

OWENSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Called Meeting

April 16, 2024 - 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 Sharon NeSmith

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.A. Mayor Watson recognized the retirement of Doug Roth, Firefighter (not in attendance).

4.B. The Owensboro Rampage Varsity Hockey Team was honored with a proclamation. The team won the 2024 Kentucky High School Hockey League State Tournament for the sixth time.

4.C. Atmos Energy staff members Kay Coomes, Mariam Tucker and Daniel Mayfield accepted the National Safe Digging Month proclamation from Mayor Watson.

4.D. Mayor Watson presented the National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week proclamation to Paul Nave, Central Dispatch 9-1-1 Director.

4.E. Jason Collins, Executive Director of Pharmacy at Owensboro Health, presented an update on Owensboro Health's Opioid Stewardship and the Communities (attached). Mr. Collins stated that OH offers free nicotine replacement available by walk-in to the pharmacy.

4.F. Amanda Rogers, Parks Director and Teresa Jackson, BerryDunn, presented the findings of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan 2024 – 2033 (attached). The working document was designed to strategically address the needs of parks, trails, open space and recreation throughout the City. Input was received from city team members, stakeholders and the general public.

4.G. Joe Sublett, Property Maintenance Manager, presented an update on the Property Maintenance Department and their work (attached).

4.H. The City Project List was included with the packet.

5. BUSINESS

5.A. Minutes dated March 19, 2024 were unanimously approved by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner Glenn.

6. MUNICIPAL ORDERS

6.A. Municipal Order 7-2024 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION FOR THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT (EECBG) PROGRAM THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY IN THE APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF \$123,460.00, THE PROCEEDS OF WHICH WILL BE UTILIZED FOR HVAC REPLACEMENT AT CITY HALL; NO MATCH IS REQUIRED, was unanimously approved on one reading by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Mayor Pro Tem Castlen.

The City of Owensboro seeks to file an application for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program through the Department of Energy in the approximate amount of \$123,460.00, the proceeds of which will be utilized for HVAC replacement at City Hall; no match is required. City Manager Pagan added that the City was notified of the eligibility to apply for \$123,460.00 through the program. The HVAC at City Hall was planned to be replaced this year and if awarded, the funds will be utilized for that seven-figure project.

6.B. Municipal Order 8-2024 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A REAL ESTATE PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3001 WEST 2ND STREET, 35 CARTER ROAD AND 45 CARTER ROAD, was unanimously approved on one reading by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner Glenn.

Audubon Loans, Inc. owns certain real property located at 3001 West 2nd Street, 35 Carter Road and 45 Carter Road in Daviess County, Kentucky and desires to sell the real property. The City of Owensboro seeks to acquire said property as the location for a new senior center. City Manager Pagan explained that the location of the new Senior Center was announced earlier in the day. This order formally approves the purchase of the property. The purchase price is \$1 Million and the appraisal for the site was \$1.5 Million, so the City is getting a good deal on the purchase. The eight (8) acre site is much larger than the current property and it will accommodate for the future growth and development of the Senior Center, allowing it to continue to expand the important services it provides to the community. The site is contiguous to the Western Kentucky Botanical Garden and Thompson Berry Park. At a meeting in May, the construction and acquisition of the project will be fully funded through a budget amendment. Mayor Watson asked where the funds will come from for the project. City Manager Pagan stated there are \$2.5 Million remaining

in the former ARPA funds that will be used and the remaining \$2 Million will be taken from the fund balance.

7. CITY MANAGER ITEMS

7.A. The financial report for the period ending March 31, 2024, was presented by Angela Waninger, Finance & Support Services Director (attached). Motion was made by Mayor Watson and seconded by Commissioner Smith-Wright to file the report for audit; motion carried unanimously.

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

NEW HIRE/PROBATIONARY STATUS:

- **Michael A. Cruz** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Telecommunicator with the Police Department, effective April 22, 2024
- **Brandy S. Gray** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Telecommunicator with the Police Department, effective April 22, 2024
- **Jeffrey M. Hall** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Firefighter with the Fire Department, effective April 29, 2024, contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements
- **Mollie J. Gerteisen** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Telecommunicator with the Police Department, effective May 6, 2024

PROMOTIONAL/PROBATIONARY STATUS:

- **Patrick W. Cunningham** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service, promotional appointment to Telecommunicator with the Police Department, effective April 21, 2024

REGULAR STATUS:

- **James Todd Napier** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Firefighter with the Fire Department, effective April 9, 2024
- **Michael E. Nichols** – Regular full-time, non-civil service appointment to Police Officer with the Police Department, effective April 24, 2024

7.C. City Manager Comments – None

8. COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Members of the Commission discussed the events they recently attended, and expressed their enthusiasm with the Senior Center location decision.

Mayor Pro Tem Castlen mentioned OCTC's ACE students that recently came to City Hall to learn about city government. He also congratulated Bob Glenn for his ten (10) years of service to the Lion's Club.

Commissioner Glenn thanked Jason Moffett, Sanitation, for the ride along.

Mayor Watson thanked former Judge/Executive Al Mattingly for his pledge (Fiscal Court) of \$2 Million toward the Senior Center project. He also thanked the current Fiscal Court for honoring that commitment.

9. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM - None

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:16 p.m. by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner Smith-Wright.

Thomas H. Watson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beth Davis, City Clerk