

Owatonna City Council Minutes

The Owatonna City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. Council President Schultz called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. Attending were Council Members Raney, Voss, Okerberg, Svenby, Burbank, Dotson and Schultz; Mayor Kuntz; City Attorney Walbran; Public Works Director Skov; Human Resource Director Gorski; Police Chief Hiller; Police Captain Mundale, Police Officers and Staff and Administrative Specialist Clawson.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Council Member Dotson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Council Member Svenby seconded the motion and all members voted aye in approval.

Mayor Kuntz introduced Senator John Jasinski and House Representative John Peterson for summary of the 2019 Legislative Session. Senator Jasinski said this was his third year representing Senate District 24 and the first year he served as a Majority Senate Leader, so this was an interesting and busy session for him. This was the seventh year for John Petersburg represented House Representative District 24A and he said his three main priorities during this session were: Infrastructure, Education and Public Safety. Petersburg commented this year he had several new experiences including the process of how bills moved through the House changed, most committees were sub-committees of the Ways and Means Committee, and 46% of House Representatives were new “Freshman” Representatives; he had hoped for funding to establish a Work Force Development Agency in Owatonna but this was not included in the final budget.

Senator Jasinski distributed listings of the bills passed and those held off during the 2019 Legislative Session. Brief comments from both legislators and Council discussion regarding:

- Secured funding to complete Highway 14 between Owatonna and Rochester, project bids due in August and should see construction begin late this fall.
- Held off on a new \$0.20 per gallon gas tax increase, belief this is a regressive tax which would have negative impact on too many Minnesotans.
- LGA received a permanent increase which will raise amounts back to those received during 2002.
- School Funding will receive a 2% increase in the 2020 and an additional 2% in 2021.
- School Bond Credit will increase in increments over the next several years from 40% to 70%.
- Requested new accountability measures in Child Care Assistance Program.
- Designated a replacement software to replace MnLars and reimbursed Deputy Registrars who were impacted by the failure.
- Approval of The Slow Poke Bill which requires motorists travel in the slower right traffic lane unless they are passing another vehicle.
- Approval of the Distracted Driving Bill which requires drivers to be “hands-free” of cell phones.

Council Member Raney questioned why the state didn't pass T21 legislation to raise the age allowed to purchase tobacco to 21. Senator Jasinski explained a lack of time so unable to work through in this legislative session, their biggest concern was the military age is 18 but unable to purchase tobacco at age 21 didn't seem right. Representative Petersburg added there is question of personal rights and this bill played a part in the session's negation process; as policy was not agreed on, the bill remains open for future discussion.

Mayor Kuntz and Council Members thanked Senator Jasinski and Representative Petersburg for attending the meeting and providing summary of the Legislative Session.

Council President Schultz explained Council Members review the Consent Agenda Items prior to the meeting for approval in one motion. Consent Agenda Items for approval include:

- Minutes - City Council Meeting – May 21, 2019.
- Minutes - OPU Commission Meeting – April 23, 2019.
- Minutes - Library Board Meeting – May 21, 2019.
- Minutes - Airport Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting – June 7, 2018.
- Minutes - Joint Airport Zoning Board Meeting – June 7, 2018.
- Event Permit – Movie Shoot at Kaplan Woods Pavilion/South Lake Kohlmier – June 6, 2019.
- Exempt Permit – Ducks Unlimited Steele County – Raffle at SCFF – September 26, 2019.
- Renewal of Annual Liquor Licenses and Dance Permits:

