

OWENSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Work Session

October 11, 2022 12:00 PM

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

1. CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Tom Watson

Present: Mayor Tom Watson, Commissioners Larry Maglinger, Mark Castlen, Bob Glenn and Jeff Sanford.

2. FIRE PREVENTION WEEK – Battalion Chief Steve Leonard presented information surrounding *Fire Prevention Week* (presentation attached). BC Leonard explained that every week is fire prevention week at Owensboro Fire Department (OFD). They currently have several different programs to spread awareness and training in safety prevention including: donating and installing smoke detectors to households, all second graders within Owensboro-Daviess County go through the OFD Fire Prevention Program, and working with third grade through fifth graders and senior citizens.

3. LEAF COLLECTION – Caleb Gray, Sanitation Manager, presented the 2022-2023 leaf collection plan (presentation attached). Vacuum leaf collection will begin October 17 and end February 15, 2023. The department intends to make three (3) passes through the City. The leaf crew consists of twelve (12) seasonal temporary workers and each truck is driven by a city employee. Leaf progress can be found on social media, city website and through local media.

4. TRAINING FACILITIES UPDATE – Assistant City Manager Lelan Hancock gave a brief presentation on the new fire training center (presentation attached). The \$5 Million center will consist of 9,200 sq. feet containing three (3) inside training bays, classroom, changing areas, with a 4-story fire tower on the lot. He hopes to have bids out by mid-October to November. OFD will utilize the former ABC Rental building as an interim classroom during construction. He added that Daviess County Fiscal Court contributed \$250,000 to the project as their firefighters will utilize the building(s) as well. Mayor Watson asked that BC Leonard explain the process of selecting and becoming a firefighter. BC Leonard briefly outlined the process: aptitude tests, background checks, physical agility tests, battery of interviews, followed by 12-14 weeks of demanding, basic training. Several of the applicants hold an Associate's Degree with many having their Master's Degree.

5. CITY PROJECT LIST – Project list attached. Commissioner Sanford asked about wayfinding signs for downtown. Mr. Hancock explained that they are working on them and the documents are about ready. Mayor Pro Tem Maglinger commended the Northwest Revitalization progress. Commissioner Glenn asked about the drinking fountain and restroom situation at English Park. Mr. Hancock and Stephen Franklin, Public Works Director, explained that the restrooms had to be locked down and the

water fountains turned off due to vandalism. The toilets had been smashed and the building was flooded. The restrooms will be unlocked only for special events. There are cameras at the park and Mr. Franklin is unsure if the vandals have been identified.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Watson made a motion to adjourn, motion was seconded by Commissioner Castlen and passed unanimously at 12:27 p.m.

Thomas H. Watson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beth Davis, City Clerk