

**Osakis City Council – Regular Meeting**  
**Osakis City Hall – 14 Nokomis Street East**  
**February 9, 2026**  
**6:00 PM**

Present: Judy Dvorsak, Randy Anderson, Laura Backes

Absent: Stephanie Finnegan, Tim Thornbloom

Others Present: Angela Jacobson, Chad Gulbranson, Joe Cecko, Craig Dropik, Carlene Dean (Osakis Anchor), one person via YouTube.

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Dvorsak at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Backes, to approve the agenda as presented with additions. All Ayes

Absent: Finnegan, Thornbloom

Motion by Backes, seconded by Anderson, to approve the general consent items, including the January city bills in the amount of \$518,351.06 and meeting minutes from January 12, 2026, Planning & Zoning minutes from January 15, 2026 and EDA minutes from January 26, 2026. All Ayes Absent: Finnegan, Thornbloom

**PROJECT #60: ORDINANCE / METERS**

Council approved to move forward with a draft ordinance from the city attorney on the meter non-compliance language.

Motion by Backes, seconded by Anderson, to approve ordinance amendment 145 and waive the second reading. All Ayes Absent: Finnegan, Thornbloom

Motion by Backes, seconded by Anderson, to approve the non-compliance monthly fee of \$50.00. All Ayes Absent: Finnegan, Thornbloom

**PROJECT #60-1: ORDINANCE / RENTAL**

Council received a draft rental ordinance prepared by Steve Jones. The draft included sample forms.

Discuss an annual fee if in violations – charge a fee when information is requested and not provided.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Backes, to approve to table until the full council can discuss. All Ayes Absent: Finnegan, Thornbloom

**PROJECT #22: CLERK**

Clerk Jacobson has been a member of the Minnesota Clerks and Finance Officers Association (MCFOA) for the past 20 years. MCFOA is seeking a Region 3 Director and Clerk Jacobson is requesting City Council approval to submit an application for this volunteer position. All travel expenses associated with MCFOA board meetings are paid for by the MCFOA organization. There would be no expense to the city associated with this position.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Backes, to approve City Clerk Angela Jacobson approval to apply for the Region 3 director position. All Ayes Absent: Finnegan, Thornbloom

Clerk Jacobson gave the January clerk's report – council feels periodic updates are good, does not have to be monthly. The council likes to have periodic emails of items that may be raised as a concern. Email out policies to review – if changes are needed, they will be added to the agenda.

**PROJECT #76: POLICE**

Gulbranson is requesting approval to hire Austin Becker as a full-time police officer to fill Calvin Uhl’s position. Becker is currently employed by the city as a part-time officer. The requested wage is step 2 of the pay scale - \$32.40 per hour.

Calvin Uhl has requested to move to part-time status. Gulbranson and Mayor Dvorsak plan to meet with Uhl to discuss the structure, duties, and expectations for Uhl. Current top wage for the position is \$38.58 per hour.

Council received information regarding the new police truck. The truck has been fully upfitted and is ready for service. Also discussed putting the old squad truck and white SUV up for sale.

Motion by Backes, seconded by Anderson, to table the discussion for the part-time status for Clavin Uhl until we have full council. All Ayes Absent: Finnegan, Thornbloom

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Backes, to approve to hire Austin Becker at step 2 for \$32.40 per hour as of February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026. All Ayes Absent: Finnegan, Thornbloom

Motion by Backes, seconded by Anderson, to approve to list the old squad truck and white SUV on an online auction to sell. All Ayes Absent: Finnegan, Thornbloom

**PROJECT #24: LIQUOR STORE**

Council received the January Liquor Store reports. Council was informed that the new on-sale inventory system is not setup yet – some of the equipment is on backorder.

Three trip hazard areas were repaired at the Liquor Store.

**PROJECT #46: WATER AND SEWER EDU CHARGE**

The EDA discussed the EDU charge per lot. EDA will look at draft ordinances and what other cities do with these charges. Final recommendations will be brought to the council for review.

**PROJECT #49: MAIN STREET PROJECT – SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT**

Kevin Kruger from WSB has the preliminary design and proposed assessment amounts for the project calculated.

Motion by Backes, seconded by Anderson, to approve WSB’s bills in the amounts of \$2,166.25 and \$2,874.50. All Ayes Absent: Finnegan, Thornbloom

**PROJECT #441: PARK BOARD**

The Park Board is requesting council approval to apply for Phase 2 of the Park Osagi Project and submit a DNR grant – the grant offers matching funds up to \$500,000. The Park Board is asking the council to approve the use of the \$5,000 LMC Navigator grant to cover the application cost.