ESTABLISHMENT	ADDRESS	LICENSE (* = Dance Permit)
Applebee’s Neighborhood Grill & Bar	690 West Bridge Street	On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
Bridge Street Tavern	137W Bridge Street	*On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
Buffalo Wild Wings Grill & Bar #282	1100 W Frontage Rd, #190-2	On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
Dog Pound Bar	212 N Cedar Avenue	*On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
Don Juan Cantina & Grill	1045 W Frontage Rd	On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
El Lora Mexican Restaurant	4255 W Frontage Rd	On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
El Tequila Restaurant	1830 S Cedar Avenue	On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
Famous Dave’s Barbecue	4355 West Frontage Road	On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites	2365 43 rd Street NW	*On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
Just One More	149 W Bridge Street	*On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
Lava Burgers & Wings	369 18 th Street SE	On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
Plaza Morena Campestre Grill Inc	130 26 th Street NE	On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
Reggie’s Brew House	218 N Cedar Ave	*On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
Southside	333 18th Street SE	*On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
Timber Lodge Steakhouse	4455 W Frontage Rd	On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
Torey’s Restaurant & Bar	208 N Cedar Avenue	On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
Wing’s Tavern & Grille	1805 South Elm Avenue	*On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
The Broken Tee Bar & Grill	1369 E Cherry St	On-Sale Liquor w/Sunday Sales
Best Budget Inn – Hi-Way Liquor	1180 West Frontage R	Off-Sale Liquor
Cash Wise Liquor	495 West North Street	Off-Sale Liquor
Firehouse Liquor Inc	120 26th Street NW	Off-Sale Liquor
Hy-Vee Wine & Spirits	1620 S Cedar Avenue	Off-Sale Liquor
JB Liquor Inc	202 South Oak Avenue	Off-Sale Liquor
American Legion Post #77	137 W Broadway Street	Club On-Sale Liquor
Elks Club	126 East Vine Street	Club On-Sale Liquor
Fraternal Order of Eagles	141 East Rose Street	Club On-Sale Liquor
Hugo Matejcek Post	135 W Oakdale Street	Club On-Sale Liquor
Knights of Columbus #945	820 South Elm Avenue	Club On-Sale Liquor
Owatonna Country Club	1991 Lemond Road	Club On-Sale Liquor
Baymont Inn & Suites - Owatonna	245 Florence Ave	3.2% Malt Liquor & Wine - On Sale
Mizuki Fusion	119 W Bridge Street	3.2% Malt Liquor & Wine - On Sale
Nick’s Pizza Palace	326 N Cedar Avenue	3.2% Malt Liquor & Wine - On Sale
Owatonna Arts Center	435 Garden View Lane	3.2% Malt Liquor & Wine - On Sale
Steele County Historical Society	1700 Austin Road	3.2% Malt Liquor & Wine - On Sale
Holiday Stationstore #373	695 W Bridge Street	3.2% Malt - Off Sale
Hy-Vee Gas #5511	1720 South Cedar Avenue	3.2% Malt - Off Sale
Kwik Trip #237	135 Landmark Drive	3.2% Malt - Off Sale
Kwik Trip #403	2270 46th Street NW	3.2% Malt - Off Sale
Kwik Trip #435	1075 West Frontage Road	3.2% Malt - Off Sale
Kwik Trip #641	1220 South Oak Street	3.2% Malt - Off Sale
Kwik Trip #806	320 Mineral Springs Road	3.2% Malt - Off Sale
Wal-Mart Supercenter #982	1130 W Frontage Road	3.2% Malt - Off Sale

Eric Cornelius, Unit Production Manager for Winterstate Entertainment requested to change the time on the Event Permit Application to shoot a movie in the Kaplan Woods Parking/Pavilion area near the boat landing on Lake Kohlmier. Council Member Raney made a motion to change this item to an Action Item for discussion and consideration; Council Member Dotson seconded the motion, all members voted aye for approval. Council Member Okerberg made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items with exception of this Event Permit; Council Member Svenby seconded the motion; all members voted aye in approval.

Vice-President Raney recapped expenses for the period; bills presented for payment total \$436,995.33. Council Member Dotson made a motion to approve payment of these bills; Council Member Svenby seconded the motion. All members voted aye for approval.

