

NOVEMBER 22, 2016

The City of Owen Common Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 22, 2016 at 7 pm at City Hall. City Council President Allen Wagner presided and City Clerk/Treasurer Terri Ernst served as secretary. Roll call: Alderpersons Mauel, Wilczek, Jaffke, and Knight. Milliren arrived 7:14 pm. Absent was: Mayor Tom Nelson. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order.

Minutes

A Wilczek/Jaffke motion and subsequent vote approved the minutes of the 11/8/16 meeting, with change to meeting date.

Public Opinion

Public Present: David Krueger-MSA Professional Services, Nicole Shattuck-Sentinel, Travis Rogers-Sentinel, Daniel Hooks, Sr., Kenneth Truman, Jr., Denise Sonnemann-Enbridge and Cindy Cardinal-O-W Enterprise. Ken Truman reported that since the demolition of the OMI Building, he has problems with rats. Earlier in the week, Public Works Director Erik Stinson heard of the rat complaint and talked to the demolition operator at the demo site and he had not seen any rats. Also, talked to was the foreman at the Abby Land building who admitted that they do have rats and are taking measures to exterminate the problem. The City will contact both Heartland Co-Op and Abby Land regarding the issue. Dan Hooks requested real estate tax information. Clerk Ernst reported she will have those numbers determined soon. Hooks is concerned about his water line freezing this winter and his temporary snow fence has been an issue with his neighbor but Officer Boie has been involved. Denise Sonnemann, Community Ambassador in Central Wisconsin for Enbridge, introduced herself and gave her contact information and reported that Enbridge has grants available for communities.

Open Public Hearing for Consideration for Adoption 2017 Budget at 7:16 P.M. Clerk Ernst reported that the Finance Committee has gone through each City Departmental Budget. The City has more employees with families enrolled in the group health insurance. The health insurance cap has not been changed since 2011. Finance approved an increase to that benefit and next year the committee will work on health insurance for 2018 earlier and prior to the budget process. The OWC Fire District Assessment went up approx. \$8,000 as they are now using the equalized value method to determine each assessment. Recycling costs have increased as customers are not recycling as much as they should. The City may do an assessment in the summer to evaluate who is and is not recycling. Jaffke requested at the next meeting the Council discuss procedures about who and when the City Attorney is contacted. The final budget for the City General is \$1,155,368. Clerk Ernst reported the Water Utility has no significant changes and that budget totals \$505,300. The Sewer Commission approved the Sewer Utility budget on 11/17/16 at \$1,155,368 which includes the project for Lift Station #1.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:30 P.M.

Consideration for Adoption 2017 Budgets

A Knight/Mauel motion and subsequent vote approved the following 2017 Budgets for the City of Owen: City \$1,155,368; Water Utility \$505,300 and Sewer Utility \$1,459,844.

Depot Building

A Mauel/Jaffke motion and subsequent vote approved for the DRC to take over responsibility of the old depot building.

Disbursements

Question on ck# 25360 to Ellison & David. Question answered. A Wilczek/Knight motion and subsequent vote approved to pay the disbursements: City Pooled Check #25357-25415. City \$61,807.95; Water \$178,224.38; Sewer \$39,968.42; TIF #3 \$375; TIF #4 \$375.

Plat for Purchase

A Knight/Milliren motion and subsequent vote approved the plat presented for purchase identifying the area and the owner of the property to purchase and will provide adequate area to construct the lift station.

Closed Session

A Jaffke/Milliren motion and subsequent vote approved to Convene into Closed Session at 7:40 pm. Roll Call vote: Mauel-yes, Milliren-yes, Jaffke-yes, Wagner-yes, Knight-yes. Under WI Statute 19.85 (1) (e): Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session for: #1): Consideration of Sales Study; #2) Consideration of Nominal Payment for Parcel near Lift Stn. #1 Report;

A Knight/Wilczek motion and subsequent vote approved to reconvene into open session at 7:52 pm.

Action taken in Closed Session:

Item #1 approved the Sales Study by MSA Professional Services.

Item #2 approved to have MSA make a nominal offer to the Friends of the Old School.

Adjourn

A Knight/Jaffke motion and subsequent vote approved to adjourn the 11/22/16 open session meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Allen Wagner, Council President

Terri Ernst, City Clerk/Treasurer