A Regular Meeting of the Otsego City Commission was held on Monday, July 7 2025.

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

The audience joined the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Commissioner Krueger, seconded by Commissioner Rayburn, the June 16, 2025, Regular Minutes were approved as submitted.

On a motion by Commissioner Smith the following was added under Agreements: B. UPDATED LICENSE AGREEMENT OTSEGO DADS OF FOREIGN SERVICE VETERANS POST 56 ON AUGUST 16, 2025, seconded by Commissioner Moore. CARRIED.

REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS
Robert Alway, 1012 Barton – he stated that he is not in favor of the Chicken Ordinance.

## I. PRESENTATIONS:

A. ALLEGAN COUNTY CLERK BOB GENETSKI

County Clerk Genetski was in attendance to give an update on the County Clerk's Office. He answered questions of the Commission. The Commission thanked Clerk Genetski for the update.

B. COUNTY COMMISSIONER GALE DUGAN

County Commissioner Dugan gave an update on County activities.

## II. PUBLIC HEARING:

A. PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCE #175 - THIS ORDINANCE AMENDS CHAPTER 6 ANIMALS – SECTIONS 6-1; 6-7(B), & ADDITION OF SECTION 16-10;ARTICLE II. IN GENERAL

Mayor Withee opened the Public Hearing at 7:22 p.m.

Robert Always, 1012 Barton – he asked what is in the ordinance. At this time City Manager Mitchell gave a basic overview of the ordinance. Mr. Alway stated that he still is not in favor of the ordinance.

At this time, an open conversation took place and City Manager Mitchell answered questions.

Mayor Withee closed the Public Hearing at 7:32 p.m.

## III. PLANNING AND ZONING:

## IV. ORDINANCES:

A. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE #175 - THIS ORDINANCE AMENDS CHAPTER 6 ANIMALS – SECTIONS 6-1; 6-7(B), & ADDITION OF SECTION 16-10;ARTICLE II. IN GENERAL

Mayor Withee offered Ordinance #175 for a second reading and adoption.

Commissioner Smith moved to adopt Ordinance #175 – which Amends Chapter 6 Animals – Sections 6-1; 6-7(b), & Addition of Section 16-10; Article II. In General, seconded by Commissioner Krueger. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## V. REQUESTS:

A. CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FROM THE GUS MACKER ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE AND T.O.P TO CLOSE VARIOUS STREETS, THE USE OF PUBLIC PARKING LOTS, & USE OF CITY HALL FROM AUGUST 21, 2025, TO AUGUST 24, 2025, AS PRESENTED

Commissioner Krueger moved to grant the request from the Gus Macker Organizational Committee and T.O.P to close various streets, the use of public parking lots, and the use of City Hall from August 21, 2025, to August 24, 2025, as presented, seconded by Commissioner Rayburn. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FROM THE OTSEGO/PLAINWELL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO HOLD THE 37TH ANNUAL CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2025

Commissioner Krueger moved to grant the request from the Otsego/Plainwell Chamber of Commerce to hold the 37th Annual Creative Arts Festival on Saturday, September 27, 2025, seconded by Commissioner Moore. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FROM THE OTSEGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS STUDENT COUNCIL TO HOLD A HOMECOMING PARADE ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2025, BEGINNING AT 5:45 P.M.

Commissioner Smith moved to grant the request from the Otsego Public Schools Student Council to hold a Homecoming Parade on Friday, September 12, 2025, beginning at 5:45 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Krueger. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## VI. AGREEMENTS:

A. CONSIDERATION OF A LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH T.O.P FOR THE GUS MACKER EVENT – AUGUST 21-24, 2025

Commissioner Krueger moved to authorize the City Clerk to enter into an agreement with T.O.P for the Gus Macker Event – August 21-24, 2025, seconded by Commissioner Moore. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. CONSIDERATION OF AN UPDATED LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH OTSEGO DADS OF FOREIGN SERVICE VETERANS POST 56 - FOR EVENT ON AUGUST 16, 2025

City Manager Mitchell explained that he had met with Doug Wine, who had a concern with parking for the car show. City Manager Mitchell stated that the updated agreement would include the addition of the two parking lots on the west side of North Farmer Street. Commissioner Smith moved to update the License Agreement with Otsego DADS of Foreign Service Veterans Post 56 – for their event on August 16, 2025, seconded by Commissioner Moore. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## VII. RESOLUTIONS:

## VIII. APPOINTMENTS:

## IX. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

The City Manager commented and gave updates on the following:

1. Recent Elk's Liquidation Sale.
2. Events taking place, during this exciting time of year.
3. Lakeshore Advantage Development Day – August 7th

**COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**REMARKS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Robert Alway, 1012 Barton – gave his opinion regarding Rank Choice Voting.

Clarissa McDonald, Otsego/Plainwell Chamber of Commerce – she thanked the Commission for the approval of the Creative Arts Festival date. She also thanked the Commission, City Staff, and DPW for their support.

**COMMISSIONER'S' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Moore – he thanked City Manager Mitchell for following through by offering the Elk's building for redevelopment, and for putting in the effort to save the building. He commented that although not everyone was pleased with the final outcome, it gave everyone a chance to say good-bye.

**ADJOURN**

Commissioner Krueger moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Smith. CARRIED. 7:52 p.m.

Angela M. Cronen, MMC
City Clerk