

OWENSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**Regular Meeting
September 18, 2018 5:00 PM**

Owensboro City Hall
101 E. 4th Street
Owensboro, Kentucky

1. CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Tom Watson

2. ROLL CALL - City Clerk Beth Cecil

Present:

Mayor Tom Watson

Mayor Pro Tem Bob Glenn

Commissioner Larry Conder

Commissioner Jay Velotta

Commissioner Pam Smith-Wright was out on business

3. INVOCATION & PLEDGE – Mayor Pro Tem Glenn

4. PRESENTATION

4.A. National Surgical Technologists Week Proclamation was accepted by Zara Basham, Surgical Technology Program Coordinator for Owensboro Community & Technical College.

4.B. Owensboro Convention Center Annual Report – Laura Alexander, General Manager for the Spectra Venue Management - Owensboro Convention Center/Sportscenter presented the 2017-2018 annual review (presentation attached). The Convention Center beat budget by \$13,705 and the Sportscenter beat their budget by \$6,573. Total gross revenues for the 2018 Air Show was \$96,000.

5. BUSINESS

5.A. Minutes dated August 7, August 14 and August 21, 2018 were unanimously approved upon motion of Mayor Watson with a second by Mayor Pro Tem Glenn.

5.B. The following board appointments were unanimously approved upon motion of Mayor Watson with a second by Mayor Pro Tem Glenn:

- **OWENSBORO HEALTH BOARD OF DIRECTORS** - Appoint Dr. Tony McBride as a joint city-county appointment to a three-year term effective November 1, 2018. Appoint Phil Riney to a three-year term effective November 1, 2018.

The following board appointment was unanimously approved upon motion of Commissioner Conder with a second by Mayor Pro Tem Glenn:

- **CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION** - Appoint Shelley Shepherd to fill the remainder of a term which expires July 18, 2020.

6. ORDINANCES - 2nd READING

6.A. Ordinance 15-2018 entitled AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 16-2015 TO AMEND THE GATEWAY COMMONS TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DEVELOPMENT AREA TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE DEVELOPMENT AREA, WITHOUT CHANGING THE LIST OF APPROVED PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS OR THEIR COST, OR THE AMOUNT OF TAX REVENUE THAT HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY APPROVED OR COMMITTED FOR REIMBURSEMENT BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF OWENSBORO AND THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY IN REGARD TO THE GATEWAY COMMONS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, was unanimously approved on second reading.

The City of Owensboro approved Ordinance 16-2015, which established the Gateway Commons Development Area. Additional property adjoining the previously approved Gateway Commons Development Area is proposed to be included in the Area. Kentucky Economic Development Finance Authority has authorized the City to amend and increase the development area by this ordinance. A public hearing was held at 4:00 pm on August 21, 2018 to receive public comment on the amended plan. City Manager Pagan stated that there were no comments heard at the public hearing.

6.B. Ordinance 16-2018 entitled AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2018 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2019, AND AMENDING ORDINANCE 9-2018 TO REVISE ALL BEGINNING FUND BALANCES, CARRYOVER ALL OUTSTANDING ENCUMBRANCES, CAPITAL PROJECTS, RE-BUDGET PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED FUNDS AND TO PROVIDE FOR ACTIVITY AT CENTRE FOR BUSINESS AND RESEARCH, was unanimously approved upon motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Mayor Pro Tem Glenn on second reading.

Budget Amendment to revise all beginning fund balances, carryover all outstanding encumbrances, capital projects, re-budget previously appropriated funds and to provide for activity at Centre for Business and Research.

6.C. Ordinance 17-2018 entitled AN ORDINANCE LEVYING AD VALOREM TAXES FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JULY 1, 2018, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2019, AT THE RATE OF 26.60 CENTS PER \$100 OF ASSESSED VALUATION OF REAL PROPERTY, 28.09 CENTS PER \$100 OF ASSESSED VALUATION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY, AND 30.30 CENTS PER \$100 OF ASSESSED VALUATION OF VEHICLES, AND PROVIDING FOR THE

COLLECTION AND APPORTIONMENT OF SAME, motion to approve was made by Mayor Watson with a second by Mayor Pro Tem Glenn. Ordinance 17-2018 failed to pass with a 2-2 tie vote. Mayor Watson and Mayor Pro Tem Glenn voted to approve the Ordinance and Commissioner Conder and Velotta voted against the Ordinance.

It is proposed that the tax rate for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 on real property be set at 26.60 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation of real property, 28.09 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation of personal property, and 30.30 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation of vehicles, and providing for the collection and apportionment of same. City Manager Pagan explained the four percent (4%) tax rate increase has been incorporated into the 2018-2019 annual budget and the additional revenue of \$167,877 this year provides against the increased pension costs; the rate increase has an accumulated compound effect of \$3.7 million. Commissioner Velotta explained he has a hard time supporting the tax rate increase without a plan of progress and shared the following concerns: other rate increases have occurred (RWRA, OMU, net profit, occupational, state), other revenue streams should be sought, home buying power is going down, no movement on food trucks, wages are not increasing and he is hoping for TIF money sooner than later. Mayor Watson asked Commissioner Velotta for his plan of progress. Commissioner Velotta stated that he hopes the TIF will pay itself back and new revenues will be generated with the opening of the new Bluegrass Museum. Mayor Watson said he has brought several plans to the Commission to increase revenue, including the sale of property and non-performing assets and has been met with opposition in every corner. By not taking the rate increase for the past eight years, it has cost the City \$7-\$11 million dollars, compounded. Cities only have three revenue options and with increased pension costs in the near future, along with other increases (public safety) and in order to keep the city momentum moving forward a plan to generate revenue should be put in place. Mayor Pro Tem Glenn stated that the Property Valuation Administration has also increased property values. Ms. Hamric, Director of Finance and Support Services Director explained that the City bills for the city school district and their rates increased this year.

