

A Regular Meeting of the Otsego City Commission was held Monday, March 21, 2016.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gilmer at 7:00 p.m. with the following Commissioners present: Ryan Wieber, Kathy Misner, and Stacey Withee. Absent: Cyndi Trobeck. Also present City Manager Beard, Finance Director Storbeck, and WWTP Supervisor Keyzer.

The audience joined the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Withee moved to excuse Commissioner Trobeck, seconded by Commissioner Misner. CARRIED.

The Regular Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2016, were approved as submitted.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

1. Marge Bakker, Chief Circuit Court Judge was in attendance and announced her candidacy for Circuit Court Judge. She also provided information regarding the Allegan County Legal Assistance Center.
2. Rob Kengis, Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney was in attendance to announce his candidacy for Allegan County Prosecutor.
3. Frank Baker, Under Sheriff was in attendance and announced his candidacy for Allegan County Sheriff.

I. PRESENTATIONS:

A. PRESENTATION OF 2016-2017 ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL - WATER FUND AND SEWER FUND

Finance Director Matthew Storbeck presented the Water and Sewer Funds for the fiscal year 2016-2017. Anticipated revenue for the Water Fund is \$475,265 and anticipated expense is \$586,795. Water capital improvement projects are planned in the amount of \$106,000. Anticipated revenue for the Sewer Fund is \$735,200 and anticipated expense is \$905,735. Sewer Fund capital improvement projects are planned in the amount of \$115,000. He noted that there is a proposed increase in the Readiness to Serve Fee in the Sewer Fund from \$16.30 to \$20.38; and an increase in the commodity charge from \$6.19 to \$6.56/1,000 gallons; the Water Fund Readiness to Serve Fee will be increased from \$10.68 to \$12.82; and an increase in the commodity charge from \$1.83 to \$1.92/1,000 gallons.

II. PUBLIC HEARING:

III. PLANNING AND ZONING:

IV. ORDINANCES:

V. REQUESTS:

VI. AGREEMENTS

**A. CONSIDERATION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH SIEGFRIED CRANDALL PC
– AUDITING SERVICES**

Manager Beard stated that the proposed agreement is for a term of three years and there was not a rate increase. Commissioner Wieber moved to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into a three year agreement with Siegfried Crandall PC for auditing services, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Withee. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VII. RESOLUTIONS:

**A. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2016-10 – A RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO PREPARE MAPS, DIAGRAMS OR
PLANS CONCERNING PROPOSED SIDEWALK CURB AND GUTTER
IMPROVEMENTS AND/OR ADDITIONS ON THE SOUTH FARMER STREET**

Commissioner Withee offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Wieber.

**CITY OF OTSEGO
MICHIGAN
RESOLUTION NO. 2016-10**

**A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO PREPARE MAPS,
DIAGRAMS OR PLANS CONCERNING PROPOSED SIDEWALK AND CURB AND
GUTTER IMPROVEMENTS AND/OR ADDITIONS ON THE SOUTH FARMER
STREET**

WHEREAS, this City Commission deems it may be advisable and necessary to acquire, construct, and install and/or improve the sidewalks, curb and gutter on South Farmer Street and

WHEREAS, it is contemplated that part or all of the cost of such improvements may be defrayed by special assessments upon the parcels of property specifically benefitting from those improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Otsego City Code directs that certain actions be taken in order to specially assess benefitted property

BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to prepare or cause to be prepared such maps, diagrams, or plans as will indicate the scope of the improvement and estimate and tabulate the cost of the proposed improvement, together with his recommendations as to the portion of those costs to be specially assessed against benefitted property and to be paid by the City at large and the land in the Special Assessment District.

2. Once prepared, the maps, diagrams, plans, estimates, or tabulation of cost shall be filed with the City Clerk, together with the City Manager's recommendation as to what portion of the cost should be paid by special assessment and what part, if any should be borne by the City at large, and the land which should be included in the Special Assessment District.

