

**CITY OF OWOSSO
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES SYNOPSIS
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2025**

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

ABSENT: Councilmember Janae L. Fear.

PROCLAMATIONS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Osmer praised the success of the 2024 Raise Up Shiawassee campaign and thanked the Mayor and Kim Renwick for their support. She also noted that the deadline for non-profits to join the 2025 campaign is March 15, 2025.

Mayor Teich thanked Councilmember Osmer for suggesting the Council volunteer for the YMCA food distribution, saying it was a great event.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

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

Name	Board/Commission	Term Expires
Amy Fuller	River Trail Joint Powers Committee	06-30-2027

Traffic Control Order - Shi-Tri 2025. Approved request from Fitness Coliseum and Friends of the Shiawassee River for use of Lot #10 from 8:00am on May 17, 2025 until noon May 18, 2025 and various streets on Sunday, May 18, 2025 from 7:00am through 12:00pm for the 5th annual Shi-Tri, and further approved Traffic Control Order No. 1511 formalizing the action.

Changes to Street Lighting Contracts. Authorized amendments to the Street Lighting Contracts with Consumers Energy to reflect the replacement of one 70-watt LED and 3 HPS streetlights on the S. Washington Street bridge with 4 new LED streetlights and further authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute appropriate documents.

Change Order – 2024 Sidewalk Program Contract. Approved Change Order No. 2 to the 2024 Sidewalk Replacement Program Contract with Lopez Concrete Construction, LLC, adding \$12,037.50.00 for construction of an accessible concrete parking pad and sidewalk at the Hugh Parker Soccer Complex, and further approved payment to the contractor up to the amended amount of \$309,317.50 upon completion of the work or portion thereof.

Bid Award - Chip Seal Program. Approved bid award to Highway Maintenance and Construction Company for the 2025 Chip Seal Program in the amount of \$83,935.00, plus a contingency of \$10,000.00 to be used upon written permission and further approve payment to the contractor up to the contract amount plus the contingency.

Warrant No. 652. Authorized Warrant No. 652 as follows:

Vendor	Description	Fund	Amount
Gould Law PC	Services from January 14, 2025 - February 10, 2025	Varies	\$11,665.76

Check Register – January 2025. Affirmed check disbursements totaling \$4,654,677.99 for January 2025.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Recreation Passport Grant Application. Approved application for a Recreation Passport Grant seeking \$150,000 in funding for the Bentley Park Pickleball and Tennis Court Project, and authorized matching funds of \$120,000 for said project.

Update – Personnel Policy Manual. Approved proposed changes to the non-union employees Personnel Policy Manual updating it to reflect current laws, practices, and policies.

Notice of Intent to Issue Revenue Bonds and Right to Referendum - DWSRF Project No. 7880-01. Adopted resolution of Notice of Intent to Issue Revenue Bonds and Right to Referendum thereof for the proposed issuance of bonds to finance 2025 DWSRF Project No. 7880-01 for watermain replacements, lead service line replacements, water treatment plant electrical improvements, and improvements to/abandonment of well houses and piping.

Utility Rate Study Presentation & Discussion. Jesse Nelson, principal with Baker Tilly, gave a presentation on the latest utility rate study. The presentation was followed by a lengthy discussion regarding the urgent need for repairs, the anticipated inability of the community to shoulder the cost of the necessary repairs, and how the Council will go about balancing the needs of the City’s utilities with the financial constraints of its residents.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Tom Manke said he did not envy Councilmembers for the extremely difficult decisions they will need to make in the coming months. He also noted that he had published a story about the proposal to close a portion of Ball Street downtown, and almost all of the comments were negative in nature.

Pastor Gary Beal, Church of Jubilee, asked Council not to make rash decisions on the utility rates. He encouraged them to be creative in the way the improvements are paid for, suggesting that they look at alternative ways to finance the necessary projects rather than relying 100% on utility rates. He said the decisions will be tough, but it was essential that they address the problems now.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Osmer noted that the warming centers are still in need of volunteers during the overnight period.

COMMUNICATIONS

Tanya S. Buckelew, Planning & Building Director. January 2025 Building Department Report.

Tanya S. Buckelew, Planning & Building Director. January 2025 Code Violations Report.

Tanya S. Buckelew, Planning & Building Director. January 2025 Inspections Report.

Tanya S. Buckelew, Planning & Building Director. January 2025 Certificates Issued Report.

Kevin D. Lenkart, Public Safety Director. January 2025 Police Report.

Kevin D. Lenkart, Public Safety Director. January 2025 Fire Report.

WWTP Review Board. Minutes of January 28, 2025.

DDA/OMS Board. Minutes of February 5, 2025.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, March 03, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OPENINGS

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

Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2025

DDA/OMS Board x 2 – terms expire June 30, 2028

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

Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate – term expires June 30, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Robert J. Teich, Jr., Mayor
Amy K. Kirkland, 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.