

Osakis City Council – Regular Meeting
City Hall – 14 Nokomis Street East
August 8, 2022
7:00 PM

Present: Laura Backes, Dan Wessel, Tim Thornbloom, Alan Larson, Randy Anderson

Absent: None

Others Present: Angela Jacobson, Chad Gulbranson, Sheila Krohse, Jason Schultz, Craig Dropik, Reenie Goodwin, Becky Hensley, Echo Press, Osakis Anchor, Greg Gottwald (arrived at 7:20), Calvin Uhl.

Mayor Dan Wessel called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Motion by Backes, seconded by Thornbloom, to approve the agenda as presented with the additions of Special Event and Vacate Street. Motion Carries

Motion by Backes, seconded by Larson, to approve the general consent items, including the July city bills in the amount of \$565,745.80 and meeting minutes from July 11, 2022, July 25, 2022 and July 29, 2022. Motion Carries

PROJECT #22/286: CLERK

Council received:

- Savings Funds Balance
- Cash Balances
- Expenditure Budget worksheet (January to June 2022) and proposed 2023 Budget.
- Revenue Budget worksheet (January to June 2022) and proposed 2023 Budget.

2023 Proposed Budget:

- Revenue \$1,395,179
- Expenditure \$1,533,803
- Difference -\$138,624

Council scheduled a budget meeting on August 15th at 6:00 p.m. Managers can attend.

PROJECT #24: LIQUOR STORE

Council received the Liquor Store reports. Total profit for July was \$3,164.40.

Part-time employee hired

The sign has been ordered for the Liquor Store.

Stan Schultz should be shingling in the next 2 weeks.

PROJECT #73: FIRST RESPONDERS

Council received the July First Responder reports:

- Preston Oetterer resigned from the First Responders.
- Community Night Out will be held on Wednesday, August 10. There will be a CPR demonstration at 6:00 p.m. Douglas County will be there and have a K-9 demonstration at 5:30 and 6:30 p.m.
- Radio was installed in the First Responder rig for \$685.

- New defibrillator will be ordered for the First Responders. Used one will be given to the Fire Department.

PROJECT #74: FIRE DEPARTMENT

Council received the Fire Department report for July.

Dropik informed the council that Tony Van Acker resigned from the Fire Department on August 8, 2022. Van Acker had 10 years on the department.

PROJECT #154: EMPLOYEE HIRING

City received 4 applications for the full-time officer position and 1 for the part-time officer position.

The hiring team of Larson, Uhl and Gulbranson interviewed the candidates and recommended David Gizinski for the full-time officer position and Joseph Swanson for the part-time officer position.

Gulbranson explained that Gizinski has five years' experience. Gizinski lives in Alexandria and plans to stay in that location.

Council received the department policy for residency of officers.

Gulbranson stated that Gizinski will not be on call and would not be taking a police car home.

Discussion was held regarding if we need an extra car. This will be discussed at the budget meeting.

Because he lives out of town, other officers will cover on call hours.

Backes commented that she doesn't feel it matches the policy.

Anderson commented that with the times we are living in, it is hard to get employees. We need to look at concessions.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Larson, to approve to hire Joseph Swanson with the part-time officer position. Motion Carries

Motion by Backes, seconded by Thornbloom, to table the discussion until the August 15, 2022 meeting for the full-time officer position. Motion Carries

PROJECT #76: POLICE

Council received the July Police report and schedules for July and August.

Gulbranson will be taking off for family issues.

Gulbranson had no plans for the Community Night Out.

PROJECT #205: PUBLIC WORKS

Council received the July Public Works report.

PROJECT #197/185: WATER PLANT/WATER TOWER

No update on the progress.

PROJECT #312: PARK BEAUTIFICATION TEAM

An update was given on the Fishing Pier project – ADA should be able to be met. There is not much grade to change by the lake. Looked at the Battle Point dock for an example for setting up.

PROJECT #249: PLANNING & ZONING

Council received the July 21, 2022 meeting minutes. A public hearing was held at this meeting held public comments regarding amending Zoning Ordinances.

Also, a public hearing was held on Monday, August 8, 2022 at 6:00 for a variance request from Layla Rismoen. The variance request was for a sign that did not meet setback requirements.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Thornbloom, to approve the July 21, 2022 meeting minutes with Zoning Ordinance amendments. Motion Carries

Resolution 2022-26 was presented by Anderson, seconded by Thornbloom, approving a variance for Layla Rismoen for a sign on the property at 2357 Lake Street East. Motion Carries

PROJECT #219: STATE MN DOT HWY 27

Sheila Krohse (Bolton and Menk) updated the council on the progress of the project:

- Temporary water line to the Liquor Store and VFW.
- This week the water and sewer lines for the project should be installed.

