

Osakis City Council – Regular Meeting
March 11, 2019
7:00 PM

Present: Keith Emerson, Jerry Olson, Justin Dahlheimer, Laura Backes
Absent: Randy Anderson

Others Present: Angela Jacobson, Sheila Krohse, Amber Kral and son, Greg Gottwald, Travis Middendorff, Calvin Uhl, Jim Snyder, Bev Snyder, Chad Gulbranson, Mark Grinstead, Eric Jacobson, Danny Dillabough, Celeste Edenloff, Rennie Goodwin, Joe Nathe, Brad Zimmer, 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 Dahlheimer, to approve the agenda as presented. All Ayes Absent: Anderson

Motion by Dahlheimer, seconded by Backes, to approve the general consent items, including the February city bills in the amount of \$212,215.65, meeting minutes from February 11th, 2019, February 14th, 2019, February 25th, 2019 and March 1, 2019. All Ayes Absent: Anderson

Project #69: Information to the Council

Laura Backes attended the League of MN Cities Newly Elected Official training in February. Backes presented information to the council from the class that she felt was valuable.

League of MN Cities conference was for new council members and had good information.

Some of the highlights were worth sharing are as followings:

- Do not be too quick to give answers. It is best to know the answer than to give out the wrong answer.
- Do not be misled by special interest groups. There should be long term goals.
- Do not have individual authority. Each member has one vote on the council and we must make decisions as a whole.
- Make decisions on policy and not on an individual basis. Agree to disagree if things don't go your way.

Project #24: Liquor Store

Reenie Goodwin was in attendance.

Council received the following reports:

- March Bullet Points.
- February Revenue and Expenditure reports.
- Liquor Store Expense and Revenue.
- Liquor Store Sales for February.
- Gambling – Monthly rent report (shows OEDC rent with shortages).

- Exp/Rev accounts for On-Sale.
- Session Summary Sales for Off-Sale.
- Session Summary Sales for On-Sale.
- Inventory counts completed in February.

Total Off-Sale for February was -\$7,750. Total On-Sale for February was \$2,200. Total loss for February for the Liquor Store was -\$5,369.78.

Goodwin informed the council of the following:

- February is slow which is normal. It is starting to pick up more.
- Bargo is going ok.
- Fire department was asked if they would come to the Liquor Store after their Monday night meetings.
- One employee left Saturday.
- Work on staffing and backup employees are – Felicia, Jeff, Ila and Tim. Two employees work on the weekends.

Olson mentions food wagons. They are popular and it may be worth looking into.

Olson also mentioned buying our own equipment. The company takes 50% for operations for the pool table/jute box/darts. There is a charge of \$300 per month and then the remaining 50% of the profit is for the Liquor Store.

Goodwin will look into this matter of owning the equipment.

Goodwin informed the council that Felicia and Jeff redid a setup/display in the off-sale.

Project #73: First Responders

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

Grinstead stated that each new member of the First Responders works one year to pay for training cost for the city.

Grinstead would like to change a by-law that states – for the first year, new members need to make 50 calls or be on one year before receiving payment.

Grinstead would also like to have by-laws changed to allow 18 year old high school students if okayed by the school.

Grinstead will review the by-laws with the group and bring to the council.

Motion by Dahlheimer, seconded by Olson, to approve the new First Responders members Ashley Nathe, Danielle Bogenrief and Ellie Pahl and for the first year, to respond to 50 calls or be on one year before receiving payment for calls. All Ayes Absent: Anderson

Project #74: Fire Department

Travis Middendorf was in attendance. The council did not receive the February run report but Middendorf informed the council of the following:

- Called for a rollover on I-94 but was cancelled.

- Fire on Co Rd 3.
- Rollover on I-94 and car fire on I-94.

Project #13: Fire Relief

The Osakis Fire Relief Association donated \$12,000 to the City of Osakis and requesting that the \$12,000 be deposited into the Osakis Fire Relief Retirement Fund at PERA.

Motion by Dahlheimer, seconded by Backes, to approve to deposit \$12,000 into PERA for the Osakis Fire Relief Retirement Fund. All Ayes Absent: Anderson

Project #76: Police

Chad Gulbranson was in attendance. Council received the February Police report.

Gulbranson informed the council of the following:

- One callout for February.
- Calls are up for the year.
- Article in the paper regarding the shooting. Reward for new information.

Council received the monthly schedule.

Gulbranson informed the council that he will have a follow-up checkup for his hand on March 26th and will hopefully be back after that.

Project #205: City Crew

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

Gottwald informed the council that the city crew are trying to keep their overtime down so there is not a lot of extra pay.

Gottwald also informed the council that the Pilot Study will start after the Department of Health approval.

Project #467 and 446: 2017 Project-Boat Landing/DNR

Last fall the rip rap was completed on the shoreline by the DNR parking lot and city lot for the 2017 Boat Landing project. Ferguson Brothers Excavating completed the project at a cost of \$51,555.

The council approved to enter into an agreement with the Sauk River Watershed District for financial help for the project. The project included the rip rap of the shore and planting vegetation plants along the shoreline. This agreement would allow the city to recoup up to \$30,000 for the project.

