

Osakis City Council – Regular Meeting
Community Center – 20 Nokomis Street West
April 10, 2023
7:00 PM

Present: Dan Wessel, Tim Thornbloom, Alan Larson, Stephanie Finnegan

Absent: Laura Backes

Others Present: Angela Jacobson, Chad Gulbranson, Jeremy Pederson (Osakis Anchor), Tonya Danielson, Brent Kohler, Greg Gottwald, Chad Gulbranson, Sheila Krohse (arrived at 7:40 p.m.)

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

Motion by Thornbloom, seconded by Finnegan, to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of Health and Safety. Motion Carried Absent: Backes

Consent Staff Reports:

- #24 Liquor Store – monthly reports
- #73 First Responders – minutes and report
- #74 Fire Department – report
- #13 Fire Relief
- #76 Police Report and schedules for April and May
- #205 Public Works – monthly report

Motion by Larson, seconded by Thornbloom, to approve the general consent items, including the March city bills in the amount of \$227,272.02 and meeting minutes from March 13, 2023. Motion Carried Absent: Backes

PROJECT #76: POLICE

Gulbranson reported that there were no call outs for the month. The new black squad will have gray decals. Winning Edge will submit to the council what the decal will look like before it is put on the new squad. The squad should be here in the next 2 weeks. About 3 weeks after that to get it ready to be put in service. Officer Gizinski doesn't like how dark his squad windows are now – 50% window tint is the maximum the general public can do and will be used for the new squad.

OPEN FLOOR:

No public requested to speak.

PROJECT #286: DONATIONS

Resolutions 2023-11, 2023-12 and 2023-13 were presented by Larson, seconded by Finnegan, to approve donations to the city of Osakis for the purposes of the Osakis EMS, Fire Department, Police Department, Park equipment and Improvements. When put to a vote, the resolutions passed unanimously. Absent: Backes

PROJECT #292: HAZARDOUS BUILDING

Gulbranson informed the council that Maynard Michels submitted his application to fix his roof, but has not turned in anything to have the building fixed up. Jacobson and Gulbranson discussed this matter and Gulbranson did give him a call about the outside of the building.

Gulbranson sent a follow up letter to Michels after the call so that Michels understands what is expected and by what date.

Matt Kruse has not received a demo permit for his building at 21 Main Street East at this time.

Gulbranson talked to Kruse last month and he needs to provide a date when the gas will be disconnected. Gulbranson stated the demo will be done when the snow melts and the road restrictions are off.

PROJECT #60: ORDINANCE

A draft copy was emailed to the council to review and make comments on before the public hearing. The city attorney will need to provide 10 day's notice prior to the meeting at which the council will make its final vote on whether to adopt the proposed ordinance applying administrative citations are:

- 90.21 Building maintenance and appearance.
- 90.19 Nuisance parking and storage.
- 93.22 Dog nuisances
- 93.20 Dogs running at large.
- 90.20 Inoperable vehicles.
- 91.01 Abandonment of vehicles.
- 90.39 Elimination of nuisance cases by weeds and grass.

PROJECT #60: ORDINANCE – PARKING

Brent Kohler (owner of Lake Terrace Apartments) was in attendance.

Kohler would like to discuss a change in the ordinance for parking on the street.

Council reviewed the existing ordinances #71.01 and #71.03

Kohler said that he talked to neighbors about using part of their property for parking and they are not interested. Kohler needs 16 spaces to be added for the requirement of 2 spaces per unit. Needs to use a lot of space and runs into drainage and curb stop issues.

Discussion was had that if vehicles are allowed to park on the street, who would clean up the snow? The city would not.

Discussion will be at the next workshop to see what the property is like and what can be done.

PROJECT #197/185: WATER PLANT AND WATER TOWER PROJECT

Council received a notice from USDA Rural Development to move forward with our project for the water plant and water tower. The notice stated that the bids that have been opened are coming in higher than the approval loan/grant award. RD will look at increasing the loan or grant award for the project.

