

OWOSSO CITY COUNCIL

JANUARY 13, 2014

7:35 P.M.

PRESIDING OFFICER: MAYOR BENJAMIN R. FREDERICK

OPENING PRAYER: PASTOR DAVID WOODBY
REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: COUNCILPERSON DAVID B. BANDKAU

A moment of silence was held in memory of long-time Owosso Public Schools teacher and coach Tom Harkema on the occasion of his passing.

PRESENT: Mayor Benjamin R. Frederick, Mayor Pro-Tem Christopher T. Eveleth, Councilpersons David B. Bandkau, Burton D. Fox, John V. Greenway, and Robert J. Teich, Jr.

ABSENT: Councilperson Loreen F. Bailey.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth to approve the agenda as presented.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 16, 2013

Motion by Councilperson Fox to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 16, 2013 as presented.

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

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

None.

PROCLAMATIONS / SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

NEW PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION – MACHINE TOOL & GEAR, INC.

A public hearing was conducted to receive public comment on the application from Machine Tool & Gear, Inc., 401 South Chestnut Street, for a New Personal Property Exemption for \$331,000 in new equipment.

City Assessor Larry Cook noted the exemption was for and IFT, not a Personal Property Tax Exemption as noted on the agenda. He then went over the worksheet calculating the exemption period the company is eligible for, noting that the total came to 11 years. He went on to say that he was particularly happy with the fact that 54 of the company’s employees reside directly in the City of Owosso and a total of 149 reside within the county.

The following people commented regarding the application for tax abatement:

John Aldrich, General Manager for Machine Tool & Gear, Inc., noted the Owosso site has been very successful for the company and he hoped to be looking at doing yet another addition in the next couple of years. He said that customers that have visited the Chestnut Street site have always been impressed with the facility and he thanked the Council for their cooperation and support in growing their business.

Councilperson Fox inquired whether all of the equipment listed would be installed in the Owosso location. Mr. Aldrich indicated it was.

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth to approve the following resolution authorizing a new Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption as it relates to new personal property for Machine Tool & Gear, Inc. for a period of 11 years:

RESOLUTION NO. 01-2014

**APPROVING AN IFE APPLICATION FOR
NEW PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR
MACHINE TOOL & GEAR, INC.
A DIVISION OF NEWCOR MACHINED PRODUCTS GROUP
401 S. CHESTNUT STREET**

WHEREAS, pursuant to PA 198 of 1974, as amended, after a duly noticed public hearing held on April 18, 1977, this City Council, by resolution established an Industrial Development District, commonly called the Owosso Industrial Site No. 1, and on October 9, 1978, and again on May 16, 2011, this City Council, by resolution amended said Industrial Development District property occupied by 401 S. Chestnut; and

WHEREAS, Machine Tool & Gear, Incorporated has filed an application for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificates with respect to New Personal Property within the Industrial Development District; and

WHEREAS, before acting on said application, the City of Owosso held a hearing on January 6, 2014, in City Hall, at 301 W. Main Street, Owosso, MI, 48867, at 7:30 p.m. at which hearing the applicant, the Assessor and a representative of the affected taxing units were given written notice and were afforded an opportunity to be heard on said application; and

WHEREAS, the acquisition of the New Personal Property had not begun earlier than six (6) months before November 22, 2013, the date application received for the Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificates; and

WHEREAS, acquisition of the New Personal Property is calculated to and will, at the time of issuance of the certificate, have the reasonable likelihood to retain, create or prevent the loss of employment in the City of Owosso; and

WHEREAS, the aggregate SEV of property exempt from ad valorem taxes within the City of Owosso, after granting this certificate, will not exceed 5% of an amount equal to the sum of the SEV of the unit, plus the SEV of property thus exempted.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY the City Council of the City of Owosso that:

