

CITY OF OWOSSO
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES SYNOPSIS
MONDAY, AUGUST 20, 2007

Present: Mayor Pro-Tem Mark D. Owen, Councilpersons Michael E. Bruff, Michael N. Cline, Joni Forster, and Justin R. Horvath.

Absent: Mayor Linda Robertson.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Betty Coon expressed concern over the search for city manager and the process considering the fact that two people had dropped out of the interview process. She was also concerned about the Wesener Building and about the arsonist. Mayor Pro-Tem Owen explained the process of the city manager search to her and couldn't comment about the Wesener Building because nothing had been presented to council regarding it.

Shelva Cebulski questioned the executive session held during the city manager interviews. She felt the council had made a good choice. Mayor Pro-Tem Owen explained that the meeting involved personnel issues for each candidate.

Gary Martenis commented about the success of the block party in his neighborhood. Thanked the judges for judging the chicken and encouraged city residents to have block parties in their neighborhoods.

William Owen commented that he felt politics had been involved in the decision of the city manager search, he felt that democrats don't have a chance. Mayor Pro-Tem Owen explained that party affiliation was not mentioned during the interview.

Teresa Skyard commented on the Brownfield plan for the Wesener Building. She also commented on the money that was already given to refurbish the building by the State.

Eddie Urban Commented on the geese that were on the lawn during the raft race. He had read an article in a Flint paper the way to handle is with a herding dog or stop mowing on Jerome where the people used to feed the geese there wouldn't be a problem.

Dan Stewart said he didn't have anything formal from the commissioner's meeting. He encouraged people to contact their state representatives in passing bills #410-411. This spreads the 911 funding over cell and home phones.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

Set Public Hearing –Brownfield Redevelopment Plan. A Public Hearing was set for September 17, 2007 to receive citizen comment regarding proposed Brownfield Redevelopment Plan--"District #13, Wesener Building".

Bid Award. Waived bid irregularities and accepted bid of the Richmond Volunteer Fire Department for one 1966 Mack Pumper truck, with VIN# ending in 5F1526, in the amount of \$2,100.00.

Bid Award. Accepted bid of Rushton Farms for trees for the reconstruction of Cass Street from Cedar Street to South Shiawassee Street in the amount of \$4,850.00.

Warrant No. 348. Accepted Warrant No. 348 as presented.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Standard Streetlighting Contract Change. Authorized change in Standard Street lighting Contract with Consumers Energy Company to replace the outdated 20,000 lumen fixture at the corner of Chipman Street and Stewart Street with a 10,000 lumen fixture and further authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the appropriate documents.

Michigan Municipal League Convention Representative. After a general discussion there was no action taken to designate City Representative and Alternate to cast vote of municipality at the Annual Michigan Municipal League Convention business meeting on September 19, 2007.

Liquor License Transfer Request. Approved request from Merkel, Inc. to transfer all stock in 2007 Class C licensed business with dance permit, located at 200-204 South Washington Street, Owosso, MI 48867, Shiawassee County, by transferring 1,000 shares from Yvonne J. Merkel (deceased) to Yvonne J. Merkel Trust; Joseph E. Merkel, Successor-Trustee.

Liquor License Transfer Request. Approved request from Merkel, Inc. to transfer all stock in 2007 Class C licensed business with dance permit, located at 200-204 South Washington Street, Owosso, MI 48867, Shiawassee County, by transferring 1,000 shares from Yvonne J. Merkel Trust; Joseph E. Merkel, Successor-Trustee to new stockholder Merkel Properties, LLC.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. N. Sylvester. Letter regarding city trash/recycling service.

William C. Brown, City Attorney. Ball Street underground storage tank update.

Richard C. Williams, Finance Director. July 2007 Revenue and Expenditure Report.

John F. Archer, Building Official. July 2007 Building Department Report.

John F. Archer, Building Official. July 2007 Code Violations Report.

Michael T. Compeau, Public Safety Director. July 2007 Police Department Report.

Michael T. Compeau, Public Safety Director. July 2007 Fire Department Report.

Brownfield Redevelopment Authority. Minutes of Meeting of August 15, 2007.

Downtown Development Authority. Minutes of Meeting of August 15, 2007.

Phillip Hathaway, Community Development Director. Notice of Vibrant Small Cities Initiative community input meeting (handed out at meeting).

Councilperson Bruff commented on the pictures included in the fire report.

Councilperson Cline commented on rental violations.

CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Eddie Urban questioned if the salary of the new city manager is to be \$75,000 or more. Mayor Pro Tem explained that it was advertised as between \$70,000 to \$85,000. City Council has not entered into negotiations.

Teresa Skyard questioned if there was leaf and brush pick up. The only leaf pick up is in the fall. She would have to drop it off.

Shelva Cebulski questioned the burning ban. Public Safety Director Compeau answered that does not include the City of Owosso. City Attorney Brown explained that it was state forest land or land adjacent to state forest land.

David Pyke questioned if the pavement would be torn up on Cass Street. City Engineer Baker said there is about 150 feet of pavement that will be milled and repaved.

William Owen questioned if anything will be done about the junk yard at Cedar & Cass during the reconstruction of Cass Street. A new boundary fence will be erected.

Councilperson Cline Commented on possible city manager salary and his opinion of one particular candidate.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Mark D. Owen, Mayor Pro Tem

Roxane Cramer, Clerk's Assistant

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.