

**OSSEO CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 8, 2009**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor John Hall called the regular meeting of the Osseo City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, June 8, 2009.

2. ROLL CALL

Members present: Council members Brian Kleven, Steve Parks, Ken Schreiber, and Mayor John Hall.

Member absent: Council member Steve Menth.

Staff present: City Administrator Greg Withers, City Attorney Loren Magsam, City Planner Jeffrey Dahl, and Deputy Clerk LeAnn Larson.

Others present: Rebecca Kurtz-Ehlers & Associates, Marcus Thomas & Sarah Rippke-Bolton & Menk, Brian Chamberlain-HKGI, John Cochran, Alicia Miller, Al & Barb Lindquist, Bruce Wiley, Jeff & April Tatur, Rich Lovberg, Kevin Rebman, Tim Lindholm, Steve & Linda Trippel, Brian & Laurel Hansen, Matt Regan, Harold Johnson, Jim Vanderheyden, Martin Duffy, Bruce & Teresa Umland, David Arnold, Brad Hansen, Bill Underwood, and Ron Barger.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Hall led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA [Additions - Deletions]

Hall asked for additions or deletions to the Agenda.

**A motion was made by Parks, seconded by Schreiber, to accept the Agenda as presented. The motion carried 4-0.**

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve City Council minutes of March 16 and May 26
- b. Approve May Building Report
- c. Approve May Fire Report
- d. Approve May Police Report
- e. Set Council Work Session for Monday, June 29
- f. Approve Sale of Surplus City Cars
- g. Approve Banner Request from Osseo Band Boosters
- h. Approve Accounts Payable (Listing 060809AP, dated 6/47/09, 11:35 AM, for \$39,855.29)

**A motion was made by Kleven, seconded by Schreiber, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried 4-0.**

6. MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

April Tatur, 9 Central Avenue, said she did not agree with the City trying to obtain their property at 9 Central Avenue either by condemnation or by hoping the Tatur's would donate it to the City or by trying to relocate their business along 81 without the City owning the property. The City should be focusing on problem properties rather than their building.

Kevin Rebman, representing the Osseo Marching Band, noted the upcoming 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Marching Band Festival on Saturday, June 27, at noon.

Martin Duffy, 337 Central Avenue, asked why the bids for the Central Avenue Project came in slightly higher than what the City Engineer had estimated. Mayor Hall said the City Engineer had already given a reliable estimate which included the lower prices seen of late in the bidding process elsewhere in the area. The project bid came in 2.5 percent higher than the Engineer's estimate.

Tim Lindholm, 523 Central Avenue, said he was not in favor of the Central Avenue Project at this time. He suggested waiting.

Teresa Umland, 209 & 229 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue NW, asked why she was being assessed for side street lighting when the former lights on the street didn't work.

7. SPECIAL BUSINESS – None.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. ASSESSMENT HEARING FOR CENTRAL AVENUE PROJECT

Hall opened the public hearing for the Central Avenue Project at 7:20 p.m.

Withers outlined the public hearing procedures as adopted at a previous Council meeting. He also noted the language used on the Assessment Notice that was mailed to each property owner for property in the project area.

*“Notice is hereby given that the council will meet at 7 p.m. on June 8, 2009, at Osseo City Hall to consider, and possibly adopt, the proposed assessment for the street, utility, and streetscape improvements along Central Avenue between CSAH 81 and CSAH 30. Adoption by the council of the proposed assessment may occur at the hearing. The following is the area proposed to be assessed: all properties adjacent to or having direct access from Central Avenue between CSAH 81 and CSAH 30, in the City of Osseo, Minnesota.*

*“The amount to be specially assessed against your particular lot, piece, or parcel of land is \$xx. Such assessment is proposed to be payable in equal annual installments extending over a period of 20 years, the first of the installments to be payable on or before the first Monday in January 2011, and will bear interest at the rate of **6.0** percent per annum from the date of the adoption of the assessment resolution. To the first installment shall be added interest on the entire assessment from the date of the assessment resolution through December 31, 2010. To each subsequent installment when due shall be added interest for one year on all unpaid installments.*

