

A Regular Meeting of the Otsego City Commission was held Monday, October 7, 2019.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Trobeck at 7:00 p.m. with the following Commissioners present: Stacey Withee, Lauri Krueger, Dustin McNees and Brent Milhiem. Absent: None. Also present City Manager Mitchell, Police Chief Konkle, and Fire Chief Weber.

The audience joined the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The September 16, 2019, Regular and Closed Meeting Minutes were approved as submitted.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS

Pam Roth, 701 Kay Street – she asked why there was not an item on the agenda regarding travel trailers. Mayor Trobeck stated that there is nothing on the agenda regarding travel trailers.

I. PRESENTATIONS:

A. BY COUNTY COMMISSIONER GALE DUGAN

Commissioner Dugan presented his update on the most recent County Commission activities, during public comment.

II. PUBLIC HEARING:

III. PLANNING AND ZONING:

IV. ORDINANCES:

V. REQUESTS:

A. CONSIDERATION OF TRAFFIC CONTROL ORDER NO. 138 – NO PARKING ON SOUTH SIDE OF WASHINGTON STREET

Manager Mitchell stated that this Traffic Order would prohibit parking on the south side of Washington Street which will help avoid backups. He explained that residents are parking in the designated bike lanes thinking that they are parking spots. He commented that this would allow for parking on the north side of the street and a Bike Lane on the south side. Commissioner Krueger moved to grant the Chief of Police’s request for Traffic Control Order No. 138 – No Parking on the south side of Washington Street, seconded by Commissioner Milhiem. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FROM THE OTSEGO/PLAINWELL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO HOLD THE ANNUAL “TRAIL FOR TREATERS” IN THE DOWNTOWN ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2019, FROM 4PM TO 6PM

Commissioner Withee moved to grant a request from the Otsego/Plainwell Chamber to hold their Annual “Trail for Treater’s” in the downtown on Thursday, October 31, 2019, from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m., seconded by Commissioner McNees. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VI. AGREEMENTS:

- A. CONSIDERATION OF A LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH THE OTSEGO/PLAINWELL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR USE OF THE SIDEWALK IN THE 100 AND 200 BLOCKS OF EAST AND WEST ALLEGAN STREET, 100 BLOCK OF NORTH AND SOUTH FARMER STREET, FOR THE “TRAIL FOR TREATERS” ON OCTOBER 31, 2019

Commissioner Milhiem moved to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into a License Agreement with the Otsego/Plainwell Chamber of Commerce for the Trail for Treater’s, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Krueger. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VII. RESOLUTIONS:

- A. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2019-21 – A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2019-2020 ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL

Manager Mitchell stated that the final quote for the road maintenance on Dix and Washington Streets had come in higher than the original bid. Commissioner Milhiem asked why the quote was an additional \$9,000. Manager Mitchell explained that the original quote was incomplete, due to the fact that they did not make a site visit and the cracks were deeper than originally quoted. A brief discussion took place regarding the contactor and the method used to fix the road.

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

CITY OF OTSEGO
ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
RESOLUTION NO. 2019-21

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE 2019-2020 ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL

WHEREAS, the Otsego City Commission approved the 2019-2020 Annual Appropriations Bill which limited amounts for expenditures and anticipated revenues for the 2019-2020 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, certain activities and/or revenue sources will exceed previous projections; and

WHEREAS, the Otsego City Commission wishes to formally amend the annual appropriations bill in acknowledgement of the need for revisions,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Otsego City Commission hereby approves the following increases and decreases to the 2019-2020 Annual Appropriations Bill:

Major Street Fund Expenditures		
202-464-802.000	Surface Maintenance Contracts	\$18,000
Net Increase/(Decrease)		\$18,000

Capital Projects Fund Expenditures	
401-901-971.000 Land Purchases	\$116,700
Net Increase/(Decrease)	\$116,700

YEAS: Commissioners: Cyndi Trobeck, Stacey Withee, Brent Milhiem, Laurie Krueger, & Dustin McNees.

NAYS: Commissioners: None.

ABSTAIN: Commissioners: None.

