

OWOSSO CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 5, 2007

7:30 P.M.

PRESIDING OFFICER: MAYOR LINDA L. ROBERTSON
OPENING PRAYER: PASTOR KENNETH HERBRUCK
OWOSSO ASSEMBLY OF GOD
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: MAYOR LINDA L. ROBERTSON
PRESENT: Mayor Linda L. Robertson, Mayor Pro-tem Mark D. Owen,
Councilpersons Michael E. Bruff, Michael N. Cline, Joane E.
Ford, and Matthew B. Harvey.
ABSENT: Councilperson Justin R. Horvath.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Councilperson Ford to approve the agenda as presented with the following changes:

Consent Item #9 should read:

9. Contract Agreement. Approve contract agreement with Rowe Engineering for survey and design reconstruction engineering for Jerome Street between Hickory Street and the bus garage in the amount of \$6,457.00 and authorize payment up to the bid amount.
Staff Contact: Philip B. Hathaway

Pull Consent Item #6 and add as Item of Business #3 as follows:

3. Change Order. Authorize Change Order No. 1 to increase the bid award for Classic Concrete for the 2007 Sidewalk Program by \$5000.00 to increase work done before July 1, 2007 in an amount not to exceed \$29,434.00.
Staff Contact: Ronald Baker

Motion supported by Councilperson Harvey and concurred in by unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 20, 2007

Mayor Pro-Tem Owen commented on his desire to see changes in the way citizen and Council comments are recorded in the minutes.

Motion by Councilperson Harvey to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 20, 2007 as presented.

Motion supported by Councilperson Cline and concurred in by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

**MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION GRANT CLOSE-OUT –
MAIN STREET (M-21) AND CHESTNUT STREET INTERSECTION**

City Engineer Ronald Baker described the City's contractual obligation with the State of Michigan to conduct a close-out public hearing for the improvements at the Main Street (M-21) and Chestnut Street intersection. Citizen comments and questions were to be sought to provide the State of Michigan insight into to any concerns that may need to be addressed.

His memo described the nature and purpose for the project as intending to improve the safety and efficiency of the intersection used by the eleven industrial and commercial businesses located on Chestnut Street. The project saw the installation of a new traffic signal, increased curb radii on each corner, improved drainage in the intersection and new pavement on Chestnut Street from Young Street to Main Street (M-21).

Shelva Cebulski, 1243 Marion Street, commented the improvements were good but slowed traffic somewhat.

Burton Fox, 216 East Oliver Street, commented on the benefits of the project but felt the lane markings were confusing.

Ed Urban, 601 Glenwood Avenue, commented on differing opinions.

There was general Council discussion regarding the positive affect of the improvements and getting used to the new lane markings.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Gary Martenis, 705 Lingle Avenue, commented on showing respect to Council, suggestions for the next City Manager, the Citizen Comments and Questions portion of Council meetings, the potential sale of land to Fifth Third bank, and the flag at the former A.O. Smith building.

Betty Coon, 1204 Palmer Avenue, inquired about taxable value of her home.

Burton Fox, 216 East Oliver Street, commented on the potential sale of land to Fifth Third.

Marsha Lyttle, 624 North Saginaw Street, commented on the search for a new City Manager.

Ed Urban, 601 Glenwood Avenue, commented on the redesign of City parking lots and attracting retail business to the area.

Thomas Forster, 1221 Adams Street, commented on developing business and preserving the downtown.

There was general discussion regarding contacting A.O. Smith, defining taxable value, the timing of questions regarding the proposed development by Fifth Third Bank, and lack of action by some members of the business community.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Councilperson Ford to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

Bid Award. Accepted low bid of Benedict Service for storm drain catch basin cleaning for calendar years 2007-2010 in the amount of \$35,225.85.

Bid Award. Accepted bid of D.N. West for installation of a new suspended ceiling in the police department in the amount of \$9,249.00 and approved payment up to the bid amount.

Bid Award. Accepted bid of Sumbera Excavating for Rain Garden topsoil in the amount of \$18,000.00 and approved payment up to the bid amount.

Bid Award. Waived bid irregularities and accepted bid of Novak Construction for Rain Garden construction in the amount of \$16,625.00 and approved payment up to the bid amount.

Bid Award. Accepted bid of Classic Concrete for the 2007 Sidewalk Program in the amount of \$43,015.90 and approved payment up to the bid amount.

Contract Payment. Approved final payment to Gould Engineering for preliminary engineering and final concept plans for the section of Cass Street between Cedar Street and South Shiawassee Street in the amount of \$1,000.00.

Contract Payment. Approved progress payment to Environmental Consulting & Technology for environmental site investigation work completed involving the future right-of-way of the new road to the Sugar Beet site in the amount of \$4,675.89.

Contract Agreement. Approved contract agreement with Rowe Engineering for survey and design reconstruction engineering for Jerome Street between Hickory Street and the bus garage in the amount of \$6,457.00 and authorized payment up to the bid amount.

Permission Request. Granted permission allowing the Child Abuse Prevention Council of Shiawassee County to place ribbons and lights on trees at City Hall and lamp posts in the downtown for the month of Aril.

