

**Osakis City Council – Regular Meeting
December 9, 2019
7:00 PM**

Present: Keith Emerson, Laura Backes, Jerry Olson, Justin Dahlheimer

Absent: Randy Anderson

Others Present: Angela Jacobson, Chad Gulbranson, Travis Middendorf, Mark Grinstead, Jeff Lund, Dirk Hagedon, Chad Hagen, Sharon Fredrickson, Kyle Kostrzewski, Jonathan Ries, Osakis Review Reporter, Lil Ortendahl

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Keith Emerson at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was spoken.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Backes, to approve the agenda as presented. All Ayes Absent: Anderson

Motion by Backes, seconded by Olson, to approve the general consent items, including the November city bills in the amount of \$197,862.86 and meeting minutes from November 4th, 2019, November 8th, 2019 and the Overtime Report, Health & Safety meeting minutes from November 27, 2019 and EDA meeting minutes from October 28, 2019. All Ayes Absent: Anderson

Project #192/84: Truth in Taxation/Budget

Motion by Dahlheimer, seconded by Backes, to suspend the regular meeting and open the public hearing at 7:03 p.m. All Ayes Absent: Anderson

The purpose of the public hearing was to hear public comment on the proposed tax levy and 2020 Budget. The public hearing was not for comments regarding property values.

Council received a copy of the ad that was put in the paper. All property owners received their proposed tax statement that stated the date and time of the public hearing.

Council received the tax capacity and tax rate for 2018 to 2020. This information shows that our tax rate will be decreasing by 1.88% (from 72.694% to 70.819%).

Jacobson explained the difference between the tax rate and the tax levy.

Public comments:

- Jonathan Ries was in attendance and asked questions about the budget.
- Others in attendance asked about the increase for each department.

Motion by Dahlheimer, seconded by Backes, to close the public hearing and reopen the regular meeting at 7:14 p.m. All Ayes Absent: Anderson

At the last workshop, the council received the revised 2019 Budget and the proposed 2020 Budget.

<u>General Fund –</u>	<u>Proposed Budget 2020</u>	<u>Amended Budget 2019</u>
	Expense \$1,304,529	Expense \$1,266,182
	Revenue \$1,304,554	Revenue \$1,266,190
	Balance \$25.00	Balance \$8.00

Motion by Backes, seconded by Dahlheimer, to approve the 2020 Budget and 2019 Revised Budget as presented. All Ayes Absent: Anderson

Resolution 2019-23 was presented by Dahlheimer, seconded by Backes to approve the 2020 Levy in the amount of \$759,750. When put to a vote, the resolution passed unanimously. Absent: Anderson

Project #46: Water Rates

Council received a notice that was put in the paper for the proposed water and sewer rates for 2020.

The council asked if there were any public comments and no one commented. Rates will be increased by an inflation rate.

The water and sewer fees will be adopted at the January meeting.

Project #24: Liquor Store

Jeff Lund was in attendance. Council received the following:

- Statement of Revenue & Expense
- Liquor Store Expenditures and Revenue spreadsheet
- December Bullet Points
- Liquor Store Sales for the month
- Exp/Rev On Sale
- Exp/Rev Off Sale
- OEDC monthly rent sheet
- Inventory totals
- Inventory cycle counts
- Sales for the month totaled \$432.00

Council had no comments.

Project #73: First Responders

Mark Grinstead was in attendance. Council received the November run reports.

Grinstead is requesting the council to make a motion to approve Amber Kral and Shannon Graff as new members of the Osakis First Responders.

Grinstead also is asking the council approve the officers for the Osakis First Responders.

Usually, the officers are approved at the first meeting in January with our mayor appointments.

Grinstead reviewed the reports:

- 18 calls for the month.
- The CPR class will be held in Osakis and would like to open it for city employees. The council is ok with the city paying for the CPR class for city employees that want to attend.
- First Responders attended the ASHER training on November 23rd.

Motion by Emerson, seconded by Olson, to approve Amber Kral and Shannon Graff as new members of the Osakis First Responders pending training completion. All Ayes Absent: Anderson

Project #74: Fire Department

Travis Middendorf was in attendance.

