

OWENSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Called Meeting

August 6, 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

Unavailable:

Commissioner Pam Smith-Wright

3. INVOCATION & PLEDGE – Commissioner Sharon NeSmith

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.A. Mayor Watson recognized the following retirement recognitions:

- Chad Embry, Fire Driver/Engineer, effective July 31, 2024
- Tim Priar, Fire Captain, effective July 31, 2024 (was in attendance and spoke).
- Robert Lacy, Transit Bus Driver, effective August 17, 2024

4.B. Mayor Watson presented Sister Sharon Sullivan, Congregational Leader for Mount Saint Joseph, with an "Ursuline Sisters of Mount Saint Joseph Day" Proclamation.

4.C. Dr. James Cousins, President of Kentucky Wesleyan College, introduced himself and gave a brief update on the college.

5. BUSINESS

5.A. Minutes dated July 16, 2024 were unanimously approved by motion of Mayor Watson and seconded by Commissioner Glenn.

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

- **City Employees' Pension Board (Closed)** – Appoint Laura Chapman to fill the remainder of an unexpired term ending January 7, 2028 (replacing Lynn Holland)
- **Dugan Best Neighborhood Alliance** – Reappoint Andrea Johnson to a two-year term expiring August 2, 2026

6. ORDINANCES – 1st READING

6.A. Ordinance 12-2024 entitled AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2024 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2025, AND AMENDING ORDINANCE 7-2024 TO REVISE BEGINNING FUND BALANCES, CARRYOVER APPROPRIATIONS FOR ALL OUTSTANDING ENCUMBRANCES, CAPITAL PROJECTS AND RE-BUDGET FUNDS, was introduced and publicly read on first reading.

First budget amendment of the FY 2024-2025 to revise beginning fund balances, carryover appropriations for all outstanding encumbrances, capital projects and re-budget funds. City Manager Pagan explained this is the typical carry-over budget amendment considered early in every fiscal year. The amendment accounts for projects in progress that were not finished by the end of the previous fiscal year on June 30. It also provides updated balances for the various funds based on actual performance last year instead of the estimates used when the current budget was drafted. One new item was noted, an appropriation of \$100,000 for the refrigerated food storage facility, which was presented at a previous meeting.

7. MUNICIPAL ORDERS

7.A. Municipal Order 22-2024 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF OWENSBORO, KENTUCKY AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT, REDEMPTION, AND DISCHARGE OF \$470,000 OF THE CITY'S GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2013B MATURING ON MAY 1, 2033 (THE "REDEEMED BONDS"); AUTHORIZING THE DEPOSIT OF MONIES RECEIVED FROM THE RIVERPARK CENTER IN THE SERIES 2013B BOND PAYMENT FUND FOR THE PAYMENT, REDEMPTION, AND DISCHARGE OF THE REDEEMED BONDS ON THEIR EARLIEST PRACTICAL REDEMPTION DATE; AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF ALL ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS OR CERTIFICATES NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE THE REDEMPTION OF THE REDEEMED BONDS; AND TAKING RELATED ACTIONS, was unanimously approved on one reading by motion of Mayor Watson and a second from Commissioner NeSmith.

The City previously issued its General Obligation Bonds, Series 2013B in an original aggregate principal amount of \$10,850,000 on April 16, 2013. A portion of the proceeds of the Series 2013B Bonds were used for the benefit of the RiverPark Center, which desires to pay, redeem, and discharge its portion of the Series 2013B Bonds before

maturity, being an aggregate principal amount equal to \$470,000 and maturing on May 1, 2033. The remaining portion of the Series 2013B Bonds will remain outstanding. The RiverPark has requested the City to call the Redeemed Bonds for payment, optional redemption, and discharge on their earliest practical optional redemption date and to use monies provided by RiverPark for such purpose. City Manager further explained that a Municipal Order was previously approved which amended the City's lease with the RiverPark Center to remove the Turley Building from RiverPark's management. In addition, the City and County provided RiverPark with funding to retire their debt and to be reimbursed for each of their expenses and improvements to the Turley Building. RiverPark's debt is a portion of a bond the City issued in 2013. This Municipal Order will redeem or pay off the RiverPark Center's portion of debt from that bond. The debt retirement is the companion to the City taking the Turley Building, better positioning the RiverPark Center for a sustainable financial future. There was brief discussion on when/if the City would be upgraded by Moody. Mrs. Waninger explained she felt the City is overdue and should be reviewed next year.