1. The City Council finds and determines that the granting of the Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificates considered together with the aggregate amount of certificates previously granted and currently in force under PA 198 of 1974, as amended and PA 225 of 1978, as amended shall not have the effect of substantially impeding the operation of the City of Owosso, or impairing the financial soundness of a taxing unit which levies ad valorem property taxes in the City of Owosso.
2. The application from Machine Tool & Gear, Incorporated for Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificates, with respect to New Personal Property on the following described parcel of real property situated within the Industrial Development District, to wit:

COMMENCING AT INTERSECTION OF EAST LINE CHESTNUT ST & SOUTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF GRAND TRUNK RAILROAD; TH S 80°38'50" E 1317.01' TH S 02° 2'25" W 858.19' TH N 80°38'50" W 598.20' TH N 07°18'07" E 424.29' TH N 80°38'50" W 751.92' TH N 01°14'05" E 431.51' TO POB PART OF NE 1/4 SEC 23 T7N R2E 18.83 A M/L; and

be and the same is hereby approved.

3. The Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificates for New Personal Property, when issued, shall be and remain in force for a period of eleven years.

Motion supported by Councilperson Greenway.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilpersons Fox, Teich, Bandkau, Greenway, Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth, and Mayor Frederick.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilperson Bailey.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Thomas Moorehead, 1265 Ada Street, Shiawassee Landlords' Association board member, indicated that the City's inspection program is discussed at each of their meetings. He explained that the program turned out to be much different than he had anticipated with the inclusion of mandatory inspections. He said he was not opposed to registering his rentals but felt the overall program needed to be revisited. He asked that the City consider putting together a pamphlet that details tenants' rights and owners' rights in an effort to educate all tenants and owners. He said his organization would be more than happy to work with the City on the development of the pamphlet.

Ron Gunther, 1340 Stinson Street, local rental owner, asked if the City would consider reviewing the rental inspection program to see if it is achieving its intended goals. He asked if periodic

program reports were available and if so, where. He expressed his feelings that the City was intruding on tenants by demanding inspections. He asked that the City form a committee comprised of landlords, tenants, and city officials to review the program.

June Coon, 615 Ridgeview Drive, Corunna, secretary of the Landlords' Association, said she had been a rental owner for 45 years and felt it was too difficult to coordinate the schedules of owners, tenants, and the Fire Department for the conduct of an inspection. She said she felt that inspections should be performed on a complaint only basis. She went on to say that she had recently lost a good tenant because they didn't want to be hassled by an inspection. She said the rental business had gotten increasingly difficult over the course of the last 5 years.

Richard Bowen, 217 Curwood Castle Drive, local landlord, said that he has now paid to register the same properties 3 times and he felt that once was enough. He went on to say that he felt the inspection program had done little to remedy the properties that were issues. He said most owners take pride in their properties and the registration and inspection was punitive. He also expressed his feeling that it was unfair to inspect a tenant's residence while ignoring the owner's. He said he would like to sit down with the City to try to improve the program by cutting it back. Rick Morris, 1229 Willow Street, business owner in Westown, indicated his strong support for the purchase of the property at 111 South Lansing Street saying parking is sorely needed on the south side of Main Street and he thought a parking lot in that location would help to improve business in the area.

Mike Cline, 621 Wright Avenue, cautioned City Council against getting into the rental business saying the last time the City rented a home out bills went unpaid and an illegal business was conducted from the home. He also noted the loose tree limbs overhanging Wright Avenue and asked that the City take care of them.

Mark Lamphere, 813 West Main Street, said he felt the purchase of the property at 111 South Lansing Street would be an excellent purchase, especially if a large parking lot similar to that on the north side of Main Street were to be constructed there. He said he felt that businesses along the south side of Main Street would be better off with the added parking.

Eddie Urban, 601 Glenwood Avenue, said he felt landlords needed breaks too. He noted his thanks to the City for plowing the snow on his street to the opposite side. He also noted that he had attended a Big Buck Night in Lennon recently and felt the same type of event would be great in Owosso. Lastly, he thanked John Aldrich for his work at Machine Tool & Gear and reminded people to shovel the area around fire hydrants.

