

**CITY OF OWOSSO
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF APRIL 12, 2022
6:00 P.M.
VIRGINIA TEICH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

PRESIDING OFFICER: MAYOR CHRISTOPHER T. EVELETH

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: MAYOR CHRISTOPHER T. EVELETH

PRESENT: Mayor Christopher T. Eveleth, Mayor Pro-Tem Susan J. Osika, Councilpersons Janae L. Fear, Jerome C. Haber, Daniel A. Law, Nicholas L. Pidek, and Robert J. Teich, Jr.

ABSENT: None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Kim White, Shiawassee District Library Director, expressed her concern that there is not enough money included in the proposed budget to accomplish the minimum amount of maintenance that needs to be done at the Library. She asked for better communication from staff during the budgeting process. City Manager Henne indicated that staff was in communication with the Library regarding their maintenance concerns. The HVAC system was recently replaced and more work is planned when the DPW can work it into their schedule.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

2022-2023 Proposed Budget

City Manager Nathan R. Henne delivered a PowerPoint presentation detailing the 2022-2023 Proposed Budget. General Fund revenues of \$8.87 million are anticipated with expenditures currently budgeted at \$8.89 million, resulting in a slight deficit of approximately \$15,000 for the year. Assessed values have continued to rise, but property tax revenues are expected to increase only slightly compared to last year due to the Headlee rollback. New revenues for the coming year include the anticipated receipt of \$169,000 in marijuana tax and the remaining \$765,000 in one-time ARPA funds. Both will require Council input as to how the money will be spent.

At this point City Manager Henne paused the presentation to discuss two potential amendments to the Proposed Budget related to the Public Safety Department. The Fire Department has been in need of new self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) packs for some time. Having been denied funding for the equipment by two grant programs as well as the Shiawassee County Board of Commissioners, he suggested the Council take under consideration paying for the purchase (approximately \$160,000) with ARPA funds. He then went on to detail the second potential amendment, which involves partnering with the Owosso Public Schools to hire two new full-time school resource police officers. He suggested Council consider paying for the two new officers (approximately \$141,000) using money generated by the marijuana tax. Council discussed their desire for a presentation detailing the school resource officer program, the need for additional police officers, how the officers' time would be split between the City and the Schools, grant funding, and private security options. The changes will be incorporated into the budget document for formal consideration at the May 16th meeting.

City Manager Henne went on to present the planned expenditures for the remaining funds including the street funds, parks fund, water fund, sewer fund, and WWTP fund. After the conclusion of the presentation Council discussed the process for determining how the remaining ARPA funds will be spent. Staff was directed to include a review of the ARPA applications on the April 19th special meeting agenda.

Lastly, Mayor Eveleth gave kudos to Public Safety Director Kevin D. Lenkart for his recent presentation about our tornado warning system. He said he learned that Shiawassee County is one of the 5% of counties in the United States that still utilizes a manually activated system. 95% of counties now utilize a remotely activated warning system and Director Lenkart is spearheading the effort to update the County's system.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, April 18, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OPENINGS

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority – term expires June 30, 2022
Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2022
Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2024
Downtown Historic District Commission – term expires June 30, 2022
Owosso Historical Commission – term expires December 31, 2023
Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate – term expires June 30, 2024
Zoning Board of Appeals – term expires June 30, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Osika for adjournment at 7:43 p.m.

Motion supported by Councilmember Law and concurred in by unanimous vote.

Christopher T. Eveleth, Mayor

Amy K. Kirkland, City Clerk