Public Works Director Skov requested approval of Resolution 43-19 to authorize advertisement for bids for the Cardinal Drive Stormwater Improvement Project – Phase 1. During heavy rain events, Cardinal Drive SE experiences considerable flooding. The City hired Barr Engineering to evaluate existing conditions and propose possible improvements to alleviate the situation. The preferred alternative is to construct a new 66” reinforced concrete pipe stormsewer from an outlet on the east side of the railroad tracks, through CSAH 48 (Bixby Road) and into the west ditch of Bixby Road. The existing stormsewer will then be replaced from the ditch up to Cardinal Drive. Due to the complications with crossing Bixby Road and the Canadian Pacific Railroad, we propose to install the pipe from the outlet to the west ditch of Bixby Road as Phase 1 of this project. Project costs will be paid from the Stormwater Fund. Addition of a new 66” pipe will double the current capacity load. Council Member Okerberg made a motion to approve Resolution 43-19, Council Member Dotson seconded the motion; all members voted aye in approval. Bids will be received until 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 26, 2019 and will be considered by Council during the July 2nd meeting.

Council held discussion with Eric Cornelius, Unit Production Manager for Winterstate Entertainment regarding the Event Permit to shoot a movie in the Kaplan Woods Parking/Pavilion area near the boat landing on Lake Kohlmier. Applicant is requesting to change the time for the event planned on Thursday, June 6th to allow filming during the night from 8 pm to 5 am. Council Member Raney questioned noise in this residential area after 10:00 pm; Mr. Cornelius explained the scenes are one or two-person conversation scenes and not loud noisy shots. Council Member Okerberg expressed concern that neighbors were not notified of an after-hour event and the Park & Rec and Police Departments have not had opportunity to consider this after-hour request. Chief Hiller joined the meeting and advised additional police staffing would not be needed to patrol this event; however, he would request Council empower the patrol officers to revoke the Event Permit if deemed necessary. Mr. Cornelius agreed to contact property owners within two blocks of the event site regarding the late hours prior to the shoot; this will be residents on Mosher Avenue between 18th Street and 16th Street and on 18th Street between Mosher Avenue and 10th Avenue SW. Review of the Event Permit process was discussed, Mr. Cornelius made summary of what was being requested including placement of a boat on the lake for actor/actress use and two pontoons for back-up lighting. Council Member Raney explained Lake Kohlmier is a “No Motor” lake, gas engines are not allowed so only non-motorized vehicles can be used. Council Member Dotson made a motion to approve the Event Permit to extend the hours as requested provided neighboring property owners are duly notified with patrol officer discretion to cease the permit if need be. Council Member Okerberg seconded the motion; all members voted aye in approval.

During Staff Comments, Public Works Director Skov commented recent wet weather has delayed construction projects but they are working to get back on track. Police Chief Hiller said the two new officers sworn in tonight bring a lot of county and military experience; several officers currently in training but the department is now fully staffed. They are doing a trial use of cell phone body cams and plan to

bring to Council for public input/comments. Council Member Okerberg asked Chief Hiller to comment on the City's current Crime Rate. Chief Hiller responded last year the City's Crime Rate increased a bit, but the current rate is lower than what it was two years ago which is lower than what it has been for two decades. Human Resource Director Gorski gave the hours of operation for the new equipment rentals at Lake Kohlmier this summer; they have been open for four days and 72 hours of rentals occurred.

During Public Comment, Mike Conrad, 424 12th Street SE, reminded everyone of the OSCAR (Owatonna Steele County Amateur Radio) Club Event planned overnight on Saturday June 22nd at Mc Kinley School. This is an Amateur Radio National Field Day Event including a public demonstration of amateur radio, practice of emergency deployment, and a 24-hour on-air contest with other groups in several countries. Roger Wasek, 646 Vine Street read paragraph from a book he is currently reading, Practicable Back to Earth, regarding effects of global warming.

During Council Comments: Council Members Raney invited everyone to attend the Thursday Night Market this week, there will be a country music band and then HarMar Superstar at 7:00 pm. Council Member Dotson also encouraged everyone to support the Thursday Night Market event. Council Member Schultz also invited everyone downtown on Thursday night saying they have been working hard for this to be successful and it should be a good time.

At 8:29 p.m., Council Member Raney made a motion to adjourn, Council Member Svenby seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned.

Dated: May 29, 2019

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Clawson, Administrative Specialist