

A Regular Meeting of the Otsego City Commission was held Monday, August 17, 2020.

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 Dustin McNees. Absent: None. Also present: City Manager Mitchell, Police Chief Misner, DPW Supervisor Bosch and Fire Chief Weber.

The audience joined the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The August 3, 2020, Regular Meeting 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.

II. PUBLIC HEARING:

A. PUBLIC HEARING FOR AN INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES TAX EXEMPTION FOR USG-OTSEGO PAPER WITH THE CITY ASSESSOR AND AFFECTED LOCAL TAXING UNITS

Mayor Trobeck opened the Public Hearing at 7:07 p.m. There being no public comments, the Public Hearing was closed at 7:08 p.m.

III. PLANNING AND ZONING:

IV. ORDINANCES:

V. REQUESTS:

A. CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FROM THE CITY MANAGER TO MAKE AN ADDITION TO THE PERSONNEL POLICY – COMP TIME

Commissioner Krueger moved to grant a request from the City Manager to make an addition to the Personnel Policy – Compensation Time, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Withee.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VI. AGREEMENTS:

VII. RESOLUTIONS:

A. RESOLUTION NO. 2020-19 - A RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL OF INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES TAX EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE FOR USG –OTSEGO PAPER

Commissioner Milhiem offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption, supported by Commissioner Krueger.

CITY OF OTSEGO
MICHIGAN
RESOLUTION NO. 2020-19

A RESOLUTION FOR APPROVAL OF INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES TAX EXEMPTION
CERTIFICATE FOR USG – OTSEGO PAPER

WHEREAS, pursuant to 474 PA 48 MCLA Sec. 207.551, MSA 7.800 (1) after a duly noticed public hearing held on July 20, 2020, the Otsego City Commission by resolution established Otsego City Industrial Facility Taxing District Number 26, as requested by the USG- Otsego Paper;

WHEREAS, by resolution, adopted , this Commission accepted the application of USG - Otsego Paper., for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate for the facility constructed in District Number 26, and directed the City Clerk to notify the City Assessor and the legislative body of each taxing unit which levies ad valorem taxes on the property located within Otsego City Industrial Facilities District Number 26, that the application for the Exemption Certificate would be considered at a meeting of the City Commission on August 17, 2020, and that an opportunity to be heard would be provided to the assessor and to a representative of each of the bodies so notified;

WHEREAS, during a Regular Meeting of the City Commission August 17, 2020, the applicant, the Assessor and a representative of the affected taxing units were afforded an opportunity to be heard:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as follows:

(1) That this City Commission finds:

(a) That the construction of the facility has not begun earlier than 6 months before May 27, 2020, the date of acceptance of the application for the Exemption Certificate;

(b) That the application related to a construction program which when completed will constitute a facility within the meaning of 1974 PA 198 and will be situated in Otsego City Industrial Facility Taxing District Number 26, established in the City of Otsego on July 20, 2020, by resolution of this City;

(c) That completion of the facility is calculated to and will at the time of issuance of the certificate have the reasonable likelihood to create employment and retain employment in the City of Otsego;

(d) That completion of the facility will not have the primary effect of merely transferring employment from elsewhere in Michigan to the City of Otsego;

(e) That the application applies to an Industrial Facilities Tax Exemption;

(f) That the granting of the said Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate, considered together with the aggregate amount in Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificates previously granted and currently in force, will not have the effect of substantially impeding the operation of the City of Otsego or impair the financial soundness of any taxing unit which levies ad valorem property taxes on the property described in the Industrial Facility Tax Exemption Certificate;

(g) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to execute a Property Tax Abatement Agreement with USG - Otsego Paper for the life of the certificate.

(2) That the application of USG - Otsego Paper, for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate with regard to the facility constructed in Otsego City Industrial Facility Taxing District #26 be and is hereby approved for 12 years.

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

NAYS: Commissioners: None.

ABSTAIN: Commissioners: None.

ABSENT: Commissioners: None.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

VIII. APPOINTMENTS:

A. CONSIDERATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF BRIAN SANTMAN TO THE CONSTRUCTION BOARD OF APPEALS FOR A 2 YEAR TERM EXPIRING ON APRIL 30, 2022

Commissioner McNees moved to appoint Brian Santman to the Construction Board of Appeals for a two year term, expiring on April 30, 2022, seconded by Commissioner Krueger.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

MANAGER'S REPORT

1. He gave updates on the following:

- Officer Roberts River Rescue
- FEMA – Fire Department Grant for \$138,000 for air packs.
- Congratulations to USG for expanding
- Departure of Main Street Manager, Joel Saukas. He wished him the best.

2. He asked for further questions or comments regarding his written Manager's Report submitted to the Commission in their weekly packet. Commissioner McNees asked if the Main Street Manager position will be filled. City Manager Mitchell stated that there was a meeting scheduled for August 19th, to discuss the position.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Krueger – she thanked and congratulated Officer Roberts and Officer McGehee for saving the girl from the river, as “you couldn’t have handled it better”. She thanked County Commissioner Dugan for his report and commented that he always brings good information to the meetings and it is appreciated. She commented that Joel Saukas will be missed and that he is a very nice guy. She thanked USG for continuing to invest in the community, as it is appreciated very much.

Commissioner Withee – she echoed Commissioner Krueger’s comments. She commented that she is going to miss Joel Saukas terribly, as he is truly a nice guy and she wished him well.

Commissioner McNees – he echoed Commissioner Krueger and Commissioner Withee’s comments. He thanked Chief Misner for the information regarding the Body Camera Policy, since it is important to him.

Commissioner Milhiem – he thanked Brian Santman for accepting the appointment to the Construction Board of Appeals and commented that he will do a good job. He thanked and congratulated the Fire Department for the grant they received and the effort that they put into it. He commented that all of the City’s public safety personnel are top notch especially for a small town. He thanked County Commissioner Dugan for this presentations commenting that he appreciates them and always learns something new. He thanked DPW Supervisor Bosch for his hard work. He thanked USG – Otsego Paper for continually investing in our community. He stated that they are a huge part of our community and a staple in our community. He thanked City Manager Mitchell, Mayor Trobeck, and the other Commissioners for the workshop meeting, commenting that it was very beneficial and really good to come together.

Mayor Trobeck – she thanked Officer Roberts commenting that the rescue was very impressive which is because of the good training. She thanked the entire Police Department. She thanked USG – Otsego Paper for their continued investment in the community. She stated that USG-Otsego Paper just keep growing and it is wonderful to have them in our community. She told Fire Chief Weber “good job” for getting the grant and for making sure our firefighters and community are safe. She commented that she is going to miss Joel Saukas. She thanked County Commissioner Dugan for his continued updates.

ADJOURN FOR CLOSED SESSION – POTENTIAL SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

Commissioner McNees moved to go into closed session to discuss the potential sale of real property, seconded by Commissioner Krueger. CARRIED. 7:26 p.m.

Commissioner McNees moved to resume the regular meeting , seconded by Commissioner Krueger. CARRIED. 7:58 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner Milhiem seconded by Commissioner Withee. CARRIED – 7:59 p.m.

Angela M. Cronen, MMC
City Clerk