Tim Law, 226 Catherine Drive, owner of the Rainbow Bar, said he was looking forward to seeing parking added to the south side of Main Street. He noted that other property owners in the area may be willing to add their property to the proposed parking lot so the parking area can extend all the way through the block.

Mayor Frederick thanked the Landlords' Association for coming to the meeting and said that Council is willing to work with the Association. He inquired how quickly a staff presentation on the housing program could be scheduled.

Councilperson Greenway said he thought it was a good idea to review the rental inspection program and he liked the pamphlet idea.

Councilperson Fox said the Council needed to collaborate with the Landlords' Association saying he was willing to review the program with them. He said the inspection program could be a win-win for all involved for good landlords.

On a separate note, Mayor Frederick noted the last three weeks have been pretty extraordinary with a major ice storm and a major snow storm grinding the city to a halt, even during the busy holidays. He said he was proud to see the community pull together to take care of its own whether it be through donations, volunteering time at shelters, or opening their homes to those without power. He went on to thank a number of individuals and organizations that stepped up to provide much needed assistance for residents including the Salvation Army, the Owosso City Church, various other church congregations, City Police Officers, City Fire Fighters, downtown businesses owners, the linemen working for Consumers Energy, and City crews; all working terribly long hours to help residents. He said he recognized that he had missed any number of people in his thank-you, but happy that so many people and organizations came out to help that he couldn't remember them all.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Crawford asked when Council wanted to receive a staff presentation on the housing program. After some discussion it was decided a special meeting would be held Monday, February 10, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. to receive the staff presentation and conduct a review of the housing program.

City Manager Crawford then went on to briefly detail the Project Status Report.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

First Reading and Set Public Hearing – Ordinance Amendment – Transportation of Marijuana. Conduct first reading and set a public hearing for Tuesday, January 21, 2013 to hear citizen comment regarding the proposed addition of Section 19-112, Transportation or possession of usable marijuana, to the Code of Ordinances of the City of Owosso to recoup the fines and costs assessed for violations of the new State law regulating the transportation and/or possession of usable marijuana in a motor vehicle as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 02-2014

**SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING FOR
A PROPOSED ORDINANCE TO AMEND
CHAPTER 19 OFFENSES OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES
TO RECOUP THE FINES AND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH VIOLATIONS OF THE NEW
STATE LAW REGULATING THE TRANSPORTATION AND/OR POSSESSION OF USABLE
MARIJUANA**

WHEREAS, the Michigan legislature recently amended the Michigan Penal Code to make it illegal to have marijuana accessible to the occupants of a motor vehicle; and

WHEREAS, any fines resulting from the enforcement of said amendment within the City limits will not be directed to the City without an addition of a local ordinance; and

WHEREAS, it is recommended the City adopt a new ordinance section identical to the State law to allow for the collection of fines and costs assessed for violations of the new law.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY OF OWOSSO ORDAINS that Section 19-112, Transportation or possession of usable marijuana, of Chapter 19, Offenses, Article VI, *Offenses against public morals*, of the Code of the City of Owosso be added as follows:

SECTION 1. ADDITION. That new Section 19-112, Transportation or possession of usable marijuana, shall read as follows:

Sec 19-112. Transportation or possession of usable marijuana.

Pursuant to Act 1909 PA 279; Section 474 of the Michigan Penal Code, 2012 PA 460, MCL 750.474, is hereby adopted as follows:

(a) A person shall not transport or possess usable marihuana as defined in section 26423 of the public health code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.26423, in or upon a motor vehicle or any self-propelled vehicle designed for land travel unless the usable marijuana is 1 or more of the following:

- (1) Enclosed in a case that is carried in the trunk of the vehicle.
- (2) Enclosed in a case that is not readily accessible from the interior of the vehicle, if the vehicle in which the person is traveling does not have a trunk.

