

**CITY OF OWOSSO
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES SYNOPSIS
MONDAY, MAY 18, 2026**

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

ABSENT: Councilmember Christopher D. Owens.

PROCLAMATIONS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Promotional Ceremony – Police Department Employee. Mayor Teich led a ceremony recognizing the promotion of Police Lieutenant Scott Davis.

Proclamation – National Public Works Week. Mayor Teich read aloud a proclamation of the Mayor's Office declaring May 17th-23rd, 2026 as National Public Works Week in the City of Owosso.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearing – Rezoning of 1000 Bradley Street. Conducted a public hearing to receive citizen comment regarding the request from NB Concepts, LLC to rezone the property at 1000 Bradely Street from I-1, Light Industrial, to RM, Multiple Family Residential. The following people commented in regard to the proposed rezoning: Justin Horvath and Philip Pirkovic. The Council moved to approve the rezoning request as proposed.

2026-2027 City Budget. Conducted a public hearing pursuant to Chapter 8 of the City Charter to receive citizen comment regarding the 2026-2027 Proposed City Budget. There were no citizen comments. Council moved to approve the 2026-27 City Budget as presented.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Angie Norling, Shiawassee County 911 Director, spoke about the August ballot question to add \$.35 per month to phone bills to support our local 911.

Addressing a packed audience, several people spoke in support of the Pride event, and several other people spoke about religion and the breakdown of morals.

Ashley Shortz reminded everyone that May is mental health awareness month.

A brief break was held from 8:02 pm until 8:11 pm.

Commenting on both sides of the issue continued.

Katie Caroway asked what guidelines are in place for events like Pride.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Olson read a prepared statement about inclusion, disagreements, and dehumanization. She asked that people choose community over division.

Councilmember Osmer announced the Summer Concert series is back at the amphitheater with shows starting July 9th. She also announced the Historical Commission is holding a kickoff event at the Shiawassee Arts Council to debut the Owosso Time Traveler project. Lastly, she noted that the last listening sessions on curbside recycling will be held tomorrow.

Mayor Pro-Tem Haber said Owosso is a great community and that fact was proved tonight when everyone allowed each other's voices to be heard.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

Historical Commission Funds Transfer. Approved the transfer of Historical Commission funds from the Shiawassee Community Foundation in the amount of \$100,000 to the Historic Sites Fund to be applied to the Curwood Castle Restoration Project.

Purchase Order Amendment – Public Safety Building Access Control System. Approved amendment to Purchase Order No. 47312 for the Public Safety Building Access Control System increasing the amount by \$1,655.10 for upgraded key fobs and readers and further approved payment to the vendor in the amount of \$9,145.30.

Contract Authorization – Middlebury Township Ambulance Services. Authorized agreement with Middlebury Township to provide ambulance service coverage on their behalf with a charge to the Township in the amount of 45,000.00 annually plus charges for services provided.

CDBG Round 1 Contractors Quotes - Grant Contractors. Approved CDBG Round 1 Contractors' Quotes #4 in the amount of \$121,856.04 as part of a CDBG housing grant and authorized payment to the contractor(s) upon satisfactory completion of the project(s) or portion thereof. Demolition Authorization & Contract Approval – 326 S Dewey Street and 321 E Williams Street. Authorized demolition of the structures at 326 S Dewey Street and 321 E Williams Street, approved bid award to Dore & Associates Inc., in the amount of \$46,600.00, and further authorized payment to the contractor upon satisfactory completion of the work or portion thereof.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Contract Approvals – Ludington Electric, Inc. Reiterated acknowledgement of the pecuniary interest of Councilmember in the contract(s) in question and approved \$2,758.16 in contracts with Ludington Electric, Inc. for the period of April 2026.

Lot Split Authorization – 706 Corunna Avenue. Authorized the division of a City lot under the Michigan Subdivision Control Act for platted lot Parcel # 050-542-000-032-00, known as residential lot at 706 Corunna Avenue.

Policy Adoption - 504 Grievance procedure. Adopted the Section 504 Grievance Procedure to comply with the USDA Public Safety Building Funding requirements and furthermore publish the 504 Grievance procedure.

Policy Adoption - Language Access Plan. Adopted the Four-Factor Analysis and Language Access Plan to comply with the USDA Public Safety Building Funding requirements.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Citizens continued commenting regarding acceptance, freedom of religion, fair standards, and asked if there are any guidelines governing public events.

Mike Martin said he spends a lot of time in the parks and he noticed the retaining wall near the observation deck is deteriorating and he asked that someone look at it.

Tom Manke said he was happy the Exchange Street building is down and he is pleased that two more condemned houses are scheduled for demolition. He went on to ask what the rules are for public events.

Karen Bump said she just moved to Owosso. She thanked those that shared their stories saying we need to support people that are at risk of suicide. She said she thinks that there should be some boundaries as to what is acceptable during a public event.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Fear thanked everyone for coming. She went on to say that the City has laws and ordinances governing what is and is not appropriate for a public event. The videos from last year were reviewed and none of it reached the legal definition of obscene. She announced that the Pride event is scheduled for Saturday, May 30th from 1:00pm-5:00pm and all are welcome. The City Manager announced that he will be traveling next week so, Assistant City Manager Amy Fuller will be in charge.

Mayor Teich echoed Councilmember Fear's comments saying we have guidelines for public events and we make sure they are followed.

COMMUNICATIONS

Tanya S. Buckelew, Planning & Building Director. April 2026 Building Department Report.

Tanya S. Buckelew, Planning & Building Director. April 2026 Code Violations Report.

Tanya S. Buckelew, Planning & Building Director. April 2026 Inspections Report.

Tanya S. Buckelew, Planning & Building Director. April 2026 Rental Report.

Tanya S. Buckelew, Planning & Building Director. April 2026 Certificates Issued Report.

Kevin D. Lenkart, Public Safety Director. April 2026 Police Report.

Kevin D. Lenkart, Public Safety Director. April 2026 Fire Report.

Kevin D. Lenkart, Public Safety Director. April 2026 Parking Citation Memo

Downtown Development Authority. Minutes of May 6, 2026.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, June 1, 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

Downtown Historic District Commission – term expires June 30, 2027
Planning Commission – 2 terms expire June 30, 2027
Planning Commission – 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

The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 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.