

OWENSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Called Meeting

July 2, 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 Pam Smith-Wright

Unavailable:

Commissioner Bob Glenn

3. INVOCATION & PLEDGE – Mayor Pro Tem Mark Castlen

4. PRESENTATION

4.A. Mayor Watson presented the “Park and Recreation Month” proclamation to Kerry Bodenheimer, Parks and Recreation Superintendent.

5. BUSINESS

5.A. The following board appointment was unanimously approved by motion of Mayor Watson and a second from Commissioner Smith-Wright:

- **Senior Community Center of Owensboro-Daviess County Board** – Appoint Joe Terry to fill the remainder of an unexpired term which ends December 31, 2025 (replacing J.T. Fulkerson)

6. ORDINANCES - 1st READING

6.A. Ordinance 10-2024 entitled AN ORDINANCE CLOSING THE STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY OF GIRVIN COURT LOCATED NORTH OF MCFARLAND AVENUE IN THE 1900 BLOCK OF MCFARLAND AVENUE IN THE CITY OF OWENSBORO, KENTUCKY, was introduced and publicly read on first reading.

Raange Investments, LLC (Petitioner) has petitioned the City of Owensboro to close the street right-of-way of Girvin Court located north of McFarland Avenue in the 1900 block of McFarland Avenue. There are no other adjoining and/or abutting property owners and the Petitioner understands and agrees to retain public utility easements. City Manager Pagan added that the action will close the entire street, which is a short dead-end street north of McFarland Avenue. Map attached.

6.B. Consider Ordinance 11-2024 entitled AN ORDINANCE CLOSING AN ALLEY RIGHT-OF-WAY LOCATED BETWEEN 102 WEST 23RD STREET AND 119 WEST 24TH STREET IN THE CITY OF OWENSBORO, KENTUCKY, was introduced and publicly read on first reading.

Matthew's Table, Inc. (Petitioner) has petitioned the City of Owensboro to close an alley right-of-way located between 102 West 23rd Street and 119 West 24th Street. There are no other adjoining and/or abutting property owners and the Petitioner understands and agrees to retain public utility easements. City Manager Pagan stated that the alley runs behind and in between the parking lots of Matthews Table, which is the former Buena Vista Baptist Church. Map attached.

7. MUNICIPAL ORDERS

7.A. Municipal Order 20-2024 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER ADOPTING THE GREEN RIVER AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT AND OWENSBORO-DAVIESS COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION TITLE VI PLAN, was unanimously approved on one reading by motion of Mayor Watson and a second from Mayor Pro Tem Castlen.

The federal government enacted Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, to prevent discrimination on the grounds of race, color and national origin. The City of Owensboro assures that all of its programs, services and activities are free from discrimination, whether or not they are federally funded, and desires to adopt the Green River Area Development District and Owensboro-Daviess County Metropolitan Planning Organization Title VI Plan. City Manager Pagan explained that the City is required to have a Title VI policy to receive federal funding for transit and other grants. In essence, Title VI prohibits discrimination based on race, color, and national origin for programs and activities receiving federal funding. The Green River Area Development District, or GRADD, has drafted a Title VI policy that has been approved, and it has been made available for cities and counties to use.

8. CITY MANAGER ITEMS

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

REGULAR STATUS:

- **John D. Berry** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Engineering Technician with the Public Works Engineering Department, effective July 2, 2024
- **Cody D. Cliff** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Police Sergeant with the Police Department, effective July 2, 2024
- **Whitney A. Payne** - Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Police Sergeant with the Police Department, effective July 2, 2024
- **Sarah R. Dowell** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Accounting Clerk with the Finance Department, effective July 3, 2024
- **Shelley H. Shepherd** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Human Resources Assistant with the Personnel Department, effective July 3, 2024

8.B. City Manager Comments - City Manager Pagan requested Tim Ross, Public Events Director, give a brief update on the upcoming July 4 events. Mr. Ross stated that as of today, there are no changes to the plan and they will watch the incoming weather. An announcement will be made before lunch via social media if there are any delays or changes.

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Members of the Commission discussed the events they recently attended.

10. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

David Glenn (2615 W. 6th Street) made a request for the Owensboro Fire Department to name a classroom at the new fire training center after his grandfather, Starling Jones Lambert. Chief Lambert served OFD for over forty years with eighteen as the Chief. Mr. Glenn submitted a written request (attached).

11. CLOSED SESSION

11.A. Mayor Watson made a motion 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 was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Castlen and carried unanimously.

12. Motion was made by Mayor Watson and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Castlen to return to open session; motion carried unanimously.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m. by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner Smith-Wright.

Thomas H. Watson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beth Davis, City Clerk