

A Regular Meeting of the Otsego City Commission was held Monday, April 15, 2019.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Trobeck at 7:00 p.m. with the following Commissioners present: Stacey Withee, Lauri Krueger, Brent Milhiem, and Nick Breedveld. Absent: Also present City Manager Mitchell; Finance Director Storbeck; Police Chief Konkle, DPW Supervisor Bosch, and Fire Chief Weber.

The audience joined the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The April 1, 2019, Regular Minutes were approved as submitted.

## **REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

### **I. PRESENTATIONS:**

#### **A. COUNTY COMMISSIONER GALE DUGAN UPDATE**

Commissioner Dugan gave an update on the most recent County Commission activities.

#### **A. PRESENTATION OF 2019-2020 ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL – DPW MOTOR POOL FUND & DDA FUND**

Finance Director Matthew Storbeck presented the Motor Pool Fund and DDA Funds for the fiscal year 2019-2020. Anticipated revenue for the Motor Pool Fund is \$237,200, and anticipated expense is \$253,280, capital improvements of \$52,000. Anticipated revenue for the DDA Fund is \$557,100, and anticipated expense is \$550,420, with capital improvements of \$200,000. Finance Director Storbeck gave a history of the funding of the DDA and where it is today. He stated that the information that he has received indicates that the reimbursement from the State will be at the 2013 level in the approximate amount of \$235,000. A lengthy discussion took place regarding the funding of the DDA/Main Street, the Pavilion Project, and the loan from the City.

### **II. PUBLIC HEARING:**

### **III. PLANNING AND ZONING:**

### **IV. ORDINANCES:**

### **V. REQUESTS:**

#### **A. ACCEPTANCE OF THE APRIL 8, 2019, MINUTES OF LOCAL OFFICERS COMPENSATION COMMISSION MEETING**

Manager Mitchell stated that the Local Officers Compensation Board recently met and recommended that the Commissioners wages remain the same. The LOCC Board will meet again in 2021. Commissioner Withee moved to accept the April 8, 2019, minutes of the Local Officers Compensation Commission Meeting, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Milhiem. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **VI. AGREEMENTS**

### **A. CONSIDERATION OF A RECYCLE AGREEMENT WITH BEST WAY**

Manager Mitchell stated that he had received two quotes for curbside recycling. He briefly explained that Best Way is the City's current provider and was the lowest bid. Commissioner Breedveld commented that he didn't think the number of customers was a true number versus what we are paying for. Commissioner Milhiem moved to authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Best Way Disposal for Recycling Services, seconded by Commissioner Krueger. CARRIED. Yes – Trobeck, Milhiem, Withee, & Krueger. No – Breedveld.

### **B. CONSIDERATION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY'S NATIONWIDE ACCOUNT**

Manager Mitchell explained that that City's Nationwide account would be changing and the City needed to choose an option for the fixed account. Commissioner Withee moved to authorize the City Clerk to execute an amendment to the City's Nationwide account, regarding the fixed account as presented, seconded by Commissioner Krueger. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **C. CONSIDERATION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH APPRAISALS PLUS GROUP FOR ASSESSING SERVICES**

Manager Mitchell stated the contract with Appraisals Plus Group for assessing services is a renewal for three years. The overall wage increase would average out at to three percent per year. Manager Mitchell commented that Kevin Harris does a fantastic job. Finance Storbeck stated that historically if the City is satisfied with the services and the pricing is reasonable, we do not go out to bid. Commissioner Withee moved to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an agreement with Appraisals Plus Group for assessing services, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Milhiem. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### **D. CONSIDERATION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH KEVIN HARRIS - ASSESSOR**

Manager Mitchell explained that Assessor Harris is a part-time employee of the City, as the assessor of record has to be an employee of the City. Commissioner Withee moved to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an agreement with Kevin Harris, the City's Assessor, seconded by Commissioner Milhiem. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **VII. RESOLUTIONS:**

## **VIII. APPOINTMENTS:**

## **IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

### **A. BLIGHT**

Police Chief Konkle gave a detailed presentation of the Police Department's procedures as to how they deal with blight. He reviewed portions of the Blight Ordinance. Police Chief Konkle also defined the responsibilities of the Police Department and the City's Building Inspector. He stated that they recently had a meeting discussing blight and steps going forward. He answered questions of the Commission. A brief discussion took place regarding finding service groups or volunteers to form groups to assist citizens that are physically unable to perform maintenance on their home.

## **MANAGER'S REPORT**

1. He gave updates on the following: Rock-Tenn, East Allegan Street - North alley, Otsego Township meeting, and the Kubota that is being sold.
2. He asked for further questions or comments regarding his written Manager's report submitted to the Commission in their weekly packet.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

## **REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Craig Sisson, 740 Bayberry – he spoke in regards to the blight issue. He stated that there are not as many owner occupied homes in the City, as there used to be and landlords should not be given any leeway when it comes to blight. He stated that someone who moved away from the community and has just returned and was shocked as to the conditions of the homes in the old section of town. He wanted the City to be aware of the problem. He thanked Police Chief Konkle for his presentation.

Jim Misner, 512 Dix – he asked a question regarding boats, RV's and trailers and being licensed. He stated that some cities do not use the Police Department to do code enforcement, they have an Enforcement Officer take the heat for it. He commented that the problem of blight stems from people without resources. He commented that there are buildings in the downtown that need paint and to be cleaned up.

John Master, 319 Washington – he approached the Commission with a request to allow golf carts on city streets. He reviewed various laws and gave each Commissioner a handout with information from various cities that have ordinances for golf carts. He stated that he enjoys driving this golf cart and would like to be able to do it in Otsego. He asked that the Commission review the material that he gave them and eventually put this item on the agenda.

## **COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Breedveld – he asked if scooters were allowed on the streets. He stated that in the past the City and Township held joint meetings and there were annual workshop meetings for the budget.

Commissioner Krueger – she thanked County Commissioner Dugan and Police Chief Konkle for their presentations. She thanked the audience for attending.

Commissioner Withee – she commented that it was nice to see people in the audience.

Commissioner Milhiem – he stated that he appreciated the conversation regarding blight. He commented that this is the community that he has chosen to raise his children and it is sad to see the conditions of some of the homes and the elderly that can't afford to maintain their home. He said that he takes it personally and there should be a way for our community to pitch in and help. He commented that he is anxious to see the improvements to Rock-Tenn. He stated that there are exciting times ahead for the City.

Mayor Trobeck – she commented that Finance Director Storbeck did an excellent job. She thanked County Commissioner Dugan and Police Chief Konkle for their presentations.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner Withee, seconded by Commissioner Milhiem. CARRIED – 8:38 p.m.

Angela M. Cronen, MMC