

**CITY OF OWOSSO
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 1, 2016
7:30 P.M.**

PRESIDING OFFICER: MAYOR BENJAMIN R. FREDERICK

OPENING PRAYER: PASTOR MARLENE WEBSTER
CITY CHURCH

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: LT. PAMELA BATTINKOFF
SHIAWASSEE CENTRAL DISPATCH 911 DIRECTOR

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.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Councilperson Fox to approve the agenda with the addition of the following Item of Business:

5. Disc Golf Course Update.

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 19, 2016

Motion by Councilperson Fox to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 19, 2016 as presented.

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

PROCLAMATIONS / SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Tom Manke, Owosso Township resident, said he had read that Owosso was in the top 16 cities in Michigan with lead contamination in the water. He said he wanted all the sampling data posted and would like to know what the City is going to do to fix the problem.

Mike Espich, 1124 Ada Street, said he sees the water issue a little differently, while he trusts the City he said it is still important for people to have the water in their homes tested. He plans on doing so and will report back on results.

Lt. Pamela Battinkoff, Central Dispatch 911 Director, detailed the 911 sur charge request on the March 8th ballot. She noted the decline in revenues, equipment upgrades required by the State, and the fact that this sur charge is the only source of funding for 911 operations as reasons to approve the measure.

Utilities Director Glenn M. Chinavare addressed Mr. Manke's concerns, saying the reason for testing was to locate high lead levels to prevent harm to those residents using water at that location. He said that any reports showing high lead levels are followed up with residents, efforts are made to educate them and determine the best course of action. He went on to say that plumbing fixtures and lead service lines are the major sources of lead contamination in tap water. The City is required to replace any lead lines it finds in the City portion of the system, and he also encourages residents to replace lead service lines on private property when a street is reconstructed by offering to let residents piggy-back on the City contract for the work. In further testament to the water quality he said he contacted the Shiawassee County Health Department and Memorial Hospital to inquire whether they had reports of high lead levels and they did not. He also had not received any reports from any industrial customers regarding the state of the water.

Two Council members then spoke about their personal experiences with lead exposure (via tap water and paint), how the situations were resolved, tips for reducing exposure, local resources for help with lead in homes, and the need for an educational effort. Mr. Chinavare indicated that public education and media outreach are very important and are things he intends to implement in the future.

There were further questions for Mr. Chinavare regarding a spike in lead levels at the same sampling location and the protocol when high lead levels are found. Director Chinavare indicated that the sample showing the spike in lead levels was due to the fact that the resident of the home was out of town immediately prior to the test and water sat in the pipes for several days before being tested. He also indicated that every test site is issued a report and based on the findings of that report a follow-up appointment may be required to educate the resident on the risks at hand and discuss potential solutions and/or mitigation, but many times control of the situation is up to the resident.

Mayor Frederick asked Director Chinavare what he felt the main factors were leading to Flint's water problem. Mr. Chinavare noted two things he felt had a major impact on the situation: the switch in water sources and regulatory issues that allowed processes to get in the way of good judgement. Lastly he noted that he is happy to talk with residents that have concerns about their water and that water testing is free to residents.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Donald D. Crawford detailed the latest Project Status Report.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

Amend Traffic Control Order Nos. 903 & 904. Approve amendment to Traffic Control Order Nos. 903 & 904 moving the dedicated handicap parking spots east to either side of the walkway to the entrance of Bryant School.

Warrant No. 517. Authorize Warrant No. 517 as follows:

Vendor	Description	Fund	Amount
Huron & Eastern Railway Company Inc	Annual maintenance of active traffic control devises	Major Streets	\$ 8,254.00
Michigan Municipal League Workers' Compensation Fund	Workers' compensation insurance	Various	\$19,821.00

Motion supported by Councilperson Teich.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilperson Teich, Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth, cpts O'Leary, Greenway, Fox, Bailey, and Mayor Frederick.

NAYS: None.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Lot Split Authorization – VL South Gould Street

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth to authorize the division of City lots under the Michigan Subdivision Control Act for platted lot currently known as 600 Wright Avenue as follows:

LAND DIVISION OF PLATTED LOTS

Current Description Entire Parcel

Address	Status	Parcel #
600 Wright Avenue	To be split	050-010-034-026-00
Description		
LOTS 22 THRU 41 BLK 34 GEORGE T ABREY'S WOODLAWN PARK ADDN ALSO BEG 3.19 FT S OF NW COR LOT 31 OF SD BLK - N88*55' W 157.52 FT PLL W/S LN ALLENDALE AVE - S01*05' W 93.52 FT - N79*25' E 160.884 FT TO W LN OF LOT 30 - N01*05' E 64.8 FT ON W LN LOTS 30 & 31 TO POB, ALSO THAT PRT OF VAC STANLEY AVE N OF S LN LOT 41, ALSO ADJ VAC N/S ALLEY, EXC THE N 3.19 FT OF LOT 31 OF SD BLK, ALSO EXC GOULD ST ROW		