3. Once filed with the City Clerk, the Clerk is authorized and directed to present such plans to the City Commission.

4. All resolutions and parts of resolutions are to the extent of any conflicts with this resolution, hereby rescinded.

YEAS: Commissioners: Tom Gilmer, Kathy Misner, Ryan Wieber, And Stacey Withee.

NAYS: Commissioners: None.

ABSTAIN: Commissioners: None.

ABSENT: Commissioners: Cyndi Trobeck.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

VIII. APPOINTMENTS:

IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. SOUTH FARMER STREET CONSTRUCTION

Manager Beard stated that letters were sent to property owners outlining the upcoming project. He explained the Special Assessment process and how estimates for the work is calculated.

B. PUBLIC SAFELY MILLAGE

Mayor Gilmer updated the Commission on the letter he had written, contact information, and times that the Commission will be available for questions.

C. OTSEGO WATER POWER COMPANY

Manager Beard gave an overview of the property that is identified as being owned by the Otsego Water Power Company. He explained that the City is the last remaining entity of the Otsego Water Power Company, so the property identified is the property of the City. He stated that by acquiring this land it will assist with the extension of the River Front Trail to Plainwell.

D. CITY MANGER EVALUATION

Mayor Gilmer stated that he had met with Manager Beard and discussed his review and the written comments. He reported that Manager Beard had received a 4.8 rating on a 1-5 scale, which is an outstanding review. He expressed that the City is very fortunate to have Manager Beard as our City Manager as he is very courteous, competent, involved with the community, and keeps the Commission well informed and a fine representative

of the City. Manager Beard thanked the Commission and stated that the past sixteen years have been great.

MANAGER'S REPORT

1. He gave updates on the following: Chamber Dinner – March 29th; FEMA conference call; City Hall will be closed on Friday, May 25th; Capital Conference in Lansing; and his meeting with Representative Whiteford.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Jared Polonoski, 113 N Farmer Street – he suggested that the new acquired land could be a primitive campground. He stated that he didn't care that the utility prices would be increasing, as he would rather pay more to maintain the systems.

Hayden Korreck, Boy Scout, 624 Kalamazoo Street – he asked how long it would be for the Riverfront Trail to be extended. Manager Beard stated approximately four to five years after the dam is removed.

Ben Korreck, 624 Kalamazoo Street – he asked why the water usage is trending down. Manager Beard stated that residents and businesses are trying to conserve water and some of the industrial users are recycling their water.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Misner – she suggested that a letter be written to the City's State Representative, Senator and Governor and ask them to account for the loss of \$7.5 Billion. She also asked Manager Beard to send the letter to other City Managers. She stated that it is time to be vocal about this. She wished the City's Fire Department and Police Department safe travels and to be extra vigilant, with all of the violence taking place. She stated that it bothers her and she is thinking of them.

Commissioner Wieber – he thanked Finance Director Storbeck for his expertise leading the Commission through the Water & Sewer Budgets. He commented that Manager Beard is a competent, approachable, professional leader, who guides the Commission and he appreciates it.

Commissioner Withee – she stated that the Water and Sewer Budgets were very interesting. She stated that Manager Beard has been so helpful to her being new on the Commission and he always answers every question she has.

Mayor Gilmer – he announced that the City of Otsego and the City of Plainwell are declaring April 9, 2016, as Daniel Bosch Day. He explained that a driver for Walmart nominated Daniel for this honor. Daniel is the son of our DPW Supervisor Mike Bosch. He stated that he is a remarkable, positive young man, who has been through many crises in his young life. He will be recognized with our Fire Trucks and Police Cars at Walmart from 10am until 12:00 pm. He invited everyone to attend. He also mentioned that Daniel is a Main Street Volunteer, who helps with the fall decorations downtown each year. He thanked the audience for attending.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner Misner, seconded by Commissioner Withee. CARRIED – 8:35 p.m.

Angela M. Cronen, MMC
City Clerk