

**RESOLUTION NO. 961**

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A FRAMEWORK FOR THE INVESTMENT AND REVITALIZATION OF THE DOWNTOWN DISTRICT.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Osawatomie, Kansas, has established five goals for the Community; and

**WHEREAS**, one of the goals “Promote Economic Development” relates to the revitalization of the Osawatomie Downtown District; and

**WHEREAS**, the city through the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Planning Sustainable Places program completed a planning study for the Osawatomie Downtown District, titled “OZCommons”; and

**WHEREAS**, upon completion of that study the City Council passed Resolution 936 Which outlined broad steps the City should undertake to bring more people into the community to increase our “pull factor”; and

**WHEREAS**, included in Resolution 936 was a rethinking of downtown based on the OzCommons study that recasts the downtown district as an “Event and Community Gathering Space;” and

**WHEREAS**, Resolution 936 contemplates a strategic development plan based on the OZCommons Final Plan Recommendations; and

**WHEREAS**, because of the age and failure of building in the Downtown District the City is going to be required to invest in buildings and property to assist community organizations, current businesses and property owners and potential businesses and property owners in the revitalization of the Downtown District.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governing Body of the City of Osawatomie, Kansas, in consultation with the staff have arrived at the following framework that will guide the City’s involvement in the revitalization of the Downtown District:

<b>Property Acquisition and Ownership</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The City will in the initial phases of revitalization (2022) take ownership of properties that need to be removed or salvaged and held for future use. The goal of every acquisition is to convert the property into uses that increase the number of people that visit the Osawatomie Downtown District.</li><li>2. The City will initiate and complete the formation of a Land Bank to serve as a clearing house for properties that the City and other organizations acquire on the City’s behalf.</li><li>3. The City will develop a disposition (sales) process that mirrors the goals of the city and is transparent to the public.</li></ol>
<b>Business Ownership</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The City will work with the Chamber of Commerce to increase business ownership and investment in the Downtown District.</li><li>2. The City will work with any future downtown organizations to put together an incentive package to help spur and support business investment. Examples:</li></ol>

	Waiver of tap fees, connection fees, utility fees and building permits.
<b>Community Events</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Through the Tourism Committee the City will encourage and promote a connection between the four (4) Signature Events adopted by the City Council and the Osawatomie Downtown District. The goal is to leverage the investment the city makes in the event and community gathering spaces.</li> <li>2. The City will encourage restaurants to partner for four (4) Friday night Main Street closings that will promote our local restaurants.</li> </ol>
<b>Community Investments</b>	1. The City working with the OZCommons Planning Committee, downtown property owners and business owners will make strategic investments in vacant spaces, building store fronts, sidewalks, kiosks, bike stands, EV parking and any amenities that promote visitors and tourism into our Downtown District.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Governing Body of the City of Osawatomie, Kansas this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022, a majority being in favor thereof.

APPROVED AND SIGNED by the Mayor.

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Nick Hampson, Mayor

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

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Tammy Seamands, City Clerk