RD did state they would cover the cost of the overrun with a waiver as per Eric Mester. Mester suggests the council call for bids for just the water plant and not the water tower at this time. The funding we allocated will still be short by an additional \$250,000 – RD would give additional funding for this. We would then resubmit the water tower project for funding later this year.

Motion by Larson, seconded by Thornbloom, to approve to go ahead with the project. Motion Carries
Absent: Backes

Motion was presented by Thornbloom, seconded by Larson, to rescind Resolution 2023-06 to authorize bids for the water plant and water tower. Motion Carries Absent: Backes

Resolution 2023-17 was presented by Larson, seconded by Finnegan, to approve to authorize bids for the water plant project. When put to a vote the resolution passed unanimously. Absent: Backes

PROJECT #197: WATER – SHUT OFFS

Council was informed that during the COVID process and the state of emergency related to the pandemic, the city was not allowed to shut water services off to any property.

The Governor has lifted the state of emergency related to the COVID pandemic and now we are allowed to shut off water to a property for non-payment according to our city ordinance.

PROJECT #419: MN POLLUTION CONTROL

Council received the report for the NPDES permit compliance summary for 2022.

PROJECT #441: PARK COMMITTEE

The council held a public hearing on March 13, 2023 to hear input regarding the Active Transportation grant for installing some bike/walking lanes and highway crossing treatments. The city did not receive the grant for this project.

Douglas County will be moving forward with mill and overlay of Lake Street and 1st Avenue East. The committee met and asked the county to look into the possibility to add a painted bike lane on the street. If the council would look at the option of using the exiting roadway and adding a painted area for a bike lane. This would not eliminate parking or driving lane or change the sidewalk width. Because of the road width, it would accommodate one or two bike lanes to allow a designated area for bikers to get to the parks in our community.

A resident from King Street has joined the Park Committee but there has not been anyone from Lake Street.

Public comments that the council heard were of concerns that on-street parking was going to be lost and having a bigger area used for sidewalk/biking and not wanting to see the biking lane at all.

Council will discuss a bike lane on the street again.

Motion by Finnegan, seconded by Thornbloom, to approve the bill for Widseth in the amount of \$1,085.00. Motion Carries Absent: Backes

PROJECT #147/29: 1ST AVENUE EAST/LAKE STREET OVERLAY

Tim Erickson (Douglas County Engineer) was in attendance at the March meeting to discuss the plans for the mill and overlay of Lake Street and 1st Avenue East.

Erickson arranged a date to watch the school traffic. Other that attended were Justin Dahlheimer, Shad Schmidt, Larson and Finnegan.

Finnegan and Larson mentioned that Erickson is looking to make some changes to the entrance to help traffic. Possibly changing the bus pickup and create an additional parking in the rain garden area by the elementary side.

PROJECT #312: OSAKIS BEAUTIFICATION TEAM

Council received an updated spreadsheet. One quote from Shrode Concrete for the walking path to the fishing pier. A second quote is still coming.

PROJECT #110: GAMBLING LICENSE

Council reviewed two requests for a gambling license.

Resolution 2023-14 was presented by Larson, seconded by Thornbloom, to approve the Osakis Lake Association gambling license held at the Osakis Community Center (20 Nokomis Street West) on May 20th, 2023. When put to a vote, the resolution passed unanimously. Absent: Backes

Resolution 2023-15 was presented by Larson, seconded by Thornbloom, to approve the Immaculate Conception Church one-day non-profit gambling license held at Osakis Immaculate Conception Church (318 3rd Avenue West) on November 5th, 2023. When put to a vote, the resolution passed unanimously. Absent: Backes

PROJECT #109: LIQUOR LICENSE

Council reviewed a request for a one-day temporary liquor license.