(b) Violation of this ordinance is punishable by one (1) or more of the following:

- (1) community service for not more than 360 hours;
- (2) imprisonment for not more than 93 days;
- (3) a fine of not more than \$500.00

SECTION 2. PUBLICATION. The City Clerk shall publish this Section 19-112 in the manner required by law and shall publish, at the same time, a notice stating the purpose of this addition to the Code.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This amendment shall become effective twenty days after passage.

SECTION 4. AVAILABILITY. This ordinance may be purchased or inspected in the city clerks' office, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

SECTION 5. PUBLIC HEARING. A public hearing shall be held on Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. at Owosso City Hall, 301 West Main Street, Owosso, to gather citizen comment regarding the proposed amendment.

Traffic Control Order No. 1304. Authorize Traffic Control Order No. 1304, rescinding Order No. 325, amending Traffic Control Order No. 700, and establishing two-hour parking in the 100 block of East Comstock Street.

Warrant No. 476. Authorize Warrant No. 476 as follows:

Vendor	Description	Fund	Amount
Rehmann Robson	Final billing for audit of FY 12/13	General	\$7,000.00

Motion supported by Councilperson Fox.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilpersons Bandkau, Fox, Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth, Councilpersons Greenway, Teich, and Mayor Frederick.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilperson Bailey.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

DIG GRANT CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN

Assistant City Manager and Community Development Director Susan K. Montenegro briefly reviewed the proposed plan saying it was a requirement of the CDBG program and would lay out a formal process to encourage public participation in the grant process with particular emphasis on participation by persons of low and moderate income, residents of blighted areas, and areas which will be affected by the grant. She went on to say that a hearing was held earlier this afternoon to share the plans for the grant and discuss any questions or concerns with the public.

Councilperson Fox indicated he had attended the hearing and that all of his questions on the project were answered. As a result he said he felt the project, if undertaken, will be a great coming together of various community organizations to make the downtown a better place.

Motion by Councilperson Fox to adopt the proposed Citizen Participation Plan for Part II of the DIG grant as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 03-2014

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF A CITIZEN PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the City of Owosso, Shiawassee County, Michigan, recognizes the importance of its downtown and downtown institutions as they relate to the economic and cultural development of the community, as well as the overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the Owosso Master Plan, Park Plan, and DDA plan indicate that investment in the downtown infrastructure is essential to the community's future; and

WHEREAS, public participation is an essential part of the Community Development Block Grant (CDGB) Program; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to adopt a citizen participation plan that will seek to reach all citizens, with particular emphasis on participation by persons of low and moderate income, residents of slum and blighted areas and of areas in which funds are proposed to be used.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Owosso, Shiawassee County, Michigan that it has theretofore determined that it is advisable, necessary and in the public interest to adopt a Citizen Participation Plan* to ensure robust citizen participation in Community Development Block Grant Program initiatives.

Motion supported by Councilperson Teich.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilpersons Teich, Greenway, Bandkau, Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth, Councilperson Fox, and Mayor Frederick.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilperson Bailey.

* Due to its length full text of the Citizen Participation Plan is not included in the minutes. A complete copy of the document is on file in the Clerk's Office.

DEMOLITION AUTHORIZATION – 1711 FREDERICK STREET

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth to authorize demolition of the structure at 1711 Frederick Street and approve bid award to Fisher Gravel for the demolition in the amount of \$4,433.00 as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 04-2014

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING
THE DEMOLITION OF THE STRUCTURE AT 1711 FREDERICK STREET AND
AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A CONTRACT FOR
SERVICES BETWEEN THE CITY OF OWOSSO, MICHIGAN
AND NORTHWOOD MOBILE HOMES ESTATES, INC. DBA FISHER GRAVEL**

WHEREAS, the city of Owosso, Shiawassee County, Michigan, has determined that a home located at 1711 Frederick Street has deteriorated to a condition that it is unusable and has a blighting effect upon the neighborhood and community at large, and it has further been determined to be a public nuisance; and

WHEREAS, the Building Department and the Public Safety Department have exhausted all enforcement options and have taken all required actions as listed in the International Property Maintenance Code; and

