

**CITY OF OWOSSO
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF JULY 7, 2025
6:30 P.M.
VIRGINIA TEICH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

PRESIDING OFFICER: MAYOR ROBERT J. TEICH, JR.

OPENING PRAYER: FATHER PAUL BRUNELL
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: JACOB UNGER
EAGLE SCOUT CANDIDATE

PRESENT: Mayor Robert J. Teich, Jr., Mayor Pro-Tem Jerome C. Haber,
Councilmembers Janae L. Fear, Carl C. Ludington, and Rachel
M. Osmer.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Emily S. Olson and Christopher D. Owens.

APPROVE AGENDA

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

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 16, 2025

Motion by Councilmember Ludington to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 16, 2025 as presented.

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

PROCLAMATIONS / SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

CDBG Infrastructure Grant Application

Master Plan Implementation Goals: 1.9, 1.10, 1.13, 2.6, 6.6

A public hearing was conducted to receive citizen comment regarding the proposed application to the Michigan State Housing Development Authority for a grant to extend utilities infrastructure to the Washington Park Housing Development and consider authorizing said application and approval of the related documents.

There were no citizen comments received prior to, or during the hearing.

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Haber to authorize application to the Michigan State Housing Development Authority for a grant to extend utilities infrastructure to the Washington Park Housing Development and further authorize approval and execution of all related documents as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 88-2025

**APPROVING A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE CITY OF OWOSSO AND
THE MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (MSHDA)
NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSING INITIATIVES DIVISION (NHID)**

WHEREAS, the City of Owosso applied for and has been awarded a CDBG Grant totaling \$1,500,000 for the Washington Park Utility Extension Project that includes an extension of the water and sewer lines, installation of a generator and lift station, and preparation of the site for an eventual residential development; and

WHEREAS, the City of Owosso will not be required to match any grant dollars, but will serve as the administrator of the grant, as pass-through entity for grant funds, and will abide by the terms and conditions set forth in the grant agreement; and

WHEREAS, the proposed project is consistent with the City of Owosso's Master Plan Goals; and

WHEREAS, the beneficiaries of this grant will include more than 51% of low- to moderate-income households of the City of Owosso; and

WHEREAS, no project costs (CDBG and non CDBG) will be incurred prior to a formal grant award, completion of the environmental review procedures and formal, written authorization to incur costs has been provided by the City's Designated CDBG Specialist; and

WHEREAS, the City Council voted and approved this Resolution on July 7, 2025 to submit the Michigan CDBG Application; and

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

FIRST: it has heretofore determined that it is advisable, necessary and in the public interest to approve submission of the CDBG grant application and the application supplement for Housing Infrastructure, to the Michigan State Housing Development Authority Neighborhood Housing Initiatives Division.

SECOND: City Manager Nathan R. Henne and Planning & Building Director Tanya S. Buckelew are designated as Authorized Signers for said grant with the authority to sign the associated grant application and all attachments, the grant agreement and all amendments, and Payment Requests.

THIRD: Planning & Building Director Tanya S. Buckelew is designated as the CDBG appointed Grant Administrator for said grant and is authorized to administer associated projects to completion in accordance with the Program Guidelines.

FOURTH: it has heretofore determined that it is advisable, necessary and in the public interest to approve the Procurement Policy and Procedure as presented.

FIFTH: Planning & Building Director Tanya S. Buckelew is designated as the Certifying Officer for the NEPA Environmental Review.

SIXTH: it has heretofore determined that it is advisable, necessary and in the public interest to approve the Program Certification of Assurances as presented.

Motion supported by Councilmember Osmer.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilmembers Osmer, Fear, Mayor Pro-Tem Haber, Councilmember Ludington, and Mayor Teich.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Olson and Owens.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Erica Matteson, chairperson of Owosso Pride, thanked the City for their support of the 3rd annual Pride Festival, specifically highlighting the work of the Police Department, DPW, the OHC, the Parks & Recreation Commission, and the Building Department.

Don Fields, elder with Calvary Baptist Church, expressed concern with the Pride event, saying they conducted an obscene drag show with children present. He implored Council to stop such events from taking place on public property.

Jacob Unger introduced himself as an Eagle Scout candidate that is looking for an Eagle Scout project that would give back to the community by fulfilling a real need. Mayor Teich congratulated Jacob on his journey toward Eagle Scout and directed him to speak with Assistant City Manager Amy Fuller for potential projects.

