

**City of Oronoco**  
**Public Hearings & Special Council Meeting**  
**Monday, December 4, 2006**  
**7:00PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**Bertsinger called to order at 7: 04**

**II. ROLL CALL**

Members present: Mayor Joy Bertsinger, Councilor Scott Keigley, Councilor Kevin McDermott, Councilor Tom Novak, Councilor Jackie Hall, Asst. clerk Sandy Jessen, and community members

**III. TRUTH IN TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING**

Discussion: The city of Oronoco's tax base is set at 36.5%, which is the same as last years rate. Mayor Joy Bertsinger asked that anyone with concerns or questions step forward.

Roger Wells, 146 6<sup>th</sup> Lane NE; concerned his city tax is up 10.5%, questioned whether it represents all of Oronoco. Mayor Joy Bertsinger explained that his city tax amount was higher because the homes value had increased.

Discussion: The county assessors have been out the last few years and raised the property values. The city pays \$40,000 for the overpass payment with the tax money. The city has lost part of its tax base with the Hwy 52 project with the loss of homes and businesses (JC's & Amish Furniture Barn). The city will also receive about \$3000 less from LGA. Mr. Wells brought up a concern of power outages and his power is off longer than downtown. Councilor Kevin McDermott explained that Peoples Coop serves six counties and Oronoco runs on different circuits in different areas of town out of substation and nothing can be done about that the City has no control. Once the new underground is in it will help.

Carl Stolp, 155 5<sup>th</sup> Street SW; His mother's home's value increase \$20,000, last year it was lowered \$5000 for the Hwy 52 project with the loss of 3 acres and buildings. Mayor Joy Bertsinger said that Mr. Stolp should speak to the county assessors in April. Thursday evening is the CIP meeting and council can look at 2007 road project, find finances for 5<sup>th</sup> Street & 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave SW

Olive Campbell, value of home went from \$71200 to \$81000 doesn't think it should have gone up that much.

Mayor Joy Bertsinger said that the county assesses values in April and the council can't do anything tonight. Mark Krupsky is the person that should be contacted and his phone number is 285-8124. Mayor Joy Bertsinger asked three times if anyone had any questions or comments on the city budget. **Mayor Joy**

**Bertsinger motioned to adjourn the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing at 7:22pm, Councilor Jackie Hall second; All in favor, motion carried.**

IV. WEDUM PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Joy Bertsinger explained the city has the ability to bond up to 10 million dollars per year; a non profit can use it. The Wedums will reimburse the city 25000 to use the city's tax capacity. Any questions any I'll call 3 times any question from the public for the Wedum Public Hearing **Mayor Joy Bertsinger motioned to close the Wedum Public Hearing, Councilor Kevin McDermott second; all in favor, motion carried.**

V. SPECIAL MEETING DISCUSSION

A. Wedum Discussion Resolution 06-27

**Mayor Joy Bertsinger motion to approve resolution 06-27, Councilor Jackie Hall second; discussion: City would not be liable per Mike Bubany, Mayor Joy Bertsinger motioned to approve with attorneys approval by Voice Vote, all eyes, motion carried.**

B. Discussion on TNT Hearing, Set Levy Resolution 06-28

Discussion: Cannot increase levee but can decrease should look at budget Fire Department payroll increase by 3200, EOC Dennis Blanck, EOC Director would like to increase training \$200, increasing budget to \$3400.

Shop Capital Outlay: change from \$2000 to \$1600

EOC training: change from \$400 to \$600

Fire Department Turnout Gear: change from \$3000 to \$2500

Fire Department Vehicle Replacement: change from \$4000 to \$3000

Fire Department Payroll: change from \$4300 to \$7500

Fire Department Equipment Repair & Maintenance: change from \$3000 to \$2500

Fire Department Vehicle Repair & Maintenance: change from \$4000 to \$3000

Discussion: The \$25000 from the Wedum project; will wait to amend into the budget until after the first of the year. Leave tax rate at 36.5%, budget is set bare bones enough.

**Mayor Joy Bertsinger motioned accept resolution 06-28, Councilor Kevin McDermott 2<sup>nd</sup>; Voice Vote all eyes, motion carries.**

C. Set 2007 Budget

D. Facility Cleaning/Snowplowing while Kent on vacation

Snow plowing; Councilor Kevin McDermott Councilor Scott Keigley will take care of snow removal if necessary. Councilor Scott Keigley is available Dec. 9-10 not Dec.16-17 for clean-up. Councilor Jackie Hall Dec.16-17 could help; Councilor Kevin McDermott will help Councilor Scott Keigley. Mayor Joy

Bertsinger talk to Paul Howe about cleaning up for himself, Councilor sweep after dogs are done Wednesday night. Councilor Tom Novak could help the 17th Sandy Jessen will e-mail reminders on what needs to be done description – list.

E. Unpaid Bills

Went through list of bills and what the Companies provided

**Councilor Scott Keigley motioned pay all bills, Councilor Jackie Hall second; Mayor Joy Bertsinger will abstain 1 bill is for her, all in favor, motion carried.**

F. Presentation from Councilor Tom Novak on Elk Run Development Tower investment website home page, the company is from California and just purchased the elk farm called Elk Run in Pine Island (not Oronoco). The website says it is on Hwy 52 just out of Rochester city limits, 1,700,000 square feet with 500 acres commercial, residential, parks, lakes, and a new interchange by 2011 elk run .info.

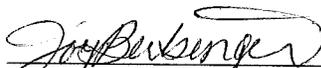
Discussion: Is the city of Oronoco ready for a development of this size? The possibilities it will bring to Oronoco. GGG is involved and that may mean that a sewer pipe will be brought down and Oronoco would not have to dig all the way up to 90<sup>th</sup>. Jobs will be created and many may choose to live in Oronoco. Council should set up a meeting with the Pine Island council to discuss the new development so the city can stay informed.

G. Auction website: public surplus auction, looked at the possibility of getting air packs for the Fire Department, John Stolp didn't think that it was needed at this time.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

**Mayor Joy Bertsinger motion to adjourn at 8:30 pm, Councilor Kevin McDermott 2<sup>nd</sup>; all in favor, motion carried.**

Respectfully Submitted:

  
Joy Bertsinger, Mayor

  
Cheryl Nymann, City Clerk / Treasurer