

Town of Odessa

**MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR TOWN MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2023 - 7:00 PM
OLD ACADEMY BUILDING
315 MAIN STREET
ODESSA, DE 19730**

Those present at 7:00 PM:

Mayor: Harvey Smith

Council Member: Lenny Aguilar

Council Member: John Freeman

Council Member: Lionel Hynson (arrived late at 7:08 pm)

Council Member: Yeni Ocampo

Treasurer: David Sheats

Secretary: Amy Marie Ottinger

3 community members

I. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance – Meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM.

II. Roll Call

III. Approval of Minutes

a. Minutes: Regular Meeting of Mayor & Council 9-11-23

MOTION BY LENNY AGUILAR, SECONDED BY YENI OCAMPO TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 MEETING OF MAYOR & COUNCIL.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

IV. Correspondence - None

V. Treasurer's Report

a. Balance Sheet / Profit & Loss as of 9-30-23, attached hereto as Attachments A & B (3-page reports)

b. Treasurer Sheats reviewed deposits totaling \$67,890.12 which consisted mainly of residential and commercial property tax payments as well as permit fees, rental income and transfer taxes. Expenses reviewed was the \$4,000.00 transfer of funds from the Operating account to Municipal Street aid account to cover funds not yet received and a payment to PHB for \$2,480.00 for electrical upgrades. Outstanding expenses consist of \$3,600.00 to PHB for the remainder of the bathroom remodel, \$1435.00 to RD Collins when all playground repairs are completed, \$33,000.00 to Design Contracting for the demolition of 405 Main Street and a total of \$5,750.00 to Tree Inc for townwide tree clean up.

MOTION BY JOHN FREEMAN, SECONDED BY LENNY AGUILAR TO APPROVE THE TREASURERS REPORT FROM 9-30-23.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE 4 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

- VI. Commission Reports
 - a. Historic – No September meeting
 - b. Planning – Meeting was 9-21-23 (Comprehensive Plan)

VII. Old Business

- a. American Rescue Act Funding – Mayor Smith provided a recap of last month’s discussion regarding ARPA funding. Council was asked to look over documentation provided by each of the towns four non-profits to determine a monetary reimbursement, if any, for loss of income due to Covid. The mayor spoke with Tom McGonigle with Barnes & Thornburg (our group ARPA attorney) who advised us to hold off until he and his firm are able to review all the documentation provided by the non-profits. The town will provide the requested documentation and place it back on the agenda for discussion again once the group attorney provides us with a go ahead.

The Mayor also discovered a new provision in the 2023 Interim Final Rule which implements three new eligible uses for ARPA funding as authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023. One of the new approved uses is for surface transportation projects. The Mayor has obtained a bid to reseal the walking path and basketball court at Memorial Park, attached hereto as Attachment C (2-page estimate), and is requesting approval from council to utilize ARPA funds to pay for this project.

MOTION BY JOHN FREEMAN, SECONDED BY LENNY AGUILAR TO APPROVE ESTIMATE #E577 FROM MOORE SEAL INC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,030.40 FOR THE RESEALING OF THE WALKING PATH AND BASKETBALL COURT AT OLD MEMORIAL PARK TO BE PAID WITH ARPA FUNDING.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

- b. 405 Main Street Update – Asbestos siding has started to be removed by an approved asbestos abatement company. The town has prepared a letter to the Price family notifying them of the demolition date of Monday, October 16th, 2023. Notification will also be sent to the adjacent neighbors letting them know when demolition is to begin.

VIII. New Business

- a. Boyer & Boyer Engagement Letter, attached hereto as Attachment D (2-page engagement letter)

MOTION BY LENNY AGUILAR, SECONDED BY JOHN FREEMAN, FOR THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH BOYER & BOYER TO PERFORM THE YEARLY AUDIT FOR YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2023.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

- b. Snow Removal Contract, attached hereto as Attachment E (2-page contract)

MOTION BY LIONEL HYNSON, SECONDED BY JOHN FREEMAN, TO APPROVE THE 2023-2024 SNOW REMOVAL CONTRACT WITH AUSTIN & BEDNASH FOR THE TOWN OF ODESSA.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

IX. Next Meeting Date and Time: Next meeting of Mayor and Council will be Monday, November 6th at 7:00PM

X. Adjournment

MOTION BY JOHN FREEMAN, SECONDED BY YENI OCAMPO TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:20 PM.

MOTION CARRIED. VOTE 5 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTAIN

Minutes Submitted: 10/16/2023

By: Amy Marie Ottinger
Town Secretary

Approved: 11/6/2023