

OWENSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Called Meeting

June 4, 2024 - 5:00 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. The “Men’s Health Month” proclamation was presented by Mayor Watson and will be mailed.

4.B. Mayor Watson presented a “Young Hero Award” to Sullivan “Sully” Murphy. Sully helped rescue his younger brother after he fell into the family hot tub. Mayor Watson, on behalf of the Board of Commissioners, also gave Sully a stuffed animal.

5. BUSINESS

5.A. Minutes dated May 14, 2024 and May 21, 2024, were unanimously approved by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner Smith-Wright.

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

- **Owensboro Sister Cities and Regions Board** – Reappoint Kelia West, Michael Vanover, and Karen Campbell to a three-year term effective June 5, 2024
- **Regional Water Resource Agency Board of Directors** – Reappoint Shawn Patterson to a four-year term effective June 30, 2024
- **Dogwood Azalea Neighborhood Alliance** – Appoint Corinne Arcuri, Cheryl Sansom, and David N. Roberts to a two-year term effective June 4, 2024

- **Audubon-Bon Harbor Area Neighborhood Alliance** – Appoint Diana Pyle to a two-year term effective June 4, 2024

6. ORDINANCES – 2nd 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 read for approval on second reading and unanimously approved by roll call vote upon motion of Commissioner Smith-Wright and a second by Commissioner Glenn.

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 read for approval on second reading and unanimously approved by roll call vote upon motion of Commissioner Glenn and a second by Commissioner NeSmith.

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 2024-2025 pay charts by ordinance. It is a companion to the budget, and the changes to the 2024-2025 pay chart are mainly 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 read for approval on second reading and unanimously approved by roll call vote upon motion of Commissioner NeSmith and a second by Commissioner Glenn.

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 major items in 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. MUNICIPAL ORDERS

7.A. Municipal Order 13-2024 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION FOR A PORT SECURITY PROGRAM GRANT THROUGH FEMA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,247.99, THE PROCEEDS OF WHICH WILL BE UTILIZED BY THE CITY OF OWENSBORO TO PURCHASE AN UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE (UAV) FOR USE BY THE OWENSBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT; NO MATCH IS REQUIRED BY THE CITY, was approved 5-0 on one reading by motion of Mayor Watson and a second from Mayor Pro Tem Castlen.

The City seeks to file an application for a Port Security Program Grant through FEMA in the amount of \$15,247.99, the proceeds of which will be utilized by OFD to purchase an unmanned aerial vehicle and properly train employees in its use. There is no match required for this grant. City Manager Pagan stated that the unmanned aerial vehicle (drone) can be used for search and rescue operations, in addition to being helpful on a fire scene, as it will be equipped with thermal imaging camera.

7.B. Municipal Order 14-2024 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION FOR TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) FUNDING, AUTHORIZED UNDER THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT (STBG) THROUGH THE FIXING AMERICA'S SURFACE TRANSPORTATION (FAST) ACT FROM FISCAL YEAR 2025 ADMINISTERED BY THE FEDERAL DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, BY AND THROUGH THE KENTUCKY TRANSPORTATION CABINET, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$500,000.00, THE PROCEEDS OF WHICH WILL BE USED TO FUND PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS DEFINED AS TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES; A 20% MATCH IS BEING REQUIRED OF THE CITY, was approved 5-0 on one reading by motion of Mayor Watson and a second from Commissioner Glenn.

The City seeks to file an application for Transportation Alternatives Program Funding under the Surface Transportation Block Grant through the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act in an amount not to exceed \$500,000.00 for the purpose of funding programs and projects defined as transportation alternatives. A twenty percent (20%) match is required by the City. The City Manager added that funds will be used for various

sidewalk projects within the Apollo Neighborhood Alliance area, which is where crews are currently working. This will allow completion of that area and the ability to move to a new neighborhood sooner. The funds will also be used to add sidewalks in the Apollo area that don't currently have them.

8. CITY MANAGER ITEMS

8.A. The following personnel appointments were unanimously approved by motion of Mayor Watson and second by Commissioner Smith-Wright:

NEW HIRE/PROBATIONARY STATUS:

- **Stacy A. Allen** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Occupational Revenue Clerk with the Finance Department, effective June 17, 2024, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Teresa M. Jarrett** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Bus Driver with the Public Works Transit Department, effective June 17, 2024
- **Misty M. Royal** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Bus Driver with the Public Works Transit Department, effective June 17, 2024, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Mike M. Renfrow** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Refuse Truck Driver with the Public Works Sanitation Department, effective June 17, 2024

REGULAR STATUS:

- **Kenneth L. Winchester** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to End-User Support Manager with the Information Technology Department, effective June 18, 2024

8.B. City Manager Comments – None.

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Members of the Commission discussed the events they recently attended. They thanked various organizations for hosting the recent Memorial Day events.

10. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

William Pyland (1130 W. 12th Street) stated that the tennis court lights at Moreland Park are always on, and no one is playing. He requested the City allow the transformation of

the court(s) for pickleball. He offered to tape it himself and set up portable nets. City Manager Pagan responded that the issue has been previously evaluated and there are challenges with tennis tournament play. The City has enough courts to host a state-level tournament, however, if they are lined for pickleball, the tournament would not use the courts. Additionally, the tape leaves residue on the court and voids the warranty of the surface. The City is working to complete construction of the new pickleball courts at Ben Hawes as quickly as possible.

John "Bubba" Shown (2326 Triple Crown Way) spoke in favor of the City building the Ben Hawes pickleball courts and thanked city staff and the Board of Commissioners for supporting the sport.

Robert Morris (727 Maple Avenue) suggested installing permanent flag holders at the Sportscenter Veteran's Memorial. He recently attended the Memorial Day service there and the flags were being blown over by the wind.

Mike Hamlet (6160 Sutter Loop West) discussed a variety of issues, including poison hemlock.

11. CLOSED SESSION

11.A. Motion was made by Mayor Watson and seconded by Commissioner Smith-Wright to enter into closed session under KRS 61.810(1)(g) for discussions with a representative of a business entity and discussions concerning a specific proposal. Motion carried unanimously.

12. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION – Motion was made by Mayor Watson and seconded by Commissioner NeSmith to return to open session.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m. by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner Smith-Wright.

Thomas H. Watson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beth Davis, City Clerk