Adam Easlick, Oliver Street resident, said it is disheartening when people try to stop events like Pride, saying everyone has a right to express their truth.

Geno Phillips, Oakley resident, said the finale of the Pride event was an obscene performance that included the visibility of naked butts. He said the performance was grooming behavior. He asked that Council not allow the Pride event to continue and warned that their unfaithfulness today will earn God's wrath in the future.

Krista Cross, New Haven Township resident, introduced herself as a teacher and parent, said she took her children to the Pride event and her daughter had a great time meeting a princess. She

thanked the City for their support of the event. She admonished the people that filmed her children at the event and put the footage online to shame her and her family, saying she no longer feels safe.

Todd Brenton, Henry Street resident, said there is judgement in the Bible, and that he is forgiven because he believes in Jesus and those with no faith are sinners.

Patty VanLuven, Sciota Township resident, said she is a survivor of child sexual abuse and it is dangerous to mislabel certain people as pedophiles and certain activities as grooming behavior when its not. She warned that true pedophiles look and act just like everyone else, yet they are profoundly dangerous. She asked that people educate themselves on what it means to be gay and what grooming behavior really entails.

Dennis Pratt, Brandon Street resident, said he is a born-again Christian and that its great to be a Christian.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Pro-Tem Haber thanked Mr. Fields for sending him the videos he had taken. He said the Council had a duty to protect children as gatekeepers for the City and grown men should not be dressed as women in front of children.

Mayor Teich said he saw some of the comments regarding the Pride event on Facebook and he agreed with the City Manager that the City has an obligation to evenly apply the rules that have been set.

Councilmember Osmer thanked everyone that came to speak about the Pride event. She said she was able to attend, she was pleased with the police presence, and that there were lots of family friendly activities available for participants.

Councilmember Osmer went on to note that the Summer Concert Series at the Amphitheater is back. Five free shows will be held on Thursdays over the course of the next five weeks and the Moonlight Market will be happening at the same time.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Councilmember Ludington to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

Boards and Commissions Appointments. Approve the following Mayoral Boards and Commissions appointments:

Name	Board/Commission	Term Expires
Karen Parzych	DDA / Main Street Board filling unexpired term of E. Olson	06-30-2028
Jon Moore	DDA / Main Street Board filling unexpired term of A. McGuire	06-30-2028

Traffic Control Order – Rollin’ Blooms Grand Opening. Approve the request from Georgia McCrandall, owner of Rollin’ Blooms, for the closure of three parking spots directly in front of 114 N. Washington Street on Saturday, July 19, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. for their Grand Opening event and further approve Traffic Control Order No. 1536 formalizing the action.

Traffic Control Order – PFC Cantu Annual 5K Run/Walk. Consider request from Jennifer Clarke, event organizer, for the partial closure of various streets in the northeast quadrant of the City for the PFC Cantu Annual 5k Run/Walk from 7:00 a.m.-12:00 noon on Sunday, August 24, 2025, waive the insurance requirement, and approve Traffic Control Order No. 1537 formalizing the action.

Master Plan Implementation Goals: 4.2, 4.6, 5.12

Traffic Control Order - Vintage Motorcycle Show. Approve the request from Lizzie Fredrick, Owosso Main Street & DDA Executive Director, for the closure of Main Street Plaza (Lot #13), S. Washington Street from Main St. to Water St., and Comstock Street from Water St. to Park St. on Saturday, August 23, 2025 from 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. for the Vintage Motorcycle Show and Custom Bike Build Competition, and further approve Traffic Control Order No. 1538 formalizing the action.

Master Plan Implementation Goals: 4.5, 4.6, 4.16, 5.9, 5.12, 5.17, 6.5

Traffic Control Order – Moonlight Market. Approve the request from Stephen Schlaack, owner of Owosso Farmers Market, LLC, for the closure of Curwood Castle Drive from M-52 to just north of the Heritage Footbridge sidewalk on Thursday, July 10, 17, 24, 31, and August 7th from 4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. for the Moonlight Market event, and further approve Traffic Control Order No. 1539 formalizing the action.

