

**OSSEO CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
September 9, 2019**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Duane Poppe called the regular meeting of the Osseo City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, September 9, 2019.

2. ROLL CALL

Members present: Councilmembers Juliana Hultstrom, Harold E. Johnson, Mark Schulz, Larry Stelmach, and Mayor Duane Poppe.

Staff present: City Administrator Riley Grams, City Planner Nancy Abts, and City Attorney Mary Tietjen.

Others present: James Kelly, Dorothy Clarke, Dee Bonn, Dan Penny, Preston Kroska, Michael Mueller, and Ashlee Thostenson.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Poppe led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA [Additions - Deletions]

Poppe asked for additions or deletions to the Agenda.

Schulz stated he would like an item added to the Agenda as Item 10F to allow for discussion of the Streetscape Project.

**A motion was made by Stelmach, seconded by Johnson, to approve the Agenda as amended adding Item 10F – Streetscape Project Discussion. The motion carried 5-0.**

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Council Minutes of August 26
- B. Approve Work Session Minutes of August 26
- C. Receive July Hockey Association Gambling Report
- D. Receive August Building Report

**A motion was made by Hultstrom, seconded by Johnson, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried 5-0.**

6. MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

Preston Kroska, 601 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE, discussed the project being planned for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenues NE in 2020. He understood this project was already approved with WSB. He stated there are 60 homes on these blocks and he spoke to 30 residents. He explained the residents he spoke to do not support having sidewalks on 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE or 3<sup>rd</sup>

Avenue NE. He stated there were concerns with the loss of front yards and trees. He noted these blocks were not designed for sidewalks. He suggested the Council reconsider the plans and that the sidewalks be delayed until County Road 30 has sidewalks.

City Administrator Riley Grams reported the Council has not approved the 2020 project but rather has ordered a preliminary study. He explained there would be neighborhood meetings for the residents to bring their concerns to the City. He reported WSB would be contacting the residents as they are developing the plans. He commented further on the timeline for this street reconstruction project.

Mr. Kroska encouraged the City to give residents a two-year heads up prior to starting a street reconstruction project as this would allow residents to begin saving for upcoming assessments. He explained sidewalks were not a requirement in the City but rather were a goal.

James Kelly, 640 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE, shared a poem with the Council called *Where the Sidewalk Ends* by Shel Silverstein.

Arcenia Maves, 533 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue NE, explained she worked from home and indicated she watched the children walk up and down her street to the bus stop. She noted she had a visitor today and was told about the City Council meeting. She questioned why the City was not focusing on 93<sup>rd</sup> Avenue.

Grams explained 93<sup>rd</sup> Avenue/County Road 30 was a County roadway and was not owned by the City. He reported the County had future plans to add sidewalks.

Richard Hopkes, 541 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE, stated he has lived in his home since 1961. He explained when he purchased his home, he understood he did not have a large front yard. However, he estimated about 30% of his front yard would be taken away if a sidewalk were installed. He indicated this was a huge percentage. He requested the Council take this into consideration when moving forward with this project.

Dorothy Clarke, 16 5<sup>th</sup> Street NE, encouraged the Council to visit the new tattoo parlor to ensure they were operating within the confines of City Code and that they were not preying on today's youth.

Hultstrom reported the new business would not be tattooing anyone under the age of 21.

7. SPECIAL BUSINESS

A. REVIEW ADULT RECREATION PARTICIPATION FOR 2018-2019 – Dee Bonn

Dee Bonn thanked the Council for supporting an adult recreation program in 2018-2019 and for budgeting for this program in 2020. She reviewed the participation rates for the adult recreation program for the years 2018-2019. She explained attendance has been tremendous over the past year and membership was growing. She commented on the importance of seniors being social and exercising. She thanked the Council for their continued support.

B. ACCEPT DONATION (Resolution)

Grams stated the City has received the following donation:

Donor	Amount/Item	Designated Fund
Harold E. & Gayle Johnson	\$ 800	Beautification/Streetscape <i>(in memory of Steven Bennyhoff, Jessica (Jones) Daly, Arlene DeZiel, Lorraine Halter, Dr. Phillip Isaacson, Dorothy Kerber, Julie (Rogers) Laudal, &amp; Steve Tessman)</i>

Staff recommended the Council accept the donation.

**A motion was made by Stelmach, seconded by Schulz, to adopt Resolution No. 2019-52 accepting a donation from Harold E. & Gayle Johnson. The motion carried 5-0.**

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None.