New Description After Split

Address	Status	Parcel #
600 Wright Avenue	Original parcel	050-010-034-026-00
Description		
LOTS 25 THRU 36 & N ½ LOT 24, BLK 34 GEORGE T ABREY'S WOODLAWN PARK ADDN ALSO BEG 3.19 FT S OF NW COR LOT 31 OF SD BLK - N88*55' W 157.52 FT PLL W/S LN ALLENDALE AVE - S01*05' W 93.52 FT - N79*25' E 160.884 FT TO W LN OF LOT 30 - N01*05' E 64.8 FT ON W LN LOTS 30 & 31 TO POB, ALSO THAT PRT OF VAC STANLEY AVE N OF S LN LOT 36, ALSO ADJ VAC N/S ALLEY, EXC THE N 3.19 FT OF LOT 31 OF SD BLK, ALSO EXC GOULD ST ROW		

New Description After Split

Address	Status	Parcel #
VL between Gould & Wright	New parcel	050-010-034-027-00
Description		
LOTS 22 & 23 & SOUTH ½ LOT 24 INCLUDING EAST ½ OF ADJACENT CLOSED ALLEY. ALSO, LOTS 37 - 41, BLOCK 34, INCLUDING WEST ½ OF ADJACENT CLOSED ALLEY. ALSO LAND LYING BETWEEN WEST LINE OF LOTS 37-41 AND EAST LINE OF GOULD STREET, FORMERLY VACATED STANLEY AVENUE.		

Motion supported by Councilperson Teich.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth, Councilpersons Teich, O'Leary, Greenway, Bailey, Fox, and Mayor Frederick.

NAYS: None.

Special Meeting Date Determination

Motion by Councilperson Fox to set the date and time of a work session to discuss the process for the sale of City-owned land and the administration of a potential land auction to be held in June as Saturday February 20, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Motion supported by Councilperson O'Leary.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilperson Bailey, Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth, Councilpersons Greenway, Teich, O'Leary, Fox, and Mayor Frederick.

NAYS: None.

Council requested that local auctioneer Troy Crowe be invited to the meeting February 20th.

Property Sale Policy Discussion

This discussion was postponed until the February 20th special meeting.

Cargill Update/Discussion

City Manager Crawford provided an update on the status of the Cargill development indicating there are several things the Council will need to agree to in the coming months if the project is to move forward.

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth setting an early start time of 6:30 p.m. for the February 16th meeting in order to start exploring the details of the proposed project.

Motion supported by Councilperson Fox.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilperson O'Leary, Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth, Councilpersons Bailey, Fox, Teich, Greenway, and Mayor Frederick.

NAYS: None.

Mayor Frederick indicated he would like to hear any insights SEDP CEO Justin Horvath has on the Cargill project.

Disc Golf Course Update (This item was added to the agenda.)

Parks & Recreation Commission Chairman Mike Espich was on hand to inform Council about the controversy over the proposal to install a disc golf course in Collamer Park. He detailed the Commission's previous efforts to place the course in Rosevear Park and how those efforts were thwarted leading to the current proposal to place it in Collamer Park. He noted that current users of the park (bikers, hikers, bird watchers, etc.) had concerns about incorporating the golf course into the park for numerous reasons. He went on to say that the Commission is currently waiting for a revised layout that will then be staked and vetted by users, with final recommendation to be determined by the Commission and referred to Council and that no one had been given permission to start constructing the course at this point.

COMMUNICATIONS

Downtown Development Authority/Main Street. Minutes of January 6, 2016.
Zoning Board of Appeals. Minutes of January 19, 2016.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Tom Manke, Owosso Township resident, thanked Council for the water discussion, but asked again for the sample data. He also suggested the new police cars not be labeled as "public safety" vehicles.

Mayor Frederick noted the water quality report is posted on the City website for anyone that would like to view it.

Eddie Urban, 601 Glenwood Avenue, questioned whether Flint residents really didn't know they should get their water tested.

Mike Espich, 1124 Ada Street, thanked the Utilities Director for his comments and the opportunity for a free water test.

Mayor Frederick clarified the statistics regarding the City's lead levels saying the DEQ report indicates the reported amount was 11ppb, not the 13ppb noted by the Argus Press.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, February 16, 2016

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OPENINGS

Building Board of Appeals – Alternate (2), both terms expire June 30, 2018
Board of Review – term expires December 31, 2020

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth for adjournment at 9:23 p.m.

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

Benjamin R. Frederick, Mayor

Amy K. Kirkland, City Clerk