WHEREAS, an order for demolition has now been issued; and

WHEREAS, proposals for the demolition of the structure were sought and received; and

WHEREAS, Northwood Mobile Homes Estates, Inc. dba Fisher Gravel submitted the low bid in the amount of \$4,433.00.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the city council of the city of Owosso, Shiawassee County, Michigan that:

- FIRST: The city of Owosso has heretofore determined that it is advisable, necessary and in the public interest to employ Northwood Mobile Homes Estates, Inc. dba Fisher Gravel to demolish a structure at 1711 Frederick Street.
- SECOND: The mayor and city clerk of the city of Owosso are instructed and authorized to sign the document substantially in the form attached, Contract for Services between the city of Owosso, Michigan and Northwood Mobile Homes Estates, Inc. dba Fisher Gravel at a total cost not to exceed of \$4,433.00.
- THIRD: The city manager is authorized to execute any required permits to proceed with the demolition.
- FOURTH: The above expenses shall be paid from the Capital Outlay-Land Fund, account 101-299-971000.

Motion supported by Councilperson Fox.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth, Councilpersons Fox, Bandkau, Teich, Greenway, and Mayor Frederick.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilperson Bailey.

DDA TAX ANTICIPATION LOAN

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth to authorize releasing \$25,000 to the Owosso Downtown Development Authority/Owosso Main Street to fund operations in anticipation of taxes to be received with the 2014 tax collection as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 05-2014

RESOLUTION TO ADVANCE FUNDS TO THE OWOSSO DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the city of Owosso Downtown Development Authority is a quasi-independent entity of the city of Owosso; and

WHEREAS, the Owosso Downtown Development Authority according to PA 197 of 1975 has, among other powers, the ability to submit a development and tax increment financing plan to the governing body for approval; and

WHEREAS, the Owosso Downtown Development Authority submitted an amended plan in November 2003 to the City to capture tax increments from taxing jurisdictions provided in the law; and

WHEREAS, the final settlement of the net tax capture from all jurisdictions is not known until such time as the City Treasurer delivers the delinquent tax roll to the County Treasurer on or about March 1st of each year and at such time is credited to the general fund of the Authority for purposes of financing the development plan of the Authority; and

WHEREAS, the City may, at the request of the Authority, borrow money and issue notes therefore pursuant to Act 34 of the Public Acts of 2001, as amended, being sections 141.2409 of the *Michigan Compiled Law*, in anticipation of the collection of taxes; and

WHEREAS, the Owosso Downtown Development Authority has determined that a need exists for \$25,000 in anticipation of the collection and payment of the tax capture, and that for the Authority to borrow money and issue its own notes pursuant to Act 34 of the Public Acts of 2001 would be costly and time consuming; and

WHEREAS, a financially prudent measure is for the city of Owosso to advance the Owosso Downtown Development Authority \$25,000 until the taxes are credited to the general fund of the Authority.

NOW THEREFORE THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OWOSSO DIRECTS that the city of Owosso advance the Owosso Downtown Development Authority \$25,000 until the tax next due is credited to the general fund of the Authority.

Motion supported by Councilperson Fox.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilperson Greenway, Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth, Councilpersons Teich, Bandkau, Fox, and Mayor Frederick.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilperson Bailey.

PROPERTY PURCHASE – 111 SOUTH LANSING STREET

City Manager Crawford indicated the City had approached the owner of the property at 111 South Lansing Street a number of years ago about purchasing the property to provide parking for businesses on the south side of Main Street in Westown. Though the owner turned them down at the time they have since approached the City indicating they were now open to selling. The intent for the property would be to construct an asphalt parking lot with approximately 20-30 parking spots. Cost estimates for the entire project, including the purchase of the property, are approximately \$125,000 and the City plans to use bond money should Council approve the project.

Mr. Crawford also noted a minor change to the proposed purchase agreement stipulating the property is purchased as-is.

