

**CITY OF OWOSSO
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF APRIL 13, 2016
6:30 P.M.**

PRESIDING OFFICER: MAYOR BENJAMIN R. FREDERICK

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: MAYOR BENJAMIN R. FREDERICK

PRESENT: Mayor Benjamin R. Frederick, Mayor Pro-Tem Christopher T. Eveleth, Councilpersons Loreen F. Bailey, Burton D. Fox, Elaine M. Greenway, Michael J. O'Leary, and Robert J. Teich, Jr.

ABSENT: None.

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth to set a meeting end time of 8:00 p.m. Motion supported by Councilperson O'Leary and concurred in by unanimous vote.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

There were no citizen comments.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Review projects underway for balance of 2015-16

1. **Gould Street overlay – Start June 13, 2016**
2. **North Street culvert – Start June 15, 2016**
3. **Seal coating – Start late May 2016**
4. **Sidewalk replacement – Start late April 2016**
5. **Sonoco/Cargill roadway - Planning stages**
6. **Block 21 alley – Small alley running parallel to Main Street going west from Park**

City Manager Donald D. Crawford briefly detailed the list of street projects that are currently underway. He said he had been approached by property owners along the Block 21 alley inquiring about having the alley paved. He indicated specially assessing each adjacent parcel is difficult due to the configuration of the alley. He said he is working with the property owners now to develop a cost sharing agreement.

B. Projects planned for 2016-17

1. **Oliver Street -phase one**
2. **Crack sealing**
3. **Sidewalk replacement**
4. **Woodland Trails possible street completion for association**

City Engineer Randy Chesney distributed handouts with a map of City streets, the pavement life cycle curve, best practices for pavement repair, information on how streets are rated, and those streets marked for resurfacing and reconstruction. He noted that the average pavement condition for City streets is about 45, on a scale of 1 to 100. He expressed the critical nature of things saying approximately 14 miles of streets need to be resurfaced, to the tune of about \$11 million, and approximately half of the City's streets are included on the reconstruction list at an estimated cost of \$25 million. Speeding up the maintenance schedule will not necessarily prolong the life of the streets when you factor in the costs involved. He said

the best practice for pavement management is commonly referred to as “right fix, right time, right place”, meaning that all three factors need to be correct to reach the maximum expected pavement life using the least amount of funding.

He went on to say that East Oliver Street has deteriorated significantly in the last couple of years and the latest analysis revealed the need to entirely reconstruct the street, including curb, gutter, and storm sewers. Early estimates put the project over \$1 million. Even with the \$375,000 promised by MDOT the City will not be able to afford to undertake the entire project at this time. Mr. Chesney proposed splitting the project into two phases to allow the City to seek additional funds from MDOT for the second phase.

On the topic of road maintenance funding Mr. Chesney indicated that the condition of the street system continues to decline and the City hasn't had the funding to undertake any major street maintenance since 2012. The storm sewer system also needs a significant amount of work. He estimated it would take at least three times the current annual funding to begin to improve the overall condition of the system. To that effect he asked Council to consider placing a bond issue before voters, target the streets that need resurfacing should the bond pass. He went on to say he would seek grant funding for those streets requiring total reconstruction.

City Manager Crawford then very briefly touched on the streets in the Woodland Trails subdivision saying the condo association was debating whether to dedicate their streets to the City.

C. Projects planned for 2017-18

- 1. Oliver Street phase two**
- 2. Slurry seal/seal coating**
- 3. Oliver Street west of Chipman Street**

City Manager Crawford noted that TIF monies from Brownfield District No. 8 would be used to reconstruct Oliver street west of Chipman Street.

D. Projects 2018-19 and beyond

- 1. South Washington Street - phase one and possible phase two**
- 2. East Monroe Street**
- 3. South Chestnut Street**
- 4. South Cedar Street**
- 5. ChipmanStreet, from Main Street to Oliver Street**

Mr. Crawford indicated the City currently does not have the money to fund any of the 2018-19 projects and would be applying for grants for these projects in the coming weeks.

E. Bond issue

- 1. Should we have one?**
- 2. If so, when should we have one?**
- 3. What would the issue be? Amount? Term? Wording?**
- 4. How does the City communicate with the voters?**

City Manager Crawford said that all of the questions listed above would need to be answered if the City is to try for a bond. The Council discussed the timing of the potential bond issue, leaving trails out of the bond funding question, how much to ask for, and how the City should go about getting the message out on the need for supplemental street funding.

NEXT MEETING

Regular Meeting - Monday, April 18, 2016, 7:30p, Council Chamber
Budget Meeting - Saturday, April 23, 2016, 9:00am – 12:00pm, Council Chamber
Budget Meeting – Tuesday, April 26, 2016, 6:30pm – 8:30pm, Conference Room

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OPENINGS

Board of Review – term expires December 31, 2020
Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2018

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth for adjournment at 7:57 p.m.

Motion supported by Councilperson O'Leary and concurred in by unanimous vote.

Benjamin R. Frederick, Mayor

Amy K. Kirkland, City Clerk