The operation/maintenance plans for maintenance of the grant area is for ten years and would consist of an area with the following requirements:

- No mow area.
- No raking or cleanup – Must allow natural vegetation to regrow.
- Pull invasive weeds around the native plants.
- Replanting vegetation if survival of plants is inadequate.
- Water vegetation as needed.

The vegetation that is being looked at to plant includes Hardhack Spiraea, Red Raspberry and Redosier Dogwood along the lake shore. Some of these plants can grow to be three to four feet tall.

When the council discussed the project and vegetation maintenance last fall, they were concerned about the time line and viewing of the area. The council will need to decide if the grant is worth the needed vegetation maintenance and giving up the view at the boat landing from the tall vegetation.

A meeting will be held with the Sauk River Watershed District. Emerson will attend this meeting to see what the city is required to do.

The council would like to minimize the vegetation if possible.

Project #460: Downtown Project (Grant)

Council received an update for the Downtown Grant project.

Council reviewed the report which includes six residential owner occupied grants completed.

In the last issue of the Osakis Review, there was an article that asked for those in the grant area to contact Ema Jean at the Douglas County HRA because there is still grant money available for those that qualify. The council was asked that if they know of anyone in the target area that could use grant funding to let Ema Jean know.

The council received information for the EDA Loan/Grant Funding which are separate funds from the grant previously discussed if anyone asks. The funding and income limits are different with the grants. The grant that the EDA is offering is for the Douglas County portion of the City of Osakis.

Project #213: Lifeguard/City Beach

It is the time of year to start thinking about the spring and summer activities in the city.

In the next month, Clerk Jacobson will be contacting the lifeguards from last summer to see if they will be returning for the 2019 season. Jacobson will also be looking for new lifeguards if more are needed.

Last year, the starting wage was \$10.50 but if they were returning from the previous year then the wage was \$11. The head lifeguard received \$11.50. The council was asked if they would like to approve a \$.50 increase per hour for each wage level.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Dahlheimer, to approve a \$.50 per hour raise for each returning lifeguard having recertification. All Ayes Absent: Anderson

Project #43: Board of Review

The council was reminded of the Board of Review Meeting which is scheduled for April 9th, 2019. Todd County will be at 9 a.m. and Douglas County at 10:00 a.m.

Project #247: Central Lakes Trail

Council received a letter from the Central Lakes Trail organization.

The organization is asking for a contribution of \$750 from the City of Osakis. Contributions to this organization have been made in the past.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Emerson, to approve a contribution of \$750 to the Central Lakes Trail.
All Ayes Absent: Anderson

Project #110: Gambling

Council received an application for a Gambling License from the Ivy Legacy Foundation to hold a raffle in the City of Osakis on June 22, 2019 at O-Town Tavern.

The Ivy Legacy Foundation is a nonprofit group formed to help families in need with infant children. They help with many different situations for childhood cancer to a loss of a child. The foundation helps financially and in other ways as needed by the families.

Resolution 2019-05 was presented by Dahlheimer, seconded by Olson, to approve a Gambling License for the Ivy Legacy Foundation for a raffle to be held on June 22, 2019 at O-Town Tavern. When put to a vote, the resolution passed unanimously. Absent: Anderson

Project #444: Waste Water Project

The council received the following bills for the waste water issue:

- Hall & Associates in the amount of \$1,043.55.
- Flaherty & Hood in the amount of \$75.00

Motion by Dahlheimer, seconded by Olson, to approve the bills for Hall & Associates in the amount of \$1,043.55 and for Flaherty & Hood in the amount of \$75.00. All Ayes Absent: Anderson

Project #297: Summer Rec

Council received a letter from the Joint Powers Summer Rec committee.

Backes is the council representative to attend the meeting which will be held on Monday, March 25th, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

The city has participated in the program and in the past has paid \$10 for each student that participated in the summer rec program that lives in the City of Osakis. The amount has been \$10 for many years and the committee had discussed raising the amount each city or township contributes.

The council discussed this matter and gave Backes the authority to use her judgement if the committee wants to increase the fee per student.

Items for council to consider for future:

Barb Tilbury was not in attendance but wanted the council to know that the EDA I-94 sign looks very good.

Jim Snyder was in attendance and mentioned that the fire hydrants are buried in the snow. Should the people close to the hydrant clear it out?

If hydrants are not visible, the public works are opening them up as they can.

If the council wants the public works to work on opening them up, then they will work on that also.

There are hydrants on Lake Street and Gottwald will work on them to get them opened up.

Fire Chief Middendorff appreciates all who help with cleaning the hydrants.

Lil Ortendahl was in attendance and commented on the skating rink. Has concerns about the money spent on this and it is not being used much. Ortendahl asked who's responsible to clean the rink off and feels the parents who wanted to have the rink downtown should help.

Gottwald has not been able to put a lot of time into keeping it cleaned off because of his priorities of keeping the streets cleaned off first.

Gottwald suggested to have someone else keep it clean and supplement out to another person that could be contracted to keep it clean.

Brad Zimmel was in attendance and was thanked for helping clear it.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Mayor – Keith E. Emerson

City Clerk/Treasurer – Angela A. Jacobson