Councilperson Greenway inquired whether the house on the property would be torn down or moved. He said he didn't want the City to get into the rental business again in light of the last negative experience. City Manager Crawford said the City could demolish the structure but it may be a good candidate for moving as it is still in decent shape. There was brief discussion whether there were any available lots in the area.

Motion by Councilperson Fox authorizing the purchase of the parcel commonly known as 111 South Lansing Street.

Motion supported by Councilperson Bandkau.

Councilperson Teich asked to amend the motion to include authorization of \$125,000 to complete the project.

Councilpersons Fox and Bandkau agreed to the friendly amendment as follows:

Motion by Councilperson Fox to approve the following resolution authorizing the purchase of the parcel commonly known as 111 South Lansing Street and further authorizing an overall budget of \$125,000 to purchase the property and complete the parking lot project.

RESOLUTION NO. 06-2014

**AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY
COMMONLY KNOWN AS 111 SOUTH LANSING STREET**

WHEREAS, the City of Owosso was made aware of a parcel of property available for sale within the City, commonly known as 111 South Lansing Street; and

WHEREAS, said property offers the potential for a significant parking upgrade on the south side of Main Street in the Westtown area, a distinct need noted in the 2012 Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, said property is adjacent to current commercial properties and could be further utilized as a buffer between the commercial corridor and the residential areas to the south; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to purchase said property and a reasonable price of \$58,093 has been negotiated with the seller.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Owosso, Shiawassee County, Michigan that:

- FIRST: The City of Owosso has heretofore determined it is advisable and in the public interest to purchase the parcel commonly known as 111 South Lansing Street in the amount of \$58,093 plus closing, recording, and other miscellaneous costs.
- SECOND: The purchase is contingent upon the receipt of a satisfactory title and search and other items included in the purchase agreement.
- THIRD: The Mayor, City Clerk, and City Manager are hereby instructed and authorized to sign necessary documents and take necessary actions to complete the purchase.
- FOURTH: Payment for said property will be made with funds from the 2013 Unlimited Tax General Obligation Bond Fund.
- FIFTH: The overall budget for the entire project shall be \$125,000.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilpersons Fox, Bandkau, Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth, Councilpersons Teich, Greenway, and Mayor Frederick.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilperson Bailey.

Mayor Frederick thanked the Westtown business owners that were present for coming to the meeting. He also said he hoped to see even more improvements coming to the area.

COMMUNICATIONS

Donald D. Crawford, City Manager. Annual Liquor License Inspections.
Historical Commission. Minutes of December 9, 2013.
Zoning Board of Appeals. Minutes of December 17, 2013.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Rick Morris, 1229 Willow Street, business owner in Westtown, said that after 14 years of hard work a bike path has been established from Ionia to an area just west of Owosso. The State is currently letting bids for construction of the trail with hopes it will be completed in late 2014. He invited everyone to attend a trail celebration March 12th at 7:00 p.m. at the Liquid Agro building in St. Johns.

Eddie Urban, 601 Glenwood Avenue, had questions about who is allowed to use the trail.

Ron Gunther, 1340 Stinson Street, resident of the Landlords' Association, thanked the Council for setting a special meeting to discuss the rental inspection program. He also thanked Council for purchasing the lot at 111 South Lansing Street as he also owns property in the area that he feels will benefit from the construction of the new parking lot.

Mark Lamphere, 813 West Main Street, said he is willing to donate a portion of his property to make the new parking lot larger. He said he also knew of at least one other property owner that may be willing to do the same.

Councilperson Fox said he was especially impressed with the performance of the Public Works employees during the preceding storms as several of them are new and this was their first storm

experience. He said he was also proud of the Public Safety personnel that worked hard to mark off downed lines and ensure public safety during the storms.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, January 21, 2014

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OPENINGS

Planning Commission, term expires 06-30-2016

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth for adjournment at 8:48 p.m.

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

Benjamin R. Frederick, Mayor

Amy K. Kirkland, City Clerk