

Osakis City Council – Regular Meeting
City Hall – 14 Nokomis Street East
May 8, 2023
7:00 PM

Present: Dan Wessel, Tim Thornbloom, Alan Larson, Stephanie Finnegan, Laura Backes
Others Present: Angela Jacobson, (Echo Press), Jeremy Pederson (Osakis Anchor), Reenie Goodwin, Chad Gulbranson, Greg Gottwald, Peter Koel, Arriving late – Amber Kral, Eric Jacobson

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

Motion by Backes, seconded by Finnegan, to approve the agenda as presented with moving Project #382 to a closed meeting. Motion Carried

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 May and June
- #205 Public Works – monthly report

Motion by Backes, seconded by Finnegan, to approve the general consent items, including the April city bills in the amount of \$276,098.84 and meeting minutes from April 10, 2023, April 11, 2023, April 24, 2023 and April 28, 2023. Motion Carried

PUBLIC HEARING

Council reviewed the ordinance and administrative process and Ordinance Change #135.

Motion by Larson, seconded by Thornbloom, to suspend the regular meeting and open the public hearing at 7:06 p.m. Motion Carries

The ordinance change for the replacement of Ordinance 10.98 was discussed.

Citation fee was set at \$50 per day. Council agrees to change the maximum fine to \$1,000. Council reviewed the administrative penalty process used. Weather related issues could occur and may have to work with the resident to resolve their issues.

Other items discussed:

- Complaints are private data. Statement of the Tennessen Warning and what data on the form is used for.
- Gulbranson will get information from the attorney for citation appeals and a list of lawyers to have.

Council will discuss this matter at the June council meeting.

PROJECT #24: LIQUOR STORE

Council received the Liquor Store reports for April. Total loss was -\$4,413.16.

Goodwin discussed the following items with the council:

- Goodwin needs to get the rest of the bar stools when the Visitor's Center is open.
- Community Day at the Liquor Store – Wessel, Thornbloom and Goodwin will work on this.
- Work with Gottwald to install a volleyball court at the Liquor Store. Will need to talk to Todd County about the road right-of-way and Planning & Zoning.
- Looked at replacing the septic tanks – cheaper than getting the sewer hooked up from Hwy 27.

PROJECT #309: CITY HALL

On April 15th, 2023 the basement at city hall flooded. All the contents in the basement were damaged and had to be replaced.

Before the flood, the condition of the basement and the mold issue had been looked at. Estimates for both of were given to the council.

Council also discussed the issues with the parking lot and moving the fence around the impound area. Possibly could create more parking behind the building for staff.

Jacobson will work on the basement issues and move forward to get cleaned – also the impound lot and the back of the building.

PROJECT #76: POLICE

Gulbranson presented the council with sample colors for the new squad decals – it is a light metallic silver. The sample is for the lettering on the new squad and replacing the lettering on the PD truck.

Council wanted to make sure there is enough contrast to see the police lettering on the black vehicle.

Gulbranson informed the council of the following items:

- Officer Uhl is on vacation – no overtime for the weeks he is on vacation.
- Officer Uhl was on a pursuit and the guy did not put his vehicle in park and it rolled into the squad. The damage to the squad was about \$2,000.
- Building maintenance and appearance letters – the process is to clean up or will have a court date.

PROJECT #292/249: HAZARDOUS BUILDING / PLANNING & ZONING

At the April 10th, 2023 meeting, the council received a copy of a letter sent to Maynard Michels regarding the south wall of his building on the property at 45 Main Street West. No correspondence was received from Michels.

At the April 20th, 2023 Planning & Zoning meeting, the members issued a complaint about Maynard Michels building at 45 Main Street West for Chief Gulbranson to look into the condition of the building.

On April 26th, 2023, Bill Barber (Inspector) visited the site and looked at the building. Michels was present. Barber sent out a report regarding his findings and that he would have to come up with a better plan to replace and fix the wall before he will be able to go forward with the improvements to the roof.

Gulbranson stated he will call Michels tomorrow to see what he is doing and give Barber a report. Council wants a plan how Michels will be proceeding with the wall project.

Council also mentioned that Michels needs to clean up around the building better.

We are waiting on Matt Kruse to inform the city that he has notified Centerpoint Energy. Once we are notified, the Demo Permit will be issued.

Gulbranson will talk to Kruse about the process. Demolition will take place when the road restrictions are off.

Motion by Backes, seconded by Thornbloom, to approve the April 20, 2023 Planning & Zoning minutes. Motion Carries

PROJECT #25: DOGS

Dog licenses were due May 1st. The residential letters sent out in April included this information along with the date for the vaccination clinic. An ad was also put in the paper.

There are many dogs that are still not licensed. Officer Gizinski has contacted most of the dog owners and working on letters to be sent out to those that have not responded.

Dogs that are not licensed and the owner received a letter will get a ticket in the amount of \$100 for a non-licensed dog.

PROJECT #197: WATER PLANT

Bids were opened on May 10th, 2023 for the water plant project. Eric Mester will review all the bids and the city can award the lowest responsible bid.

Council will have a workshop meeting on May 15th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the bids.

PROJECT #197-1: SUMMER WATERING

Residents can sign up for a break in the cost of their sewer rate for the months of June to September. This is to give residents some savings for watering lawns, plants and gardens.

