

**CITY OF OWOSSO
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES SYNOPSIS
MONDAY, JUNE 01, 2020**

Mayor Christopher Eveleth announced the meeting would be held as a Virtual Meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic, under the authority of Executive Order No. 2020-15 of the Office of the Governor of the State of Michigan. He also noted the process for making comments during the Citizen Comments and Questions period.

Mayor Eveleth led a moment of silence for George Floyd, a Minneapolis man that was killed in police custody resulting in rioting across the country.

PRESENT: Mayor Christopher T. Eveleth, Mayor Pro-Tem Susan J. Osika, Councilmembers Loreen F. Bailey, Janae L. Fear, Jerome C. Haber, Daniel A. Law, and Nicholas L. Pidek.

ABSENT: None.

PROCLAMATIONS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Tom Manke said he was pleased to hear that the Governor had lifted the stay at home ban and some businesses would be able to open on Monday. He said he would like to see restaurants utilize patio space to accommodate social distancing requirements. He also asked that the City have a couple of porta-johns delivered to the downtown area in lieu of the public bathrooms being open.

County Commissioner Marlene Webster filled the Council in on what was happening at the County level saying the new coordinator was doing a great job, County buildings are currently open by appointment, and she is looking forward to meeting in person once again.

Mayor Eveleth noted an error on the agenda. There will be no second session of Citizen Comments and Questions.

Mayor Eveleth said one of his takeaways from the pandemic was his desire to see Council meetings broadcast in the future. He went on to address the George Floyd matter saying that he hoped it would be the catalyst for some tough conversations. And he wanted the public to know that the City was taking steps to make sure a similar incident does not happen here. He called on Public Safety Director Kevin Lenkart to briefly detail the City's practices.

Director Lenkart indicated that the Owosso Police Department conducted themselves in a professional manner long before he arrived, but he continues to foster that professional manner. Other steps include the purchase of in-car cameras for all police vehicles in 2014 and fair and impartial police training classes for all officers. Mayor Eveleth indicated he would be interested in seeing a presentation on the fair and impartial police training that is provided.

Councilmember Fear inquired about the possible use of body cams to further improve transparency. Director Lenkart indicated that he agreed that body cams would increase transparency, but unfortunately a body cam system would be very costly to implement.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Henne detailed the latest Project Status Report for the Council.

Councilmember Bailey inquired whether the City had a process for monitoring recent construction projects to make sure there aren't any claims to be made under warranty. City Manager Henne indicated that the Engineering Department does spot checks on recent projects.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

Set Public Hearing - Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Exemption Certificate - 300 W. Main Street.

Set a public hearing for Monday, June 15, 2020 to receive citizen comment regarding the application from Owosso REI Group, LLC for an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Exemption Certificate for their property at 300 W. Main Street.

Proposed Special Assessment Project – Gould Street. Authorized Resolution No. 2 setting a public hearing for Monday, June 15, 2020 for proposed Special Assessment District No. 2021-01 for Gould Street from Oliver Street to Moore Street for street reconstruction.

Bid Rejection – Portable Toilets. (This item was combined with the portable toilet bid and moved to Items of Business No. 7.)

Bid Award - Portable Toilets. (This item was combined with the portable toilet bid rejection and moved to Items of Business No. 7.)

Bid Award -2020 Street Patches Program. Authorized bid award to TJ Smith Sand & Gravel, Inc. as the low bidder for the 2020 Street Patches Program in the amount of \$59,198.75, further authorized a contingency amount of \$9,000.00 to be utilized upon written permission, and approved payment up to the bid amount, plus the contingency if utilized, upon satisfactory completion of the work or a portion thereof.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

2020-21 City Budget Adoption. Adopted the General Appropriations Resolution approving the 2020-2021 City Budget.

Downtown Development Authority General Appropriations Resolution. Adopted the General Appropriations Resolution to authorize the levy of the Downtown Development Authority millage for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

City Budget Amendment. Adopted Amendment No. 2 to the 2019-2020 Budget.

Mayor Eveleth once again noted the process for making comments during the Citizen Comments and Questions period following Items of Business.

Reopening Plan. Approved adoption of a COVID-19 Reopening Plan for City Hall and the Public Safety Building with buildings reopening Monday, June 8, 2020.

Fee Schedule Update. Authorized adoption of the 2020 Fee Schedule, establishing an escrow fee for the professional review of community development plans and fees for low voltage telecom installations.

Non-Union Furloughs. (This item was added to the agenda.) The Council moved to authorize furloughs of non-union workers with 20% of wages to be paid by CARES Act funding.

Bid Rejection & Bid Award – Portable Toilets. (This was moved from the Consent Agenda.) Councilmember Fear sought further information on why the original bid was rejected. After a brief discussion the Council moved to reject the original bid and authorize a contract with R & D Septic Tank Cleaning, L.L.C. for the supply and service of portable toilets for City parks in the amount of \$10,800.00 annually for the period of July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021, with two 1-year renewal options, and further authorize payment up to the contract amount upon satisfactory completion of said services.

Outdoor Seating. (This item was added to the agenda.) Mayor Eveleth indicated that since the Governor is encouraging restaurants to utilize outdoor seating where possible now that they are able to reopen he wanted to make sure the process for permitting outdoor seating wasn't too cumbersome. He asked that some sort of temporary process be put in place for the summer to allow local restaurants to quickly utilize any outdoor seating opportunities they may have. It was noted that the process currently in place is quite simple, filling out one form and submitting a sketch. Main Street/DDA Director Adams indicated that he is looking at multiple ways to allow businesses to utilize outdoor seating. Restaurants wishing to establish outdoor seating can contact the City or the DDA for assistance.

COMMUNICATIONS

Cheryl A. Grice, Finance Director. Revenue & Expenditure Report April 2020.

Kevin D. Lenkart, Public Safety Director. April 2020 Police Report.

Downtown Development Authority/Main Street. Minutes of May 6, 2020.

Planning Commission. Minutes of May 26, 2020.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, June 15, 2020

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OPENINGS

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority – County Representative – term expires 06-30-2020

Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2022

Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2021

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority – term expires June 30, 2022

Historical Commission – 2 terms expire December 31, 2020

Planning Commission – term expires June 30, 2020

Councilmember Bailey suggested the Council talk about sanitary sewer overflows at the upcoming 5th Monday meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Christopher T. Eveleth, Mayor

Amy K. Kirkland, City Clerk

Note: Complete printed copies of the minutes and any ordinances contained therein are available to the public at the Office of the City Clerk and the Shiawassee District Library – Owosso Branch during regular business hours or on the Internet at www.ci.owosso.mi.us.