

OWENSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Called Meeting
October 17, 2023 4:00 PM
Owensboro City Hall
101 E. 4th Street
Owensboro, Kentucky

1. CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Tom Watson

2. ROLL CALL – Beth Davis, City Clerk

Present:

Mayor Tom Watson

Mayor Pro Tem Mark Castlen

Commissioner Sharon NeSmith

Commissioner Bob Glenn

Commissioner Pam Smith-Wright

3. INVOCATION & PLEDGE – Commissioner Pam Smith-Wright

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.A. Mayor Watson recognized Pamela Canary (Transit Manager) and Anita Daughtry (Police Department Clerk/Typist) on their retirements effective October 31, 2023. Ms. Canary was in attendance and accepted an Outstanding Service Award.

4.B. Teresa Jackson and Elsa Fischer, BerryDunn Consultants, presented the findings thus far for the Parks Master Plan (presentation attached). Ms. Jackson touched on the number of full-time employees based on peer parks and recreation agencies, stating that there is a variance. A survey was mailed to a random sample of six thousand (6,000) residents asking for feedback on the parks system and programming. There were two hundred and eighty four (284) responses, reflecting a six and nine tenths percent (6.9%) margin of error. Additionally, there was an open option for residents to partake in the survey. Ms. Fischer noted that most survey responses requested additional walking and biking trails and connectivity of the Greenbelt. Nearly half of the invite samples rated more senior, teen and youth programs as important. Over half of the invite samples said improved communication about offerings would help increase their use of parks and recreation facilities, programs and services. Survey results showed that we offer ninety-four percent (94%) of programs to twenty-four and eight tenths percent (24.8%) of the population – youth; however, only six percent (6%) of the programming is for the adult population (41.6%). Ms. Jackson said the responses were pretty typical compared to averages across the country. There was further discussion on James Mason Park, soccer facilities, the HealthPark and Western Kentucky Botanical Gardens.

4.C. Gary Hall, Health Educator II at Green River District Health Department, presented the risks and effects of electronic cigarettes and vaping (presentation attached).

4.D. Hunter Ragan, Sanitation Manager, discussed the upcoming leaf season (presentation attached). Leaf season begins October 16 and will end February 15.

4.E. In observance of Fire Prevention Month, Fire Marshal Steve Leonard gave a presentation (attached). Owensboro Fire Department has a Smoke Detector Program to ensure that each home within the City has a functional smoke alarm. If needed, the firefighters will install the alarm. Fire Marshal Leonard also accepted the Fire Prevention Month Proclamation from Mayor Watson.

5. BUSINESS

5.A. Minutes dated September 19, 2023 were unanimously approved by motion of Mayor Watson and a second from Commissioner Smith-Wright.

5.B. The following board appointments were unanimously approved by motion of Mayor Watson and a second from Commissioner Glenn:

- **Apollo Area Neighborhood Alliance** – Reappoint Bruce Houp and Suzette Austin Maglinger to a two-year term effective October 23, 2023. Reappoint Robert Schell to a two-year term effective November 2, 2023
- **Dugan Best Neighborhood Alliance** – Appoint Lekisha Hall, Jansen Harris, and Quentin Coleman to a two-year term effective October 17, 2023
- **Owensboro Human Relations Commission** – Appoint Nikie Ward to fill the remainder of an unexpired term which ends April 5, 2025 (replacing Terri Crowe)
- **Owensboro Metropolitan Planning Commission** – Appoint Bill Weikel to fill the remainder of an unexpired term which ends January 1, 2024 (replacing Laurna Strehl)
- **Owensboro Metropolitan Board of Adjustment** – Appoint Bill Weikel to fill the remainder of an unexpired term which ends January 1, 2026 (replacing Laurna Strehl)

6. ORDINANCES - 2nd READING - None

7. ORDINANCES - 1st READING - None

8. MUNICIPAL ORDERS

8.A. Municipal Order 38-2023 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR FUNDS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND

URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$10,000,000.00 TO PRODUCE AFFORDABLE HOUSING RENTAL UNITS, was unanimously approved on one reading by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner NeSmith.

The U.S. Department for Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) has Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing (PRO Housing) grant funds available for the purpose of supporting local communities who are actively taking steps to remove barriers to affordable housing. The City desires to apply for funds in the amount of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00) from HUD so that it can create affordable rental housing units. City Manager Pagan added that if awarded, the City will issue a request for proposals for partners to co-develop affordable housing units. The City estimates approximately \$13.5 Million with funds from the partner and city HOME funds providing the balance of the project above the \$10 Million request.

