

Osakis City Council – Workshop Meeting
City Hall – 14 Nokomis Street East
November 2, 2022
5:30 PM

Present: Dan Wessel, Laura Backes, Tim Thornbloom, Randy Anderson (arrived at 5:40 p.m.)

Absent: Alan Larson

Others Present: Angela Jacobson, Jason Schultz, Craig Dropik, Chad Gulbranson, Calvin Uhl, Greg Gottwald, Reenie Goodwin, Larry Frish, Brad Forsell, Mike Nienaber, Teri Haburn

Called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Dan Wessel.

Motion by Backes, seconded by Thornbloom, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Carries

Absent: Larson, Anderson

PROJECT #146: LODGING TAX

Leslie Township submitted a Notice of Dissolving their Join Powers Agreement.

Gordon Township will meet and discuss the Lodging Tax.

Brad Forsell – contact the attorney and ask about the use of funds if disbanded.

City will look into setting up a Lodging Tax board if the city wants to continue.

PROJECT #260: COUNCIL

Discussion was held regarding council member Al Larson requesting public data. A data request can be made on behalf of an individual but not requested as a city council member.

Backes commented that it feels like we sent Al Larson as a board and it was not talked about with the group. Backes was not impressed.

Special Use Permit – Jake Heusbch from Sourcewell did not have any permit for allowing the use of the city street for workouts by the athletes. Only an allowed use for special events.

League of MN Cities said the street could be blocked, but should be blocked by Public Works and the city should have insurance from the school.

Packet of Information – Council would like all information in the packet by the Friday before the meeting so they have time to review and consider any items before making a decision.

Live Streaming Meetings – Discussion was had regarding Live Streaming meetings. Wessel doesn't feel like we should do it. Backes sees both sides, but then people can get accurate information from what is being said. Will not do at this time.

I-94 Truck Route – Motion by Anderson, seconded by Thornbloom, to approve to combine the Truck Route sign and the I-94 sign before 1st Avenue East and to check with the county before doing. Motion Carries Absent: Larson

Neumann Olson – Stuart Olson contacted the city regarding funds that his dad Neumann Olson has left to the city to be used for development and improvements in Osakis.

Discussion if the funds can help to expand the use of grant funding. If the city receives grant funding, can Olson's donation match the funds if the family agrees.

PROJECT #373: POLICIES

The council will meet early for the December meeting to review the personnel policy and get through what chapters they can.

PROJECT #24: LIQUOR STORE

Council received ordinance information regarding the Cannabis law. Council will discuss if they want to allow it or not and how to move forward.

PROJECT #76: POLICE

Council received information for Calvin Uhl to be acting interim police chief from November 1, 2022 to January 1, 2023 while Chief Gulbranson is out.

Council will review this at their regular meeting.

Ordinance Enforcement

- 4 ordinances to follow:
 - Talk to someone who is not getting things done – give a time frame for them to complete.
 - Building that is an issue – council wants to see a better process.
 - If a zoning/building issue – work together to work on the violations.

Wessel wants to see things get done and make sure they are followed up on.

Police, City Hall, Planning & Zoning work together to establish a process.

Council received 3 bids for a police vehicle replacement – 6 to 9 months to receive.

Motion by Backes, seconded by Thornbloom, to approve to purchase a 2023 Chevy Tahoe off of state bid in the amount of \$38,855.30 and meets budget funds. Motion Carries Absent: Larson

Uhl brought up the Overtime Policy – would like welfare checks to be included and call on alarms before going out.

Council will discuss this matter.

PROJECT #444: WASTE WATER / MPCA

Council received a recommendation proposal for the MPCA matter from Flaherty & Hood. The council will review and bring concerns regarding the proposal to discuss at the November 14th council meeting.

PROJECT #205: PUBLIC WORKS

Gottwald discussed with the council shop improvements:

- Foam roof would give no structural support – would have more snow load.
- A.S.F. Roofing - \$86,000 for structure improvements and is insulated.
- For the roof – look into tuck pointing costs.
- Work on a new plan for Phase I (city shop) and Phase II (fire hall)
- Council would like a plan of what the buildings will look like.

PROJECT #73: FIRST RESPONDERS

Schultz informed the council of the calls for the month:

- 41 calls for October
- 12 calls were at the same location.
- 6 calls were no shows.
- Calls will be higher if responding to these calls.

PROJECT #74: FIRE DEPT

Dropik commented that things are going well with the fire department. The new truck is not in but would like to have it by May 2023.

Dropik discussed the annual relief. Currently, the amount is \$4,800 for each fire fighter for a total of \$91,200. If paid per call (12 calls per month and every Monday night) at \$15 per hour, the total would be \$9,795 for October. Total amount for fire prevention hours would have been \$2,475. Dropik will get year-end totals to the council.

Fireworks License – Display fireworks for council to approve the license and fee or have it as a city display event and under our city insurance.

FEMA Fees – To adopt Douglas County fees for Fire, need to look into Police/Public Works and EMS fees to also adopt.

PROJECT #22: CLERK

Jacobson reminded the council of the Budget and Truth-in-Taxation meeting in December. Jacobson was going to have an adjustment from the union negotiations, but it doesn't look like that will be settled. Council can make an amendment to the budget after settling.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. All Ayes. Absent: Larson

Mayor – Daniel J. Wessel

City Clerk/Treasurer – Angela A. Jacobson