*“The proposed date of certification of the assessments is **November 30, 2010**. You may at any time prior to certification of the assessment to the county auditor, pay the entire assessment on such property, with interest accrued to the date of payment, to the City of Osseo. No interest shall be charged if the entire assessment is paid within 30 days from the adoption of this assessment. You may at any time thereafter, pay to the City of Osseo the entire amount of the assessment remaining unpaid, with interest accrued to December 31 of the year in which such payment is made. Such payment must be made before November 15 or interest will be charged through December 31 of the succeeding year. If you decide not to prepay the assessment before the date given above the rate of interest that will apply is **6.0** percent per year.*

*“The proposed assessment roll is on file for public inspection at the city clerk’s office. The total amount of the proposed assessment is **\$1,707,768.40**. Written or oral objections will be considered at the meeting. No appeal to district court may be taken as to the amount of the assessment unless a written objection signed by the affected property owner is filed with the municipal clerk prior to the assessment hearing or presented to the presiding officer at the hearing. The council may upon such notice consider any objection to the amount of a proposed individual assessment at an adjourned meeting upon such further notice to the affected property owners as it deems advisable.*

*“Under Minn. Stat. §§ 435.193 to 435.195 and Resolution, the council may, in its discretion, defer the payment of this special assessment for any homestead property owned by a person 65 years of age or older, one retired by virtue of a permanent and total disability, or a member of the National Guard or other military reserves ordered to active military service, for whom it would be a hardship to make the payments. When deferment of the special assessment has been granted and is terminated for any reason provided in that law and Ordinance (Resolution), all amounts accumulated plus applicable interest become due. Any assessed property owner meeting the requirements of this law and Ordinance (Resolution) may, meeting the requirements of this law and Ordinance (Resolution) may, within 30 days of the confirmation of the assessment, apply to the city clerk for the prescribed form for such deferral of payment of this special assessment on his/her property.*

*“If an assessment is contested or there is an adjourned hearing, the following procedure will be followed:*

- 1. The city will present its case first by calling witnesses who may testify by narrative or by examination, and by the introduction of exhibits. After each witness has testified, the contesting party will be allowed to ask questions. This procedure will be repeated with each witness until neither side has further questions.*
- 2. After the city has presented all its evidence, the objector may call witnesses or present such testimony as the objector desires. The same procedure for questioning of the city’s witnesses will be followed with the objector’s witnesses.*
- 3. The objector may be represented by counsel.*
- 4. Minnesota rules of evidence will not be strictly applied; however, they may be considered and argued to the council as to the weight of items of evidence or testimony presented to the council.*
- 5. The entire proceedings will be video- and audio-recorded.*

6. *At the close of presentation of evidence, the objector may make a final presentation to the council based on the evidence and the law. No new evidence may be presented at this point.*

7. *The council may adopt the proposed assessment at the hearing and will prepare written findings concerning the amount of the assessment.*

*“An owner may appeal an assessment to district court pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 429.081 by serving notice of the appeal upon the mayor or clerk of the city within 30 days after the adoption of the assessment and filing such notice with the district court within ten days after service upon the mayor or clerk.” (end of notice)*

City Engineer Marcus Thomas stated the assessment roll for this project includes all those properties adjacent to Central Avenue between CSAH 30 and CSAH 81. The total proposed assessment amount is \$1,707,768.40. Additionally, all properties listed on this assessment roll were duly notified of their specific assessment amounts as well as the June 8<sup>th</sup> public hearing.

Kleven asked about the entire balance for the Realife Cooperative building at 12 6<sup>th</sup> Street NE going to one parcel identification number. Thomas said the 300 feet of linear foot assessment was being assessed to the one main PID for the property, and the Realife Board had requested and agreed to this process. The Realife Board would then be responsible to apportion the assessments as desired to Realife occupants, whether residential or commercial.

Tim Lindholm, 523 Central Avenue, said this was not the time to do this project.

Amanda Peterson, North Oaks Apartments, said this project is a waste of money and will affect downtown businesses negatively.

