

**CITY OF OWOSSO  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 21, 2024  
7:30 P.M.  
VIRGINIA TEICH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

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

**OPENING PRAYER:** PASTOR GARY BEAL  
CHURCH OF JUBILEE

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** TRAVIS SCHNEIDER

**PRESENT:** Mayor Robert J. Teich, Jr., Mayor Pro-Tem Susan J. Osika, Councilmembers Janae L. Fear, Jerome C. Haber, Daniel A. Law, and Nicholas L. Pidek.

**ABSENT:** Councilmember Emily S. Olson.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

Motion by Councilmember Pidek to approve the agenda as presented.

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

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 7, 2024**

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Osika to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 7, 2024 as presented.

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

**PROCLAMATIONS / SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

**Swearing In Ceremony – Firefighter Launa Costello**

Mayor Teich presided over a ceremony to swear in the City's newest firefighter: Launa Costello. Launa's shield was pinned by her father, David Costello. Also on hand to witness were her mother Malinda Costello and boyfriend Anthony Harden.

**Firemen's Memorial Steering Committee Appreciation**

Councilmember Law read aloud the following proclamation of the City of Owosso recognizing the contributions of the members of the Firemen's Memorial Steering Committee for their work in recognizing the County's firefighters that have fallen in the line of duty:

**A RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION  
FROM THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OWOSSO, MICHIGAN  
TO THE FIREMEN'S MEMORIAL STEERING COMMITTEE**

Whereas, the City of Owosso would like to honor those firefighters that were lost while in the line of duty; and

Whereas, the City of Owosso has sought to create a firemen's memorial using the City's 1921 American LaFrance firetruck; and

Whereas, in July of 2018 the City of Owosso did appoint a steering committee to fulfill these goals; and

Whereas, the Committee has worked tirelessly to raise the funds necessary to plan and construct a permanent display, and this effort is worthy of commendation.

Now, therefore be it resolved, that the City of Owosso extends its deepest thanks, and gratitude for the commitment and hard work of the members of Firemen's Memorial Steering Committee: Travis Schneider, Teresa Schnieder, Sarah Keeley Moorodian, Eric and Teri Mogg, Gordan Settlemyer, Ross Stanley, Mary Long, and Dan Law.

Furthermore, be it resolved, that the City of Owosso recognizes Doug Stanley, Tim Reid and John Reid for their generous contribution of time, expertise, and equipment for the annual

Firemen’s Memorial BBQ. Even though they aren’t members of the Committee, their work and dedication to the success of the event is very much appreciated.

Furthermore, be it resolved, that the City of Owosso also acknowledges and honors the work of Committee members lost over the years: Councilman Burton Fox, Rick Schneider, and Russ Wahl.

Furthermore, be it resolved, that the City of Owosso confers upon you this special commendation to show our appreciation, and our great thanks for your dedication to this cause, and public safety overall. Your service deserves recognition and is truly appreciated by all involved.

Resolved this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2024.

Upon returning to the dais, Councilmember Law suggested that Council consider spinning off the Firemen’s Memorial Steering Committee to stand alone as an independent organization because the scope of the mission had changed over the years to include all fallen firefighters in Shiawassee County and they had obtained tax-exempt status from the IRS so they no longer need to rely on the City for said status.

Motion by Councilmember Law to spin off the Firemen’s Memorial Steering Committee from a City committee to an independent organization.

Motion supported by Mayor Pro-Tem Osika.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilmembers Pidek, Haber, Mayor Pro-Tem Osika, Councilmembers Fear, Law, and Mayor Teich.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmember Olson.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Proposed Special Assessment District No. 2025-103 - Hazards & Nuisances**

A public hearing was conducted to receive citizen comment regarding proposed Special Assessment District No. 2025-103, Hazards & Nuisances, as it relates to unpaid costs incurred in the altering, repairing, tearing down, abating or removing of hazards and nuisances.

There were no citizen comments made prior to, or during the hearing.

