

**CITY OF OWOSSO  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MARCH 2, 2026  
6:30 P.M.  
VIRGINIA TEICH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**PRESIDING OFFICER:** MAYOR ROBERT J. TEICH, JR.

**OPENING PRAYER:** PASTOR PAUL BRUNNELL  
CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** MAYOR ROBERT J. TEICH, JR.

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

**ABSENT:** None.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Councilmember Osmer to approve the agenda as presented.

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

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 17, 2026**

Motion by Councilmember Olson to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 17, 2026 as presented.

Motion supported by Mayor Pro-Tem Haber and concurred in by unanimous vote.

**PROCLAMATIONS / SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

**Arbor Day Proclamation**

Mayor Teich read aloud the following proclamation of the Mayor's Office declaring April 24, 2026 as Arbor Day in the City of Owosso:

**A PROCLAMATION  
OF THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF THE CITY OF OWOSSO, MICHIGAN  
DESIGNATING APRIL 24, 2026 AS  
ARBOR DAY IN THE CITY OF OWOSSO**

*Whereas,* in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees. This holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and

*Whereas,* decades before this in the 1830's, Owosso was making the transition from settlement to city thanks to the amazing vision of Alfred and Benjamin Williams. The Williams brothers joined with early settlers, Dr. and Mrs. John Barnes, in designing a city layout that would preserve a natural character and aesthetic appeal. This led them to plant many of the trees that have made our city streets so beautiful for close to 200 years, leading to the lovely arbors of trees that frame so many of our boulevards and the many mature trees that stand in our yards, and

*Whereas,* these trees have reduced the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut our heating and cooling costs by shading our homes, cleansed the air, produced life-giving oxygen, and provided habitat for wildlife, at the same time increasing property values, enhancing the economic vitality of business areas, and generally adding beauty to our neighborhoods and parks, and

*Whereas,* it falls to each generation to continue the stewardship that was launched by our founding families through the planting of new trees throughout our city to replace those that are lost, and

*Whereas,* Owosso is proud to hold the Tree City USA designation and to be engaged once again with the citizens of Owosso to plant new trees throughout the City.

*Now, Therefore,* I, Robert J. Teich, Jr., Mayor of the City of Owosso, do hereby proclaim April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026 as Arbor Day in the City of Owosso, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and

Further, I urge our citizens to plant trees to promote the well-being of this generation and our posterity.

Proclaimed this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March, 2026.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Olson expressed her desire to see more opportunity for discussion during Council meetings. She said that she would like to see the addition of a discussion period to the agenda, where no decision would be made, just a discussion had.

Motion by Councilmember Olson to add an item to the March 16, 2026 agenda to explore adding a discussion period to the agenda going forward.

Motion supported by Councilmember Owens.

There was discussion had after the motion and support regarding the idea that other communities have set aside discussion time on their agendas and whether a specific discussion period is necessary given the current structure of the agenda and the fact that Robert's Rules of Order allow for items to be tabled if more further discussion is required.

Roll Call Vote.

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

NAYS: None.

Councilmember Olson thanked Assistant City Manager Fuller for her work in seeing the list of approved trees was updated.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**Set Public Hearing – DWSRF Project Plan Amendment.** Set a public hearing for Monday, March 16, 2026 to receive citizen comment regarding the proposed amendments to the Drinking Water State Revolving fund (DWSRF) Project Plan for the 2026 fiscal year as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 27-2026**

**SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE CITIZEN COMMENT REGARDING THE DWSRF PROJECT PLAN AMENDMENT TO REPLACE AGING INFRASTRUCTURE**

WHEREAS, the City of Owosso, Shiawassee County, Michigan, has been working to detail the next phase of infrastructure improvements at the Gute Hill Booster Station for the 2026 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, these improvements are required to comply with regulatory requirements and to increase the reliability of service to residents and customers, and

WHEREAS, changes in the economic environment and circumstances on the ground have necessitated an amendment to the original 2025 project plan; and

WHEREAS, a project plan amendment has been developed, updating the Booster Station project from rehabilitation/improvement to the existing building to constructing a new building, and amendment of design/construction engineering plans, with an estimated cost of \$3,000,000.00, the proposed amendment is cost neutral (zero increase); and

WHEREAS, the City is seeking funding for this phase of the project from EGLE's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF); and

WHEREAS, the DWSRF program requires that a hearing be held to receive public comment regarding the proposed project plan amendment.