Jim Vanderheyden, Realife Cooperative resident, suggested the entire city be levied for this improvement project. He doubted the gain in value would match the assessment.

Harold Johnson, Realife resident, asked a number of questions about the bonds issued for the project, such as when interest starts, when the City makes bond payments, when properties are in default with tax payments, if all taxpayers in Osseo are paying a portion of this project, why interest starts accruing on July 8 when the project has hardly begun, and when payments might be made by Realife residents.

Answers to these questions were from Withers, City Attorney Loren Magsam, and Rebecca Kurtz-Ehlers & Associates. The bond proceeds were received by the City on June 15, therefore interest started accruing as of that date. The City will be making its first bond payment in February 2010 and the next in August 2010. If properties are delinquent in payment of property taxes, the City may not receive the revenue from special assessments as soon as anticipated but would indeed receive the payments at some time. A small portion of the overall project cost needs to be levied onto all property tax payers in the City for taxes payable in 2010 and 2011. Relating to special assessments for the Realife property, the Realife Board would be responsible for outlining the process for its units being sold or purchased.

Russ Anderson, Realife resident, asked if HUD guidelines would impact the special assessments for the Realife property.

Matt Regan, Celtic Crossing owner, asked if the City was trying to repair the demographics in order to attract more businesses. He asked a few questions of the City Engineer about the water mains and lighting at Celtic matching that of the City streets on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue NW. Thomas said the ten-inch water main on Central Avenue is the standard size. Withers said there are different lighting styles on Broadway Street West and Jefferson Highway now. The Side Street Lighting project matches the Central Avenue lighting and would standardize the downtown lighting.

Bruce Wiley, Wiley Enterprises, stated he supported this project and hoped the Council would think progressively about the project. He said after the 1988 Downtown project more businesses came to Osseo. Wiley said it was important to invest in the City's infrastructure and updating to avoid future repairs. He encouraged business owners to put money into their properties to attract businesses, as there is stability in quality buildings. Wiley said approving the Central Avenue Project would be a "vote" for progress.

David Arnold, 226 Central Avenue, asked about the construction timeline for this project. Thomas said if the project were approved, construction would start on June 15 and go through the end of October or possibly the beginning of November given the two week delay in considering the project. The project will be done in two phases. The first phase will include work from 3<sup>rd</sup> Street north to Co Rd 30. The second phase will follow the completion of the first phase, from 3<sup>rd</sup> Street south to Co Rd 81. The phased approach to construction reduces the impact on Central Avenue businesses.

**A motion was made by Kleven, seconded by Parks, to close the public hearing at 8:22 p.m. The motion carried 4-0.**

Schreiber asked where the approximately \$270,000 in assessments to City- or EDA-owned property would come from. Withers said the payments would come from the General Fund for both the City and EDA. Schreiber said he thinks there is still too much lighting being planned and the City should invest more in helping property owners update their buildings.

Withers said because of the "delayed" assessments, the City funds responsible for some project costs will be called upon to make the early debt service payments. The Jefferson Assessment, Sanitary Sewer, Water, and Storm Sewer funds will make the 2010 payments, and those funds plus TIF 1&2 and the General Fund will make the 2011 payments. The General Fund will be required to make payments in 2011 and 2012.

Hall asked Schreiber how to invest more in redevelopment downtown when sprinkler systems for upgraded buildings seem to necessitate this project.

Kleven said he hoped the upgrades to streets, sidewalks, and landscape would be encouragement to business owners to upgrade their buildings. He stated the EDA offers grants to offset costs for upgrades to building facades.

Withers stated the EDA now offers up to \$10,000 to property owners when building facades are upgraded in downtown Osseo. He said the City has already taken that first step to assist property owners downtown. The amount offered in former year by the EDA was a maximum of \$5,000. Now, the grant amount is a maximum of \$10,000.

Schreiber said he didn't like paver sidewalks, there was too much lighting, and the traffic lane would be narrowed by two feet. He thought there were higher class items that didn't need to be included in the project.

