

CITY OF OWOSSO
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES SYNOPSIS
MONDAY, JANUARY 05, 2026

PRESENT: Mayor Robert J. Teich, Jr., Mayor Pro-Tem Jerome C. Haber, Councilmembers Janae L. Fear, Emily S. Olson, Rachel M. Osmer, and Christopher D. Owens.

ABSENT: Councilmember Carl C. Ludington.

PROCLAMATIONS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Audit Presentation. Presentation of the annual audit by Ken Berthiaume, Principal CPA, with Berthiaume & Co. CPAs, via Zoom. The City received the highest possible designation for fiscal year ending June 30, 2025.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Brandon Albrecht said he was saddened to see the problems with drug use and homelessness just down the street from his house. He expressed frustration that calling the police doesn't seem to resolve the problem. He went on to comment that the direction the town is headed is not good and will eventually result in people leaving, including his family.

Joseph Moore said he thought the City's enforcement of the rental inspection policy is unequal and unfair with some landlords getting away without having their property inspected for years at a time and are not fined for violations. He said he works hard to be a good landlord and wondered why the rules seem to apply to some, but not all, landlords.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Osmer gave positive comments about the sled library at the sledding hill and the New Year's Eve Ball Drop event. She went on to say that two local churches continue to serve as warming centers and are looking for volunteers to cook meals and monitor the overnight shelter. She encouraged the City to do more this year to help the community, suggesting it could start by helping to preserve and repair existing homes and protect renters and single-family homes.

Mayor Teich and Councilmember Olson expressed an interest in reviewing the rental inspection policy. City Manager Henne noted that the current policy requires an inspection once every five years, though a reduction to three years had been discussed in the past. He went on to say that the Building Department is slightly behind in the rental inspection process, and he has spoken to them.

Councilmember Fear inquired how many rental properties the City has? Mr. Henne noted that he will see that that information is included in future Building Department reports.

Councilmember Olson suggested maybe grant funding could be made available for single-family residential owners to build accessory dwelling units on their property to help ease the shortage of homes. City Manager Henne suggested she pass the idea along to Representative BeGole and Senator Singh.

Mayor Teich asked Public Safety Director Lenkart to speak to Mr. Albrecht about his issues. He went on to thank Councilmember Owens for another great New Year's Eve event downtown, as well as Pastor Bill Moull for being a constant positive presence and for all of his efforts to support Council.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

Set Public Hearing – CDBG Grant Acceptance. Set a public hearing for Tuesday, January 20, 2025 to receive citizen comment regarding the proposal to accept CDBG grant funding for interior and exterior improvements on eight qualified residential homes.

Boards and Commissions Appointment. Approved the following Mayoral Boards and Commissions appointment:

Name	Board/Commission	Term Expires
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Jayne Brown*	Board of Review	12-31-2030
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* Indicates reappointment

Designation of Street Administrator. Authorized resolution designating DPW Superintendent Thomas Wheeler as Street Administrator to represent the City in transactions with the State Transportation Department pursuant to Act 51.

Professional Services Agreement Extension – Audit Services. Approved extension of the professional services agreement with Berthiaume & Company for auditing services for the 2026 and 2027 fiscal years.

Professional Services Agreement - Private Credit Assessment Services. Approved professional services agreement with S&P Global, Inc., for the provision of private credit assessment services in the amount of \$40,950.00, which price may increase in 2026, for DWSRF Project No. 7920.01, and CWSRF Project No. 6034.01 and further approved payment to the firm upon satisfactory completion of the contracted tasks.

Professional Services Agreement - Governmental Accounting Services. Authorized a professional services agreement with Taylor and Morgan, C.P.A., P.C. for the provision of onsite governmental accounting services in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00 for the 2026 calendar year, and further authorized payment to the firm for services rendered in accordance with the contract.

Purchase Authorization - Bentley Park Splashpad. Waived competitive bidding requirements, authorized the purchase and installation of splashpad equipment from Waterplay Solutions Corp., in the amount of \$166,046.00 and further authorized payment to the vendor upon satisfactory delivery and installation of the splashpad equipment.

Payment Authorization - Legal Services Payment. Authorized payment to Dickinson Wright PLLC, in the amount of \$7,753.06 for bond counsel services associated with the installment purchase agreement to purchase a street sweeper and vactor/jetter truck, as approved in Resolution No. 99-2025.

AP Check Register – December 2025. Affirmed Accounts Payable check disbursements totaling \$3,671,044.75 for December 2025.

Payroll Check Register – December 2025. Affirmed Payroll check disbursements totaling \$408,371.58 for the period from November 27, 2025 to December 20, 2025.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Audit Acceptance. Approved resolution accepting and placing on file the City of Owosso Financial Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025.

Notice of Pecuniary Interest. Entered 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 December 2025.

Set Special Meeting. Set a special meeting for Thursday, February 26, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. for the annual City Council goal setting session.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Brandon Albrecht said he's not here tonight simply to complain, he recognizes that the City Council is already dealing with challenges, but we've tried the same techniques year after year without seeing real change. He said its time to try something new, it starts right here, and he would like to be part of it.

Joseph Moore said he had just purchased a rental home that had not been inspected in 10 years. He suggested the City do better.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

None.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Brad A. Barrett, Finance Director. FY2025 Pension and OPEB Report.

Brad A. Barrett, Finance Director. Financial Report – November 2025.

Owosso Historical Commission. Minutes of December 08, 2025.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OPENINGS

Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2026

Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2027

Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate – term expires June 30, 2027

Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate – term expires June 30, 2028

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Robert J. Teich, Jr., Mayor
Amy K. Kohagen, City Clerk

Note: Complete printed copies of the minutes and any ordinances contained therein are available to the public at the Office of the City Clerk and the Shiawassee District Library – Owosso Branch during regular business hours or on the Internet at www.ci.owosso.mi.us.