8.B. Municipal Order 39-2023 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED WAY OF THE OHIO VALLEY PROVIDING FOR INVESTMENT AND EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDING RECEIVED FROM THE CITY OF OWENSBORO TO VARIOUS HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICE AGENCIES IN THE CITY AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES, was unanimously approved on one reading by motion of Commissioner Smith-Wright and a second by Commissioner NeSmith.

The City has for many years funded and offered social service agency assistance to its citizens and community through United Way of the Ohio Valley and desires to continue that assistance by entering into a five (5) year agreement with United Way. City Manager Pagan stated that the City has partnered with United Way since 2008 to review and allocate funding to local social service agencies and this order will continue the partnership for another five (5) years.

8.C. Municipal Order 40-2023 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF OWENSBORO AND DAVIESS COUNTY FISCAL COURT EQUALLY DIVIDING RESPONSIBILITY FOR PAYMENT OF THE \$25,000.00 COST ASSOCIATED WITH RETAINING CARLTON HALL CONSULTING LLC TO FACILITATE A STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS FOR THE OWENSBORO-DAVIESS COUNTY STEERING COMMITTEE FOR A DRUG AND ALCOHOL ADDICTION FREE COMMUNITY CONCERNING OPIOID REMEDIATION, was unanimously approved on one reading by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner Glenn.

The City of Owensboro has received and will continue to receive settlement proceeds from multiple lawsuits against opioid manufacturers and distributors. The City and Daviess County Fiscal Court have tasked the Owensboro-Daviess County Steering Committee for a Drug and Alcohol Addiction Free Community (“Steering Committee”) with recommending appropriate uses of the settlement proceeds. The Parties wish to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement providing that the City and Daviess County Fiscal Court shall each pay \$12,500.00 of the total \$25,000.00 cost needed to retain Carlton

Hall Consulting LLC to facilitate a strategic planning process for the Steering Committee to recommend appropriate uses of the settlement proceeds. City Manager Pagan explained that at the request of the Owensboro-Daviess County Steering Committee for a Drug and Alcohol Addiction Free Community, Carlton Hall Consulting LLC will provide recommendations for how to best utilize the opioid settlement funds the City and County will receive. Mayor Watson added that a consultant is needed to help with a strategic plan for the funds.

9. CITY MANAGER ITEMS

9.A. The following personnel appointments were unanimously approved by motion of Mayor Watson and second by Mayor Pro Tem Castlen:

NEW HIRE/PROBATIONARY STATUS:

- **Michael J. Knight** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Maintenance Equipment Operator with the Public Works Street Department, effective October 30, 2023, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Victoria L. Pennington** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Transit Manager with the Public Works Transit Department, effective October 30, 2023, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Abigail R. Mattingly** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Telecommunicator with the Police Department, effective November 6, 2023
- **Victoria P. Whitmer** - Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Telecommunicator with the Police Department, effective November 6, 2023

PROMOTIONAL/PROBATIONARY STATUS:

- **Zachary L. Brown** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Refuse Truck Driver with the Public Works Sanitation Department, effective October 8, 2023
- **Susan R. Frasier** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service, promotional appointment to Bus Driver/Dispatcher with the Public Works Transit Department, effective October 8, 2023
- **David J. Mooneyhan** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service, promotional appointment to Maintenance Equipment Operator with the Public Works Street Department, effective October 22, 2023

- **Taylor J. Keener** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service, promotional appointment to Telecommunicator with the Police Department, effective November 19, 2023

REGULAR STATUS:

- **Mathew D. Brake** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Maintenance Specialist with the Public Works Buildings Department, effective October 3, 2023
- **John A. Smith** - Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Maintenance Specialist with the Public Works Buildings Department, effective October 3, 2023
- **Deanna K. Glover** - Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Accountant with the Finance Department, effective October 10, 2023
- **Steven A. Menteer** - Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Network Systems Engineer with the Information Technology Department, effective October 17, 2023
- **Austin L. Esther** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Police Officer with the Police Department, effective October 24, 2023
- **James M. Forker** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Police Officer with the Police Department, effective October 24, 2023
- **Shaelie L. Velez** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Communications/Marketing Manager with the Administration Department, effective October 31, 2023

9.B. City Manager Comments – City Manager Pagan opened up the project list for comments, there were none.

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Members of the Commission discussed the events they recently attended.

Commissioner Smith-Wright read a letter from the Veteran’s Day National Committee, stating that Owensboro has been selected as a regional site (the Owensboro Veteran’s Day Parade) for the 2023 Veteran’s Day Commemoration.

11. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

None

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m. by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner Smith-Wright.

Thomas H. Watson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beth Davis, City Clerk