7.B. Municipal Order 23-2024 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A REAL ESTATE PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT 919 CEDAR STREET, was unanimously approved on one reading by motion of Mayor Watson and a second from Commissioner NeSmith.

Medlock Properties, LLC owns the property located at 919 Cedar Street and now desires to sell the real property. The City seeks to acquire said property for expanding Fire Station No. 1 located on nearby property at 512 West 9th Street. City Manager stated Operation Firehouse is the City's plan to invest in almost all fire facilities over multiple years. To date, an expansion and renovation of Station 2 on Highway 54 has been completed and currently, a new fire training center is under construction at the corner of Parrish Avenue and JR Miller. A replacement Station 3 is currently out for bid and the construction should begin later this year.

Another Operation Firehouse project is to design and build a new Station 1. This Municipal Order authorizes the purchase of 919 Cedar Street, which is contiguous on the southwest to properties the City already owns. This acquisition will be the last to provide the space required to build a modern and appropriately sized headquarters station. The cost for the property is \$145,000, and funding is available in the project budget.

8. CITY MANAGER ITEMS

8.A. The financial report for the period ending June 30, 2024 was presented by Director of Finance & Support Services Angela Waninger (attached). Motion was made by Mayor Watson to file the report for audit, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Castlen, and carried unanimously.

8.B. The following personnel appointments were unanimously approved by motion of Mayor Watson and second by Commissioner Glenn:

NEW HIRE/ PROBATIONARY STATUS:

- **Cole D. Cecil** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Mechanic with the Public Works Garage Department, effective August 12, 2024
- **Anthony J. Brown** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Firefighter with the Fire Department, effective September 9, 2024, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Dakota H. Cavender** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Firefighter with the Fire Department, effective September 9, 2024, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Joshua C. Hayden** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Firefighter with the Fire Department, effective September 9, 2024, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Scott R. Johnson** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Firefighter with the Fire Department, effective September 9, 2024, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Caleb R. Nieman** - Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Firefighter with the Fire Department, effective September 9, 2024, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Samantha K. Stevens** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Firefighter with the Fire Department, effective September 9, 2024, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Pasquale M. Tarantino** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Firefighter with the Fire Department, effective September 9, 2024, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Ian C. Wilson** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Firefighter with the Fire Department, effective September 9, 2024, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***

PROMOTIONAL/PROBATIONARY STATUS:

- **Dakota J. Bratcher** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service, promotional appointment to Fire Lieutenant with the Fire Department, effective August 11, 2024
- **Jared M. Peacock** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service, promotional appointment to Fire Lieutenant with the Fire Department, effective August 11, 2024

REGULAR STATUS:

- **Jacob O. Bugay** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Firefighter with the Fire Department, effective August 6, 2024
- **David M. Haynes** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Firefighter with the Fire Department, effective August 6, 2024
- **Jacob S. Pace** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Police Officer with the Police Department, effective August 12, 2024
- **Christopher A. Brown** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Police Officer with the Police Department, effective August 13, 2024
- **KeyRon J. Catlett** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Police Officer with the Police Department, effective August 20, 2024

8.C. City Manager Comments – City Manager Pagan recognized the passing of Jared Bratcher, former city employee and leader in the local sports tourism industry. Mayor Watson called for a moment of silence for Jared.

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Members of the Commission discussed the events they recently attended.

10. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

Pam Bivens (4127 Liberty Pointe) mentioned the United States will celebrate the semi quinentennial in 2026 and the Owensboro Science and History Museum will host an event. She plans to make a necktie quilt to be raffled at the event to raise funds for the museum. More details will be announced later. Several of the meeting participants donated their ties for the cause.

A gentleman (who wanted to remain anonymous) spoke about: naming of the downtown area, the Daviess County Public Library, and the Economic Development Corporation.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m. by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Mayor Pro Tem Castlen.

Thomas H. Watson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beth Davis, City Clerk