

A Regular Meeting of the Otsego City Commission was held Monday, June 3, 2019.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Trobeck at 7:00 p.m. with the following Commissioners present: Stacey Withee and Brent Milhiem. Absent: Lauri Krueger. Also present City Manager Mitchell.

The audience joined the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Milhiem moved to excuse Commissioner Krueger, seconded by Commissioner Withee. CARRIED

The May 20, 2019, Regular Minutes and the May 27, 2019, Special Minutes were approved as submitted.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

None.

At 7:02 p.m., Commissioner Milhiem moved to go into Closed Session to discuss a written legal opinion with the City's Attorney, in the matter of Ransbottom vs. City of Otsego, seconded by Commissioner Withee. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

At 7:22 p.m., Commissioner Milhiem moved to close the Closed Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Withee. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

At 7:23 p.m., Commissioner Withee moved to reconvene the Regular Meeting, seconded by Commissioner Milhiem. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Commissioner Withee moved to accept the City Attorney's recommendation in regards to the Ransbottom vs. City of Otsego litigation, seconded by Commissioner Milhiem. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

I. PRESENTATIONS:

II. PUBLIC HEARING:

III. PLANNING AND ZONING:

A. CONSIDERATION OF SITE PLAN APPROVAL FOR USG – OTSEGO PAPER
Manager Mitchell stated that the Planning Commission recommended to the City Commission the approval of the site plan that was presented by USG - Otsego Paper. He commented that at the last Planning Commission Meeting the site plan was reviewed and the engineer answered questions. He stated that this expansion will increase production by thirty percent and add approximately five new jobs. Commissioner Milhiem, who is a member of the Planning Commission commented that he had questions regarding the City's infrastructure, but Manager Mitchell clarified that it is in compliance. Commissioner Milhiem moved to approve the Site Plan for USG-Otsego Paper's Warehouse and Truck Parking, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Withee. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IV. ORDINANCES:

V. REQUESTS:

VI. AGREEMENTS

A. CONSIDERATION OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND RELEASE WITH NICK AND KARIN BREEDVELD

Commissioner Milhiem moved to authorize the Settlement Agreement and Release with Nick and Karin Breedveld, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Withee. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VII. RESOLUTIONS:

VIII. APPOINTMENTS:

IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. DISCUSSION REGARDING COMMISSION ETHICS

Manager Mitchell presented the City Commission with a draft of the Commission Ethics Ordinance. He stated that he is working with the City Attorney, who is currently reviewing the proposed ordinance and the City's Charter. Mayor Trobeck commented that the proposed ordinance adds a Statement of Acknowledgment, which each Commissioner will have to sign. Commissioner Withee commented that she is in favor of the proposed ordinance. Manager Mitchell will provide the Commission with a final draft by the next meeting.

B. DISCUSSION REGARDING FIREWORK ORDINANCE CHANGES

Manager Mitchell stated that in 2013, the State expanded the days for the use of fireworks. He stated that the City adopted an ordinance to reflect these changes. He stated that Police Chief Konkle communicated to him that State Law had changed to decrease the number of days fireworks are allowed. A discussion took place regarding the specific dates that the new ordinance would allow. The City Commission instructed Manager Mitchell to proceed amending the Fireworks Ordinance.

MANAGER'S REPORT

1. He gave updates on the following: Awarding of \$125,000, MDOT Grant (1 of 23 in the State); Kayak Launch; Rock-Tenn; and the Well-Head Protection Program.
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

Al Radspeiler, PO Box 266 Hopkins - he wanted to know who complained about his property. He stated that people are picking on him and wasting his time. He voiced the actions of the Board of Review regarding his property. He told the Commission to remember that he may still go to court and have a jury trial. He commented that the City hired an attorney just for him, and Mayor Trobeck again stated that Attorney Grate is the City's attorney. He instructed the Police Department to "leave me alone period".

Dustin McNees, 214 E Hammond – he commented that the City Commission should be as strict as they can on the firework rules. He encouraged the Commission to have the fewest days possible and increase the fine.

Resident, 1010 Lincoln Road – he asked if the USG Warehouse was engineered to take the liability off of the City. Manager Mitchell stated that it was professionally engineered.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Milhiem – in regards to comments made - he explained that both the Planning Commission and City Commission reviewed the USG site plan. He explained that the Planning Commission gives a recommendation to City Commission, after their meeting and through review. He commented that it is great that USG's production will be increasing and they will be hiring more employees. He stated that good things are happening in Otsego, which is very encouraging. He thanked the audience for attending and USG for expanding in Otsego.

Commissioner Withee – she commented that she is excited for USG's expansion and it shows that they are in our community for the long haul. She thanked USG for their continued support of the City and Main Street. She stated that there will be another park cleanup on June 15th.

Mayor Trobeck – she stated that there are a lot of things going on in Otsego. She commented that downtown has very few vacant buildings. She commented that two new businesses are moving to the downtown – an insurance agency and hair salon, which is wonderful. She stated that she is accepting applications for the open Commissioner seat until June 21st, and hope to appoint a new Commissioner at the July 1st, meeting.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner Milhiem, seconded by Commissioner Withee. CARRIED – 7:58 p.m.

Angela M. Cronen, MMC