Kleven said he has tried to keep the big picture in mind when considering how to vote on this project. He stated the overall project design was the result of input from four different public meetings about the project. Kleven said voting for this project seemed to fit with President Obama's message about the economy and looking at long term prosperity rather than short term gains. He said he disagrees with those people suggesting short-term fixes to "get by" until the economy recovers. Kleven said this project would help create an environment for our business community to succeed and in turn help our residents in the long term with property tax relief. He said we should do this project to bring jobs to Osseo which helps in both the short and long term prosperity of Osseo.

Parks said he agrees that an upgrade to infrastructure and the landscape will bring more businesses to Osseo. The open houses helped formulate the overall plans for the project. Parks said expenses will not be less in the next years, and now was the best time to do this project.

Hall said this project has not been "ram-rodged" through. Infrastructure upgrades are important to future redevelopment, and he markets Osseo throughout the country as he travels. He stated it was important to keep the unique, walkable, and friendly downtown. With the phased construction, the impact to businesses would be lessened. Hall said some of the input he has received from the community includes the desire to avoid unsavory businesses, such as pawn shops, coming to Osseo due to with lower rents. He said he remembers the resurgence in downtown businesses after the 1988 street project. Hall stated he supports the project.

b. ASSESSMENT HEARING FOR SIDE STREET LIGHTING PROJECT

Hall opened the public hearing for the Side Street Lighting Project at 8:48 p.m.

Withers read the Assessment Notice that was mailed to each property owner for property in the project area.

City Engineer Marcus Thomas stated the assessment roll for this project includes all those properties adjacent to the side street lighting improvement areas. The total proposed assessment amount is \$225,350.60. Additionally, all properties listed on this assessment roll were duly notified of their specific assessment amounts as well as the June 8<sup>th</sup> public hearing.

Bruce Chamberlain, HKGi, outlined the street lighting plan for Central Avenue and the Side Street Lighting. Existing conduit will be used for new wiring. A majority of the existing concrete bases appear large enough for re-use. It is estimated that approximately 25% of the existing bases will need replacement.

Hall asked about illumination. Chamberlain said he worked with an electrical engineer on the lighting plans. It has been designed to meet industry standards for uniformity and minimum light levels. He said the LED lighting would be a higher quality, with more light being focused downward which provides better distribution of light

Matt Regan, Celtic Crossing owner, asked why one unit was assessed the entire amount for the property when there are 32 different units. He requested the re-apportionment of the total assessment for this property over the 32 individual units.

Withers said the desire was to treat Celtic, Osseo Commons, and John Englund's building similar to that of Realife, with one master parcel for assessments. Regan said he does not have one master parcel for the entire Celtic property.

City Attorney Loren Magsam said a written request by Regan for the Celtic property could be presented during tonight's meeting, and the City could spread the assessments over all 32 units per Regan's request. A supplemental assessment roll would likely be the result.

**A motion was made by Parks, seconded by Schreiber, to close the public hearing at 9:14 p.m. The motion carried 4-0.**

9. OLD BUSINESS – (Item presented later on agenda.)
  - a. RECONSIDER SEASONAL EMPLOYEE FOR PUBLIC SERVICES DIVISION (Postponed item)
10. NEW BUSINESS
  - a. CONSIDER CENTRAL AVENUE & SIDE STREET LIGHTING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT ITEMS
    - i. APPROVE MEMORANDUM OF ASSESSMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Withers stated when the proposed Central Avenue Project was first brought to the attention of the City Council and its advisory boards, the major need for the Project was to improve the City Water System. It was (and is) imperative to increase the size of the Water Main to 10 inches from Hwy 30 to "The Bennett Property". It was also stated the streetscape was old and deteriorated and subtracted from the beauty and esthetics of the CBD. The entire infrastructure in the Central Avenue corridor is poor and will benefit from an upgrade. Since that initial report, it has been determined the General Fund of the City will also benefit from this project in that more than the annual cost of maintaining the current streetlights will be saved annually by installing new, energy efficient LED streetlights.