ABSENT: Commissioners: None.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

VIII. APPOINTMENTS:

IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

MANAGER'S REPORT

1. He gave updates on the following: Pavilion fundraising, Chief of Police interviews, and Chief Konkle’s retirement party.
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

Mayor Trobeck – she clarified that the Commission did ask the City Manager to look at other municipalities ordinances regarding recreational vehicles, after a resident voiced a concern. She stated that the City Commission doesn’t make ordinances based on exceptions. If a resident asks the Commission a question it is taken seriously and their request is looked at thoroughly.

Paul Gagneur, 801 Goodsell – he asked what options were available for him, as he didn’t see any issues. He suggested that the Commission looks at allowing parking of trailers which do not block the line of sight from April 1st to November 1st.

Robert Alway, 1012 Barton – he commented that there is a Blood Drive at the Church of God tomorrow from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Karin Breedveld, 1101 Barton – she stated that “we did pass around the flyers that were referred to with the date of the next meeting.” She stated that the minutes were taken directly from the website. She stated that she thought the Commission would want more information out there and more people to come to their meetings.

Pam Roth, 701 Kay – she stated that the flyer that she received referenced tonight’s meeting and is was signed “anonymous”. She commented that it was implied that her trailer would have to be stored elsewhere. She stated that it was so very wrong and it manipulated us to think tonight’s meeting was about travel trailers.

Jerry Hoover, 1023 Barton – he stated that he had parked his motorhome in his driveway for twenty-two years and he asked various questions regarding set-backs and the current ordinance. Chief Konkle and Manager Mitchell briefly explained setbacks and that there are different setbacks for different sections of the City.

Lorna Sisson, 740 Bayberry – she commented that she understands the concern, but thought that it is important to be able to come to the Commission and voice a concern and not be singled out. She stated that it is unfortunate to single people out. Mayor Trobeck commented that the meeting minutes are public record and are published. She suggested that if someone has a concern they can always come to City Hall and it will be confidential.

Daniel Pietrak – 125 W Hammond Street – he commented that he was the neighbor that was referred to in the previous public comments. He stated that he is glad he lives in this community. He commented that he worked with Chief Konkle and Manager Mitchell with the placement of his trailer, since he has two front yards. He stated that he is in compliance with the ordinance.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner McNees – he mentioned that it was nice to have Mr. Alway back in attendance. He thanked the audience for attending.

Commissioner Krueger – she commented that the Creative Arts Festival was fabulous and it was nice to see the downtown busy. She stated that all of the feedback regarding the festival was wonderful and she thanked the Creative Arts Festival Committee. She thanked Commissioner Dugan for his report. She announced that the Otsego/Plainwell football game is on Friday – and to go and purchase “Otsego” donuts at Sweetwater’s. She congratulated the Otsego Bands for their 1st Place finishes at both Cedar Spring and Hastings, as they swept all categories.

Commissioner Withee – she congratulated the Otsego Band. She commented that she appreciated that everyone came to the meeting tonight. She stated that the ordinance regarding RV parking has a long history. She stated that the City will always be fair and asked that the community be patient. She thanked the Allegan County for the recent Hazardous Waste event at the Transfer Station. She invited everyone to join Main Street as they decorate for the fall season in the downtown.

Commissioner Milhiem – he stated that he loves the passion that the residents have for our town because he has the same passion. He stated that he lives on a corner lot and it can be tough and he appreciates that. He thanked the City for providing a safe place for the children to trick or treat in the downtown at the Trail for Treaters event. He commented that this event is great for the City and the businesses. He reminded everyone that the Pavilion Project is still going on and encouraged anyone that could, to give to this project that will display the natural beauty of the river. He thanked Mr. Alway for mentioning the Blood Drive, and encouraged everyone to go

that could. He thanked Manager Mitchell for the discussion regarding the Washington/Dix Street road project. He thanked that audience for attending.

Mayor Trobeck – she commented that she was excited that there is an audience. She stated that people tend to not call us or contact City Hall, and she commented that all five of the Commissioners are easy to find and easy to talk to. She stated that if there is a confidential issue to discuss, come to or call City Hall or a Commissioner. She stated that we all want to help you. She reminded everyone that all public comments in the meeting are in a public forum and are reflected in the minutes of the meeting. She thanked County Commissioner Dugan for attending. She commented that the Creative Arts Fair was fantastic. She reminded everyone that Hometown Christmas will take place on December 7th. She thanked the audience for attending.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner McNees, seconded by Commissioner Withee. CARRIED – 7:46 p.m.

Angela M. Cronen, MMC
City Clerk