Master Plan Implementation Goals: 1.17, 4.2, 4.6, 5.9, 5.12

Emergency Repair Authorization – Fire Department Tower 1. Authorize payment to Front Line Services, Inc. for emergency repair and replacement of parts on Fire Department Tower 1 in the amount of \$14,857.28 as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 89-2025
AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO
FRONT LINE SERVICES INC.
FOR EMERGENCY REPAIR OF OWOSSO FIRE DEPARTMENT TOWER 1

WHEREAS, the city of Owosso, Shiawassee County, Michigan, has a fire department vehicle, Tower 1, that required emergency repair; and

WHEREAS, Sec 2-346(5)of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Owosso waives competitive bidding requirements when a purchase is of an emergent nature; and

WHEREAS, the city directed Front Line Services Inc., to proceed and perform the necessary emergency repair, which subsequently totaled \$14,857.28; and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Chief has reviewed the detailed billing from Front Line Services Inc. for the cost of the repair and recommends payment in the amount of \$14,857.28 for the work that was satisfactorily completed.

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

- FIRST: it has heretofore determined that it was necessary and in the public interest to contract with Front Line Services, Inc. for the emergency repairs to Owosso Fire Department vehicle Tower 1.
- SECOND: the accounts payable department is authorized to submit payment to Front Line Services Inc. in the amount of \$14,857.28 as authorized by Council this 7th day of July, 2025.
- THIRD: the above expenses shall be paid from the Fire Department vehicle repair fund.

***Professional Services Agreement Extension - Planning Consultant.** Authorize extension of the professional services agreement with CIB Planning, Inc. for the provision of planning and zoning services for the 12-month period ending June 30, 2026, and further authorize payment to the professional according to the terms of the contract as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 90-2025
AUTHORIZE EXTENSION OF THE
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CIB PLANNING, INC.
FOR PLANNING, ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY SERVICES

WHEREAS, the City of Owosso, Shiawassee County, Michigan, wishes to extend the agreement for professional planning services with CIB Planning, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, on May 6, 2019 the Owosso City Council approved a three (3) year contract with CIB Planning, Inc. for planning, zoning and development advisory services as the result of a competitive bidding process; and

WHEREAS, on June 6, 2022 the Owosso City Council approved a three (3) year contract renewal with CIB Planning, Inc. for the period through June 30, 2025, with one (1) year optional extensions; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to extend the agreement for an additional 1-year period.

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

- FIRST: it has been heretofore determined that it is advisable, necessary and in the public interest to extend the Professional Services Agreement for planning, zoning and development advisory services with CIB Planning, Inc. for the period through June 30, 2026.

- SECOND: the mayor and city clerk are instructed and authorized to sign the contract substantially in the form attached: Addendum No. 2 to an Agreement for Professional Planning & Zoning Services with CIB Planning, Inc.
- THIRD: the accounts payable department is authorized to pay the consultant according to the unit prices stated in the contract.

***Professional Services Agreement – Survey Services.** Waive competitive bidding requirements, approve a professional services agreement with Fleis & Vandenbrink Engineering, Inc. for topographic survey services for the 2026 Water Main Replacement and Street Projects in the amount of \$18,800.00, and further approve payment upon satisfactory completion of the project or portion thereof as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 91-2025

AUTHORIZING ADDENDUM NO. 2026-01 TO THE ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT WITH FLEIS & VANDENBRINK ENGINEERING, INC FOR TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY SERVICES FOR THE 2026 WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT AND STREET PROJECT

WHEREAS, the City of Owosso, Shiawassee County, Michigan, approved a contract for general engineering services with Fleis & Vandenbrink Engineering, Inc. on June 5, 2023, and renewed said contract on June 16, 2025 for the term of July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the City of Owosso, Shiawassee County, Michigan, intends to replace water main as part of the FY2026 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program and rehabilitate Woodlawn Avenue as part of the 2026 Street Program; and

WHEREAS, these projects require the services of a professional engineering firm to complete a topographic survey; and

WHEREAS, the City has reviewed the proposal provided from Fleis & Vandenbrink Engineering, Inc. for these services in the amount of \$18,800.00; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-346 of the City of Owosso Code of Ordinances allows competitive bidding to be waived for professional services.

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

- FIRST: the City of Owosso has theretofore determined that it is advisable, necessary and in the public interest to waive competitive bidding requirements and employ the firm of Fleis & Vandenbrink Engineering, Inc. to provide topographic survey services for the FY2024 DWSRF Water Main Replacement Project and the 2026 Street Program.
- SECOND: the Mayor and City Clerk are instructed and authorized to sign the necessary documents substantially in the form attached as Addendum No. 2026-01 to the General Engineering Services Contract between the City of Owosso, Michigan and Fleis & Vandenbrink Engineering, Inc.
- THIRD: the Accounts Payable department is authorized to make payment up to the amount of \$18,800.00 to Fleis & Vandenbrink Engineering, Inc. upon successful completion of stated work.
- FOURTH: the above expenses shall be paid from Water Fund Acct No. 591-901-972.000-DWRF792001 (\$16,300.00), Major Street Fund Acct No. 202-451-818.000 (\$2,500.00), and other funds as appropriate.

