

September 25, 2012 **City Council Minutes**

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The City of Owen Common Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 25, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall. Mayor Stephen Heggemeier presided and City Clerk/Treasurer Terri Ernst served as secretary. Present Alderpersons: Tolzmann, Lulloff, Lorence, Feldman and Kiviko. Absent was Hanson. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order. Also present were Tim Swiggum-CDA Director and Gary Smith-DPW.

Public Opinion

Present: Brian Reilly-Ehlers Financial Advisors.

Emergency Siren

Mark Renderman was unable to attend the meeting. A possible site was discussed but it's not far from the original location. A Lorence/Lulloff motion and subsequent vote approved to table discussion of relocating the emergency siren located across the street from Holy Rosary Church.

Financial Advisor

Brian Reilly-Ehlers Financial Advisors, presented a spreadsheet to the Council showing TIF's 3 and 4 tax increments and debt schedule. Refinancing of the 2010 NANS, 2010 Water RBANS and 2010 Sewer RBANS will need to occur before June 2013. The issue of distressed TIFs was also brought up as an option. A Lorence/Lulloff motion and subsequent vote approved to hire Ehlers as the agent for the loan refinancing

Testing Well

Putting a testing well on the City's 38 acres was mentioned in continuing the search for water for the City. This does not need to be completed at this time but should be considered in the near future.

Water Utility

Public Works is waiting for technical information in discussion of the financial viability of the water utility.

CDA Report

CDA Director Tim Swiggum presented a directors report. Testing of the soils at the OMI property will be completed soon for a possible new potential buyer of the building and approx. 18 acres. The fertilizer company is still interested in the 6.5 acres. James Louks-Fiberpop is checked on periodically and his plans are gaining momentum. The CWAIC continues to meet and is working with UW River Falls to update and improve the feasibility study and work plan for the group. The 1st Annual Indian Summer fest was hit hard by rain and cold weather. An income and expense sheet was attached. A meeting will be held to discuss how to improve things for next year. The Dime Store building will be getting some extra help speeding up the work. The Woodland Hotel is doing well with Friday nights being the busiest. It is really nice to see the amount of traffic downtown since it opened. The Dollar store is moving forward and will take a little time to work through the sale and the annexation. The new grain bin at Quality Roasting is completed. Commercial property at 218 N. Central Avenue has had an offer accepted and will be updated to house the Upscale Resale store that Judy Willacker has been searching for space. Mystic Rhapsody will be moving into the commercial property at 214 N. Central Avenue. The building has been almost completely remodeled.

Appraisal Contract

A Lorence/Feldman motion and subsequent vote approved the 2 year contract with Bowmar Appraisal Co. for \$6400 in 2013 and \$6600 in 2014.

Appointment

A Tolzmann/Feldman motion and subsequent vote approved the appointment of Kevin Thorson to the Police Discipline Committee-Citizen Police Advisory Commission and for the Committee to be paid at a rate of \$40 for all hearings and \$20 for annual meetings.

Condemnation

Updates were given on the two properties that the City has condemned. The trailer at 737 E. 3rd Street has been removed. There is debris yet to be cleaned up. The blue house at 307 E. 3rd Street has been sold and is being tore down.

License

A Lorence/Kiviko motion and subsequent vote approved the following Operator's Liquor License Application: Jamie Mateski.

Disbursements

Question was answered for Check 44892. A Tolzmann/Lorence motion and subsequent vote approved paying the following checks, City Pooled 44863-44907: City Total \$72,773.25; Water Total \$7,733.73; Sewer Total \$7,886.92.

Adjourn

A Feldman/Kiviko motion and subsequent vote approved to adjourn the 9/25/12 open session meeting at 7:04 p.m.

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

(To be considered for Approval at the 10/9/2012 Council Meeting. Published 10/3/2012.)