

OWENSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
WORK SESSION
July 11, 2023 12:00 PM
Owensboro City Hall
101 E. 4th Street
Owensboro, Kentucky

1. CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Tom Watson

Present: Mayor Tom Watson, Commissioners Mark Castlen, Sharon NeSmith, Bob Glenn, and Pam Smith-Wright.

2. BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING SCHEDULE – At the request of Mayor Watson, city staff presented three (3) different options to minimize the number of Commission meetings held each month, while still conducting efficient business (presentation attached). Each option kept the 5:00 pm regular meeting on the first Tuesday of the month and reduced the schedule to two (2) meetings each month. Option 1 included a work session at Noon; Option 2 included a regular meeting at Noon; and Option 3 consisted of a 4:00 work session followed by a 5:00 pm regular meeting. In order to keep business on track, it was suggested to hold two (2) meetings each month. City Manager Pagan stated the staff recommendation was Option 2. Commissioner Smith-Wright preferred Option 2 while Commissioners Glenn, Castlen and NeSmith preferred Option 3. City Manager Pagan explained that Option 2 kept an evening meeting while adding a regular Noon meeting in an effort to attract a different segment of the community. Further options will be discussed before an ordinance change is brought for consideration.

3. CRAVENS POOL UPDATE - Amanda Rogers, Parks Director, presented the design concept for Cravens Pool (attached). She explained that the zero depth entry pool, which is considerably larger and features elements not previously found at the pool, is geared more toward the pre-school to middle school aged children. The plan is to bid the project in August and have a grand opening in May 2024.

4. OFD CANCER PREVENTION & AWARENESS – Fire Chief James Howard presented information on cancer prevention and awareness within the Owensboro Fire Department (OFD) presentation attached. According to the Firefighter Cancer Support Network, firefighters are at a fourteen percent (14%) higher risk of dying from cancer due to the products of combustion, apparatus exhaust and/or Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). The department has several policies and practices in place to protect the firefighters from these elements as much as possible and they are looking toward implementing other strategies to decrease the risk. A recent survey of the OFD resulted in the firefighters having two (2) main concerns: cancer risk and mental health.

5. CITY PROJECT LIST – was made available. City Manager Pagan added that the York Ditch project bids are being opened and the Indoor Sports Facility is progressing.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:53 p.m. by acclimation.

Thomas H. Watson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beth Davis, City Clerk