

OWENSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Called Meeting

May 21, 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

Commissioner Sharon NeSmith

Commissioner Bob Glenn

Commissioner Pam Smith-Wright

Absent:

Mayor Pro Tem Mark Castlen

3. INVOCATION & PLEDGE – Commissioner Bob Glenn

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.A. Mayor Watson recognized the following retirement recognitions from the Owensboro Police Department effective May 31, 2024. Both officers were in attendance and accepted their *Certificate of Outstanding Service* awards.

- Officer Joshua Alsip
- Officer Allen Schrecker

4.B. The “Emergency Medical Services Week” proclamation was presented by Mayor Watson and accepted by Owensboro Health Representatives: Rhonda Bergstrom, Nick Cox and Jesse Midkiff, along with members of the Owensboro Fire Department.

4.C. The “National Public Works Week” proclamation was presented by Mayor Watson and accepted by Assistant City Engineer Jack Goetz.

4.D. Stephanie Bertram presented the Chamber Young Professionals project of *Amped Up Artistry* (attached). The project is based on creating placemaking artwork in various locations downtown on traffic signal boxes. Local artists submitted artwork and five (5) pieces were chosen to start the project. QR codes will also be placed on the boxes, allowing people to learn more about the artist and their artwork.

4.E. Lee Davidson, Executive Vice President of Lose Design, is leading the planning project to rejuvenate English Park. He explained that a public meeting had been held to

receive input. The rejuvenation planning project is in the infancy stages, and he is looking forward to the future of the park. The next steps will consist of a topography and boundary survey of the park and finding out what the City and the citizens would like to see in the park. It will be a 3-4 month process before bringing back the results. Commissioner Glenn asked if the homeless issue in the park will impede the rejuvenation. Mr. Davidson responded that there are ways to curtail the issue and one is with more people in the park.

4.F. The City Project List was presented, and City Manager Pagan pointed out that two (2) new projects are on the list: Senior Center and Station #1. The Indoor Sports Facility will have a bid opening June 13.

5. BUSINESS

5.A. Minutes dated May 7, 2024, were unanimously approved by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner Smith-Wright.

6. ORDINANCES – 1st READING

6.A. Ordinance 7-2024 entitled AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF OWENSBORO, KENTUCKY, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2025, AND APPROPRIATING THE REVENUES TO THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY AS SET FORTH HEREIN, was introduced and publicly read on first reading.

The estimated revenues and fund balances set forth in the 2024-2025 Budget of the City of Owensboro are hereby appropriated to the various departments of the City of Owensboro for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2025, in the amount of \$157,880,489, inclusive of Internal Service Funds, for the various purposes designated in the 2024-2025 Annual Budget. City Manager Pagan added that there are no changes to the draft budget that was presented in April or shown in the videos. The budget includes no changes to the City's tax rates, investments in priorities emphasized by the Board of Commissioners, including public safety, infrastructure, and economic development. In addition, the budget provides resources needed for city departments to provide high-level, professional services and facilities to the community for the next fiscal year.

6.B. Ordinance 8-2024 entitled AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE COMPENSATION OF CITY EMPLOYEES AND NON-ELECTED CITY OFFICERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PERSONNEL AND PAY CLASSIFICATION PLAN, AS REQUIRED BY KRS 83A.070, was introduced and publicly read on first reading.

KRS 83A.070(2) directs the legislative body of each city to fix the compensation of city employees and non-elected city officers in accordance with a personnel and pay classification which shall be adopted by ordinance. City Manager Pagan explained that state law requires the adoption of the pay plan by ordinance, therefore, these are the pay charts for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. It is a companion to the budget, and the changes to the pay chart for next fiscal year reflect the changes discussed in the budget videos and

at the work session, mainly being the cost-of-living increase and the new full-time positions that were added.

6.C. Ordinance 9-2024 entitled AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2024, AND AMENDING ORDINANCE 13-2023 TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE SENIOR CENTER FACILITY AND FOR THE RIVERPARK CENTER, TO PROVIDE FOR RECEIPT OF GRANT FUNDS AND ASSOCIATED APPROPRIATIONS, AND TO ADJUST THE BUDGET IN VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS, was introduced and publicly read on first reading.

Budget amendment for FY 2023-24 to appropriate funds for the Senior Center facility and for the Riverpark Center, to provide for receipt of grant funds and associated appropriations, and to adjust the budget in various departments. City Manager Pagan further explained the details of the end of year budget amendment: funding for the new senior center as previously announced; since assuming responsibility for the Turley building, \$400,000 for the RiverPark Center to reimburse their expenses and improvements to the building; \$1.9 million to expense the acquisition for the Fairview Drive extension; using restricted drug seizure funds for improvement to the police training center and most remaining items are pass-through, such as the receipt and expenditure of funds for approved grants and reimbursed police and fire overtime.

7. CITY MANAGER ITEMS

7.A. The financial report for the period ending April 30, 2024, was presented by Angela Waninger, Finance & Support Services Director (attached). Motion was made by Mayor Watson and seconded by Commissioner Glenn 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 Commissioner Smith-Wright:

NEW HIRE/PROBATIONARY STATUS:

- **Darrin L. Brown** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Police Officer with the Police Department, effective June 2, 2024, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Anthony A. Esparza** - Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Police Officer with the Police Department, effective June 2, 2024, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Noah W. Hopper** - Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Police Officer with the Police Department, effective June 2, 2024, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***

- **Dominic J. Jackson** - Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Police Officer with the Police Department, effective June 2, 2024, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Derek D. Jessee** - Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Police Officer with the Police Department, effective June 2, 2024, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Tyler L. Morrison** - Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Police Officer with the Police Department, effective June 2, 2024, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Danny J. Prater** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Mechanic with the Public Works Garage Department, effective June 3, 2024
- **Jeremy L. Wachtel** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Road Worker with the Public Works Street Department, effective June 3, 2024

PROMOTIONAL/PROBATIONARY STATUS:

- **Michael J. Knight** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service, promotional appointment to Instrument Technician with the Public Works Engineering Department, effective June 3, 2024

7.C. City Manager Comments – None.

8. COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Members of the Commission discussed the events they recently attended.

Mayor Watson and Commissioner Glenn both congratulated all that put their name on the election ballot.

Commissioner NeSmith mentioned a recent state site visit for the Alliance for a Drug-Free Owensboro and Daviess County. The visitors evaluated the community in their efforts of prevention, treatment and recovery. If certification is received, it will play a role with future grants.

Commissioner Smith-Wright explained that Friday After 5 relies on the meteorologists to make decisions on weather cancellations. Some bands travel to the community to perform and need ample notice. [This is in response to the cancellation on May 17].

9. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM – None

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m. by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner Smith-Wright.

Thomas H. Watson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beth Davis, City Clerk