9. OLD BUSINESS – None.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. CONFIRM EDA ACTIONS OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2019

Grams discussed the actions of the EDA. He noted the EDA approved accounts payable, plus discussed EDA business communications and a property enhancement program.

**A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Schulz, to confirm the EDA Actions of September 9, 2019. The motion carried 5-0.**

B. DECLARE SURPLUS CITY PROPERTY (Resolution)

Grams stated the City had approximately 40 bikes that have been recovered in Osseo. They are currently taking up usable space at Public Works. He had spoken to Attorney Tietjen and found that the bikes can be donated after being in custody for over 90 days. He had taken the only bike that is under 90 days in our custody out of the group of bikes in the picture. He reported the police department would like to donate these bikes to Bikes4Kids and noted this organization was willing to come and pick up the bikes from public works. Bikes4Kids is a nonprofit that will take the bikes, fix and clean the bikes, and give them to kids that cannot afford one for themselves.

**A motion was made by Hultstrom, seconded by Stelmach, to adopt Resolution No. 2019-53 approving the bikes as surplus and authorizing staff to execute an agreement with the non-profit regarding the bikes. The motion carried 5-0.**

C. APPROVE APPOINTMENT TO PLANNING COMMISSION (Resolution)

Grams commented staff has letters of interest from Ashlee Thostenson and Dan Penny for the Planning Commission vacancy. He requested the Council discuss the position and make a recommendation for the vacant Planning Commission seat.

Hultstrom stated she would be stepping aside from her position on the Planning Commission and recommended that both candidates be appointed to the Planning

Commission. She noted she spoke with staff regarding this recommendation, and she has decided to resign.

Johnson supported the Council accepting Hultstrom's resignation prior to appointing the two new members.

**A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Stelmach, to accept Juliana Hultstrom's resignation from the Planning Commission. The motion carried 5-0.**

Stelmach thanked Hultstrom for stepping down in order allow these two new candidates to serve the community.

**A motion was made by Stelmach, seconded by Schulz, to adopt Resolution No. 2019-54 appointing Ashlee Thostenson (2021 term) and Dan Penny (2020 term) to the Planning Commission. The motion carried 5-0.**

Johnson asked the two candidates to come forward and introduce themselves to the Council.

Ashlee Thostenson introduced herself to the Council and stated she looked forward to serving the City on the Planning Commission.

Dan Penny thanked the Council for considering him for this position and stated he looked forward to serving on the Planning Commission.

**D. ADOPT PRELIMINARY 2020 CITY BUDGET AND TAX LEVY (Resolution)**

Grams stated the Council previously reviewed the preliminary 2020 budget at the work session on August 26. The recommendations made by the Council at the work session have been incorporated into the proposed budget. The proposed 2020 City budget shows a balanced budget between expenditures and revenue. The total proposed expenditures budget for 2020 is \$2,878,612. This represents an increase of 9.75% over the 2019 adopted budget (\$252,510 total increase). Staff reviewed a department by department summary on the 2020 budget and recommended approval of the preliminary budget and proposed tax levy.

Johnson requested further information regarding the additional police officer.

Stelmach explained the Council wanted to keep the City of Osseo safe. He indicated the Police Department has requested one additional officer to assist with staffing the overnight hours and the Council supports this recommendation. He reported this request would allow for two officers working during the overnight shifts versus only having one officer.

Schulz commented safety was of the utmost importance to the City Council and its residents. He discussed the crime stats that were provided by Police Chief Shane Mikkelson from August 2018 to August 2019. He explained Osseo had eight sexual assaults, 16 physical assaults, 74 property thefts, 23 narcotics complaints, and 41 domestic disputes in the last year. He described how the City was being impacted by having only one officer working the overnight shift. He stated he wanted to maintain the City's safety and for this reason he supported the Police Department hiring one additional

police officer. He understood this would cost all residents more money, but he believed this was a worthwhile expense.

Preston Kroska asked if the extra officer could be covered by the Hennepin County Sheriff's Department in order to reduce the expense on Osseo residents.

Stelmach commented the Hennepin County Sheriff Department Deputies would not be dedicated to Osseo, but have duties of their own. These deputies could not abandon their responsibilities in order to answer a call in Osseo.

Hultstrom commented the deputies respond to any mutual aid calls as they are able.

Johnson discussed how quick the response time was for the Osseo Police Department and stated he appreciated this at the Realife Cooperative.

