The fees are determined by meter size with most customers having a 5/8" meter, the public fire protection fee would be \$1.75 per month or \$5.25 per quarter. The City pays approximately \$158,000 a year for public fire protection and has never implemented a fee to utility customers. Approx. 34% of water utilities recover PFP charges through direct charges placed on water utility bills. This full annual fee has always been a part of the City's tax levy to residents. If these sample fees went into affect, it would generate approximately \$13,500 a year. A Tolzmann/Lulloff motion and subsequent vote approved to table the resolution until the 11/23/10 meeting and to officially designate a revenue in 2011 of \$13,500 in public fire protection fees to utility customers.

#### Disbursements

A Tolzmann/Lorence motion and subsequent vote approved paying the following checks, City Pooled 42278-42342: City Total \$28,355.82; Water Total \$18,409.41; Sewer Total \$11,220.76.

#### 2011 Wages & Benefits

Clerk Ernst first advised the Council that the City Attorney advised that closed session is not allowed when discussing employee wages and benefits for budget purposes. Clerk Ernst provided the Wisconsin State Statutes if any member wanted a copy. Clerk Ernst presented spreadsheets showing the Council health insurance proposals from United Health Care and Security Health. Ernst reported that going with any Security Health plan was a win-win situation over United Health Care and that the City's health insurance for 2011 could be considered an actual benefit to employees which wasn't the case with UHC. Options were shown on the spreadsheets showing the different Security Health Insurance plans, an increase from \$100,000 to \$113,500 by the City towards the health insurance benefit, continuation of the City's HSA contribution of \$1,000/\$2,000 and probable premiums that employees would pay out of each paycheck depending on the plan decided. A Lulloff/Tolzmann motion and subsequent vote approved to increase the health insurance benefit from \$100,000 to \$113,500 for 2011 voting at 5-yes and 1-no by Mel Lorence.

#### Adjourn

A Riihinen/Kiviko motion and subsequent vote approved to adjourn the 11/9/10 open session meeting at 8:40 p.m.