

April 28, 2015 **City Council Minutes**

APRIL 28, 2015

The City of Owen Common Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April, 2015 at 5:30 pm at City Hall. Mayor Thomas Nelson presided and City Clerk/Treasurer Terri Ernst served as secretary. Present Alderpersons: Mauel, Jaffke, Knight, Lorence, Pfeffer and Kiviko. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order. Also present were: Tim Swiggum-CDA Director and Erik Stinson-DPW.

Minutes

A Lorence/Knight motion and subsequent vote approved the minutes for the 4/14/15 and 4/21/15 meetings, with Pfeffer abstaining as he was not present at the 4/14/15 meeting.

Public Present

Linda Wyeth-Sentinel & Rural News, Karen Swiggum, Daniel Hooks Sr. and Cindy Cardinal, O-W Enterprise. Daniel Hooks Sr. questioned the Council regarding the E. 4th Street Project, Lift Station #1 Project and Real Estate Taxes in his neighbor hood for a vacant lot.

Utility Inventory

A Pfeffer/Jaffke motion and subsequent vote approved purchase of a Utility Inventory Software through Workhorse Software Services for \$3,000 and \$500/year for annual support. The program will bring all utility inventory into the program for easy record access and information required by the PSC Annually.

Employee Resignation

A Pfeffer/Kiviko motion and subsequent vote approved to accept the resignation and retirement of employee Brad Gokey. Advertisements for Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator have gone out to all shoppers, WRWA website, WWOA website and will also be advertised in the OW Enterprise, Wisconsin Jobs Online and the League of Wisconsin Municipalities.

Ordinances

Pfeffer presented a plan to enact the ordinance committee to review the ordinances for incorrectness and inconsistencies and bring them to the Council. Clerk Ernst recommended doing the ordinances that we are aware of there being issues and getting those corrected first. A Pfeffer/Kiviko motion and subsequent vote approved to table the plan.

Sidewalks

Pfeffer presented a tentative plan based on a three year term to fix and/or remove failing sidewalks in the City. The Sidewalk Committee and Tree Committee would be in charge of the project. Tree roots are ruining the sidewalks and curb and gutter. A Mauel/Jaffke motion and subsequent vote approved to proceed with the three year plan for sidewalks, trees and signage. Pfeffer will look into the prison making signs.

CDA Option

Pfeffer presented a recommendation for another title that could be used instead of CDA Director. Suggested is "Community Development and Relations Coordinator". A Lorence/Knight motion and subsequent vote approved to accept this new title idea to be used when posting the job opening in June.

City Event

Pfeffer presented an idea for a City Sponsored Community Event. The Community Development and Relations Coordinator would be involved in planning along with maybe other city committees and Owen-Withee organizations. A Mauel/Jaffke motion and subsequent vote approved to table the discussion until Tim can talk to other committees and organizations.

Burn Out Contest

A Pfeffer/Mauel motion and subsequent vote approved to give permission to the DRC to have the burn out contest at the car show on August 15, 2015.

Banners

A Pfeffer/Knight motion and subsequent vote approved to allow the DRC to spend up to \$2,000 for new banners for the city.

OWC Fire District

Mel Lorence reported that the City will be looking at an increased assessment in 2016 of \$28,980.00 approximately which is \$3,980 more than the 2015 assessment. The pumper truck sold for \$3,000. The new Curtiss fire department foundation will be poured in May.

Meeting Time

A Mauel/Jaffke motion and subsequent vote approved to change the time of Council Meetings from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm effective immediately.

CDA Report

The Dollar General building is progressing nicely. The building lines up nicely for 4th Street or a path. James Louks sent an exciting email saying things are happening. O.M.I. is still being considered by four different businesses. The Downtown Revitalization will be meeting on Thursday. There is 1 garden remaining at the Community Gardens Plot. Tim and Dennis Luloff met with the railroad at the site of the burnt railroad bridge. The Woodland auction was a success with mostly everything selling.

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Disbursements

No questions. A Lorence/Pfeffer motion and subsequent vote approved to pay the disbursements: City Pooled Check #23131-23188. City \$25,779.69, Water \$13,378.35, Sewer \$101,916.04, TIF #3 \$150 and TIF #4 \$150.

Adjourn

A Kiviko/Knight motion and subsequent vote approved to adjourn the 4/28/15 open session meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Thomas Nelson, Mayor Terri Ernst, City Clerk/Treasurer

(To be considered for Approval at the 5/12/2015 Council Meeting. Published 5/6/2015.)