As part of the grant process, a cultural resource assessment and a geotechnical report are both required.

Due to the steps being time-sensitive, Clerk Jacobson recommended the council approve the bidding to begin as soon as we receive DNR approval and approve execution of the contract once an agreement is finalized. The DNR is estimating the contract will be ready by mid-March.

Council received the draft DNR grant to review.

Motion by Backes, seconded by Anderson, to approve the Park Committee meeting minutes from February 5, 2026. All Ayes Absent: Finnegan, Thornbloom

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Backes, to approve to move forward with bidding of Phase 1 of the Park Osagi project and execute the DNR agreement by Clerk Jacobson and Mayor Dvorsak. All Ayes Absent: Finnegan, Thornbloom

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Backes, to approve Phase 2, approve to submit the DNR grant and to use the \$5,000 LMC Navigator grant for the application. All Ayes Absent: Finnegan, Thornbloom

**PROJECT #312: BEAUTIFICATION TEAM**

Tickets for the Decade Party can be purchased at the Osakis Pub and Osakis True Value.

**PROJECT #205: PUBLIC WORKS**

Darrin Quistorff is working on a list of equipment for the new Public Works building. A workshop will be setup once a revised plan is done.

Joe Cecko was in attendance and presented three different construction methods for the Public Works building:

- Fee of 10% to 15% - Design, bid and build. This is for the normal process and most costly – has no contractors input. Over runs and non-local contracts.
- Fee of 4.5% to 6.5% - For construction management (CM). Has early costs – full transparency and local contractor. Fewer surprises with high control and most flexible.
- Fee of 5.5% to 7.5% - For construction manager at risk (CMAR). Maximum price. Cost over run shared, complete bids, over sight of local contractors and reduced change orders.
- Risk on time frame and products – fees are different per risk.
- Not an added cost. Always need a construction manager on site for supervisor. They take on roles as CM – do not have to hire an engineer company.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Backes, to approve Derek Lang, Damion Majerus, Berkley Weber to attend MRWA and attend the refresher course and take exam and to approve Darrin Quistorff to attend. All Ayes Absent: Finnegan, Thornbloom

**PROJECT #261: WATER PROBLEM**

Letters were sent January 14, 2026 to all property owners on the Central Avenue block, requesting them to call with available dates to meet in March regarding the drainage issue. To date, only one property owner has responded. Follow-up letters will be sent to request a meeting and gauge interest.

**PROJECT #7: COMMUNITY CENTER**

Deadline for applications for the janitor position for the Community Center is February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Clerk Jacobson will set a time with Mayor Dvorsak and Anderson to review applications.

**PROJECT #43: BOARD OF REVIEW**

Board of Review will be held on Tuesday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at Osakis City Hall:

- Todd County – 9:00 a.m.
- Douglas County – 10:30 a.m.

A quorum is needed to hold the meeting. Clerk Jacobson will check with Thornbloom and Finnegan.

**PROJECT #110: GAMBLING**

Meeting date has been scheduled for March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. at Osakis City Hall.

**PROJECT #427: RESIDENTIAL NEWSLETTER**

For many years, the city has prepared and mailed residential letters to all households in the City of Osakis in April and October. The time and cost involved was tracked and resulted in a total cost of approximately \$1,900 annually. Will send out one spring letter.

Council received information to consider:

- Due to the rising costs of materials and the increased used of technology, the council discussed distributing the newsletter electronically using Facebook and the City website for residents to access.
- Look into emailing bills, having the newsletter in the spring only – include all information for the year.
- Put on the City website and share on Facebook.

Council discussed setting up a council open house in the spring.

**PROJECT #286: DONATIONS**

Council received a list of donations made in 2025. Clerk Jacobson wanted to highlight the 2025 donations and grants the city received from 2020 to 2025. These funds were made possible through the dedication and foresight of city staff in seeking out funding opportunities, along with the generous support of our community. These donations and grants help support projects and services that benefit the community.

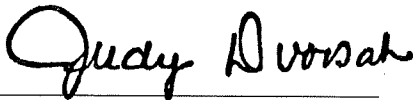
The continued commitment of staff for responsible planning and stewardship on behalf of the city and its residents have received from 2020 to present:

- Donations totaling \$1,000,630.51
- Grants totaling \$1,102,110.07

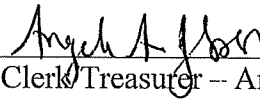
**OTHER ITEMS:**

Next Council meeting will be March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Motion by Backes, seconded by Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m. All Ayes Absent: Finnegan, Thornbloom



Mayor – Judy Dvorsak



City Clerk/Treasurer -- Angela A. Jacobson