Resolution 2023-16 was presented by Larson, seconded by Thornbloom, to approve the Osakis Lake Association one-day temporary liquor license held at the Osakis Community Center (20 Nokomis Street West) on May 20th, 2023 with the required liquor liability. When put to a vote, the resolution passed unanimously. Absent: Backes

PROJECT #156: ENGINEER

Sheila Krohse informed the council that she will have someone out to get the drainage on Central and Main Street this spring and to have someone from Bolten & Menk to make sure it is done correctly.

MN DOT – contact for advance signs on the highway stop area on the road.

PROJECT #360: EMPLOYEE PERSONNEL ISSUES

Council discussed designating two councilmembers for impromptu personnel issues. These two people will be able to take care of special cases. The liaison is still in place to do things. Items cannot be talked about at a public meeting.

Motion by Thornbloom, seconded by Finnegan, to approve to designate Mayor Wessel and council member Backes as designees for the purposes of impromptu personnel issues. Motion Carries Absent: Backes Opposed: Larson

PROJECT #495: EDUCATION

Mayor Wessel discussed training for the supervisors for team building training opportunities:

- Supervisors attend the training.
- Annual requirement to attend training for help to achieve the training.
- Mandatory – part of review to complete.
- Mandatory – continuing education.
- Look up some options.

PROJECT #213: LIFEGUARD/CITY BEACH

Connor Gulbranson will return as a lifeguard to work for the 2023 summer.

We have advertised for lifeguards and have had no applications at this time. More ads will be put in the Alex paper and school district.

PROJECT #42: CLEAN UP DAY

Clean Up Day has been scheduled for May 20th, 2023. The information was sent out with the residential letter in April.

Sentence to Serve and Osakis Lions will be helping again this year.

PROJECT #393: 2 AM LICENSE

Council reviewed a request from Knights Pub & Grub for a 2 am closing license.

Motion by Thornbloom, seconded by Larson, to approve the 2 am license for Knights Pub & Grub.
Motion Carries Absent: Backes

PROJECT #310: BLACKS RESORT/BLOCKING LAKE STREET

Black Resort submitted a request to close Lake Street for one day in April or May for dock removal. At this time, a specific date was not stated due to the ice off the lake.

Motion by Thornbloom, seconded by Larson, to approve Blacks Resort to close Lake Street for dock removal. Motion Carries Absent: Backes

PROJECT #7: COMMUNITY CENTER

The Community Center had some leaking during the most recent storm. Gottwald checked the roof and there was not a big snow load. The roof will be looked at after the snow has melted.

The back door base plate broke. Larson received a quote from Builders FirstSource for a new door in the amount of \$2,024.99 and installation from Dick Dunn in the amount of \$500. The door project will move forward and get replaced.

Other items for the Community Center being looked at:

- Floor scrubber.
- Grant to make improvements – this needs to be done by the end of April.
- Pest Control for the building.

PROJECT #321: VISITORS CENTER

Last year, we had the Visitors Center open on a part-time basis as we have funds to cover the cost of staffing. Council budgeted \$5,000 for part of the staffing costs. Another \$2,000 of donations for staffing would need to be requested. Full-time staff was paid \$12.75 and part-time staff was paid \$11.00.

Motion by Thornbloom, seconded by Finnegan, to approve an increase of \$.50 per hour for Visitor Center wages. Motion Carries Absent: Backes

PROJECT #444: WASTE WATER PROJECT – MPCA

After our discussion with the MPCA, they are presenting our agreement to the EPA and at this time, we have not heard back on the outcome.

Motion by Thornbloom, seconded by Larson, to approve the bill from Flaherty and Hood for \$3,292.50 and from Hall & Associates for \$2,490.00. Motion Carries Absent: Backes

OTHER ITEMS FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION

Next council meeting is May 8th, 2023.

Motion by Larson, seconded by Finnegan, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Motion Carries

Mayor – Daniel J. Wessel

City Clerk/Treasurer – Angela A. Jacobson