

SEPTEMBER 26, 2017
CITY OF OWEN COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES

The City of Owen Common Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at 7 pm at City Hall. Mayor Charles Milliren presided and City Clerk Terri Ernst served as secretary. Roll call of Alderpersons: Mauel, Renderman, Wilczek, Jaffke, Wagner and Martine. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order. Also present was: Tim Swiggum-CDC. Pledge of Allegiance. Alderman John Mauel expressed a public apology for his outbursts which made some people unhappy. Mauel was allowed to stay and attend the Council meeting.

Minutes

A Wilczek/Jaffke motion and subsequent vote approved the minutes of the 9/12/17 meeting.

Public Opinion

Public Present: Kitara Mills-Sentinel & Rural News, Mike Voss-MSA Professional Services, Jackie Reinke, Jonathon Dircks, Mark Hanson Cindy Cardinal-OW Enterprise. Mark Hanson stated that Mauel's apology should be directed to Chief Schade, Officer Boie and Officer Lilly.

Police Dept. Inventory

A Mauel/Wagner motion and subsequent vote approved to have Alderman Bob Wilczek and previous Mayor Tom Nelson conduct a Police Inventory. Mayor Milliren will check with the County. If Tom Nelson is not available or not allowed, Alderman Ken Martine will be an alternate.

PSC Close Out

Clerk Ernst presented to the Council the PSC Close Out letter dated 9/6/17. Back in April 2017 Mark & Kellie Hanson of the Thirsty Squirrel filed an online complaint to the Public Service Commission disputing their water usage billed from the 2" meter. The 2" meter was removed by the City and replaced with a 1" meter. The City had the meter tested and showed that the 2" meter was working properly. The investigation by the PSC and working in cooperation with DPW Erik Stinson and Clerk Terri Ernst took 5 months consisting of many hours of answering questions and providing documents. A Jaffke/Renderman motion and subsequent vote with Wilczek abstaining approved the PSC Close Out letter stating the Utility did nothing intentional to the customer and the Utility admits to not knowing about the large meter testing requirements. The PSC will monitor the City's compliance of meter testing and record keeping.

Parks & Rec.

Chairman, Bob Wilczek reported on the Parks & Rec. meeting held 9/19/17. The bridge on the north end of the Mill Pond needs staining. Bids were going to be requested, but since the meeting, the Public Works Department has stated that the City could do the job for a lot cheaper. Discussions took place to put some equipment or playground equipment in Crowley Park and possible dog park somewhere in the City. The next meeting will be held 10/4/2017. A Martine/Renderman motion and subsequent vote approved report.

2018 Budget Plan

Clerk Ernst presented the 2018 Budget work plan. Also distributed were year to date 2017 budget reports. A Martine/Wilczek motion and subsequent vote approved to accept the budget plan.

Outside Employment Policy

A Wilczek/Jaffke motion and subsequent vote approved the amended Outside Employment Policy as presented by Clerk Ernst.

Wetland Delineation

3 bids were received. MSA \$4,695, Acom \$4,950 and Cooper \$4,000. The wetland delineation is a requirement of the TEA Grant for the Heartland development project. A Wilczek/Renderman motion and subsequent vote approved to accept the bid from Cooper Engineering for \$4,000.

RR Property

The price of railroad property for the rail spur is \$78,000 for 3 acres. Heartland will be paying the first \$300,000 of the project with TEA grant and TIF #4 paying the remainder.

CDC Report

CDC Tim Swiggum reported the City Attorney will soon have the quit claim deeds ready for the city land sale to Stephen Heggemeier and Ray Kilty. A planning committee meeting is scheduled for 10/4/17. The Chamber of Commerce will hold their annual meeting in February 2018 with guest speaker Spin Vision. The DRC is busy planning the Autumn Fest to be held October 21, 2017 at the Old School. At the last UCCC meeting, Swiggum met guest speaker David Ross who is the Secretary of DOT. The business interested in the Agribusiness Park is now developing their plans for the site. A Wilczek/Wagner motion and subsequent vote approved the CDC report.

License

A Mauel/Jaffke motion and subsequent vote approved the application for operator's license to Myah Paine.

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Future Agendas

Stolen City Property. Tampered Meter. Employee Handbook. Lexipol.

Disbursements

No questions. A Mael/Jaffke motion and subsequent vote approved to pay the disbursements: City Pooled Check #26513-26547. City \$46,165.12; Water \$2,939.02; Sewer \$5,565.66.

Adjourn

A Wilczek/Renderman motion and subsequent vote approved to adjourn the 9/26/17 open session meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Charles Milliren, Mayor

Terri Ernst, City Clerk/Treasurer

(To be considered for Approval at the 10/10/17 Council Meeting. Published 10/3/17)