Residents must call the city to be put on the summer sewer rate. No credits are given if they forget to call after the utility bills are processed.

Motion by Larson, seconded by Finnegan, to approve the summer sewer flat rate of \$34.25. Motion Carries

OPEN FLOOR:

No public requested to speak.

PROJECT #441: PARK COMMITTEE

The park board met on April 24th, 2023. Jillian Riener was going to reach out to the county to see if they would paint bike symbols on Lake Street when it is redone. This is not a designated lane, but would be a symbol to show the road is shared between vehicles and bicycles. Council would like a letter sent to inform residents of Lake Street the bicycle symbols that will be on the road. Council will discuss at the June meeting if there are concerns.

A First Right to Purchase agreement with Rick Engfer for the land by King Street is being drafted and reviewed. The agreement does not include a purchase price – just gives the city the first right to purchase the property.

Motion by Wessel, seconded by Thornbloom, to move forward with the First Right to Purchase agreement. Motion Carries

Motion by Finnegan, seconded by Backes, to approve the bill from Widseth in the amount of \$1,502.63.
Motion Carries

Backes asked where the budget was for the park funds– Jacobson will have an update at the June council meeting.

PROJECT #312: OSAKIS BEAUTIFICATION TEAM

Amber Kral informed the council that only one quote was received from Shrode Concrete for the walking path to the fishing pier. No one else wants to bid the project. Move forward with Shrode Concrete for the work.

Kral would also like to put in a rock and flower garden where the historical marker will be moved to. Cost would be \$400 to \$600.

Council received a letter from the Lake Region Arts Council regarding the grants for the murals in Osakis – they did not receive the grant.

PROJECT #156: ENGINEER

Mayor Wessel asked about the 4-way stop signs and if anything can be done with them – asked if stop ahead signs are a requirement. Wessel will look where the stop ahead signs should be placed and contact Sheila Krohse. MN DOT will pay for the cost.

Backes commented about the Main Street and Central Avenue corner – they have fixed the corner sidewalk three times and water still pools on it. They are not taking care of it and fixing the issue.

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

Tim Erickson (Douglas County Engineer) has not given any updates on the project.

PROJECT #388: ON-SALE LIQUOR LICENSE

Wade Meyers purchased the Bowling Barn and Grill and paid the full cost for his On-Sale and Special Sunday licenses. Tonya Danielson also paid the total cost.

Motion by Backes, seconded by Finnegan, to approve refunding Tonya Danielson and Wade Meyers for 1/2 of the annual cost for the On-Sale License and Special Sunday License. Motion Carries

PROJECT #139: LIONS PARK

West Central donated two apple trees last year to the city. Mayor Wessel suggested planting the trees at the Lions Park. All ok with this.

PROJECT #213: LIFEGUARD / CITY BEACH

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

Two other applications were received from Faith Schmidtbauer and Ethan Schroers. The beach should be covered for most of the summer hours.

PROJECT #42: CLEAN UP DAY

May 20th, 2023 is the city wide clean-up day. Residents received information in their spring newsletter.

Council received a letter sent to the residents on yard cleanup from Gulbranson.

PROJECT #7: COMMUNITY CENTER

The Douglas County Health Inspector walked through the Community Center to see what upgrades the kitchen will be needing. An application has been submitted for a grant from Sourcewell for up to \$50,000. The city will be notified in June if we will receive funding.

Other information:

- Grill hood has been cleaned – this should be done annually.
- Pest Control – done annually.
- Included in the grant: cabinets, counter tops, tables, chairs, scrubber, floors and ceilings.
- Look at a high rise toilet for each bathroom.

PROJECT #321: VISITOR'S CENTER

Joy Kral and Anna Jacobson have submitted applications to work at the Visitor's Center this summer. Kral mentioned that she can only work two days a week and had a list of the weekends she can work.

Jacobson will work the other week days and weekends. There will be a few days they both will be gone but volunteers will be contacted to see if they can fill in.

PROJECT #444: WASTE WATER PROJECT – MPCA

A meeting will be held with the MPCA on May 17, 2023 to discuss their proposal from the EPA meeting regarding our negotiations.

Motion by Larson, seconded by Backes, to approve the bill from Flaherty and Hood in the amount of \$700.45. Motion Carries

PROJECT #494: DEPARTMENT SUPERVISOR DISCUSSION

Mayor Wessel discussed the expectations of the supervisor's attendance at the council meetings – attend meetings if you need to. Not required if they don't have anything.

Recess at 9:10 p.m.

PROJECT #360: EMPLOYEE EVALUATION / CLOSED MEETING

Mayor Wessel read the script for a closed meeting as per state statute 13D.05 Sub. 3(a). regarding Chad Gulbranson for employee evaluation.

Motion by Backes, seconded by Thornbloom, to suspend the regular meeting and open the closed meeting at 9:15 p.m. Motion Carries

Motion by Backes, seconded by Thornbloom, to close the closed meeting and open the regular meeting at 11:16 p.m. Motion Carries

Council tabled the Union Contract until the May 15th, 2023 workshop. This will be discussed in a closed meeting.

A written agreement will be drafted for Chad Gulbranson. Gulbranson will need to sign it and will be put in his personal file.

Council was reminded to not discuss any content of the closed meeting.

Motion by Thornbloom, seconded by Larson, to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 p.m. Motion Carries