Mr. Kroska questioned if the Council had any statistics about crime increasing after sidewalks were installed. Stelmach stated the Council did not have any research or stats regarding this topic. He explained there was a higher probability of people being hit by cars when walking in the street and for this reason the Council was working to install sidewalks in order to keep the community safe.

**A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Hultstrom, to adopt Resolution No. 2019-55 approving the preliminary 2020 Budget and Property Tax Levy as presented. The motion carried 5-0.**

**A motion was made by Hultstrom, seconded by Johnson, to adopt Resolution No. 2019-56 reducing the Debt Service Tax Levies for 2020 as presented. The motion carried 5-0.**

E. APPROVE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Grams reviewed the Accounts Payable with the Council.

**A motion was made by Johnson, seconded by Schulz, to approve the Accounts Payable as presented. The motion carried 5-0.**

F. STREETScape PROJECT DISCUSSION

Johnson stated a Streetscape Committee meeting was held with staff, Councilmember Schulz, and him this afternoon. He reported the pavers along Central Avenue were in bad shape. He indicated the group discussed how to address this concern and would be coming back to the Council with recommendations at a future meeting. He explained the pavers would have to make it through another winter and would be replaced in 2020.

Schulz commented the pavers that were installed eleven years ago were inadequate or just plain wrong. He stated this project was assessed over 20 years and was failing at year ten. He explained the Council would be discussing this problem at an October work session. He reported the Council would need feedback on how to fix the problem and how to pay for it.

Johnson stated all of the trees along Central Avenue needed trimming. He was hoping the trees could be trimmed prior to the decorative lights being put on this fall. He asked

that the Council consider allowing the trees to be trimmed for an amount not to exceed \$20,000.

Schulz explained this was a maintenance issue that should have been done over the past ten years and was not completed. He indicated for the health of the trees the Public Works Director was recommending the tree trimming be completed.

Stelmach stated the good news was the City's contingency fund had a balance of \$19,540.

Hultstrom commented she could support the tree trimming but believed the paver issue was becoming a safety concern.

Schulz indicated he understood the paver issue was becoming a safety concern and stated the worst areas along Central Avenue had been addressed. He explained he was very frustrated that a project that was supposed to last 30 years was already failing after ten years. He reported the Council would be addressing this matter further at a future work session.

**A motion was made by Hultstrom, seconded by Schulz, to direct staff to obtain three quotes for tree trimming of the trees along Central Avenue at a cost not to exceed \$20,000. The motion carried 5-0.**

11. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Grams reported he enjoyed attending Lions Roar this past weekend with his family. He thanked all of the volunteers, especially the Osseo Lions, who worked to make this event a tremendous success.

12. COUNCIL AND ATTORNEY REPORTS

City Attorney Tietjen stated she had a wonderful time at Lions Roar.

City Planner Nancy Abts invited the public to attend a Tree Care Open House on Monday, September 23, from 4-6 p.m., in the Fire Department Meeting Room.

Hultstrom sent her thanks to the Osseo Lions for making Lions Roar happen. She also thanked Johnson for working so diligently on the Community Center carpeting.

Stelmach thanked the Osseo Lions for all of their efforts with Lions Roar. He stated he also appreciated all of the effort from City staff as well. He indicated he was honored to have been able to serve as Grand Marshal for Lions Roar.

Johnson stated he and Hultstrom spent quite a deal of time cleaning the Community Center room carpet. He indicated the original condition was deplorable. He supported the City having a part-time person to clean the City's facilities. He stated if the Community Center room was going to be rented out, the space had to be properly cleaned.

Schulz thanked the Osseo Lions for another great Lions Roar. He also thanked the Park and Recreation Chair Kerstin Schulz for pulling off another successful craft fair. He noted

this event had 38 vendors this year. He stated he dispersed 3,900 pieces of candy this year during the parade.

Poppe thanked all who were involved in the Lions Roar for making this a great community event.

Poppe thanked Hultstrom for her service on the Planning Commission, and he welcomed Dan Penny and Ashlee Thostenson to the Planning Commission.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Poppe encouraged residents to visit the Farmers Market every Tuesday from 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. through September 24.

Poppe encouraged residents to consider donating blood on Wednesday, September 11, from 1-7 p.m.

14. ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was made by Schulz, seconded by Hultstrom, to adjourn the City Council meeting at 8:38 p.m. The motion carried 5-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Guenther  
*TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*