

Osakis City Council
Regular Meeting
February 7, 2011
7:00 PM

Present: Bruce Pederson, Randy Anderson, Chad Gulbranson, Keith Emerson, Jerry Olson
Absent: None

Others Present: Marianne Shrode, Angela Jacobson, Amy Chaffins, Craig Dropik, Susan Nienaber, Brian Hiles, Ron Kleinschmidt, Mark Pomerleau, Phil Reed, Nancy Waldorf, Brooke Waldorf

Mayor Emerson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance was spoken.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Anderson, to approve the agenda as presented with the addition of the Memorial Scenic Drive and garbage fees at multiple locations. All Ayes

Motion by Pederson, seconded by Gulbranson, to approve the general consent items, including January city bills in the amount of \$400,227.23, January 3, 2011 and January 13, 2011 meeting minutes. All Ayes

Project #24: Liquor Store

Julie Blair was not in attendance.

Project #73: First Responders

Craig Dropik was in attendance. Council received the January run report.

Dropik informed the Council that two new people are taking the First Responder class at this time. One other person is interested in joining.

Dropik and Pete Erickson would like to ask the Council for approval to attend a conference on March 18, 2011 and March 19, 2011 at Menomine, Mn and stay one night.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Anderson to approve to cover the cost of the conference and mileage for Craig Dropik and Pete Erickson on March 18, 2011 and March 19, 2011. All Ayes

Project #74: Fire Department

Mark Pomerleau was in attendance.

The department responded to car accidents, a fire at SunOpta and a shed fire.

At the SunOpta fire, Osakis supplied just personnel. A nice letter from Jeff Karrow from the Alexandria Fire Department was in the Osakis Review for the help with the SunOpta fire.

Pomerleau informed the Council that the air conditioner in the firehall needs to be replaced. The Council would like Pomerleau to get prices for replacement of the unit and the cost to repair the old unit that Matt Kral has.

Project #76: Police Department

Chief Gilson was in attendance. Council received the January police report.

Gilson reported to the Council that the Police Department received a grant from Safe & Sober that Officer Gulbranson submitted. The grant will be used for driver training and will save on the city budget.

Anderson asked Chief Gilson about the 2 a.m. closing. Does not take a lot of overtime to enforce the 2 a.m. closing. Gilson does not see a need for the City to charge a fee at this time.

Project #205: City Crew

Ron Kleinschmidt was in attendance. Council received the public works report for January.

Kleinschmidt informed the Council that he would like to sell the small dump truck and purchase a larger truck. A larger truck would be more efficient and take less time for hauling.

Kleinschmidt also informed the Council that the west side of the Community Center is separating. Kleinschmidt had talked to Joe Nickels whom is a structural engineer. Nickels would charge \$400.00 to inspect the building.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Pederson, to approve to have a structural engineer inspect the Community Center at a cost of \$400.00. All Ayes

Kleinschmidt would like the Council's approval to attend Rural Water School on March 1, 2011 thru March 3, 2011. The cost for the school is \$175.00.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Gulbranson, to approve Ron Kleinschmidt to attend the Rural Water School on March 1, 2011 thru March 3, 2011. All Ayes

Project #197: Water Plant

Brian Hiles was in attendance to update the Council on the progress of the water plant.

The following are the two ads that will be run in the paper:

- Replacement of water meters bid opening at 2:00 p.m. on March 2, 2011
- Groundwater supply well bid opening at 2:00 p.m. on March 3, 2011

The Council had approved the plans and specs and called for bids on both of these in August of 2010.

Hiles informed the Council that the water plant plans and specs were sent into Rural Development and MN Department of Health in December.

MN Department of Health approved the plans and specs. Last Friday, approval was sent to Rural Development and we are waiting on their response.

Hiles informed the Council regarding the Green Money. By switching the grant program and replacing the water plant, the City would not be eligible for Green Money funding. Plants have to be high efficient to receive this funding.

PFA wants to have cities use their funding package. This would be the only way to receive the Green Money funding.

There will be a cost increase of \$300,000 from the original plan. This is due to the building design change and electrical. Of that amount, \$150,000 was already figured in as contingencies on the project.

