

A Regular Meeting of the Otsego City Commission was held on Monday, August 2, 2021.

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

The audience joined the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The July 19, 2021, Regular and Special 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 current Allegan County activities.

II. PUBLIC HEARING:

A. PUBLIC HEARING FOR REQUEST OF A SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT FOR A VEHICLE MAJOR AND/OR MINOR REPAIR FACILITY AT 610 S PLATT STREET – PRIME SOLUTIONS LLC

Mayor Trobeck opened the Public Hearing at 7:13 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. Dendel gave a brief overview of the history of their businesses. They highlighted on the following: purchasing of 1930's-1960's vehicles and upgrading safety features; six cars within the fenced in area; sale of vehicles will be to auctions; and they are not open to the public at this time.

Jim Misner, 512 Dix Street – he commented that he was first opposed to the idea because of the lack of information, but has since changed his mind after meeting with the Dendel's and the City. He stated that he has no environmental concerns, they run a class act.

John Dussia, 316 E Hammond – he commented that Mr. Misner's comments were refreshing to hear. He commented on issues with other businesses in the area regarding barriers, trash and smoke. He stated that his concerns were with the City not standing up and following through on ordinances. He stated that his concern is with the City itself.

Craig Sisson, 740 Bayberry- he asked if he could get a copy of the revised site plan. He wanted to confirm that there are no changes in operations at this time. He asked if there is a cap on how much they can grow the business. City Manager Mitchell commented that they would have to submit a revised site plan to the Planning Commission/City Commission for approval of anything other than what is being requested at this time. Mr. Sisson commented that he is agreement with Mr. Misner.

Ken Bleeker, 729 Bayberry – he concurred with Mr. Misner's comments. He stated that after meeting with Mr. Dendel all of his questions were answered satisfactorily. He commented the following: that Mr. Dendel admitted that he had jumped the gun; limits six cars in the area, and he will improve the fence. He also stated that this is a great opportunity to bring new industry to the City, by adding jobs and tax base. He recommended approval.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:26 p.m.

III. PLANNING AND ZONING:

A. CONSIDERATION OF A SPECIAL LAND USE PERMIT FOR A VEHICLE MAJOR AND/OR MINOR REPAIR FACILITY AT 610 S PLATT – PRIME SOLUTIONS LLC

At this time, Mayor Trobeck confirmed that there would be no exterior demolition of the vehicles; if there are changes to any of the green space they will have to get permission. She assured Mr. Dussia that his issues will be addressed separately and that the City takes the complaints seriously. The Commission asked questions regarding the process of how Mr. Dendel gets the vehicles. Mr. Dendel explained the entire process and the turnaround time (approximately six months).

Commissioner Withee moved to grant a Special Land Use Permit for a Vehicle Major Repair Facility at 610 South Platt Street – Prime Solutions LLC, as provided in the presented Site Plan, seconded by Commissioner Krueger. **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

IV. ORDINANCES:

V. REQUESTS:

A. CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FROM HOWARD MISNER/125 GROUP - TO HOLD A BONFIRE ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2021, FROM 7:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M., TO CELEBRATE THE 125TH OTSEGO VS. PLAINWELL FOOTBALL RIVALRY

Mr. Misner explained his passion of promoting the longest football rivalry in the United States, and his request to have a bonfire. At this time, Fire Chief Weber stated that a similar request was made about four years ago, and it was denied after researching and finding that burning of this nature cannot be done within 1400 feet from a City boundary, per EGLE. Fire Chief Weber stated that he could not recommend approval. He suggested a smaller fire that would comply with the City's Burning Ordinance. Commissioner Milhiem moved to grant the request from Howard Misner/125 Group to hold a bonfire on Tuesday, August 24, 2021, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., to celebrate the 125th Otsego vs. Plainwell Football rivalry, seconded by Commissioner Krueger. Commissioner McNeas – Yes. Commissioners – Milhiem, Withee, Krueger, Mayor Trobeck – No. **NOT CARRIED.**

VI. AGREEMENTS:

VII. RESOLUTIONS:

A. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 2021-10 – A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVER FUNDS

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

CITY OF OTSEGO
ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN
RESOLUTION NO. 2021-10

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT CORONAVIRUS LOCAL FISCAL RECOVER FUNDS

WHEREAS, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) appropriates \$19.53 billion to States to

distribute to tens of thousands of “non-entitlement units of local government” (NEUs); and