Middendorf informed the council of the calls:

- 4 calls for November.
- 30 people attended the ASHER training on November 23rd.
- New turnout gear was ordered and should be delivered January 17th.

Project #13: Fire Relief

Kyle Kostrzewski was in attendance. The Fire Relief members requested proposals from PERA to see what the numbers would be if the city were to approve the increase in their pensions. Council received the proposals for \$3,500 to \$4,000.

Middendorf had indicated the members were requesting approval of an increase of \$700 per year to be at \$4,000. Council received Resolution 2019-21 to review.

At their Fire Relief meeting in October, members requested to look at increasing the current amount of \$3,300 to \$3,700. Current investment return is at 6%.

At their November Fire Relief meeting, the members wanted to look at requesting an increase to \$3,800 to \$4,000. Dahlheimer stated calculations looked ok, but if funds fall below, the Fire Department will need to come up with the difference.

The Fire Relief will be writing a check to the city for \$15,000 from their relief fund and is requesting the council to also approve these funds to be put in their PERA account.

Resolution 2019-21 was presented by Dahlheimer, seconded by Backes, to approve the increase for the Fire Relief PERA in the amount of \$4,000. When put to a vote, the resolution passed unanimously. Absent: Anderson

Approval of resolution will be at the January meeting.

Project #76: Police

Chad Gulbranson was in attendance. Council received the November Police report and the December schedule.

Gulbranson reviewed the following:

- Had ASHER training on November 23rd.
- Meeting with the school tomorrow regarding the resource officer and upgrades to safety at the school.
- Snow removal – for the first snowfall there was one vehicle towed and no vehicles towed for the second snowfall.

Project #205: City Crew

Greg Gottwald was in attendance. Council received the November Public Works report.

Gottwald informed the council of the following:

- In January, we hope to have the final estimates for the water plant upgrade. Will have a meeting with Eric Meester to review the estimates.
- Repaired the moboard on the road grader. We were able to straighten it out without replacement.
- Community Center drain was repaired. We need to find a grease trap that can be cleaned more often.
- Put up the ice skating rink and it will be larger than last year.

Olson asked about lift station alarm callout.

Gottwald said they are different alarms than other callouts.

Project #444: Waste Water Project

Council received a bill from Hall and Associates for November in the amount of \$99.53.

Gottwald and Jacobson had a conference call with Bill and John Hall and Flaherty and Hood to discuss the MPCA case. The MPCA did approve our contested case hearing but declined to meet with us to discuss this matter and try to resolve it before going that route.

Our attorney recommended that we draft a letter to the MPCA stating that we want to meet with the MPCA to discuss our permit limit and why the interim limit meets the standards to meet water quality according to the information gathered. We are requesting our legislators, Senator Ingebrigtsen and Senator Gazelka to be involved in the process and would like to have a meeting with the commissioner of the MPCA to discuss this matter. The council discussed this at their last workshop and indicated that would be the best route.

Gottwald has notified our attorney of the council's decision and they will be working on getting a meeting scheduled if the MPCA agrees.

Gottwald feels it is good to get the legislators involved in the meeting process so a decision can be made.

Faille Lake will be delisted after our sampling plan as long as it goes through the process.

Motion by Backes, seconded by Olson, to approve the bill for Hall and Associates in the amount of \$99.53. All Ayes Absent: Anderson

Project #60: Ordinance Change

Dirk Hagedon was in attendance.

Hagedon requested to be placed on the council agenda to ask for a change to the winter parking ordinance. Hagedon's request is to allow parking on city streets except during periods of snow emergency. Council received Hagedon's petition.

Council received a copy of Ordinance #71: Parking Regulations.

