

**CITY OF OWOSSO
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES SYNOPSIS
MONDAY, OCTOBER 06, 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

Swearing in Ceremony – Fire Department Employees. A ceremony was conducted to swear in the City's newest firefighter: Josh Hect.

Curwood Festival Donation. Curwood Festival representatives were on hand to present a donation of \$1,000.00 from the Curwood Festival to the City for the maintenance of Curwood Castle.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation. Mayor Teich read aloud a proclamation of the Mayor's Office declaring the month of October 2025 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City of Owosso.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Tom Manke thanked Council for recognizing Domestic Violence Awareness Month. He also criticized two local organizations for not having more services for men and encouraged such organizations to take care of everyone.

Pastor Bill Moull said domestic violence leaves long-lasting scars and said a prayer for the victims of domestic violence.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Osmer announced that Respite will be holding a Purse Bingo event on Thursday, tickets are \$20.00 online, or \$25.00 at the door.

Mayor Teich encouraged everyone to participate in the DDA survey to select a beneficiary for the proceeds from this year's Chocolate Walk.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda was approved as follows:

Proposed Special Assessment District No. 2026-101 - Hazards & Nuisances. Authorized Resolution No. 1 setting a public hearing for Monday, October 20, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. to receive citizen comment regarding proposed Special Assessment District No. 2026-101, Hazards & Nuisances, as it relates to unpaid costs incurred in the altering, repairing, tearing down, abating or removing of hazards and nuisances.

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

Name	Board/Commission	Term Expires
Colin McCallum	Owosso Main Street Board/DDA filling unexpired term of D. Woodworth	06-30-2028

MDOT Local Grade Crossing Surface Program Application - S. Chestnut Street. Approved application to the FY2026 Local Grade Crossing Surface Program for reconstruction of the Huron & Eastern Railroad crossing on South Chestnut Street.

MDOT Local Grade Crossing Surface Program Application - S. Gould Street. Approved application to the FY2026 Local Grade Crossing Surface Program for reconstruction of the Huron & Eastern Railroad crossing on South Gould Street.

MDOT Local Grade Crossing Surface Program Application - Smith Street. Approved application to the FY2026 Local Grade Crossing Surface Program for reconstruction of the Huron & Eastern Railroad crossing on Smith Street.

MDOT Local Grade Crossing Surface Program Application - Woodlawn Avenue. Approved application to the FY2026 Local Grade Crossing Surface Program for reconstruction of the Huron & Eastern Railroad crossing on Woodlawn Avenue.

Traffic Control Order Request - Lebowsky Center Drop-off Zone. Approved request from the Lebowsky Center of Performing Arts for the closure of the two parking spots directly in front of their building on various dates through May 31, 2026 for use as a drop-off zone during performances.

Traffic Control Order Request - Glow Owosso Parade, 5K and Tree Lighting. Approved request from Lizzie Fredrick, Owosso Main Street Director, for the street and lot closures for the annual Glow Owosso Parade, 5K, and Tree Lighting on Friday, November 28, 2025 beginning at 12:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. and further approved Traffic Control Order No. 1550 formalizing the action.

Changes to Street Lighting Contracts. Authorized amendments to the Street Lighting Contracts with Consumers Energy to reflect the removal and replacement of two high pressure sodium lights with two new LED lights at the intersection of Washington Street and Corunna Avenue and authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute appropriate documents.

Change Order - Street Patches. Approved Change Order No. 4 to the 2023 Street Patches contract with TJ Smith Sand & Gravel, Inc. increasing the amount by \$18,366.25 for additional street patches to finish the 2025 construction season and further approved payment to the contractor up to the amount of \$286,893.75.

Sole Source Purchase - Bulk CO₂. Waived competitive bidding requirements, approved the sole source purchase of bulk CO₂ from Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc. in the amount of \$.11 per pound with an estimated annual usage of 74 tons, and authorized payment based on actual quantities required for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026.

Bid Award – Public Safety Building Access Control System. Approved bid award to Total Security LLC for the Public Safety Building Access Control System bid in the amount of \$7,490.20 and further approved payment to the vendor upon satisfactory completion of the project.

Bid Award – Public Safety Surveillance Camera Expansion. Approved bid award to Total Security LLC for the Public Safety Surveillance Camera Expansion bid in the amount of \$8,758.16 and further approved payment to the vendor upon satisfactory completion of the project.

AP Check Register – September 2025. Affirmed Accounts Payable check disbursements totaling \$6,745,413.71 for September 2025.

Payroll Check Register – September 2025. Affirmed Payroll check disbursements totaling \$781,121.57 for September 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. for the month of September 2025.

New Investment Account. Authorized creation of a ModernFi account with Dort Financial Credit Union for investment purposes.

Utility Billing Policy Amendment. A lengthy discussion was held regarding potential changes to the Standard Procedures for the Issuance and Collection of Utility Bills, specifically switching from quarterly billing to monthly or bi-monthly billing with each Councilmember offering their opinion on the matter. A vote to implement monthly billing for utilities was defeated on a 4 to 3 vote.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Tom Manke thanked the Councilmembers that supported monthly billing, saying that younger people live their lives month to month. He went on to thank Kim Springsdorf for her work in bringing back the Art Walk and criticized the City for doing nothing about the dangerous building at 800 W. Main Street.

Justin Horvath, SEDP president, said the SEDP is currently working with the Shiawassee County Landbank Authority on grant funding to assist the owner of 800 W. Main Street to demolish the building.

Jeff Turner said he thought it was nice to see staff members guiding kindergarteners on a tour of City Hall on his recent visit. He went on to note that he had two water bills and paid both when they were due.

Ashley Short asked when the project to install new watermain on Young Street should be wrapping up. It was noted it should finish up in November.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Osmer provided more detail on the Respite Purse Bingo event, saying the doors open at 5:30 p.m., bingo starts at 6:00 p.m., and attendees are welcome to bring their own refreshments. She also noted that the SafeCenter here in town does provide support to men in some capacities and encouraged people to take advantage of the upcoming open house to learn more. Lastly, she asked what it would take to get information included in the water bills to let people know that they can pay at any

time. It was noted that staff had planned on including such information in an upcoming billing but was waiting on City Council to decide the details first.

Councilmember Olson asked her fellow Councilmembers why they ran for Council? She said she was very disheartened and genuinely upset that Council displayed a total lack of dedication in addressing the problems of the community, asking why run for Council if you're not willing to do anything.

Councilmember Owens said his purpose in running for Council was to help the residents. He said he listened to the citizens that contacted him about the water rates and voted accordingly.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Brad A. Barrett, Finance Director. Financial Reports – August 2025.

Owosso Historical Commission. Minutes of September 8, 2025.

Parks & Recreation Commission. Minutes of September 24, 2025.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, October 20, 2025 at 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, 2027

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, 2028

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

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