MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING
OWOSSO HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION
Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.
City Hall Conference Room

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: at 6:00 p.m. by Chairperson Steven Teich.

ROLL CALL: was taken by City Manager Nathan Henne.

PRESENT: Chairperson Steven Teich, Commissioner Ainsworth, Vice Chair Omer, Commissioner Powell, Commissioner Byrne

ABSENT: Commissioner VanEpps

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Brent Jones, Steve Acton.

AGENDA APPROVAL: May 21, 2025.

MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA BY BYRNE. SECONDED BY OMER.

AYES ALL. MOTION CARRIED.

MINUTES APPROVAL: April 16, 2025.

MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF MINUTES AS PRESENTED BY OMER. SECONDED BY AINSWORTH.

AYES ALL. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMUNICATIONS

Henne shared that the Michigan State Land Bank would not agree to fund the project at 117 E Exchange St because saving the façade does not fit with its goal of eliminating blight. Brent Jones and Henne explained that the county land bank would need to follow federal guidelines on the project and that if the city wanted to save the façade, it would have to pay for the entire project itself. Henne shared that the HDC could insist that the façade be saved but city council may not agree. He wasn't sure how the HDC could enforce its ruling through legal action but offered to discuss the matter with the city attorney to get his guidance if the HDC found itself at odds with city council. Acton outlined the future plans for the property and shared that in the absence of the façade, it may be easier to redevelop. Byrne asked how long after the demolition will the project start. Jones responded that it could take a while because demolition process needed to be reviewed by the Federal government and State Land Bank. Henne asked Jones how much was available in the grant. Jones said there was around $178,000 for the project.

MOTION BY OMER TO RESCIND HDC'S DECISION TO SAVE THE FAÇADE AND RECOMMEND CITY COUNCIL ACCEPT THE GRANT FROM STATE LAND BANK TO CLEAR THE SITE. SECONDED BY NYRNE.

AYES ALL. MOTION CARRIED.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS:

NONE

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

BOARD COMMENTS:

NEXT MEETING: June 18, 2025

CHAIRMAN TEICH ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 6:35 P.M.