It was noted at the joint meeting last year that Withers has been through four other main street reconstruction projects in his career, and the city engineer and landscape architects have been through a number of them, too. One of the main lessons learned is the need to fully communicate with the public and the property owners throughout the project.

One of the things learned at the public open houses is that some of the business owners believe now is the wrong time to be undertaking this project because the economy is bad and customer count is down. Staff disagrees with the overall statement. First, staff believes the present economy is a great time to receive construction bids because contractors are looking for work. Bids did not come in quite as low as expected because federal stimulus projects are also being bid right

now and have a tendency to increase work and pricing. Second, now is a great time to sell municipal bonds because the stock market is down and, therefore, tax exempt issues look better to the investor. In fact, bond bids came in 1.5% lower than anticipated by our financial consultant. The City is not disbelieving our business people.

The economy is down now but will be back up, or at least on the rise by the 2011 tax year. Therefore, it is recommended to delay the required first installment of the assessment until 2011.

With a delayed assessment, we are not anticipating any pre-paid assessments, where the assessment is paid fully within the first 30 days. If a number of property owners were to pre-pay, our interest calculations over the 20 year debt service may be under estimated.

Because of the “delayed” assessments, the City funds responsible for some Project costs will be called upon to make the early debt service payments. The Jefferson Assessment, Sanitary Sewer, Water, and Storm Sewer funds will make the 2010 payments and those funds plus TIF 1&2, and the General Fund will make the 2011 payments. The General Fund will be required to make payments in 2011 and 2012. The future years will see money coming into the General Fund. In 2011, the Council will be asked to decide where the General Fund will get the dollars. Staff will make a recommendation at that time. Right now a couple possibilities exist: the General Fund Balance or an intra fund loan from the EDA.

Though a “Delayed” Special Assessment is proposed, one item that must always be remembered as the City proceeds with discussing this concept is the bond holders wanting their interest (and principle) payments. The City must pay the bond holders. Thus, “delayed” assessments may not be due until 2011, but interest will be accruing on the unpaid principle and unpaid interest from July 1, 2009.

Normally, when assessments are certified to the County for placement on the tax statements, all the information is uniform, such as interest rate, number of months interest to charge with the first installment, and the number of years over which to spread the principle. Delaying the certification of the assessments, while allowing property owners to pay any amount towards their principle, beyond the 30-day interest free period, really complicates the administration of the assessment program.

### **Policies and Procedures for Central Avenue and Side Street Lighting Projects:**

#### Delayed Assessments

Withers outlined a Delayed Assessment Program for the projects.

- ✚ Any special assessment paid within the 30 day “grace period” on or before July 8, 2009, will be interest free. Any amount of the total assessment will be accepted by the City during the 30-day interest free period.
- ✚ Following that 30 days, the City will not accept monthly payments of the assessments but the City will accept annual payments received before November 15 of any year. Such annual payments must include P & I. In 2009, interest will be for 6 months on the unpaid balance of the total assessment. In 2010, interest will be for 12 months on the unpaid balance. If it is a benefit

for a property owner to make monthly payments we suggest they do so with an account set up at a local financial institution which then makes annual payments to the City. The City is not a financial institution.

- ✦ The 1<sup>st</sup> installment of the 20 year assessment is due with the taxes payable in 2011. The first notice of any installment will not be received by a property owner until they receive their 2011 tax statement. That installment will include 1/20<sup>th</sup> of the principle, and interest on the unpaid balance from July 1, 2009, through December 31, 2011, a total of 30 months. This will be a huge installment.
- ✦ The remaining annual installments will include 1/20<sup>th</sup> of the principle plus 12 months interest, assuming the account is current. Therefore, some property owners may want to pay the first 6 months or 12 months of interest before they actually receive their first tax statement.

Of note:

- All interest will be calculated monthly.
- Interest will accrue on interest not paid.
- All payments received will go first to unpaid interest, and then, if there is any remaining payment, to the principle balance.

#### Deferred Assessments

Withers outlined a Deferred Assessment Program. In addition to the City's "delayed" assessment, the Council is asked to consider approving a "Deferred Assessment Program" for the projects. State Statutes permit cities to "Defer" special assessments for individuals who certify they cannot afford the assessment and are either physically disabled, senior citizens, or active military, and are homesteading the property assessed.

