

DECEMBER 13, 2016

The City of Owen Common Council met in regular session on Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 7 pm at City Hall. Mayor Thomas Nelson presided and City Clerk Terri Ernst served as secretary. Roll call: Alderpersons: Mauel, Milliren, Wilczek, Jaffke, Wagner and Knight. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order. Also present were: Andy Schade-Owen PD, Tim Swiggum-CDC and Erik Stinson-DPW.

Minutes

A Wilczek/Knight motion and subsequent vote approved the minutes of the 11/22/2016 meeting.

Treasure's Report

A Jaffke/Wagner motion and subsequent vote approved the November's Treasurer's Report.

Police Report

A Night/Jaffke motion and subsequent vote approved the November police report.

Public Works Report

Erik Stinson-DPW prepared a report for 11/9/2016 to 12/13/2016. A Wilczek/Milliren motion and subsequent vote approved Erik Stinson's Public Works Report.

Public Opinion

Public Present: Dave Krugler-MSA Professional Services, Melvyn Lorence, Daniel Hooks Sr., Michael Grobe, Nicolle Shattuck, Travis Rogers, and Cindy Cardinal-O-W Enterprise. Daniel Hooks inquired why the City has not obtained a loan to pay the remainder of the E. 4th Street Project. Melvyn Lorence requested that in the New Year the Council could work towards silencing the train horns.

Pav Request #3 Haas Sons East 4th Street Project

Dave Krugler-MSA Professional Services presented the 3rd pay request for Haas Sons for \$28,445.99. A Knight/Mauel motion and subsequent vote approved pay request #3.

MSA Agreement

Dave Krugler-MSA Professional Services presented a Task Order for MSA to complete a Fiscal Sustainability Plan (FSP) for \$5,500 per the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014. Upon completion of the plan, the City could acquire an additional \$30,000 to the CDBG \$650,000. A Wilczek/Mauel motion and subsequent vote approved the FSP and not to exceed the \$30,000.

Withee Water Rate

The City of Owen was notified on 12/2/2016 that the Village of Withee has completed a full rate study with the Public Service Commission and the City could be possibly looking at a 55% water rate increase in their purchase of water from the Village. A telephonic public hearing will be held on Wednesday, 12/21/16 at the Withee Village Hall. Someone from the City should attend. Clerk Ernst has exchanged emails with the PSC and due to the increase in Withee, the City of Owen will also need to do a full rate study with the PSC. Withee has not changed their rates since 1992 and Owen since 2001. The PSC insisted on the study and rate increase for Withee and in recent email communications, the PSC is requesting the same of Owen. The Waterworks Agreement between Withee and Owen will need to be reviewed and possibly revised. A Mauel/Wilczek motion and subsequent vote approved to have Clerk Ernst examine what the City will need to do if Withee's rates increase.

Legal Firm

Police Chief Andrew Schade reported that he has spoken to Ruder and Ware Attorney Kevin Terry from Wausau. Chief Schade reported that it would be best if the Police Department had representation separate from the City's Attorney. Ruder Ware fees range from \$165 to \$200/hour. A Jaffke/Knight motion and subsequent vote approved the Police Dept. to obtain services with Ruder Ware. Clerk Ernst presented two proposals from municipal attorney Wolfram, Gamoke & Hutchinson of Marshfield and Pietz, VanderWaal, Stacker & Rottier of Wausau. Both offices represent many municipalities in the central Wisconsin area. A Maul/Knight motion and subsequent vote approved to table the proposals until the January meeting allowing council members to call each office.

Attorney Use Policy

The City has an ordinance referring to who may contact the City Attorney. The budget for 2017 is \$10,000.

PDC Ordinance

According to Wisconsin State Statute, the City Police Discipline Committee does not need to consist of Withee members. The Committee will consist of 5 members, removing 2 Withee members and replacing them with Owen citizens. A Knight/Wilczek motion and subsequent vote approved to remove Withee members and amend the PDC Ordinance.

Credit Card

Clerk Ernst presented a sample of the City of Thorp's Credit Card Use Policy. A Wilczek/Jaffke motion and subsequent vote approved the Policy presented for the City of Owen.

Uniform Allowance

Clerk Ernst presented the current Uniform Allowance Policy from the Employee Handbook. The policy is for police officers. The policy does not state how uniform allowance should be awarded for new officers. A Jaffke/Knight motion and subsequent vote approved to change the policy to state that the allowance given is \$600/year and if an officer is hired in January through June, they will receive 100% of the allowance and if hired from July through December, they will receive 50% of the allowance.

DECEMBER 13, 2016

Appointments

Clerk Ernst presented a list of Committee members. A Mael/Knight motion and subsequent vote approved the annual appointments to the Owen Junior Fair Committee listed as: Phil Greschner, Rocky Lehr, Kim Sybers, Jody Nordine, Lonnie Kroepflin, Samantha Thornton, June Roohr, Kristy Peterson and Aaron Ruggles.

Levy/Mill Rates

Clerk Ernst presented the 2016 Levy's and Mill Rate's for all taxing jurisdictions. The overall tax bill increased 87 cents/\$1,000 of value and the City's tax increased by 33 cents/\$1,000 of value from last year. A Wilczek/Jaffke motion and subsequent vote approved Levy/Mill Rate Report.

TIF #4 Financing

A Pre-Sale Report was presented from Ehlers Financial Advisors for the City's financial responsibility of \$690,000 for the business development of the Heartland Co-Op expansion at the site of the previously known OMI. A Mael/Knight motion and subsequent vote approved the Pre-Sale Report.

CDC Report

CDC Tim Swiggum reported that Heartland has completed their demo on their building at the OMI site. A lot of cement was removed and they are now waiting for a de-watering permit from the DNR. Swiggum is working with the WCWRPC, WEDC and Heartland Co-op on a TEA Grant. Heartland is working with the WEDC on some tax credits that brought the deal together. The Chamber of Commerce has set the date of 4/1/2017 for the Business Expo and February 2017 will be the Chamber's Business gathering. Mystic Rhapsody has closed their massage and tanning business. A new hair styling business will be moving in. The House of Friends received a generous donation of \$1,800 from Thorp Courtesy Ford. The bi-annual Clark County visitors guide will be available in January 2017. A Mael/Milliren motion and subsequent vote approved the CDC report.

Disbursements

No questions. A Mael/Wagner motion and subsequent vote approved to pay the disbursements: City Pooled Check #25416-25482. City \$56,336.65; Water \$15,273.67; Sewer \$41,421.33.

Last 2016 Meeting

A Mael/Wagner motion and subsequent vote approved to cancel the 12/27/2016 Council meeting.

Plat for Purchase

A Knight/Wagner motion and subsequent vote approved the revised 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/Wilczek motion and subsequent vote approved to Convene into Closed Session at 8:31 pm. Roll Call vote: Mael-yes, Milliren-yes, Wilczek-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 Nominal Payment for Parcel near Lift Stn. #1;
#2) Consideration of Sales Study;

A Wilczek/Milliren motion and subsequent vote approved to reconvene into open session at 8:37 pm.

Action taken in Closed Session:

Item #1 approved to have MSA make a nominal offer to the Friends of the Old School with 20 feet excluded from previous offer.

Item #2 approved the Sales Study by MSA Professional Services.

Adjourn

A Knight/Wilczek motion and subsequent vote approved to adjourn the 12/13/16 open session meeting at 8:44 p.m.

Thomas Nelson, Mayor

Terri Ernst, City Clerk/Treasurer