The section that Hagedon is requesting to change is 71.03, Periods of Snow Removal:

- A) (1) Whenever existing or forecasted weather conditions require that snow plowing be carried out, no person shall stop, stand or park any vehicle or permit it to stand upon any street right of way during periods of snow removal.
(2) All vehicles will be ticketed and towed from the streets when city crew starts to remove snow.
(B) Failure to remove a vehicle during snow plowing or ice treatment is a violation of this chapter and is punishable pursuant to §10.99.
(C) When applicable, the prohibitions of division (B) above shall not apply on any block after it has become substantially cleared of snow and ice from curb to curb.

Hagedon stated that he is not trying to undermine the city in keeping the streets clean, he just feels we have small lots in town and the parking is limited. Hagedon counted 200 residents that have two or less parking spaces on their property.

From November 1st to April 1st is 150 days of no parking on city streets. The average of snow events each winter is 14 to 17.

Hagedon provided a copy of the petition showing a 132 signatures that he received on-line through Facebook.

Hagedon feels this is a hardship with a lot of people and they have to park their vehicles on their lawns. By this happening, we break another ordinance of residents parking on the grass. People are parking to close to their houses which creates a fire hazard.

Hagedon suggests putting in a snow emergency – have a 24 or 48 hour snow emergency service for no parking on the city streets and have a zero tolerance.

Hagedon also suggested checking into some sort of alert system. Skylert is used by the school and cost about \$3,000. Skylert and Skywarn could work together. Others are CodeRed or CrisisGo. No cost estimate received for these options. These can be received via phone, text or email. Residents must sign up to receive the alerts.

Notices also could go out by radio, television and social media.

It was also discussed that houses are being removed to have bigger lots for parking which is less tax for the city.

The council listened to all the comments and stated they appreciate how Hagedon handled the request. The options will be considered and discussed at the council workshop and they will see what can be done.

It is noted that residents can call the police if they have special circumstances to get a grace period for parking.

Also, if it is decided to change the ordinance, the enforcement must be consistent.

Gulbranson commented the current ordinance has decrease the complaints of vehicles getting towed by 90%.

Project #249: Planning & Zoning

Council received the meeting minutes from November 21, 2019.

Council also received Resolution 2019-20 for the rezoning of the property owned by Chris and Denise Drown at 208 2nd Avenue West. The rezoning is from C-2 (General Commercial) to R-O (Old Town Residential).

This property fits with the surrounding properties to the north that are also zoned R-O district.

Resolution 2019-20 was presented by Olson, seconded by Backes, to approve the rezoning of the property at 208 2nd Avenue West from C-2 (General Commercial) to R-O (Old Town Residential). When put to a vote, the resolution passed unanimously. Absent: Anderson

Project #94: Gas Bids

Bid requests for fuel were sent out in November to the local gas stations. The information stated the deadline for the bids to be submitted to the city was on December 9th, 2019 at 4:30 p.m.

Gas bids received were:

- Deluxe Oil - .18 profit
- Brothers Market – all gas/diesel for 2020 would be a 3 cent discount.

Council discussed the forms that were sent out for bidding and that the bidders were to follow the forms.

Motion by Dahlheimer, seconded by Olson, to approve the Gas Bid for 2020 to Deluxe Oil. All Ayes
Absent: Anderson

Project #196: Fee Schedule

Council received the proposed Fee Schedule for 2020.

Additional items that were added since November include:

- Petition to amend a city Ordinance
- Petition to amend a zoning ordinance
- Convenience fee.

The Fee Schedule will be adopted at the January meeting.

Project #229: Election

Council received a resolution to approve the election judges for the 2020 Presidential Primary.

Resolution 2019-22 was presented by Emerson, seconded by Dahlheimer, to approve the election judges for the 2020 Presidential Primary. When put to a vote, the resolution passed unanimously. Absent: Anderson

Project #104: Mayor Appointments

Council received the proposed Mayor Appointments for 2020. This will be approved at the first meeting in January.

Council will review and discuss if they want different departments. This will be discussed with the mayor.

Items for council to consider for future:

Lil Ortendahl discussed the city plowing and cleaning of the sidewalks. Suggests the sidewalks be cleaned off by the street crew so it wouldn't be so hard for residents.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Mayor – Keith E. Emerson

City Clerk/Treasurer – Angela A. Jacobson