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

FIRST: As required by EGLE's Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program, a public hearing is set for Monday, March 16, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers to review proposed amendments to the City's DWSRF Project Plan for FY2026, including the Gute Hill Booster Station and related infrastructure.

**Emergency Repair Authorization – Lunghamer Ford**. Approve payment to Lunghamer Ford in the amount of \$2,150.24 for the emergency repair of Owosso Fire Department (OFD) EMS Medic 1 as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 28-2026**

**AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO  
LUNGHAMER FORD  
FOR EMERGENCY REPAIR OF OWOSSO FIRE DEPARTMENT MEDIC 1**

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

WHEREAS, the city directed Lunghamer Ford., to proceed and make the emergency repair, which subsequently totaled \$2,150.24 and

WHEREAS, the Public Safety Chief has reviewed the detailed billing from Lunghamer Ford. for the cost of the repair and recommends payment in the amount of \$2,150.24 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: The City of Owosso has heretofore determined that it was necessary and in the public interest to contract with Lunghamer Ford for the emergency repairs to Owosso Fire Department vehicle Medic 1.

SECOND: The accounts payable department is authorized to submit payment to Lunghamer Ford. in the amount up to \$2,150.24 as authorized by Council this 2nd day of March 2026.

THIRD: The above expenses shall be paid from the Fire Department vehicle repair fund.

**\*Change Order – City Hall Improvements Project**. Authorize Change Order No. 4 to the City Hall Improvements Project for the addition of controls for VAV-8 that were not shown on the original drawings, installation of a 3 KVA transformer for the riverside light post in the amount of \$2,036.40 and further authorize payment to the contractor up to the revised contract amount of \$622,208.55 as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 29-2026**

**AUTHORIZING CHANGE ORDER #4 FOR  
THE CITY HALL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the City of Owosso entered into a contract with Great Lakes Bay Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$601,059.00 for improvements to City Hall; and

WHEREAS, previously approved change orders have increased the contract amount by \$19,113.15, bringing the current contract total to \$620,172.15; and

WHEREAS, additional work was identified during construction, including the addition of controls for VAV-8 not shown on the original drawings, installation of a 3 KVA transformer for the riverside light post, and a deduct for time associated with HVAC calculations; and

WHEREAS, Great Lakes Bay Construction, Inc., has submitted Change Order No. 4 (CE #010) in the amount of \$2,036.40 to complete this additional work; and

WHEREAS, approval of Change Order No. 4 will increase the overall contract amount to \$622,208.55; and

WHEREAS, this is a budgeted item from 101.265.975.000.

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 approve Change Order #4 from Great Lakes Bay Construction, Inc., for a cost to the City of Owosso of \$2,036.40.
- SECOND: The mayor and city clerk are instructed and authorized to sign the document substantially in form attached as Change Order No. 4 to the Contract for Services between the city of Owosso and Great Lakes Bay Construction, Inc.
- THIRD: Authorize payment to Great Lakes Bay Construction, Inc., up to the revised contract amount of \$622,208.55.
- FOURTH: The above expenses shall be paid from the General fund, 101.265.975.000.

**\*Purchase Authorization – Security Assessment.** Wave competitive bidding requirements and authorize the purchase of a security maturity assessment from Carahsoft Technology Corp utilizing OMNIA Partners Public Sector Contract No. 23-6692-01 in the amount of \$15,862.37 and authorize payment upon satisfactory completion of project as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 30-2026**

**AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE SECURITY MATURITY ASSESSMENT SERVICES FROM GOSECURE INC. THROUGH CARAHSOFT TECHNOLOGY CORP.**

WHEREAS, the City of Owosso recognizes the importance of maintaining a strong cybersecurity posture to protect municipal systems, infrastructure, and sensitive information; and

WHEREAS, conducting a comprehensive Security Maturity Assessment will assist the City in identifying gaps in its cybersecurity governance, infrastructure, policies, and procedures, and will provide prioritized recommendations aligned with industry best practices including the NIST Cybersecurity Framework; and

WHEREAS, GoSecure Inc. has submitted a proposal dated January 24, 2026, for its Security Maturity Assessment (SMA-Aware) services to evaluate the City's information security governance and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, Carahsoft Technology Corp. has provided Quote No. 60508627 dated January 24, 2026, under OMNIA Partners Public Sector Contract No. 23-6692-01, in the total amount of \$15,862.37; and

WHEREAS, the OMNIA Partners cooperative purchasing contract satisfies the City's competitive procurement requirements; and

WHEREAS, the total cost of \$15,862.37 is budgeted and available within the appropriate information technology and/or cybersecurity line item;

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

1. The proposal from GoSecure Inc. for Security Maturity Assessment (SMA-Aware) services is hereby approved.
2. The purchase through Carahsoft Technology Corp., Quote No. 60508627, in the amount of \$15,862.37 is hereby authorized.
3. The HR / IT Director is hereby authorized and directed to execute any necessary agreements and documents consistent with this resolution.
4. The Finance Director is authorized to issue payment in accordance with the approved quote and standard municipal purchasing procedures.

