

**CITY OF OWOSSO
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES SYNOPSIS
MONDAY, APRIL 07, 2025**

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

ABSENT: None.

PROCLAMATIONS/SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Parkinson's Awareness Month. Mayor Teich read aloud a proclamation of the Mayor's Office declaring the month of April 2025 as Parkinson's Awareness Month in the City of Owosso.

Retirement Proclamation – Don Luft. Mayor Teich presented a proclamation of the Mayor's Office recognizing the public service of Don Luft on the occasion of his retirement.

Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month. Mayor Teich read aloud a proclamation of the Mayor's Office declaring April 2025 as Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month in the City of Owosso.

Child Abuse Prevention Month. Mayor Teich presented a proclamation of the Mayor's office declaring April 2025 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City of Owosso.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Tom Manke said he feels that the City Manager isn't getting paid nearly what he should be. He said the current times call for a solid leader that knows the community and is willing to do what needs to be done. He said he hopes that the City can invest in this vital resource and keep the current City Manager here.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Osmer relayed the details of four different opportunities for community interaction as follows: YMCA Mobile Food Distribution will be held April 8th at the Baker College Welcome Center with distribution starting at 3:00 p.m.; there will be an Owosso Community Engagement Session regarding recycling held on April 12th at 12:30 p.m. at the Owosso Armory; Memorial Healthcare and the Shiawassee County Health Department are conducting their triannual community health needs assessment, community members are encouraged to complete a survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/mhc2025; Owosso Main Street and the YMCA are sponsoring the Open Streets Owosso event on June 21, 2025 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. to encourage people to come together and exercise.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

Traffic Control Order Nos. 1529 & 1530. Approved Traffic Control Order No. 1529 for the installation of No Stopping, Standing or Parking signs on both sides of Hathaway Drive from N. Chipman Street to the north end and No. 1530 for one Stop sign on Hathaway Drive at N. Chipman Street for southeast bound traffic.

Change Order- WTP Filters Improvements Project. Approved Change Order No. 1 to the contract with Sorenson Gross Company LLC for the WTP Filters Improvements Project, adding \$19,089.00 for the removal and capping of 4 existing valves and actuators and further approved payment to the contractor up to the adjusted contract amount of \$1,877,089.00 upon satisfactory completion of the work or portion thereof.

Professional Services Agreement - Wells Servicing Contract. Waived competitive bidding requirements, approved a professional services agreement with Northern Pump & Well, Inc. to provide regular maintenance and service of the City's municipal wells, and authorized payment to the vendor according to the terms of the contract.

Bid Award – City Hall Improvements Project. Approved bid award to Great Lakes Bay Construction for the City Hall Improvements Project in the amount of \$601,059.00 and further approved payment to the contractor upon satisfactory completion of the project or portion thereof.
Check Register – March 2025. Affirmed check disbursements totaling \$3,019,168.78 for March 2025.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Notice of Pecuniary Interest. Entered notice of pecuniary interest on the record for Councilmember Carl Ludington as it relates to proposed contracts with Ludington Electric, Inc.
Utilities Easement – Consumers Energy. Approved granting Consumers Energy a 12' permanent easement to construct, operate, maintain, inspect (including aerial patrol), survey, replace, reconstruct, improve, remove, relocate, change the size of, enlarge, and protect a line or lines of electrical facilities in, on, over, under, across, and through a portion of 1410 Rain Street to service the new residential build at 1404 Rain Street.

Unpaid Utility Charges. Authorized the Annual Notice for the collection of unpaid utility charges and the intent to lien therefore in compliance with Chapter 15, Section 15.4(c) of the Owosso City Charter. Also authorized the write-off of uncollectable charges.

Council Meeting Venue Change. Approved moving the City Council meeting scheduled for April 21, 2025 to the Owosso Public Schools Performing Arts Center to accommodate the large crowd size anticipated for the discussion on utility rates options.

Scheduling of Town Hall Meeting. Approved setting a special meeting on Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 6:30p.m. in the Owosso Public Schools Performing Arts Center to receive a presentation regarding the needs of the water and sewer systems over the next 5 years and the rates required to fund them.

Rescheduling/Relocation of Council Meeting. Authorized rescheduling the City Council meeting scheduled for Monday, May 5, 2025 to Wednesday, May 7, 2025 and relocating the meeting to the Owosso Public Schools Performing Arts Center to accommodate the large crowd size anticipated for the decision on utility rates.

Scheduling of Budget Meeting(s). Council set a special meeting for May 21, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers to discuss the 2025-26 Proposed Budget.

Capital Improvement Plan Adoption. Authorized adoption of the 2025-2031 Capital Improvement Plan as adopted and recommended by the Planning Commission.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Tom Manke commented on his feeling that the City is trying to hide the condition of the underground water storage tank at the Water Treatment Plant from EGLE and the public.

Pastor Bill Moull invited everyone to the community Good Friday service on April 18th at 12:15 p.m. at the Owosso Free Methodist Church.

Elizabeth Byrne inquired about who proposed the 5-year payment plan for all of the repairs planned for the utility systems, saying people are very concerned about that timeline. She also asked if there will be state or county representatives at the town hall meeting.

Utilities Director Suchanek addressed the comments regarding the underground water storage tank noting that both the Council and the state are aware of the condition of the tank, all water in the tank is tested on an hourly basis and meets or exceeds all EPA requirements. Nothing is being hidden. He also noted that he and the three utility superintendents will be at the town hall meeting on the 23rd. He said he would also reach out to EGLE once more to see if they would send a representative to the town hall meeting, but they have never taken him up on an invitation to date.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

None.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Nathan R. Henne, City Manager. City Manager Report – March 2025.

COMMUNICATIONS

Nathan R. Henne, City Manager. 2025-2026 Proposed Budget. (to be presented at the meeting)

Tanya L. Buckelew, Planning & Building Director. 2024 Planning Commission Annual Report.

Lizzie L. Fredrick, OMS/DDA Director. 2025 OMS Market Snapshot.

Brad A. Barrett, Finance Director. Financial Report – February 2025.
Kevin D. Lenkart, Public Safety Director. February 2025 Police Report.
Owosso Historical Commission. Minutes of March 10, 2025.
Downtown Development Authority/OMS Board. Minutes of April 2, 2025.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, April 21, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at the OPS Performing Arts Center

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 7:49 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.