

**CITY OF OWOSSO
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF AUGUST 9, 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 (arrived at 6:35), Burton D. Fox, Elaine M. Greenway, Michael J. O'Leary, and Robert J. Teich, Jr.

ABSENT: None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

There were no citizen comments made.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Resolution Submitting Bond Proposal to the Voters

The Council discussed different alternatives for submitting a bond proposal for street improvements to the voters. The Council spoke specifically regarding: the ideal amount for a bond, allowing significant work to be completed while leaving enough funding to leverage available grant funds; the millage rates required to pay back bond amounts with various terms; whether the question should be placed on the November 2016 ballot or whether a 2017 ballot would be the better option; and the plan for determining which streets will be repaired should the bond question pass.

The Council concluded that a \$10 million bond would be desirable in order to fund a road improvement program that is able to tackle more than a couple of streets per year, as well as to serve as a pool of matching funds for any available street improvement grants. Further, the Council concluded that while a shorter term for the bond was preferable the millage rate required to pay off a short term bond was more than residents could reasonably afford. It was thought that placing the question on a general election ballot would provide a better chance for the question to pass. In addition, any elections held in 2017 would be considered special elections and the City would be responsible for the cost.

Lastly, the group listened to City Engineer Randy Chesney as he described the proposed method for selecting streets for inclusion in the improvement program. He indicated that approximately 76% of the City's streets need resurfacing or reconstruction, a good portion of the curb and gutter system needs attention, and the storm sewer system is in need of replacement and/or repair. In order to take full advantage of the leverage provided by the bond and to maximize the life-cycle of a given street he suggested writing off streets that are in very bad shape in favor of repairing those streets that are early-to-mid life-cycle. He recommended targeting streets that are eligible for grant funds and streets with good curb and gutter systems.

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth to place an item on the August 15th Council Agenda to consider authorization of a ballot question on the November 8, 2016 ballot asking for authorization for a \$10 million bond financed over a period of 25 years for street improvements.

Motion supported by Councilperson O'Leary.

Roll Call Vote.

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

NAYS: None.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, August 15, 2016

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OPENINGS

Board of Review – term expires December 31, 2020
Building Board of Appeals – term expires June 30, 2019
Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2018

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Eveleth for adjournment at 7:07 p.m.

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

Benjamin R. Frederick, Mayor

Amy K. Kirkland, City Clerk