

OWOSSO CITY COUNCIL

APRIL 30, 2012

7:34 P.M.

PRESIDING OFFICER: MAYOR BENJAMIN R. FREDERICK

OPENING PRAYER: MAJOR KEITH BAILEY
SALVATION ARMY

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: NICOLE HATHAWAY
CONGREGATIONAL CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER

PRESENT: Mayor Benjamin R. Frederick, Mayor Pro-Tem Cindy S. Popovitch, Councilpersons Loreen F. Bailey, Thomas B. Cook, Michael J. Erfourth and Christopher T. Eveleth.

ABSENT: Councilperson Burton D. Fox.

Mayor Frederick led a round of applause for Nicole Hathaway to honor her achievement being the top fund raiser for the Plunge for Playscape.

Mayor Frederick announced the meeting was at ease at 7:39 p.m. to allow time to resolve technical difficulties with the projector for the evening's presentation. The meeting resumed at 7:48 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT – 403 SOUTH STATE STREET

A public hearing was conducted to receive citizen comment regarding the establishment of an Industrial Development District for the property located at 403 South State Street, currently utilized by Owosso Composites, Inc.

The following people addressed the Council regarding the proposed district:

Patrick May, COO/CFO of Crest Marine (owner of Owosso Composite, Inc.), introduced himself and thanked Council for their consideration of the business's request. He briefly detailed how the company has grown over the last few years and relayed his excitement on the acquisition of Owosso Composite along with his plans for the business in the coming years.

Justin Horvath, president/CEO of the SEDP, endorsed the company saying he has worked with them for a few years and they have done an extremely successful job of turning around the companies they have acquired. He said he was also looking forward to the expansion the business proposes over the next few years.

Ronald Elder, Shiawassee County Commissioner, said he toured the facility recently and was impressed with their operation. He indicated he had known the previous owner of a local business they had acquired a few years back and he would be pleased to see the actions considered today.

Motion by Councilperson Eveleth to adopt the following resolution establishing an industrial development district for the property located at 403 South State Street.

RESOLUTION NO. 31-2012

**ESTABLISHING AN
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
403 STATE STREET**

WHEREAS, a request was received April 9, 2012 for a Tax Abatement for Personal Property/ Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption from Owosso Composite, LLC; and

WHEREAS, an Industrial Development District must be established to meet the needs of applicant; and

WHEREAS, this property is located in the city limits of the City of Owosso, County of Shiawassee; and

WHEREAS, the property description of proposed district is:

LOTS 8 & 9 AND EAST 9 FEET OF LOT 7, BLOCK 2. ALSO, OUTLOT 1 & NORTH 61 FEET OF OUTLOT 2. GEORGE THOMAS ADDITION TO CITY OF OWOSSO (EXCEPT ROALROAD RIGHT OF WAY);

and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that establishing this district would be beneficial to the city of Owosso, as well as the local and regional economy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the city council of the City of Owosso, Shiawassee County, Michigan that an Industrial Development District is established for the property at 403 South State Street.

Motion supported by Councilperson Bailey.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilpersons Erfourth, Bailey, Cook, Mayor Pro-Tem Popovitch, Councilperson Eveleth and Mayor Frederick.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilperson Fox.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

John Fisher, 2153 West Hibbard Road, owner of Fisher Gravel, distributed handouts detailing his accusations against Smith Sand and Gravel for improper disposal of materials from a recent demolition they conducted on behalf of the City. He asked that the City look into the matter. Mayor Frederick indicated staff will follow up on the issue.

Mark Hanna, 4655 Waugh Road, local attorney, said Mr. Fisher had approached him about his issues with Smith Sand and Gravel. He said he feels the City has an obligation to provide a fair playing field for all contractors by ensuring the terms of an RFP are fulfilled. He asked for the development of a better monitoring protocol.

Philip Hathaway, 736 Elmwood Street, said he would like to see Jerome Street paved and curb and gutter installed to prevent further damage to the James Miner Trail where it runs parallel with the street. He said there was opportunity to create parking for Wilman Field and to improve the park as well.

Mayor Pro-Tem Popovitch offered her apologies for not being able to participate in Green Up Clean Up this year.

Councilperson Cook noted that Green Up Clean Up was this Saturday from 9:00 am until noon. Interested parties should meet in the Comstock parking lot shortly before 9:00. There will be many different opportunities to help.

DISCUSSIONS

PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

City Manager Crawford gave a short PowerPoint presentation detailing various problems and conditions seen in pavement around the City. He indicated Dr. Abbas Butt was scheduled to be present this evening to detail his findings on the condition of pavement within the City but was unable to attend due to health reasons.

City Manager Crawford noted different things, such as core boring equipment and density testing equipment that staff would be trained on in the coming months to assist with the implementation of a new pavement management program.

2012 STREET IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

City Manager Crawford detailed the projects proposed for this year's street program.

The following streets are scheduled to be improved this year:

North Chipman Street, from Beehler to Harding
South Chipman Street, from Lynn to Main
Grace Street, from Cedar to Lyon
Grand Avenue, from Auburndale to Franklin
North Hickory Street, from Exchange to Oliver
Kenwood Drive, from Freeman to Frederick
East Oliver Street intersection with Gould
West Oliver Street east of the bridge
State Street, from Main Street to south end
Alley & parking lot east of State Street

Some street sections will see full reconstruction while others will use other methods less than reconstruction to improve their condition as indicated by the data gathered from the pavement survey. Some streets will be specially assessed while others will be paid for completely by City monies depending on whether they qualify as major streets or do not directly benefit any particular residents. It is anticipated the special assessment process will be started at the May 7th meeting.

There was discussion regarding other streets that need attention, when a comprehensive pavement management plan will be developed, and how much money has been spent from the street bonds issued a few years ago. City Manager Crawford indicated he hoped a plan could be developed within the next 90 days.

REGIONAL PARKS

City Manager Crawford indicated that not many jurisdictions indicated interest after the regional parks meeting that was held at Baker College in March, but those that did express interest consistently mentioned the desire to develop a trail system. He asked Council whether they would like to hold another joint session to focus on the development of a trail. Information was presented on the level of funding a county-wide millage would garner. Further it was noted grant monies were available for such projects. Council was open to holding a discussion, if nothing else, to simply take stock of the trails that do exist and discuss how communities can work together to maintain them. It was suggested that efforts be made to include various trail organizations in any future meetings.

City Manager Crawford indicated he would approach the City of Corunna as a potential host for the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilperson Eveleth for adjournment at 9:07 p.m.

Motion supported by Councilperson Erfourth and concurred in by unanimous vote.

Benjamin R. Frederick, Mayor

Amy K. Kirkland, City Clerk