(Schreiber left the Council table at 9:18 p.m. and returned to the Council table at 9:20 p.m.)

Withers said the proposed resolution, like the statute, defers payment until the property is sold or until the City determines there is no longer a hardship for the property owner of the homesteaded property. Staff recommends a assessment could be "deferred" for eligible property owners, but the interest should still accumulate.

**A motion was made by Parks, seconded by Kleven, to approve the Delayed and Deferred Assessment Policies and Procedures as outlined. The motion carried 3-1 (Schreiber-nay).**

Schreiber stated he did not agree with delayed assessments or the use of City and EDA general funds to pay the assessments for City and EDA-owned property.

- ii. ADOPT THE ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR CENTRAL AVENUE PROJECT (Resolution)

**A motion was made by Schreiber, seconded by Parks, to adopt Resolution No. 2009-37 Adopting Assessments for 2009 Central Avenue Improvements. The motion carried 4-0.**

- iii. ADOPT THE ASSESSMENT ROLL FOR SIDE STREET LIGHTING PROJECT (Resolution)

**A motion was made by Parks, seconded by Schreiber, to adopt Resolution No. 2009-38 Adopting Assessments for 2009 Side Street Lighting Improvements. The motion carried 4-0.**

- iv. AWARD THE PROJECT CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT TO FOREST LAKE CONTRACTING (Resolution)

Thomas said on April 27, 2009, the City Council received bids for the Central Avenue and Side Street Lighting Projects. The low bidder is Forest Lake Contracting out of Forest Lake, MN. The bid results for the projects were as follows: \$4,381,611 for Central Avenue only, and \$4,737,861 for Central Avenue plus Side Street Lighting.

Thomas recommended the City Council award the 2009 Central Avenue and Side Street Lighting Improvements to Forest Lake Contracting, Inc., for a total amount of \$4,737,861.

Construction would commence on Monday, June 15, with substantial completion by the end of October, 2009.

**A motion was made by Kleven, seconded by Parks, to adopt Resolution No. 2009-39 Accepting the Bid (from Forest Lake Contracting, Inc., in the amount of \$4,737,861). The motion carried 4-0.**

- v. APPROVE CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION AND OBSERVATION CONTRACT WITH BOLTON & MENK

Thomas presented Addendum No. 1 to the Agreement for Professional Services for the 2009 Central Avenue Improvements. This Addendum outlines the various tasks, such as construction staking, construction observation and administration, and recording of documents. The fees for this scope of work would be charged hourly in accordance with the presented Scope of Work and Estimated Fees schedules as presented. The estimated amount of fees is \$233,720.

Schreiber asked if the project construction would be completed by mid-November. Thomas said that is the goal. Schreiber asked if Thomas has worked with Forest Lake Contracting firm before. Thomas said he, personally, has not but his firm, Bolton & Menk, has worked with Forest Lake Contracting.

Schreiber asked if the construction observer would be available to work up to 60 hours a week to ensure all inspections and work is done. Thomas said it could take up to 60 hours/week and the observation personnel were in place. Schreiber asked why the fees for this service were so high. Thomas said this amount has been included in the overall project soft costs. Schreiber said the observer would be paid too much money per hour. Thomas said the hourly rate is a good estimate of the cost of long construction work weeks.

**A motion was made by Kleven, seconded by Parks, to approve Addendum No. 1 to the Agreement for Professional Services for the 2009 Central Avenue Improvements, as outlined. The motion carried 3-1 (Schreiber-nay).**

b. APPROVE EHLERS & ASSOCIATES CONTRACT FOR CONTINUING DISCLOSURE REPORTING SERVICES

Withers stated this agenda item has nothing to do with any specific project.

Rebecca Kurtz, Ehlers & Associates, noted this Contracting for Continuing Disclosure Reporting Services is a requirement of all issuers of municipal bonds. Duties would include filing annual reports to specified information repositories including the annual financial reports and other updated operating date. Also, the filing of “material event notices” with the same repositories must be done.