**Master Plan Goals: 3.2, 3.4, 3.8**

**\*Recreation Passport Grant Application – Bentley Park.** Authorization of a Recreation Passport Grant Application in the amount of \$150,000 for revitalizing the pickleball and tennis courts at Bentley Park and authorizing \$140,000 in matching funds for a total cost of \$290,000 as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 31-2026**

**SEEKING A RECREATION PASSPORT GRANT THROUGH MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

WHEREAS, Bentley Park is a noted destination point within the city of Owosso, and the current pickleball and tennis courts in the park were constructed in the 1970's, and regular maintenance cannot effectively address the difficulties of the aging infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the city of Owosso and its partners intend to rehabilitate the park's pickleball courts and tennis courts; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources is accepting Recreation Passport Grant applications for up to \$150,000 towards new or rehabilitated park facilities; and

WHEREAS, the city of Owosso supports the submission of an application titled "Bentley Park Pickleball and Tennis Court Project" to the Recreation Passport Grant Program for development of pickleball and tennis courts at Bentley Park; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed application is supported by the city of Owosso's 5-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the city of Owosso is hereby making a financial commitment to the project in the amount of one hundred and forty thousand dollars (\$140,000) in matching funds; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the city of Owosso city council commits to funding the capital rehabilitation funding proposal below and directs staff to complete and submit an application for the Recreation Passport Grant Program through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR).

FIRST: The city of Owosso has heretofore determined that it is advisable, necessary, and in the public interest to apply for a Recreational Passport Grant through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in the amount of \$150,000 for the Bentley Park Pickleball and Tennis Court Project.

SECOND: The additional project costs of one hundred and forty thousand dollars (\$140,000) will be paid from the Parks Millage Funds Account 208-756-974.000 in the amount of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) and the city General Fund Account 101-751-930.000 in the amount of eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000) during the 2027-28 fiscal year.

THIRD: The total project cost will be two hundred and ninety thousand dollars (\$290,000).

Master Plan Goals: 5.3

**\*Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Application – Bentley Park.** Authorization of a Natural Resources Trust Grant Application in the amount of \$150,000 for revitalizing the pickleball and tennis courts at Bentley Park and authorizing \$140,000 in matching funds for a total cost of \$290,000 as follows:

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 32-2026**

#### **SEEKING A TRUST GRANT THROUGH MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

WHEREAS, Bentley Park is a noted destination point within the city of Owosso, and the current pickleball and tennis courts in the park were constructed in the 1970's, and regular maintenance cannot effectively address the difficulties of the aging infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the city of Owosso intends to rehabilitate the park's pickleball courts and tennis courts; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources is accepting Trust Fund Grant, applications for new or rehabilitated park facilities; and

WHEREAS, the city of Owosso supports the submission of an application titled "Bentley Park Pickleball and Tennis Court Project" to the Trust Fund Grant Program for development of pickleball and tennis courts at Bentley Park in the amount of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000); and,

WHEREAS, the proposed application is supported by the city of Owosso's 5-year Parks and Recreation Master Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the city of Owosso is hereby making a financial commitment to the project in the amount of one hundred and forty thousand dollars (\$140,000) in matching funds; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Owosso, Michigan, the city council commits to funding the capital rehabilitation funding and directs staff to complete and submit an

application for the Trust Fund Grant Program through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) as detailed below:

- FIRST: The city of Owosso has heretofore determined that it is advisable, necessary, and in the public interest to apply for a Trust Fund Grant through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources in the amount of \$150,000 for the Bentley Park Pickleball and Tennis Court Project.
- SECOND: To appropriate all funds necessary to complete the project during the project period and to provide one hundred and forty thousand dollars (\$140,000) to match the grant. These funds will be paid from the Parks Millage Funds Account 208-756-974.000 in the amount of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) and the city General Fund Account 101-751-930.000 in the amount of eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000) during the 2027-28 fiscal year. The total project cost will be two hundred and ninety thousand dollars (\$290,000).
- THIRD: To maintain satisfactory financial accounts, documents, and records to make them available to the Department for auditing at reasonable times.
- FOURTH: To construct the project and provide such funds, services and materials as may be necessary to satisfy the terms of said Agreement.
- FIFTH: To regulate the use of the facility constructed and reserved under this Agreement to assure the use thereof by the public on equal and reasonable terms.
- SIXTH: To accept and comply with any and all terms of said Agreement, including all terms not specifically set forth in the foregoing portions of this Resolution.