Boards and Commissions Appointment. Approved mayoral appointment of Doug Peterson to the Owosso Downtown Development Authority to fill the position vacated by April Treen for a term expiring June 30, 2009.

Minutes Correction. Approved correction to the Minutes of January 16, 2007. Resolution 07-2007 should read as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 07-2007

WHEREAS, the City Council, after due and legal notice, has met and heard all persons to be affected by the proposed public improvement more particularly hereinafter described; and

WHEREAS, the City Council deems it advisable and necessary to proceed with said public improvement as more particularly hereinafter described.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The City Council hereby determines to make and proceed with the following described public improvement and to defray a part or the whole cost, as more particularly hereinafter provided, by special assessment upon the property specially benefited: Oliver Street from First Street to Chipman Street.
2. The City Council hereby approves the plans for the aforesaid public improvement as prepared and presented by the City Manager and determines the estimated cost of said public improvement to be \$140,310.00 and approves said estimated cost and determines that the estimated life of said public improvement is twenty (20) years.
3. The City Council determines that of said total estimated cost, the sum of \$62,348.00 be paid by special assessment upon the property specially benefited, as more particularly hereinafter described.
4. The City Council hereby designates the following described property as the special assessment district upon which the special assessment shall be levied: Oliver Street First Street to Chipman Street for street reconstruction with no sidewalk installation.
5. The City Assessor shall prepare a special assessment roll including all lots and parcels of land within the special assessment district herein designated, and the Assessor shall assess to each such lot or parcel of land such relative portion of the whole sum to be levied against all lands in the special assessment district as the benefit to such lot or parcel of land bears to the total benefits to all lands in such district.

When the Assessor shall have completed the assessment roll, he shall file the special assessment roll with the City Clerk for presentation to the City Council.

Motion supported by Councilperson Cline.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilpersons Cline, Ford, Harvey, Mayor Pro-Tem Owen, Councilpersons Bruff, and Mayor Robertson.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilperson Horvath.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

WALK-A-THON PERMISSION – 2007 CROP WALK

Motion by Councilperson Bruff to approve the application of Carl Rossman on behalf of the CROP Walk for use of a portion of Palmer Avenue and Hopkins Lake Drive on May 6, 2007 from noon until 3:00p.m. for the 2007 CROP Walk, pursuant to the Traffic Control Orders Rules and Regulations Policy.

Motion supported by Councilperson Ford.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilpersons Bruff, Harvey, Ford, Cline, Mayor Pro-Tem Owen, and Mayor Robertson.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilperson Horvath.

CITY MANAGER SEARCH DISCUSSION

There was general Council discussion regarding hiring a recruiting firm, how a recruiting firm typically works, information on various firms, past experiences with search firms, and what qualities Council feels the new City Manager should possess.

Information on various search firms will be distributed to Council in the coming week. Consideration of interviews for select firms will take place the meeting of March 19, 2007.

CHANGER ORDER – 2007 SIDEWALK PROGRAM

Mayor Pro-Tem Owen questioned the intention of the change order. It was indicated the intention was to accomplish \$5000.00 more work than originally planned because the bid came in \$5000.00 under the estimate.

Motion by Councilperson Ford to authorize Change Order No. 1 to increase the bid award for Classic Concrete for the 2007 Sidewalk Program by \$5000.00 to increase work done before July 1, 2007 in an amount not to exceed \$29,434.00.

Motion supported by Mayor Pro-Tem Owen.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilperson Cline, Mayor Pro-Tem Owen, Councilpersons Ford, Harvey, Bruff, and Mayor Robertson.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilperson Horvath.

COMMUNICATIONS

Hair Peace Salon. Letter regarding downtown parking issues.

Liquor Control Commission. Cancellation of Application for Teame, Inc.

Owosso Historical Commission. Minutes of Meeting of February 20, 2007.

Items received at the meeting: Questions regarding City Manager Search from Marsha Lyttle and a letter from Burton Fox regarding concerns with Fifth Third Bank purchase.

There was general discussion regarding the parking issue in the downtown, validating tickets, employee/tenant use of customer parking, and redesign of the employee/tenant parking areas.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Gary Martenis, 705 Lingle Avenue, commented on a recent blog by tenants of the 100 block of Washington Street in regard to parking and possible fixed routes for SATA.

Don Forester, 1221 Adams Street, commented on updating the former City Manager's blog.

Marsha Lyttle, 624 North Saginaw Street, gave suggestions for the City Manager search.

Burton Fox, 216 East Oliver Street, commented on Council cooperation and not placing limits on the City Manager search.

Ed Urban, 601 Glenwood Avenue, commented on cost concerns in relation to the City Manager search and a citizen's comment to the TV news.

Betty Coon, 1204 Palmer Avenue, commended the DPW Director for keeping her road well cleared in the winter.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilperson Harvey for adjournment at 8:49 p.m.

Motion supported by Councilperson Bruff and concurred in by unanimous vote.

Linda L. Robertson, Mayor

Amy K. Kohagen, City Clerk