***Check Register – June 2025.** Affirm check disbursements totaling \$2,735,441.85 for June 2025.

Motion supported by Councilmember Osmer.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilmembers Fear, Ludington, Mayor Pro-Tem Haber, Councilmember Osmer, and Mayor Teich.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Olson and Owens.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Notice of Pecuniary Interest

Motion by Councilmember Osmer to enter notice of pecuniary interest on the record for Councilmember Carl Ludington as it relates to proposed contracts with Ludington Electric, Inc. for the month of June 2025.

STATEMENT REGARDING BUSINESS DEALINGS WITH THE CITY

Per Owosso City Charter Section 14.4 and Michigan Public Act 317 of 1968, as amended

I, Carl Ludington, being an officer of the City of Owosso, do hereby declare a pecuniary interest in the foregoing proposed contract(s) with the City of Owosso as described as:

PO NUMBER	DEPT.	VENDOR	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
47013	851	LUDINGTON ELECTRIC, INC.	ELECTRIC FOR MINI SPLIT AT CASTLE	1,925.00
46901	862	LUDINGTON ELECTRIC, INC.	REPLACE DPW OUTSIDE LIGHTS	1,950.00
46931	863	LUDINGTON ELECTRIC, INC.	AERATOR MOTOR TROUBLE SHOOT AND REPLACE	926.59
				<u>\$ 4,801.59</u>

For the Period of: June 2025

Vendor: Ludington Electric, Inc

Total Amount: \$4,801.59

I am making this declaration because I am the owner/operator of Ludington Electric, Inc. I confirm that I will not vote on the matter(s) in question, I will not take part in discussion on any question in respect to the matter(s), and I will not attempt in any way whether before, during or after the meeting to influence the voting on any such question at a public meeting of the Owosso City Council.

Said items will be considered for approval at the March 17, 2025 meeting of the Owosso City Council.

Declared this 7th day of July, 2025.

Motion supported by Councilmember Ludington.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilmember Osmer, Mayor Pro-Tem Haber, Councilmembers Ludington, Fear, and Mayor Teich.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmembers Olson and Owens.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Stephen Schlaack, market master for the Owosso Farmers Market and the Moonlight Market, said he is looking forward to joining the Summer Concert Series and that he already has over 70 vendors that have expressed an interest in participating. He spoke about his plans for the Markets saying he hopes to transition to a non-profit next year so it will be eligible for grant funding. He said he is always looking for ways to help grow the Markets.

Erica Matteson, chairperson of the Owosso Pride board, defended their event saying it was a permitted public event, and no laws or ordinances were violated. She pointed out that drag is not inherently obscene or explicit and is a First Amendment right. She asked for tolerance, imploring people not to judge how others parent their children.

Bill Moull, Historical Commission member, noted that the OHC recently created a goal to educate young people about the history of our community and he is looking forward to working with the Schools on the effort.

Robert Hooper, Fletcher Street resident, noted that an 1892 Supreme Court decision stated that the U.S. is a Christian nation, but it is not a theocracy. He said it is important to see where we are coming from while we are moving into the future and asked that people not discount the values of the past.

Jackie Burzmor, Pride board member, said it is not the job of the City or anyone else in the room to decide how she should raise her child. She said the drag show at the Pride event and the drag show that would be performed at a bar are two different things. Lastly, she thanked the City for allowing the Pride event.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

None.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Nathan R. Henne, City Manager. City Manager Report – June 2025.

COMMUNICATIONS

Dakota Woodworth, DDA/Main Street Board. Letter of resignation.
Brad A. Barrett, Finance Director. Financial Report – May 2025.
Historic District Commission. Minutes of May 21, 2025.
WWTP Review Board. Minutes of June 24, 2025.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, July 21, 2025

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OPENINGS

Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2026
Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2027
DDA/Main Street Board – term expires June 30, 2028
Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate – term expires June 30, 2027
Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate – term expires June 30, 2028

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Haber for adjournment at 7:28 p.m.

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

Robert J. Teich, Jr., Mayor

Amy K. Kirkland, City Clerk

*Due to their length, text of marked items is not included in the minutes. Full text of these documents is on file in the Clerk's Office.