Master Plan Goals: 5.3

**Update Right-of-Way Tree List.** Approve update to the ROW tree list to prioritize native tree species as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 33-2026**

**ADOPTING A RIGHT-OF-WAY TREE LIST**

WHEREAS, the City of Owosso, Shiawassee County, Michigan, has an ordinance governing trees planted on public property and

WHEREAS, planting trees in the public right-of-way provides benefits to the community; and

WHEREAS, some species of trees are more appropriate for right-of-way planting than others; and

WHEREAS, the City of Owosso has a policy that only trees from an approved tree list may be planted in the public right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the City of Owosso desires to adopt a new right-of-way tree list; and

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 adopt the following right-of-way tree list.

Common Name	Scientific Name
Serviceberry	Amelanchier spp.
Eastern Redbud	Cercis canadensis
Pagoda Dogwood	Cornus alternifolia
Ironwood	Ostrya virginiana
Littleleaf Linden	Tilia cordata
Columnar Honeylocust	Gleditsia triacanthos var. inermis
Blackgum	Nyssa sylvatica
Hackberry	Celtis occidentalis
Kentucky Coffeetree	Gymnocladus dioicus
River Birch	Betula nigra
Swamp White Oak	Quercus bicolor
Bur Oak	Quercus macrocarpa

<b>Common Name (cont.)</b>	<b>Scientific Name (cont.)</b>
Northern Red Oak	Quercus rubra
Tuliptree	Liriodendron tulipifera
American Elm (DED-resistant)	Ulmus americana cultivars
Ginkgo (male cultivars)	Ginkgo biloba
Sugar Maple	Acer saccharum
Red Maple	Acer rubrum
Bald Cypress	Taxodium distichum
Eastern White Pine	Pinus strobus
Eastern Redcedar	Juniperus virginiana
Norway Spruce	Picea abies
White Spruce	Picea glauca
Black Hills Spruce	Picea glauca var. densata
American Larch	Larix laricina
Eastern Hemlock	Tsuga canadensis
Austrian Pine	Pinus nigra
White Fir	Abies concolor
Douglas-fir	Pseudotsuga menziesii

**\*AP Check Register – February 2026.** Affirm Accounts Payable check disbursements totaling \$2,252,022.24 for January 29, 2026, to February 25, 2026.

**\*Payroll Check Register – February 2026.** Affirm Payroll check disbursements totaling \$807,684.88 for the period from January 29, 2026, to February 25, 2026.

Motion supported by Councilmember Osmer.

Roll Call Vote.

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

NAYS: None.

**ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

None.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilmember Olson delivered comments encouraging the City to be aware of the contributions people make by giving their time, talents, and money, and developing an investment mind-set to ensure proper handling when such a donation is made.

Mayor Teich announced the Chocolate Walk coming to the downtown April 25, 2026. He also noted that the DDA held a volunteer appreciation party last week that was well attended.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Nathan R. Henne, City Manager. City Manager Report – February 2026.

There was a brief discussion regarding how the City will determine the fate of the Carnegie library building once the Shiawassee District Library moves to its new location. Mayor Teich said a temporary committee of local stakeholders has been assembled to facilitate the decision making process.

Councilmember Fear inquired as to when the building at the corner of Cedar Street and Main Street will be demolished and the road reopened. City Manager Henne indicated that he has no tentative date yet from the SEDP or the Land Bank.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Owosso Historical Commission. Minutes of February 09, 2026.  
Downtown Historic District Commission. Minutes of February 18, 2026.  
Zoning Board of Appeals. Minutes of February 17, 2026  
Planning Commission. Minutes of 23, 2026.  
Tanya S. Buckelew, Community Development Director. 2025 Planning Commission Annual Report  
Brad A. Barrett, Finance Director. Financial Report – January 2026.

**NEXT MEETING**

Monday, March 16, 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**

Motion by Councilmember Owens for adjournment at 7:28 p.m.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert J. Teich, Jr., Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Amy K. Kohagen, 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.