



MEMORANDUM

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DATE: September 14, 2021

TO: Mayor Eveleth and the Owosso City Council

FROM: Nathan Henne, City Manager

SUBJECT: Set Public Hearing – Ordinance Amendment – OHC Membership

RECOMMENDATION:

I recommend the Council set a public hearing for Monday, October 4, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers to receive citizen comment regarding the proposed amendment to Sec. 2-228, Members; appointment, terms, etc., to reduce the number of Historical Commission members from eleven to seven.

BACKGROUND:

Several years back the membership of the Historical Commission (OHC) was expanded from 7 to 9, then again from 9 to 11 with the intent of being able to organize and hold more events each year. Unfortunately, in the last couple of years the Commission has experienced a lot of turnover and there are currently numerous vacancies that have gone unfilled for several months. It has become clear that the community cannot sustain a commission of this size, and the time has come to scale back the previous changes, returning the group to a membership of seven.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

None.

RESOLUTION NO.

**AUTHORIZING FIRST READING & SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING FOR
THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 2, ADMINISTRATION,
ARTICLE IV, *BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS*, DIVISION 2, HISTORICAL COMMISSION,
SEC. 2-228, *MEMBERS; APPOINTMENT, TERMS, ETC.*, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES
TO AMEND THE NUMBER OF HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEMBERS**

WHEREAS, the City of Owosso, Shiawassee County, Michigan has an Historical Commission, established by ordinance, to recognize, preserve and bring public attention to the city's historical treasures; and

WHEREAS, the membership of the Historical Commission was increased to nine members in 2014 and again in 2016 to eleven members; and

WHEREAS, it has become apparent that the community is unable to sustain an Historical Commission of the current size, with a number of commission vacancies going unfilled for a number of months; and

WHEREAS, it is reasonable to amend the ordinance reducing the number of members to seven, as originally established; 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 THAT:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. That Chapter 2, Administration, Article IV, *Boards and Commissions*, Division 2, Historical Commission, Sec. 2-228, *Members; appointment, terms, etc.*, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Owosso be amended as follows:

Sec. 2-228. - Members; appointment, terms, etc.

The members of the historical commission shall be appointed by the city council. Membership shall consist of one (1) member from the council and ~~ten (10)~~ **seven (7)** members at large appointed for three-year terms. No member at large shall be appointed to the historical commission for more than two (2) successive terms unless one (1) year has elapsed after his or her second term expires.

SECTION 2. PUBLIC HEARING. A public hearing is set for Monday, October 4, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of hearing citizen comment regarding the proposed amendment to the Code of Ordinances.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This amendment shall become effective twenty days after passage.

SECTION 4. 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.