Backes mentioned that the corner of Central and Main is not draining. Krohse will check into it.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Larson, to approve the bill from Bolton and Menk in the amount of \$1,690. Motion Carries

PROJECT #441: PARK COMMITTEE

Council received a map of the items for trails and park areas to included and improve from Jillian Reiner. Reiner will work on a master map in August and submit a final map for the public to view at Taste of Osakis.

PROJECT #7: COMMUNITY CENTER

Backes talked to Al Neumann about the progress of the projects at the Community Center.

PROJECT #147: 1ST AVENUE EAST

Carra Lang (511 1st Avenue East) expressed her concerns regarding the speed of traffic and semi traffic on 1st Avenue East.

Lang stated there is speeding traffic on the road and with school starting this needs to be looked at.

PROJECT #472: HOUSING ASSISTANCE/MCPP

The council approved to participate in the MCPP program in January 2022. Council received the report as of July on the use of the funds. As of now, the City of Osakis has not used any funds.

The city has promoted this program on Facebook and the city’s website. The council is asked to spread the word that any new home buyer can qualify for a down payment assistance or start up loans.

PROJECT #296: FILING MAYOR/COUNCIL

Filings are open from August 2nd to August 16th for filing for office.

PROJECT #482: COVID-19 RESCUE FUNDS

Council received the final report for COVID-19 funds.

PROJECT #146: LODGING TAX

Council discussed Lodging Tax at the last workshop. A letter was sent to Gordon and Leslie Townships to get their input on their interest for continuing the Lodging Tax Ordinance. More information will be at the next meeting.

PROJECT #382: UNION CONTRACT – CITY

ASCFME Union has informed the city that they intend to start the process of negotiating the contract for 2023.

PROJECT #408: VACATE STREET

Council received Resolution 2022-27 to vacate 4th Avenue East. Because Haglund asked to have the property vacated for his variance requirement, and then later both Haglund and Bryan Lashinski wanted to have it vacated, the attorney wants to clean up the language and record a new resolution for both properties.

Council has concerns about the drain pipe that was removed. Council stated this should be done before finalized.

Jacobson will check what is legally allowed per agreement. Council will discuss at the August 15th meeting.

PROJECT #444: WASTE WATER PROJECT – MPCA

Council received an email from Daniel Marx regarding the Supreme Court decision denying the MPCA Petition and Supreme Court Order.

Motion by Backes, seconded by Larson, to approve the bills for Flaherty and Hood in the amount of \$13,518.75 and for Hall & Associates in the amount of \$652.50. Motion Carries

PROJECT #468: SPECIAL EVENT

Osakis Chamber is requesting approval of Osakis Bike Days to be held August 18th to the 20th. The Chamber asked to block Central Avenue from Nokomis Street to Main Street on August 19th from 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

Motion by Thornbloom, seconded by Anderson, to approve Osakis Bike Days from August 18th to the 20th and to block Central Avenue from Nokomis Street to Main Street on August 19th from 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Motion Carries

PROJECT #414: TRAILER BIDS

Twenty two bids were submitted and opened at the meeting for the trailer. There was a tie bid at \$1,250.00.

Jacobson will check with the city attorney what legally we are required to do.

PROJECT #489: MAIN LIFT

Gottwald presented 2 bids for the Main Lift.

Council will review by the August 15th meeting and will consider awarding at that time.

OPEN FLOOR

Becky Hensley was in attendance to discuss parking issues at Osakis High School. Hensley asked why the curb was painted yellow – removed parking spaces for use with no discussion.

Hensley was informed that the county would need to make changes to have this changed back.

There was no discussion with the school. Comments were made that the town has a parking issue. There is no parking in the downtown area or for churches either. We need to work together to accomplish a solution, this is not just one way.

Anderson – Have outside monitor for safety in crossing.

Council took a 2 minutes recess.

CLOSED MEETING

Meeting is closed pursuant to state statute 13.D.05.

A letter was sent to Chad Gulbranson to appear before the council with a representative if he so chooses.

Motion by Larson, seconded by Anderson, to suspend the regular meeting and open a closed session to discuss employee personnel review at 9:00 p.m. Motion Carries

Mayor Wessel read opening remarks.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Larson, to close the closed session and open the regular meeting at 9:25 p.m. Motion Carries

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Thornbloom, to approve Mayor Wessel to contact Brandon on the next aggressive step. Motion Carries

Motion by Backes, seconded by Larson, to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 p.m.

Mayor – Daniel J. Wessel

City Clerk/Treasurer – Angela A. Jacobson