

A Regular Meeting of the Otsego City Commission was held on Monday, July 17, 2023.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Withee at 7:00 p.m. with the following Commissioners present: Lauri Krueger, Jason Smith, Chuck Moore, and Wayne Rayburn. Absent: None. Also present: City Manager, Aaron Mitchell; and Fire Chief, Brandon Weber.

The audience joined the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Krueger, the June 19, 2023, Regular and Workshop Minutes were approved as submitted.

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

None.

### **I. PRESENTATIONS:**

#### **A. FIRE DEPARTMENT PINNING AND SPECIAL AWARDS**

Fire Chief Weber introduced Firefighter Spencer Miller, who recently earned his State credentials. At this time, Clerk Cronen swore in Firefighter Miller. Fire Chief Weber then pinned Firefighter Miller. The Commission congratulated Firefighter Miller.

Fire Chief Weber announced that the Otsego Fire Department had four cardiac arrest field saves from the past year, and two Firefighters are receiving special recognition for actions taken outside the Otsego community.

At this time, Fire Chief Weber presented awards for the following:

- Field Save #1 – August 2022 - Todd Campbell, Michael McGrail, Steven Haywood, Tyler Welcher, Taylor Knight, Spencer Miller, and Skyler Henion.
- Field Save #2 – October 2022 - Michael McGrail, Bill McKim, Michael R Bush, Tommy Dyke, Steven Haywood, Rob Hester, Collin Ailes, Spencer Miller, and Skyler Henion.
- Field Save #3 – January 2023 - Michael McGrail, Bill McKim, Michael R Bush, Tommy Dyke, Rob Hester, and Skyler Henion.
- Field Save #4 - April 2023 - Michael McGrail, Tommy Dyke, Rob Hester, and Tyler Welcher.
- Firefighters recognized for meritorious service in the fire service, but not in the Otsego community (at the Allegan Fireworks Display) - Rob Hester and Bill McKim.

The Commission thanked the firefighters for their service.

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

Commissioner Dugan gave an update on County activities. He introduced Representative Matt Hall's Legislative Assistant.

**II. PUBLIC HEARING:**

**III. PLANNING AND ZONING:**

**IV. ORDINANCES:**

**V. REQUESTS:**

**VI. AGREEMENTS:**

**VII. RESOLUTIONS:**

**VIII. APPOINTMENTS:**

**IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**A. MASTER PLAN**

City Manager Mitchell gave an overview of the Master Plan and what it is used for. He also explained the current status and the avenues that the Planning Commission are taking to update the City's Master Plan. He stated that PCI (Professional Code Inspectors) were hired as consultants for the update of the Mater Plan. He informed the Commission that a QR Code was prepared for a survey in which there were seventy-four responses. He explained that the Planning Commission will prepare the Master Plan document, which will be formally adopted by the City Commission. A brief discussion took place regarding where and how to get additional opinions from community members. City Manager answered questions of the Commission and audience. He stated that he would like to have the Master Plan completed before construction season 2024.

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

The City Manager commented and gave updates on the following:

- Dix Street/Washington Street Road Construction
- Summer Fun Night – Tuesday's at 6:00 p.m.
- Upcoming events on September 30<sup>th</sup> – Band Competition, Cross-County Meet, and Creative Arts Festival

**COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Michelle Pulver, 203 E Orleans – she commented that she can hear the music from Liquid Note's outdoor venue throughout the day and in the evenings when they have an event.

Ron Crans, 210 E Orleans – he asked what could be done about the noise from Liquid Note's outdoor venue. He asked if it went against the noise ordinance. He stated that he heard the noise all day on Saturday until midnight.

## **COMMISSIONER'S' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Krueger – she thanked the audience for attending. She thanked the Fire Department for all of their accomplishments. She commented that the field saves and the assist to another community, displays the dedication and the education that the Otsego Fire Department possess. She congratulated Firefighter Miller, as she knows it is hard to pass all of the classes and it takes many hours and time away from your family. She commented that with the passing of the millage, good response times will continue. She commented that if anyone wants to volunteer for the Gus Macker event to go to their website and volunteer.

Commissioner Smith – he thanked and congratulated the Otsego Fire Department for their accomplishments. He stated that there are no words to express his appreciation for their service. He thanked County Commissioner Dugan for his report. He thanked City Manager Mitchell for his detailed reports. He thanked the audience for attending and sharing their concerns. He thanked his fellow Commissioners.

Commissioner Moore – he commented that the Otsego Fire Department is amazing and very dedicated. He stated that he appreciates all the Fire Department does for the community. He thanked the audience for attending and for their comments. He stated that the Commission is listening and they appreciate the citizens speaking up. He commented that we have to make both the citizens and the businesses happy. He thanked County Commissioner Dugan for his report.

Commissioner Rayburn – he thanked County Commissioner Dugan for his updates. He thanked the Fire Department for their dedication, as being a firefighter is a job that you are called to do and it is not for everyone. He commented that he was glad that the millage passed because saving lives is important. He commented that he is happy that it worked out and hopes that our Fire Department will be a model for other communities. He thanked the audience for attending and for their comments and assured them that the Commission is listening.

Mayor Withee – she thanked the audience for attending. She complimented Fire Chief Weber and the Otsego Fire Department on their dedication to the community. She also congratulated the firefighters who were recognized at tonight's meeting.

The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Commissioner Rayburn, seconded by Commissioner Smith. CARRIED – 8:01 p.m.

Angela M. Cronen, MMC  
City Clerk