

A Regular Meeting of the Otsego City Commission was held on Monday, August 21, 2023.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Withee at 7:00 p.m. with the following Commissioners present: Jason Smith, Chuck Moore, and Wayne Rayburn. Absent: Lauri Krueger. Also present: City Manager, Aaron Mitchell; and Fire Chief, Brandon Weber.

The audience joined the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Moore moved to excuse Commissioner Krueger, seconded by Commissioner Smith. CARRIED

On a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Rayburn, the August 7, 2023, Regular 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 County activities. He answered questions of the Commission and audience regarding Rock-Tenn and the Brownfield Meetings.

II. PUBLIC HEARING:

III. PLANNING AND ZONING:

IV. ORDINANCES:

V. REQUESTS:

VI. AGREEMENTS:

A. CONSIDERATION OF A LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH MAUDE'S LLC TO INCLUDE 131 EAST ALLEGAN STREET AND 133 EAST ALLEGAN STREET TO THE PREVIOUS APPROVED PATIO AGREEMENT

City Manager Mitchell explained that the addition of 131 and 133 East Allegan Street is in regards to updating Maude's liquor license. Commissioner Moore moved to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into an agreement with Maude's LLC to include 131 East Allegan Street and 133 East Allegan Street to the previously approved Patio Agreement, seconded by Commissioner Rayburn. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. CONSIDERATION OF A FIRE DEPARTMENT AGREEMENT WITH OTSEGO TOWNSHIP

City Manager Mitchell explained that the existing Fire Department Agreement with Otsego Township does not include the new 24/7 coverage and this addendum addressing the new coverage. He stated that the current contract is slated to expire in 2030. A brief discussion took place regarding other terms of the agreement, and City Manager Mitchell explained that the

original agreement did not change, only the 24/7 coverage terms were added. Commissioner Smith moved to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into a Fire Department agreement with Otsego Township, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Rayburn. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

VII. RESOLUTIONS:

VIII. APPOINTMENTS:

IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. DISCUSSION REGARDING OTSEGO PUBLIC SCHOOL EVENTS ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2023

At this time, City Manager Mitchell reviewed all of the events that will be taking place on Saturday, September 30, 2023. He reviewed possible routes, closures, and drop off points. He will keep the Commission updated on the events and traffic routes.

MANAGER'S REPORT

The City Manager commented and gave updates on the following:

- Elections – 9 Days of Early Voting. At this time, Clerk Cronen asked the Commission if they preferred to hold the 9 days of early voting independently or partner with other municipalities. Clerk Cronen explained the differences in the options provided. After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission to not partner with other municipalities, so the City of Otsego voters will vote all in one place.
- Congratulations to Grace Krueger for being featured on Fox 17
- Gus Macker has 381 teams registered. A charity game will be held on Friday night at 6:00 p.m. The City and Fire Department will be participating in the charity game. Mayor Withee commented that Wishbone Animal Shelter will be accepting donations at the charity game.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Nick Breedveld, 1101 Barton – he stated that the street project on Dix/Washington Street was the best street project that he can ever recall. He complimented the crew for doing a great job.

COMMISSIONER'S' COMMENTS

Commissioner Rayburn – he asked City Manager Mitchell if Maude's were being charged a fee for the License Agreement, and City Manager Mitchell indicated that they will pay the \$1.00, license fee. He asked Fire Chief Weber how the new system at the Fire Department was working. Fire Chief Weber indicated that it is the new normal now and they are getting use to it. Fire Chief Weber stated that they are down to about four calls per week that are not covered solely by the full-time positions. He thanked the following: County Commissioner Dugan; the audience for attending; City Manager Mitchell for the maps he provided; Clerk Cronen for the election information; and his fellow Commissioners.

Commissioner Smith – he thanked the following: County Commissioner Dugan for his report; City Manager Mitchell for his foresight on all of the events taking place on September 30th; Clerk Cronen for the voting information; and the audience for attending. He commented that he is looking forward to the Gus Macker Event.

Commissioner Moore – he thanked the following: Clerk Cronen for the planning of the nine days of extra voting and for thinking of the citizens; the audience for attending; and for the kind words regarding the Dix/Washington Street Project.

Mayor Withee – she commented that she is very glad to see the road project completed and commented that they did a good job. She reminded everyone the Gus Macker is still in need of volunteers, and you can sign up on Sign-Up Genius. She commented that she would like to see a regional voting site here at the City, as we have well run elections. She also commented that she hopes that the County will be able to get us some grant funds.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Rayburn. CARRIED – 7:59 p.m.

Angela M. Cronen, MMC
City Clerk