Motion by Councilmember Pidek to approve Special Assessment District Roll No. 2025-103, Hazards & Nuisances, as it relates to unpaid costs incurred in the altering, repairing, tearing down, abating or removing of hazards and nuisances as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 175-2024**

**AUTHORIZING THE ROLL FOR  
SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT NO. 2025-103, HAZARDS & NUISANCES**

WHEREAS, the Council, after due and legal notice, has met and there being no one to be heard, motion by Councilmember Pidek to adopt Special Assessment Resolution No. 2 for the annual hazards & nuisances roll, as follows:

Parcel #	Address	Srvc Code	Amount
050-010-015-001-00	667 GLENWOOD AVE	WEEDS	\$580.00
050-010-015-005-00	651 GLENWOOD AVE	CLEAN	\$336.06
050-010-015-014-00	615 GLENWOOD AVE	WEEDS	\$270.00
050-010-016-020-00	616 GLENWOOD AVE	WEEDS	\$405.00
050-113-008-031-00	1229 MILWAUKEE ST	TREE	\$455.61
050-114-003-010-00	1116 STATE ST	CLEAN	\$4,219.36
050-114-006-001-00	1122 S CEDAR ST	WEEDS	\$270.00
050-240-003-006-00	621 N SAGINAW ST	WEEDS	\$290.00
050-250-000-008-00	602 N SHIAWASSEE ST	WEEDS	\$140.00
050-340-003-005-00	911 LINGLE AVE	WEEDS	\$135.00
050-390-004-012-00	1260 ADAMS ST	WEEDS	\$1,111.20
050-420-004-005-00	612 BROADWAY AVE	WEEDS	\$135.00

Parcel #	Address	Srvc Code	Amount
050-420-005-009-00	755 DIVISION ST	WEEDS/CLEAN	\$1,488.50
050-553-000-008-00	1500 MCMILLAN AVE	WEEDS	\$150.00
050-601-000-027-00	807 MICHIGAN AVE	WEEDS	\$135.00
050-602-040-008-00	1404 S CHIPMAN ST	WEEDS	\$135.00
050-651-000-013-00	415 GENESEE ST	CLEAN	\$994.46
050-651-022-007-00	222 CORUNNA AVE	WEEDS	\$680.00
050-652-003-006-00	321 E STEWART ST	CLEAN	\$255.39
050-652-008-004-00	808 DIVISION ST	WEEDS	\$140.00
050-652-010-024-00	917 S PARK ST	WEEDS	\$540.00
050-652-010-025-00	S PARK ST	WEEDS	\$405.00
050-652-010-026-00	S PARK ST	WEEDS	\$405.00
050-660-022-004-00	216 S ELM ST	WEEDS	\$614.56
050-710-001-012-00	915 CORUNNA AVE	WEEDS	\$565.96
			<u>\$14,856.11</u>

and

WHEREAS, the Council deems said Special Assessment Roll- Hazards and Nuisances to be fair, just and equitable and that each of the assessments contained thereon results in the special assessment being in accordance with the unpaid costs incurred in the altering, repairing, tearing down, abating or removing of hazards and nuisances of said properties.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Said Special Assessment Roll-Hazards and Nuisances as prepared by the City Assessor in the amount of \$14,856.11 is hereby confirmed and shall be known as Special Assessment Roll-Hazards and Nuisances No. 2025-103.
2. Said Special Assessment Roll-Hazards and Nuisances No. 2025-103 shall be placed on file in the office of the City Clerk who shall attach his warrant to a certified copy thereof within ten (10) days commanding the Assessor to spread the various sums shown thereon as directed by the City Council.

Motion supported by Councilmember Law.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilmembers Fear, Haber, Pidek, Law, Mayor Pro-Tem Osika, and Mayor Teich.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmember Olson.

**Ordinance Amendment – Parks & Recreation Commission Ordinance**

**Master Plan Implementation Goals: 3.14**

A public hearing was conducted to receive citizen comment regarding the proposed amendment to Chapter 2, Administration, Article IV, Boards and Commissions, Division 3, Parks and Recreation Commission, Section 2-242. *Members; appointment, terms, voting, officers*, of the Code of Ordinances.

