

November 25, 2014 **City Council Minutes**

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The City of Owen Common Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 25, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall. Mayor Stephen Heggemeier presided and City Clerk/Treasurer Terri Ernst served as secretary. Present Alderpersons: Hanson, Tolzmann, Lulloff, Lorence, and Kiviko. Absent was Pfeffer. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order. Also present were: Tim Swiggum-CDA Director and Andy Schade-Police Chief.

Minutes

A Tolzmann/Lorence motion and subsequent vote approved the minutes for the 11/11/14 meeting.

Public Present

Karen Swiggum, Sandy Deacon, Linda Wyeth-Sentinel & Rural News, Mike Riihinen, Nathan LePage and Cindy Cardinal, O-W Enterprise. There was no public opinion.

Open Public Hearing at 5:32 pm for consideration of Budgets for 2014. Lorence questioned during the Public Hearing were: Sewer Office Supplies Expense seems high. A breakdown will be provided. Tolzmann inquired if the hydrant by Hosler is removed, is there another hydrant to cover that area? Clerk Ernst will ask DPW Gary Smith. Public Hearing closed at 5:35 pm.

Proclamation

A Lulloff/Tolzmann motion and subsequent vote approved the Proclamation for Celand Melbinger who is turning the age of 100 on November 26, 2014 and officially known as Celand Melbinger Day in the City of Owen.

Dog Recovery

Alderman Mark Hanson wanted to clear any questions, regarding the dog mutilation that occurred in Withee, that the Council and/or the public had, after a letter to the editor in The Sentinel was submitted by Tim Swiggum. There was a dog fund set up by Police Chief Andrew Schade as a personal account. Bandages and gauze and salve were provided with that money. Hanson and his wife paid for prescriptions from the OW Pharmacy who provided a 3 month prescription for the dog. Hanson said going forward he will file a slander suit against an individual and the newspaper who printed anything like this again. Chief Schade further explained total donations were \$881.09. The bill at Dairyland Animal Vet Clinic was \$1,101, paid out of Schade's pocket. The other vet bill was \$900. Marshfield vet bill was \$150 who did pro bono work. Mark Hanson had no access to the funds. Schade explained that he personally has paid \$1,500 towards the expenses for the dog and is in the whole. The account is closed. The dog has a new owner and healed up completely. The Mayor commented that he does not read that Swiggum is accusing Hanson of any wrong doing. Hanson thanked everyone for their time.

Audit Proposal

A Lorence/Kiviko motion and subsequent vote approved the 2015 Audit Proposal from Clifton Gunderson for \$22,900.

Selling City Property

A Lulloff/Hanson motion and subsequent vote approved to sell the 30' x 50' piece adjacent to Parcel #265.0435.000 to David and Tracey Taylor for \$125 plus surveying and closing costs to be paid by the buyer. A Tolzmann/Lorence motion and subsequent vote approved to sell 20' x 200' adjacent to Parcel #265.0436.000 to Master Packaging for \$5,000 plus surveying and closing costs to be paid by the buyer.

CDA Report

Tim Swiggum reported that Jim Jakel and Bill Sperling need to finish their transaction. The Dollar General property is cleared of truck and the snow will help so the frost won't be so deep when they start digging in spring. There is a potential business inquiring about the Agri-Business Park. Chief Schade has a community service worker that will do an inventory of signs in the City. The Woodland Hotel sustained water damage. A water leak on the second level has created a mess in two apartments and in the basement in the barber shop. Bob from DB Wireless will not return any calls from City Hall

or Mark Renderman. The OWC Fire District has disconnected DB Wireless equipment and the fire department equipment works at 100% now.

Disbursements

Questions were answered for check numbers 22490, 22494, 22497, 22525, 22541 & 22546. A Lorence/Kiviko motion and subsequent vote approved disbursements: City Pooled Check#22488-22558. City \$52,112.95, Water \$15,136.21, Sewer \$12,821.48, Lake District \$57,474.73.

Closed Session

Convened into Closed Session: A Lorence/Hanson motion and subsequent vote approved to convene into closed session at 5:56 pm. Roll Call Vote: Hanson-Y, Tolzmann-Y, Lulloff-Y, Lorence-Y, Kiviko-Y. Consideration of 2015 Budget for Employee Wages/Benefits: Under Wis. Stats; 19.85 (1) (c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.

Reconvened into Open Session at 6:17 pm by a Lorence/Lulloff motion and subsequent vote to take action, if any, on the matter discussed in Closed Session.

Action from Closed Session

A Hanson/Lorence motion and subsequent vote approved to re-visit the position of Community Development Authority Director at the 1st meeting in March 2015.

2015 Budget Adoption

A Lorence/Kiviko motion and subsequent vote approved the following 2015 Budgets for the City of Owen. City \$1,704,944.93, Lake \$69,346.88, Water \$656,202.00, Sewer \$943,268.00.

Adjourn

A Kiviko/Tolzmann motion and subsequent vote approved to adjourn the 11/25/14 open session meeting at 6:26 p.m.

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

(To be considered for Approval at the 12/9/2014 Council Meeting. Published 12/3/2014.)