7. ORDINANCES - 1st READING

7.A. Ordinance 18-2018 entitled AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING TO THE CITY OF OWENSBORO CERTAIN UNINCORPORATED TERRITORY IN DAVIESS COUNTY ADJOINING THE PRESENT BOUNDARY LINE OF THE CITY, FORMERLY USED AS AN ANIMAL SHELTER AND BEING PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2935 HIGHWAY 54, CONTAINING 0.844 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, was introduced and publicly read on first reading.

Annexation requested by property owner, Gateway Land, LLC, for property located at 2935 KY Hwy 54, containing 0.844 acres. City Manager Pagan explained the Ordinance annexes the former county animal shelter which is in the Gateway Commons TIF footprint, but has not yet been annexed into the city. In order to receive potential city incentives relative to the TIF, the property must be in the city.

7.B. Consider Ordinance 19-2018 entitled AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING TO THE CITY OF OWENSBORO CERTAIN UNINCORPORATED TERRITORY IN THE COUNTY OF DAVIESS ADJOINING THE PRESENT BOUNDARY LINE OF THE CITY, BEING PROPERTY CURRENTLY OWNED BY THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY AND LOCATED AT 3001 HIGHWAY 54, CONTAINING 14.54 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, was introduced and publicly read on first reading.

Annexation request for property owned by Commonwealth of Kentucky located at 3001 KY Highway 54, containing 14.54 acres. City Manager Pagan explained this annexation is for the State Juvenile Justice property which is now used as a day treatment facility. Their operations will soon relocate to Fairview Drive where the Career Center is now located. Since the property is no longer needed, the State will soon surplus it and place it for sell.

8. MUNICIPAL ORDER - NONE

9. CITY MANAGER ITEMS

9.A. Personnel appointments were approved 4-0 upon motion of Mayor Watson with a second by Commissioner Velotta.

PROBATIONARY:

- **Kelly Moore** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Finance Department Assistant with the Finance and Support Services Department, effective September 24, 2018
- **Adrienne Carrico** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Executive Assistant to the Mayor, with the Administration Department, effective October 1, 2018
- **David Taylor** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Property Maintenance Inspector with the Public Works Department, effective October 1, 2018

PROMOTIONAL/PROBATIONARY:

- **Allison Schepers** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service, promotional appointment to Recreation Specialist with the Parks and Recreation Department, effective September 19, 2018
- **John Nantz** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service, promotional appointment to Public Works Driver/Sanitation with the Public Works Department, effective September 30, 2018

- **Michael Staples** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service, promotional appointment to Police Lieutenant with the Police Department, effective September 30, 2018
- **Kristopher Collins** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service, promotional appointment to Police Sergeant with the Police Department, effective September 30, 2018
- **James C. Green** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service, promotional appointment to Police Sergeant with the Police Department, effective September 30, 2018
- **Courtney Yerington-Burton** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service, promotional appointment to Police Sergeant with the Police Department, effective September 30, 2018
- **Chad Gilbert** - Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Police Officer with the Police Department effective October 15, 2018
- **Jesse Hagan** - Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Police Officer with the Police Department effective October 15, 2018
- **Derek Griffith** - Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Police Officer with the Police Department effective October 15, 2018

9.B. City Manager Comments – City Manager Pagan announced that the Owensboro Fire Department was awarded the SAFER Grant in the amount of \$848,040 to subsidize salaries for the new east side ladder company. Mayor Watson acknowledged the Finance Department for receiving the GFOA Award for the 2017 Financial Reporting period and presented the award to Ms. Hamric.

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Communications were heard from the elected officials. Commissioner Conder congratulated Paul Nave, Director of 9-1-1 for receiving the inaugural Presidential Award from the Association of Public Safety Officials. First Lady Glenda Bevins was in Owensboro advocating for the Uniting Daviess County program relating to foster child care.

Mayor Watson stated the Department of Transportation recognized the shield for the I-65 project to keep Owensboro off a cul-de-sac. The BUILD Grant for the Owensboro Riverport is moving forward thanks to the assistance of Secretary Elaine Chao. A special called TAC meeting is coming up and he hopes to hear affirmation of receiving \$15 million for the widening of Highway 54. Mayor Watson acknowledged and commended the United Way of Ohio Valley and apologized they could not be recognized earlier in the meeting.

11. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

Roy Henry (Henry's Body Shop, W. 2nd Street) discussed a letter he had received regarding his business property. City Attorney Steve Lynn said he had talked with Mr. Henry and the letter is from Owensboro Metropolitan Planning Commission (OMPC) and recommended he speak to OMPC for resolution. Mayor Watson recommended Mr. Henry attend the OMPC meeting during their public comment period.

Josh Cook (Owensboro) thanked Laura Alexander for the events that have been brought to the Owensboro Convention Center.

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m. upon motion of Mayor Watson and a second from Commissioner Velotta.

Thomas H. Watson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beth Cecil, City Clerk