WHEREAS, the City of Otsego (the City) is regarded as a NEU, which is defined as a jurisdiction with a population under 50,000 people; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan is required to allocate and distribute amounts to each NEU from the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recover Fund (Local Fiscal Recovery Fund) as set forth in sections 602 and 603 of the Social Security Act (the Act), as added by section 9901 of ARPA; and

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has estimated that the City of Otsego will receive \$418,046 in Local Fiscal Recovery Funds; and

WHEREAS, the NEUs may use Local Fiscal Recovery Funds for pandemic related eligible costs, provide premium pay and/or grants to eligible workers performing essential services, to offset related reduction in revenues or to make necessary investments in water, sewer or broadband infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the Otsego City Commission has previously discussed the possibility of receiving these funds and committing them to sewer infrastructure improvements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Otsego City Commission hereby affirms its directive to City Manager Mitchell to apply for available Local Fiscal Recovery Funds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Otsego City Commission accepts the Local Fiscal Recovery Funds on behalf of the City.

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

NAYS: Commissioners: None.

ABSTAIN: Commissioners: None.

ABSENT: Commissioners: None.

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

VIII. APPOINTMENTS:

IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

MANAGER’S REPORT

The City Manager gave updates on the following:

1. Gus Macker
2. Dam/GEI – boat launch.
3. Rock-Tenn upcoming informational meeting.
4. Pavilion

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Robert Alway, 1012 Barton – he announced that there will be a Blood Drive at the Congregational Church tomorrow.

John Dussia, 316 E Hammond – he asked Mr. Dendel a few questions regarding the unloading of the vehicles. Mr. Dendel told him to contact him if he has a complaint.

Aurora Kawakami, 412 Dix – she commented that she hears cars being unloaded and/or loud noises between 3am and 4am in the morning.

Mike Prouty, 336 E Orleans – he announced that there would not be a Block Party this year. He stated that people drive down East Orleans too fast and asked if a Stop Sign could be placed on East Orleans Street. City Manager Mitchell asked Mr. Prouty to contact Chief Misner.

Howard Misner – he thanked the Commission for listening to his request and stated that he expects to see everyone at the Otsego-Plainwell game.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Milhiem – he commented that the Summer Activity Series was a success and hopes that it comes back next year. He commented that it brings people downtown and eventually to the pavilion. He encouraged everyone to either participate or volunteer for the Gus Macker event, Creative Arts Festival, and Hometown Christmas. He thanked County Commissioner Dugan for his report. He thanked Clerk Cronen for adjusting the website to make it easier to find park and recreational information. He thanked John Dussia for his comments and encouraged residents to bring these types of concerns to the City.

Commissioner Withee – she commented that she is so excited to have the Gus Macker event back. She encouraged people to visit the Main Street website and volunteer – there is a need for scorekeepers.

Commissioner Krueger – she thanked Mr. Dendel for being diligent and explaining the process, which led to everyone understanding the request. She thanked Mr. Dendel for the new commerce and manufacturing, commenting that Otsego is prospering. She replied to Mr. Dussia that the City is trying to manage the blight issues, but don't hesitate to let us know. She commented that she loves and appreciates what Mr. Howard Misner is trying to do to promote the Otsego/Plainwell Football rivalry. She commented that she visited that Farmers Market on Saturday and it was fabulous.

Commissioner McNees – he commented that he appreciated everyone for taking the time to attend the meeting. He encouraged Ms. Kawakami to call the Police Department if she hears the loud sounds at 2:00 a.m. He reminded everyone that the last Summer Series event will be on Wednesday. He stated that he will be in the dunk tank and if anyone else would like to be in the dunk tank to contact Julie Guthrie. He commented that these events make the kids very happy.

Mayor Trobeck – she thanked the audience for attending and commented that she is grateful that they are here. She commented that she concurred with all of the Commissioner's comments. She stated that it is nice when people approach and ask questions of the Commission. She commented that the community needs to come and talk to the Commission and voice their concerns, as meetings are held the

1st and 3rd Monday of the month. She stated that she never gets phone calls and there is a lot of fictional stuff on social media. She stated that she was happy to see everyone in the audience and everyone working together. She thanked Jim Misner, Ken Bleeker, and Mr. Prouty for their comments.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner McNees, seconded by Commissioner Krueger. CARRIED – 8:13 p.m.

Angela M. Cronen, MMC
City Clerk