

**CITY OF OWOSSO
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 30, 2023
7:30 P.M.
VIRGINIA TEICH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

PRESIDING OFFICER: MAYOR ROBERT J. TEICH, JR.
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: NATHAN HENNE
PRESENT: Mayor Robert J. Teich, Jr., Mayor Pro-Tem Susan J. Osika, Councilmembers Janae L. Fear, Jerome C. Haber, Daniel A. Law, Emily S. Olson and Nicholas L. Pidek.
ABSENT: None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Tom Manke shared that Councilmember Emily Olson received an award from the Freedom from Religion Foundation for her efforts to remove the prayer from Owosso City Council meetings.

PROCLAMATIONS / SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

City of Owosso Water Study. Council received a presentation from Zack Gogulski and Brian Van Zee representing the engineering firm Fishbeck regarding the recently completed City of Owosso Water Study. The study focused on the water treatment plant and water distribution system. Fishbeck provided an overview of the existing system, a condition assessment, plant rehabilitation recommendations, a membrane softening evaluation and a reliability study.

The system overview reviewed the city's wells, miles of raw water main, raw water quality, water storage, water treatment plant, the existing distribution system, historical water demands, potential industrial users, and project water demands. The condition assessment reviewed the current condition of the wells, water treatment plant, storage tanks, and distribution system. Following the condition assessment, council members asked for clarification on issues related to the HVAC systems, dredging and lime removal.

A deficiency correction evaluation provided two options: rehabilitation of the lime softening plant or construction of a new membrane softening plant. It also detailed five-year projects and six to twenty-year projects, along with providing cost estimates for each project. Council members had questions about the existing storage tank, how to fund the improvements, whether the current rate structure could support the needed improvements and the future of lime costs and treatment options. Staff confirmed that the current rates would not fund the recommended improvements.

Fishbeck explained how a membrane-softening plant operates and discussed the associated costs. Council members had questions regarding the concentrated waste removal associated with this system, the lifespan of a plant, and how the construction of a new plant could be funded. Staff answered that ratepayers could not fund a new plant and that additional funding would need to be secured. Staff also recommended a more in-depth cost analysis be completed.

Fishbeck also reviewed the reliability study and recommended improvements to the distribution system.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, November 06, 2023

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OPENINGS

Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2024
Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2025
Downtown Development Authority – term expires June 30, 2024
Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate – term expires June 30, 2024
Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate – term expires June 30, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Pidek for adjournment at 9:28 p.m.

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

Robert J. Teich, Jr., Mayor

Amy K. Fuller, Assistant City Manager