Clerk Jacobson will check on if there are any rebates from power companies.

Hiles will attend the March meeting to keep the Council updated.

Project #408: Vacating Street or Alley (3rd Avenue East – Industrial Park)

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Olson, to open the public hearing and suspend the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. All Ayes

Notices were published for two weeks and property owners within 350' were sent letters informing them of the public hearing ten days prior to the hearing.

The purpose of the public hearing is to hear any comments on vacating a 22' wide by 850' long section on the east side of 3rd Avenue East in the Industrial Park.

The reason for the vacation is that the Industrial Park was originally plotted with an 88' right-of-way but the city only needs a 66' right-of-way.

There were no comments for the public.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Gulbranson, to close the public hearing and reopen the regular meeting at 7:35 p.m. All Ayes

Brian Hiles will check for utilities on the east side of the street.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Gulbranson, to approve to have the utilities checked for the March meeting. All Ayes

Council will discuss this at their March meeting.

Project #354: OWA

Marianne Shrode, Sue Nienaber, Nancy Waldorf and Brook Waldorf were in attendance to ask permission to use a piece of property for a skate park.

Girl Scouts Brooke Waldorf and Briana Nienaber will be working with the OWA on this project.

The Council was informed that a financial grant from Tony Hawk is available. This grant is a dollar for dollar match.

There has been community input from youth and kids. A facebook page had been started and there are a

number of kids interested in the skate park. The kids would like to keep it in town.

There are three different plans. The plan costs are \$13,000/\$29,000/\$78,000. Can look at what the funding allows. The skate park would be made of cement slabs, which will last longer than prefab slabs. The work would be done by volunteers.

Clerk Jacobson will check with the city's insurance to find out if this would be accepted or not and the cost for this being added to the policy.

The Council is open to the idea but just questioning where to have it.

If it is located in the city park, Kleinschmidt stated there will be ongoing maintenance and inspections will be required. A 100' x 80' area in the park could be found.

The consensus of the Council was to support the skate park project.

Project #6: Theatre Building/Lot

At the January meeting, Carol Mihalchick was in attendance to ask the Council about improvements to the Theatre Building lot located on Central Avenue.

Clerk Jacobson talked with Char Rosenow from the Douglas County Auditor/Treasurers office. Rosenow sent an email with the two options that the city has regarding the lot.

Both options require the city to waive the \$10,000 assessment that is currently on the property.

The cost for option #1 is about \$3,000 and the cost for option #2 is about \$300.00.

The VFW had also inquired about a memorial. Quilts Along the Trail could share the lot with the VFW

The Council feels that the group can ask the county to use the property and not transfer the property to the city. If the group can not get help from the county then they can come back and discuss with the Council.

Project #393: 2:00 A.M. Closing

The Lake Osakis Pub & Grill is asking to renew their 2 A.M. Closing license.

Motion by Gulbranson, seconded by Olson, to approve the Lake Osakis Pub & Grill a 2 A.M. Closing license. All Ayes

Project #18: Bridge Inspection & Maintenance

The Council received an agreement with Todd County for the Bridge #3000 replacement located on Lake Street East in Osakis.

Kleinschmidt and Clerk Jacobson meet with Loren from Todd County regarding this project on February 4, 2011.

- Replace the bridge in 2010
- Todd County will handle the design, inspection and grant

The Council is asked to approve the agreement contingent on the changes that Kleinschmidt and Jacobson discussed with the county:

- Get the city a current bid proposal for the project
- Council approve any future changes to the project cost
- Regular updates and progress of the project
- Get out of the agreement if either party does not like the situation

Below are the costs associated with the project that were discussed with Todd County:

- Total project cost is \$150,000
- City pays \$10,000 of the project cost by statute
- The design engineer cost is \$18,000
- Inspection by the county is \$5,000
- Total cost to the city would be \$33,000
- City will be responsible for the cost to acquire easement

A Resolution was presented by Anderson, seconded by Pederson, to approve entering into an agreement with Todd County for the replacement of Bridge #3000 located on Lake Street East in Osakis contingent on the changes proposed by Clerk Jacobson above. When put to a vote the Resolution passed unanimously. All Ayes

Project #22: Clerk

The MCFOA Conference will be held March 16, 2011 thru March 19, 2011 in St. Cloud.

