

Special Meeting  
August 24, 2015 6:30 p.m.  
City of Oswego, Kansas

Present: Councilmembers Bill Owens, Darren Tynan, Kelly Vance, David Newby and Caleb Strickland with Mayor Bill Cunningham presiding.

Absent: Councilmember Jane Rea

Also Present: Police Chief George Elliott, City Superintendent Calvin Jurgensen, City Clerk Carol Eddington, Paula Kern and Heather Brown.

### **Public Hearing – 2016 Budget**

The Mayor called the meeting to order and opened the public hearing for the 2016 budget at 6:30 p.m. There were no comments from the floor at that time. The Mayor determined to leave the public hearing open for a while.

### **Police Vehicle Purchase**

Police Chief Elliott reported that he had looked at the used 2013 Ford Interceptor suggested by Councilmember Strickland, however, he was unable to see well out of the vehicle and is still concerned with the mileage of almost 50,000 on it. If this vehicle was purchased, the Police Dept. would have three vehicles with higher miles instead of three vehicles in various stages of mileage. Councilman Strickland felt that the mileage on the used vehicle was not too high. Elliott said the miles on a police vehicle are in town miles only, which is much harder on a vehicle.

Out of the three quotes on new vehicles that Chief Elliott received, the Dodge Ram 1500 4WD is the least expensive at \$24,000. The others were a Ford Explorer sedan for \$27,500 and a Ford Explorer Interceptor for \$30,688. Elliott said it would be advantageous for the Department to have a four-wheel drive vehicle during inclement weather in the winter time. Officers have had to use their personal 4 wheel drive vehicles many times when the road conditions were so bad that the patrol cars would get stuck. Councilmember Strickland was concerned with public perception of the city purchasing a new vehicle.

After further discussion, Vance made a motion and Newby seconded to purchase the Dodge Ram 1500 and equip it with the necessary police equipment. Motion carried with Strickland and Owens voting no.

### **Public Hearing**

Mayor Cunningham asked if there were any comments on the 2106 Budget. There being none, he closed the Hearing at 6:47 p.m.

### **Budget Resolution**

Clerk Eddington explained that this year, the State passed a new requirement that cities must pass a Resolution before they approve the budget if the budget is greater than the current year budget with the 2014 CPI adjustment included. Resolution 8-24-15A, expressing the property

taxation policy of the Governing Body of the City of Oswego with respect to financing the annual budget for 2016, was presented. Vance made a motion and Tynan seconded to approve the Resolution as presented. Motion carried.

### **2016 Budget**

Tynan made a motion and Vance seconded to approve the 2016 Budget as presented. Motion carried with Owens and Strickland voting no.

### **CDBG Housing Rehabilitation Grant**

The rehab work for 425 6<sup>th</sup> St. has been done. SEKRPC, our grant administrator, has performed their inspection and the work has passed inspection. The owners have also approved the work that has been done. Contractor Larry Ewing has submitted an invoice for the accepted bid amount of \$18,800. Since the September meeting falls so late in the month, it would be a while before the contractor was paid. Grant Administrator Galemore has only one more paper to get from Ewing and she will grant permission to release payment to him. Owens made a motion and Tynan seconded to approve payment to Ewing for \$18,800 contingent upon the okay from the grant administrator. Motion carried.

### **Downtown Demolition Grant**

Clerk Eddington said that Administrator Galemore contacted an engineer from BG Consultants, Bruce Boettcher, who came to town on Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup> to inspect the apartment building and the wall of the building that was next to the old video store. He is not the head structural engineer of their firm but he examined the building and took photos which he then took back to his office and discussed with his colleagues. The ballpark estimate that they came up with to fix and skin the west side of the apartment building is \$25,000 – without any design work. That is based upon replacing missing brick, tuck pointing and putting stucco with caging on.

There is still the issue of the roof that needs to be fixed or the building will continue to deteriorate. KDOC (Kansas Dept. of Commerce) indicated that they may be hesitant to participate in skinning the building without some kind of assurance that the main issues with the building would be fixed. The owner has informed the city that she cannot afford to fix the building. Council asked if they could speak to KDOC about what options for the building could be included in the CDBG grant. Clerk Eddington will see if that can be set up.

### **Adjourn**

Owens made a motion and Tynan seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Motion carried.

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Mayor F.W. Cunningham, Jr.

Attest:

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City Clerk Carol J. Eddington