July 26, 2011 **Common Council Minutes**

July 26, 2011

The City of Owen Common Council met in regular session on Tuesday, July 26, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. Mayor Stephen Heggemeier presided and City Clerk/Treasurer Terri Ernst served as secretary. Present Alderpersons: Hanson, Tolzmann, Lulloff, Lorence, Feldman and Kiviko. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order. Also present were: CDA Director Tim Swiggum and DPW Gary Smith.

Approve Minutes
A Lorence/Kiviko motion and subsequent vote approved the minutes for the 7/12/11 meeting.

Public Opinion
Present: : Linda Wyeth-OW Enterprise, Rebecca Baumann-CWAIC, David Carlson-SEH Inc., Tony Suda, Rock Lehr, Jean Jankee and Tim Devine. Tony Suda asked why the City is always spending money. Pam Jaffke inquired if the City Attorney has heard back from CN Railroad.

City Property Lease
Council person Art Feldman brought back to the table the issue of renting City property for a vehicle Mega Sale. A Feldman/Lorence and subsequent vote approved to bring the issue back to the table. A Lorence/Tolzmann motion and subsequent vote approved to not rent City property for the vehicle Mega Sale.

Owen Junior Fair Update
Board member Rocky Lehr presented the Council with a summary of the Fair's outcome. The numbers are not all in and the Council requested a more detailed report at their next meeting. Clerk Ernst will contact Samantha Thornton on what numbers are necessary to complete the spreadsheet at City Hall.

CDA Meeting Update
Chairperson Dennis Lulloff reported on the CDA meeting held 7/20/11. Badger Ag Solutions is presently closed but there are possible buyers looking at it. Gestamp Biomass Fuel plant will no longer happen in Owen's East Side Commercial Park. The billboard along Hwy. 29 was discussed to possibly update the information for Owen. Grants were discussed and Kevin Accola with SEH Inc. was present to discuss the different grants available for cleaning up contamination at the OMI property. The CDA approved to recommend to the Council to
purchase Parcel # 265.0427.000 which consists of 22 acres of vacant land along County Road D. The recommendation was to purchase the parcel for $66,000 with the seller to provide a free and clear title. The Owen CDA also recommended to the council to purchase
purchase parcels numbered 265.0339.000; 265.0340.000; 265.0430.000; and 265.0431.000 for $310,000 with the following list of contingencies: Seller will reimburse the City of Owen for sellers share of environmental studies performed (approximately $30,000); seller will provide a free and clear title; city must be able to obtain financing; and allows up to 120 days for closing.

CWAIC Update
Rebecca Baumann-CWAIC reported a letter from CWAIC was returned and signed by James Louks committing to letter of credit will be presented soon. A letter from CWAIC was then sent to the acting regional director of the EDA updating them on the Louks commitment letter. Tim and Rebecca represented Owen and CWAIC at the 3 day Farm Technology Days in Marshfield. $20,000 grant from DATCP was received by CWAIC. Rebecca will be holding meetings in five different locations for individuals interested in starting their own businesses. New members to the CWAIC are: Tim Shepardson-CVTC, Steve Oberle-Land Conservationist for Taylor County and Deb Esselman-Coordinator at FSA Service Agency-Taylor County.

Purchase 22 acres OMI Property
The Owen Planning Commission met prior to the Council meeting and approved the recommend to the council the purchase of Parcel # 265.0427.000 for $66,000 with the seller to provide a free and clear title. A Lorence/Hanson motion and subsequent vote approved the purchase as described above.

Purchase 24 acres OMI Property
The Owen Planning Commission met prior to the Council meeting and approved to recommend to the Council to purchase parcels numbered 265.0339.000; 265.0340.000; 265.0430.000; and 265.0431.000 for $310,000 with the following list of contingencies: Seller will reimburse the City of Owen for sellers share of environmental studies performed (approximately $30,000); seller will provide a free and clear title; city must be able to obtain financing; city acceptance of a grant for cleanup purposes; and allows up to 120 days for closing. A Hanson/Lulloff motion and subsequent vote approved the purchase as described above.

Grant Funding
David Carlson of SEH Inc. reported on possible grant funding for the contamination cleanup at the OMI Property. A Tolzmann/Feldman motion and subsequent vote approved the Master Contract and Supplement Letter Agreement with SEH Inc. and to proceed with applications for grants at a cost of $2,000.

City Property
Mayor Heggemeier was made aware by an Owen citizen of a unique coat rack at City Hall. After thorough observation, it was determined the coat rack was made by Gustav Stickley a Mission Furniture maker. A Lorence/Tolzmann motion and subsequent vote approved to put the coat rack out on bids, with a minimum starting at $900.00.

Resolution #2011-5
A Lulloff/Lorence motion and subsequent vote approved Resolution #2011-5 to adjust the ward boundaries as described in the Resolution and attached map, including the territory annexed in 2010.

Resolution #2011-6
A Lorence/Feldman motion and subsequent vote approved Resolution #2011-6 to joining the Blue Line Community Coalition.

Mayoral Appointment
A Lorence/Lulloff motion and subsequent vote approved the appointment of Art Feldman to the Ordinance Recodification Committee.

License Applications
A Tolzmann/Kiviko motion and subsequent vote approved the operator's license applications to: Jennifer Pippin, Dennis Potocnik, Abby Pippin.

Disbursements
A Lulloff/Feldman motion and subsequent vote approved paying the following checks, City Pooled 43263-43303, City Total $37,686.41; Water Total $1,903.37; Sewer Total $2,497.61; including Check #43240 held from the last meeting.

Adjourn
A Tolzmann/Kiviko motion and subsequent vote approved to adjourn the 7/26/11 open session meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Stephen M. Heggemeier, Mayor
Terri Ernst, City Clerk/Treasurer

(To be considered for approval at the 8/9/2011 Council Meeting. Published 8/3/2011.)