The cost of the conference is \$200.00 and the room cost is \$85.00 per night for 2 nights.

Motion by Jacobson, seconded by Gulbranson, to approve Clerk Jacobson to attend the MCFOA Conference in St. Cloud on March 16, 2011 thru March 19, 2011. All Ayes

Project #79: Auditors/Audit

Council received a letter from the State Auditor's office that was received regarding the city's 2009 audit.

A letter must be issued to the State Auditor's stating how the city is going to address the issues outlined.

Council reviewed the letter and went over the 2009 deficiencies.

Council received a copy of the 2008 proposed overtime policy and Clerk Jacobson will contact KDV about the letter and the 2009 audit.

Project #110: Gambling License

Council received a Resolution for Ducks Unlimited gambling license for April 15, 2011 at the VFW.

A Resolution was presented by Emerson, seconded by Gulbranson, to approve the gambling license for Ducks Unlimited for April 15, 2011. When put to a vote, the Resolution passed unanimously.

Project #191: Skating Rink

Anderson and Kleinschmidt updated the Council on the progress of the skating rink.

Anderson will email Gregg Allen on details of the skating rink and will work on meeting with them.

Project #213: Lifeguard/City Beach

Information was given to the Council regarding the city beach:

- The last year the city hired a lifeguard was in 2006
- The city posted signs (Swim at Your Own Risk) since that time

Questions asked to the Council:

- Does the Council want to have the city crew clean up and open the beach again this year?
- Does the Council want to open the beach again to swim at your own risk?
- What are the Council's future plans for the beach?

Council wants the city crew to clean and open the beach again this year. The beach will be swim at your own risk with no lifeguard on duty.

Project #242: West Central Initiative

Council received a letter from West Central Initiative asking for \$500.00 of the \$2,500.00 commitment.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Gulbranson, to approve to pay \$500.00 as agreed. All Ayes.

Project #368: Xcel Energy

Council received two notices from Xcel Energy regarding an increase in energy costs.

Project #439: Lower Level Living in the C-1 (Central Business District)

It has come to our attention that we have numerous individuals in the downtown area that are living on the lower level of the buildings. Also a resident is living in a commercial building on Hwy 127. Some we know for sure are living on the lower level and others are suspected living there.

The City of Osakis Zoning Ordinance does not allow this.

Questions for the Council:

- How does the Council want to pursue this issue?
- Does the Council want to see the downtown area turn into apartments with residential living?
- Does the Council want to see the commercial businesses convert to residential living space instead of store front?
- Should the city attorney be contacted about how to enforce the ordinance?
- Would the Council like to talk with John Anderson from Municipal Development Group regarding how this can affect a city's commercial business by allowing residential living in a commercial area?

Council received a letter from John Anderson about residential units on the first floor in the C-1 (Central Business District) from 2009.

Clerk Jacobson will talk to John Anderson regarding what the city should do about those that have been living in the lower level for several years and find out what other people are living in the lower level that the city does not know about and how to handle it.

Project #401: Lake Road – Scenic Signs

Olson added to the agenda. Chub Hensley informed Ron Kleinschmidt that they are happy with the signs that were put up for the Osakis Armed Forces Drive. The signs have been placed on Lake Street East from Central Avenue to city limits on the east side of town as they had asked for. They did not ask for signage on additional streets.

Project #84: Garbage Fees

Lorraine Listberger has a home in town and is living at a lake home and doesn't think she should pay for garbage at both places. She does not want to pay for garbage in town.

Council discussed this issue and does not want to change the city policy. So if water is used in town she will have to pay for garbage. Listberger could try talking to the garbage company she has at her lake home.

Motion by Anderson, seconded by Olson, to adjourn the meeting at 9:08 p.m. All Ayes

Mayor – Keith Emerson

City Clerk – Angela Jacobson