

OWEN-WITHEE POLICE COMMITTEE MINUTES

DATE: Tuesday, March 3, 2026

LOCATION: Owen City Hall

CITY OFFICIALS:

OWEN: Pam Jaffke, Bob Wilczek, and Jason Thornton

WITHEE: Randy Shelton, Larry Klabon, and Susan Kalepp

Attendance List: Chief Fehlman, Clerk/Treasurer, Tracy Rau, and Kelly Booth

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Chair Jaffke

Public Comment: None

Approve Minutes from 12.02.25: Shelton/Thornton motion to approve minutes. Motion Carried.

Call Report: More crashes this year; already 1 more than last year, most of them on Hwy. 29. Officer Scheffler assisted in a pursuit where he spiked a vehicle which he got a pin and sticker for. We had a few disturbances at the tavern down town but that was minimal and the residents seemed pleased as to how it was handled. OWI and other traffic issues will increase after winter also Officer Haugsted assisted the State Patrol a couple times by deploying his K9 Jimi. With this report we are looking for any trends that may stick out. We rolled the school district visits and sporting events into extra patrol.

K9 Account to LGIP: Chief asked what the K-9 account was intended for and Alderperson Wilczek spoke up that the account was intended to acquire a new K9 and for expenditures like the car kennel. This was confirmed by Alderperson Jaffke. The Budget line for K9 has been reduced this fiscal year and Officer Haugsted will oversee fund raising for this account come summer. It was suggested that he talk to Austin Hogan about a meet and greet. There is not a set amount that has to go into the LGIP and the rate is variable. It has been on the downside as of late. Clerk/Treasurer Rau was at the bank and saw a CD rate for 9 months, she believes at 3.99%. This would be better than LGIP and rate locked commented Trustee Kalepp. A Wilczek/Kalepp motion to move \$4500.00 to a CD at Prevail for 9 months at 3.99%. Motion carried

Equipment/K9 update: The Chief stated that everything has been good. The 2016 Ford is at the dealership as there is a recall, they will do an oil change as well as a bumper-to-bumper check. The Crown Vic will then go in for an oil change and out of storage for the summer. There were teeth removed from Jimi due to his age; ever since that new medication took hold he is back on the mend and is gaining weight. The City of Owen is the owner of the garage. At one-point Withee would rather pay rent then own? There needs to be an agreement written up between the City of Owen and the Police Department for the rental of the garage and the space in City Hall. The county is looking at a new RMS System (Records Management System) in Chicago, they are going directly to Motorola. The debriefing for the Chiefs is March 11th to go over the findings. It was asked by Alderperson Jaffke if this would be a different cost to them? If this is going to be expensive then we can't do it at this time. The thinking is it would have software on the computer that would connect with the Sheriffs Department. There is potentially grants out there for this and it is not something we need to jump into right now. The Chief thought that Chippewa County went with it. The system would be cloud based versus server based. Our fire department would be able to use it as well. The Sheriff has the body cams and now they are looking at going with the whole system.

Treasurer's Report: Monthly reports will be emailed to members and then a printed Quarterly Report at the meeting. A Thornton/Wilczek motion to approve. Motion carried.

Payable Disbursements: A Shelton/Kalepp motion to approve. Motion carried.

Future Agenda Items: Agreement with city, RMS Program

Adjourn: 6:53 pm Kalepp/Shelton motion. Motion Carried.

Submitted to the best of my ability, Kelly Booth, Deputy