

A Regular Meeting of the Otsego City Commission was held on Monday, August 15, 2022, at the TOP Pavilion.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Withee at 7:02 p.m. with the following Commissioners present: Chuck Moore, Lauri Krueger, Jason Smith and Brent Milhiem. Absent: None. Also present: City Manager, Aaron Mitchell; Police Chief, Brad Misner, Finance Director, Matt Storbeck; and Fire Chief, Brandon Weber.

The audience joined the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The August 1, 2022, Regular Meeting Minutes were approved as submitted.

Commissioner Krueger moved to remove – under Requests the School Resource Officer Contract, seconded by Commissioner Milhiem. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

Nick Breedveld, 1101 Barton – he asked where money is coming from for the air conditioner. He asked if it was coming from the DDA Funds to maintain buildings. Finance Director Storbeck commented that it is an option.

### **I. PRESENTATIONS:**

#### **A. FIRE DEPARTMENT PINNING CEREMONY**

At this time, Fire Chief Weber announced that Thomas Dyke had passed his necessary requirements to become a Firefighter. Fire Chief Weber pinned Firefighter Dyke. City Clerk Cronen then swore in Firefighter Thomas Dyke. The Commission congratulated Firefighter Dyke.

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

Commissioner Dugan gave an update on the most recent County Commission activities. He answered questions of the audience.

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

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

### **IV. ORDINANCES:**

### **V. REQUESTS:**

### **VI. AGREEMENTS:**

#### **A. CONSIDERATION OF THE RENEWAL OF RECYCLE AGREEMENT WITH ALLEGAN COUNTY**

City Manager Mitchell stated that this renewal is for the recycle and waste management collection which is done once a year. Commissioner Milhiem moved to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to renew the Recycle Agreement with Allegan County, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Moore. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**B. CONSIDERATION OF AN AGREEMENT FOR CITY HALL HVAC REPAIRS**  
City Manager Mitchell stated that bids had been received for the replacement of the leaking coils on City Hall's air conditioning unit. He stated that the repair estimate was \$19,000; and the replacement bid is for \$41,389.00. Commissioner Milhiem asked if there is a warranty – one year for installation and five years for parts. Finance Director Storbeck will gather the information and pass it on to the Commission. Commissioner Moore moved to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an agreement with Pleune Service for the amount of \$41,389.00, clarifying that there is warranty coverage, seconded by Commissioner Krueger.  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**VII. RESOLUTIONS:**

**VIII. APPOINTMENTS:**

**IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

The City Manager gave updates on the following:

- Recent Storm Calls – Police (45), Fire (78) & DPW were flooded with calls, and did a great job!
- Consumers Energy got the power on quickly and provided an ice cream event at the Dairy Freeze.
- Summer Fun Night – distributed over 100 backpacks – looking forward to next years.

Questions for the City Manager:

- Commissioner Milhiem asked for an update on Rock-Tenn – he stated that the developer is waiting for the housing study, which after bids come in will be a six to eight-week process. He also commented that they are now using our sand and it is a slow process.
- Commissioner Kruger asked about the status of the Scout House after the storm damage – he stated that a claim has been submitted to the City's insurance company.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Jean Ashley, 1103 Barton – she wanted to acknowledge and thank the DPW, Fire, and Police Departments for supporting our community during the storm, and they should be commended.

Charles Housel, 379 W Orleans – he asked why all of the joints on the pavilion are rusting already, and the contractor should be liable for not properly prepping it. City Manager Mitchell commented that he will have DPW Superintendent Bosch look at it.

Nick Breedveld, 1101 Barton – he asked if the Police Department is being paid for Gus Macker and who is paying for that. City Manager Mitchell commented that one additional officer will be

working at the Gus Macker. He commented that after reading the resolution regarding the TOP group, he believes that it is really muddy/murky, having the City put TOP in place, and being hard to separate the City from TOP. City Manager Mitchell explained that the City, DDA, or Main Street will not be involved with the TOP Committee. Mr. Breedveld stated that it is the taxpayer's dollars putting TOP together, as he read the resolution and it states that it is instructed/directed by DDA/Main Street. Commissioner Krueger commented that the DDA funds will be used up. City Manager Mitchell stated that only the proceeds from an event like Gus Macker can potentially be given to a 501C3. Commissioner Krueger stated that the City has to be made whole – then the proceeds could be given to the group.

William Geresy, 545 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Plainwell – he provided pictures of the damage of the Scout House and asked that they be added to the minutes.

### **COMMISSIONER'S' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Krueger – she thanked County Commissioner Dugan; Police Chief Misner & City Manager Mitchell for the work on the SRO position; Fire Chief Weber and the firefighters for the help during the storm; the DPW for cleaning up all of the brush and trees, as it looked like a war zone; Julie Guthrie of OPS – as she goes above and beyond for the school and the City of Otsego; and the audience for attending.

Commissioner Moore – he thanked the audience for attending; County Commissioner Dugan for his report; the Police Department, Fire Department, DPW Staff; and Finance Director Storbeck for obtaining the air conditioning bids; and the Community for working together after the storm.

Commissioner Smith – he echoed all of the previous Commissioner comments. He stated that it is an honor to live in this City during the hard times. He thanked Julie Guthrie for reaching out to the kids in our community and making life impacts.

Commissioner Milhiem – he congratulated new firefighter Thomas Dyke, commenting that he never realized how much work and effort it takes to protect our City residents, and thanked him for his service. He thanked the DPW Staff; the WWTP Staff; the Police Department; the Fire Department; and everyone working behind the scenes during the storm. He commented that he appreciated Jean Ashley's comments. He thanked County Commissioner Dugan for his continued work on Rock-Tenn and the housing study. He thanked everyone that made it possible to have the meeting at the pavilion. He thanked the audience for attending.

Mayor Withee – she thanked the audience for attending. She congratulated and thanked new firefighter Thomas Dyke for his hard work, effort and sacrifices. She echoed the Commissioner's comments regarding Julie Guthrie and her staff who go above and beyond. She commented that the SRO position is a good direction to go.

### **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner Milhiem, seconded by Commissioner Smith. CARRIED – 7:51 p.m.

Angela M. Cronen, MMC  
City Clerk