The following person commented regarding the proposed amendment:

Patrice Martin, 615 N. Park Street, said she thought the proposed amendment would present a great opportunity for an area student. She asked if a position description had been developed to provide clear guidance as to the student’s role on the Commission. Mayor Teich and Assistant City Manager Amy K. Fuller explained the student role.

Whereas, the Council, after due and legal notice, has met and having heard all interested persons, motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Osika that the following ordinance be adopted:

**ORDINANCE NO. 847**

**AMEND CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION,  
ARTICLE IV, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS,  
DIVISION 3, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

WHEREAS, the City of Owosso, Shiawassee County, Michigan, has established by ordinance, a Parks and Recreation Commission to provide quality park and recreation opportunities based upon cost, efficiency and community need; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission is currently made up of 7 voting members; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Parks and Recreation Commission to add a Student Member to the Commission; and

WHEREAS, it is the long-standing practice of the City Council to hold a public hearing to receive citizen comment regarding any and all proposed ordinance amendments.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF OWOSSO ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. That Chapter 2, Administration, Article IV, Boards and Commissions, Division 3, Parks and Recreation Commission, Section 2-242. *Members; appointment, terms, voting, officers*, shall be amended as follows:

Sec. 2-242. - Members; appointment, terms, voting, officers.

- (a) The members of the parks and recreation commission shall consist of seven (7) voting members appointed by the mayor and approved by the council. The mayor or the designee of the mayor, with council approval, shall be an ex-officio member of the commission. The Mayor shall also appoint, with council approval, one (1) student member.
- (b) The seven (7) voting members shall have terms of two (2) years. The first appointment of the seven (7) members shall be staggered so that three (3) members are appointed for a one-year term and four (4) members shall be appointed to two-year terms. Thereafter each appointment of a member shall be for a two-year term unless it is an appointment to fill a vacancy in office that occurs prior to completion of a term. The student member shall serve a term of one (1) year. The ex-officio member of the commission shall serve for an indefinite term at the pleasure of the mayor.
- (c) Each voting member shall be entitled to one (1) vote. The ex-officio and student member shall not have a vote. Any action shall require a majority vote of the members present at a meeting constituting a quorum. A quorum shall consist of at least four (4) voting members.

SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This amendment shall become effective November 11, 2024.

SECTION 3. AVAILABILITY. This ordinance may be purchased or inspected in the city clerk's office, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Motion supported by Councilmember Pidek.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Mayor Pro-Tem Osika, Councilmembers Haber, Pidek, Law, Fear, and Mayor Teich.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmember Olson.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS**

Chrell Hoffman, Aiken Road resident, spoke about the problems she's been experiencing due to the burning of brush at the City's Aiken Road Drop Off Site, including ash covering her home and vehicles, the frequency of the burns, and the smoldering that lingers for a number of days after each fire. She said she has approached several people about the issue, but has yet to find resolution.

Tom Manke, 2910 W. M-21, thanked Council for spinning off the Firemen's Memorial Steering Committee. He said they are doing a wonderful job, and he was looking forward to the establishment of a worthy memorial.

Patrice Martin, 615 N. Park Street, spoke about leadership, noting that true leaders serve the people and are not out to burnish their own ego. She celebrated the fact that there are ten candidates running for City Council and encouraged everyone to be open-minded.

Gary Beal, pastor of the Church of Jubilee, said he appreciates each Councilmember and their service to the community. He went on to highlight the service of Mayor Pro-Tem Sue Osika personally thanking her for her dedication to the City and said he has appreciated getting to know the Mayor.

Mayor Teich invited Ms. Hoffman to speak with him about her issue in his office sometime this week, saying he wanted to look into things.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

None.

**ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

**Parks & Recreation Commission Bylaws Amendment**

Motion by Councilmember Pidek approving the proposed amendments to Article 2, Organization, Section 1, Members, of the bylaws of the City's Parks & Recreation Commission as follows:

**RESOLUTION NO. 176-2024**

**TO AMEND THE  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION BYLAWS**

WHEREAS, the City of Owosso, Shiawassee County, Michigan, has a Parks and Recreation Commission to provide quality park and recreation opportunities based upon cost, efficiency and community need; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Commission is currently made up of 7 members; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Parks and Recreation Commission to add a Student Member to the Commission.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Owosso, Shiawassee County, Michigan that Article 2, Section 1, Members, shall read as follows:

**ARTICLE 2: ORGANIZATION**

**SECTION 1: MEMBERS**

The members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Mayor and approved by the City Council.

The Commission shall consist of seven (7) voting members and two (2) non-voting members as described below:

- a) Seven (7) Voting Members;
- b) One (1) Student Member:
  - I. The Student Member does not have a vote;
  - II. The Student Member shall be between the ages of 15-18, and be enrolled in any public or private high school within the City;
  - III. Student Member term shall consist of one year starting in September.
  - IV. The Student Member shall be entitled to and abide by all applicable rules of procedure pertaining to any meeting of the Commission;
  - V. The Student Member shall be subject to all applicable rules of conduct pertaining to members of the Commission;
  - VI. The Student Member shall retain membership so long as the Student Member is in regular attendance at a high school during the school year which falls within the one-year term;
  - VII. The Student Member's attendance shall not be counted to qualify the Commission's quorum.
- c) One (1) Ex Officio:
  - I. The Ex Officio does not have a vote;
  - II. The Mayor or designee of the Mayor shall be the Ex Officio member of the Commission with Council approval.

Motion supported by Councilmember Fear.

Roll Call Vote.

AYES: Councilmember Law, Mayor Pro-Tem Osika, Councilmembers Haber, Fear, Pidek, and Mayor Teich.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilmember Olson.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Tanya S. Buckelew, Planning & Building Director. 2024 Liquor License Inspections.  
Tanya S. Buckelew, Planning & Building Director. September 2024 Building Department Report.  
Tanya S. Buckelew, Planning & Building Director. September 2024 Code Violations Report.  
Tanya S. Buckelew, Planning & Building Director. September 2024 Inspections Report.  
Tanya S. Buckelew, Planning & Building Director. September 2024 Certificates Issued Report.  
Kevin D. Lenkart, Public Safety Director. September 2024 Police Report.  
Kevin D. Lenkart, Public Safety Director. September 2024 Fire Report.  
Downtown Development Authority/Main Street. Minutes of October 2, 2024.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS**

Tom Manke, 2910 W. M-21, spoke out against the Fair Mavens group saying they will destroy the City.

Shelly Ochodnicky, 494 Hintz Road, thanked the community for coming together to fill the 53' trailer that left Owosso two weeks ago to help hurricane victims in North Carolina. She thanked Rex Wheeler and all those that helped to pack the supplies.

Elaine Wigle, 927 N. Parks Street, said the smell of burning bothers her as well, but what really gets her is the heavy smell of pot in places around the City. She said she can't enjoy her yard or open the windows in her house because of the smell of pot.

Mayor Teich noted that the City Manager and the City Clerk will not be present for the next City Council meeting and said he wanted to take the opportunity to thank them for their mentoring and support as he has gone about the job of mayor.

**NEXT MEETING**

Monday, November 04, 2024 – Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, November 12, 2024 – Organizational Meeting

**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS OPENINGS**

Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2026  
Building Board of Appeals – Alternate - term expires June 30, 2025  
Downtown Historic District Commission – term expires June 30, 2027  
Planning Commission - term expires June 30, 2027  
Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate – term expires June 30, 2027  
Zoning Board of Appeals – Alternate – term expires June 30, 2025

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Osika for adjournment at 8:20 p.m.

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

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Robert J. Teich, Jr., Mayor

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Amy K. Kirkland, City Clerk