Withers noted there were four options available to the City relating to the Description of Services and Fees. He recommended the City consider Option 1, with Ehlers providing the preparation and dissemination of Annual Continuing Disclosure Reports for all outstanding issues of the City for which they are required to provide continuing disclosure reporting.

**A motion was made by Kleven, seconded by Schreiber, to agree to the Contract for Continuing Disclosure Reporting Services between Ehlers & Associates, Inc., and the City of Osseo, as outlined in Option 1. The motion carried 4-0.**

c. CONSIDER POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

i. LAPTOP COMPUTER ASSIGNMENT AND USAGE

ii. PAPERLESS COUNCIL PACKETS

Withers stated this information would be ready for the next Council meeting.

9. OLD BUSINESS – (Item discussed out of normal order.)

a. RECONSIDER SEASONAL EMPLOYEE FOR PUBLIC SERVICES DIVISION (Postponed item)

Hall said he was concerned about the Public Services employees keeping up with all grass mowing and other maintenance items since the Council had discussed reducing the budget by eliminating any seasonal help for the department.

Schreiber said the grass was long behind his house (property owned by St. Vincent Church). He wondered if the Public Services employees were keeping up with everything.

(Schreiber left the Council table at 9:46 p.m. and returned at 9:47 p.m.)

Parks asked if there was a problem with the department keeping up with duties. Withers said no, not as of yet. Parks said if the lack of seasonal help in the department becomes an issue, then the Council should deal with it. Why worry about “fixing” a problem before it is a problem.

Withers said Public Services Director Randy Korfiatis has said he would prefer better equipment to do grass mowing rather than any hired help to do the mowing.

Hall asked if someone had applied for the Farmers Market coordinator position. City Planner Jeffrey Dahl said no one had applied for this position. Hall asked if City Planner Dahl planned to be the coordinator again. Withers said Dahl had an important task of re-writing the zoning code and would not have time to coordinate the Farmers Market.

Withers suggested raising awareness of this position and hope someone might even volunteer for the position. He said volunteerism is the backbone of a community.

Kleven wondered if the Council members might want to step up and volunteer to take on the duties of Farmers Market coordinator.

Parks volunteered to help.

Volunteers from the audience included Al Lindquist and Barb Wiley-Lindquist.

Hall said he would be willing to help out, also. He encouraged others who might wish to volunteer.

#### 11. ADMINISTRATOR-CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT

Withers stated cabling has been installed for the forthcoming laptop computers that will be used by the Council members. He noted policies need to be created to guide usage of Council computers and that of City employees. It is the desire that the entire Council packet will be in electronic form in the near future and available to anyone with internet access.

Withers said grant funds recently received may facilitate the purchase of a nearby business space that could be converted for Police Services. More information will be forthcoming.

#### 12. COUNCIL AND ATTORNEY REPORTS

Magsam had no report.

Kleven expressed thanks to everyone for their comments relating to the Central Avenue project. He said he was looking at the long term prosperity for the City when he voted for the project.

Parks said he supported the Central Avenue project but realized it was a hard decision. He thanked the people for attending the meeting tonight. Parks asked about junky yards and long grass/weeds. Withers said staff is working on these issues. Parks reminded everyone about the Grand Opening at Lynde's Restaurant on Saturday, June 20, and Duffy's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Osseo also on June 20.

Schreiber had no report.

Hall reminded everyone about the Teddy Bear Band coming on Tuesday, June 9, with a movie to follow, and the Osseo Marching Band Festival coming Saturday, June 27. He congratulated several area sport teams for state tourney action and seniors who are graduating at this time. Hall expressed gratitude for those who have extended sympathy to his family in the recent passing of parents. He noted some of his losses recently in a garage fire at his home. Hall said marketing of Osseo is important and encouraged everyone to do so.

13. ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was made by Parks, seconded by Kleven, to adjourn the City Council meeting at 10:20 p.m. The motion carried 4-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

LeAnn Larson  
Deputy Clerk