

OWENSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Called Meeting

September 17, 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 Bob Glenn

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.A. Mayor Watson presented the “Constitution Week” proclamation to Terry Smith, General Evan Shelby Chapter of the Daughters of American Revolution.

4.B. Dr. Ryan Hall, Director of Adult Education and Literacy Program at Owensboro Community & Technical College accepted the “Adult Education and Family Literacy Week” proclamation.

4.C. Battalion Chief Bobby Grant discussed the Owensboro Fire Department's Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD) program (presentation attached). CISD is a group-based technique to process traumatic events that is beneficial to all emergency response agencies. Trained Owensboro Fire Department personnel can provide the service.

4.D. Sanitation Manager Hunter Ragan gave a brief presentation on the upcoming 2024-2025 Leaf Season (presentation attached).

4.E. The City Project List was presented (attached). City Manager Pagan noted that Cravens Pool is set to open September 20 at 11am.

5. BUSINESS

5.A. Minutes dated September 3, 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:

- **Apollo Area Neighborhood Alliance** – Reappoint Curtis King and Carla King to a two-year term effective September 20, 2024
- **Owensboro Health Board of Directors** – Reappoint Phil Riney and Susanne Harris to a three-year term effective November 1, 2024

6. ORDINANCES – 2nd READING

6.A. Ordinance 15-2024 entitled AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING TO THE CITY OF OWENSBORO CERTAIN UNINCORPORATED TERRITORY IN THE COUNTY OF DAVIESS ADJOINING THE PRESENT BOUNDARY LINE OF THE CITY, BEING PROPERTY LOCATED AT 3001 WEST 2ND STREET, 35 CARTER ROAD AND 45 CARTER ROAD CONTAINING A TOTAL OF 7.996 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AT THE REQUEST OF THE CITY OF OWENSBORO, KENTUCKY, was unanimously approved by a roll call vote; motion by Mayor Watson and a second from Commissioner Glenn.

An ordinance annexing the property located at 3001 West 2nd Street, 35 Carter Road and 45 Carter Road containing a total of 7.996 acres, at the City of Owensboro's request. City Manager Pagan added that this ordinance annexes approximately eight (8) acres at the corner of Second Street and Carter Road, the site of the new senior center.

7. MUNICIPAL ORDERS

7.A. Municipal Order 27-2024 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR FUNDS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$7,000,000.00 TO PRODUCE AFFORDABLE HOUSING RENTAL UNITS, was unanimously approved on one reading by motion of Mayor Watson and a second from Commissioner Smith-Wright.

The U.S. Department for Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) has Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing (PRO Housing) grant funds available for the purpose of supporting local communities who are actively taking steps to remove barriers to affordable housing. The City desires to apply for funds in the amount of Seven Million Dollars (\$7,000,000.00) from HUD so that it can create affordable rental housing units. City Manager Pagan further explained the Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing (PRO Housing) grant provides \$100 Million in the second round of funding for communities nationwide to apply to remove barriers to affordable housing. This order approves application for \$7 Million to be used to create affordable rental housing opportunities in the City. The funds will be used to support the construction of new affordable rental units or the rehabilitation of existing properties, providing housing for low-to moderate income residents. The initiative aims to address housing needs and improve the quality of life for the citizens of Owensboro. No match is required. The City previously applied for \$10 Million in 2023 and did not receive the grant. Commissioner Glenn asked what could be accomplished with the \$7 Million. Abby Shelton, Community

Development Director, explained that developers could respond to a Request for Proposal to determine what is available for the money, i.e., how many units can be built, etc. for multi-family housing.

7.B. Municipal Order 28-2024 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND (EDF) GRANT APPLICATION TO THE KENTUCKY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CABINET (CABINET) FOR FUNDING TO ASSIST MIZKAN, INC. IN THE EXPANSION OF ITS FOOD PROCESSING FACILITY; AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ACCEPT EDF GRANT FUNDS FROM THE CABINET FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000.00 FOR SAID PROJECT, was unanimously approved on one reading by motion of Mayor Watson and a second from Mayor Pro Tem Castlen.

Mizkan, Inc. plans to significantly expand its food processing facility in Owensboro, Daviess County, and has requested Economic Development Funds (EDF) grant funds in the amount of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) to assist in said expansion. The City will act as a conduit for obtaining the funds from the Kentucky Economic Development Cabinet and disbursing them to Mizkan, Inc. for its use in accordance with an Agreement concerning said matter. City Manager Pagan explained that Mizkan announced a \$156 Million expansion to their local facility that will create forty-four (44) new jobs. The State Economic Development Cabinet is providing a \$500,000 grant for the project. The City is serving only as a pass-through for the funds and thus has no further obligation.

8. CITY MANAGER ITEMS

8.A. The financial report for the period ending August 31, 2024 was presented by Angela Waninger, Director of Finance and Support Services (attached). Mayor Watson made a motion to file the report for audit, motion was seconded by Commissioner Glenn and passed unanimously.

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

NEW HIRE/ PROBATIONARY STATUS:

- **William T. Pyland** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Refuse Truck Driver with the Public Works Sanitation Department, effective September 30, 2024
- **Dylan F. Nobles** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Firefighter with the Fire Department, effective October 7, 2024
- **Julie A. Burchett** – Probationary, full time, non-civil service appointment to the position of Telecommunicator with the Police Department, effective October 7, 2024

- **Allison M. Maier** – Probationary, full time, non-civil service appointment to the position of Telecommunicator with the Police Department, effective October 7, 2024
- **Aliyah N. Howard** – Probationary, full time, non-civil service appointment to the position of Telecommunicator with the Police Department, effective October 21, 2024
- **Charity D. Keener** – Probationary, full time, non-civil service appointment to the position of Telecommunicator with the Police Department, effective October 21, 2024

PROMOTIONAL/PROBATIONARY STATUS:

- **Whitney M. McFarland** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service, promotional appointment to Purchasing Specialist with the Finance Department, effective September 22, 2024

8.C. City Manager Comments – City Manager thanked all departments for their hard work for the successful event. Tim Ross, Public Events Director, gave a brief wrap-up of the recent air show. It is estimated that over 60,000 visitors attended the three-day event and came from more than seven (7) states. City Manager Pagan recognized Paul Nave, 9-1-1 Director, who was recently inducted in the Kentucky 9-1-1 Hall of Fame (attachment).

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Members of the Commission discussed the events they recently attended, thanked city staff for a wonder air show and complimented the new wayfinding signs.

Commissioner NeSmith announced that Owensboro-Daviess County, through the Alliance for a Drug-Free Owensboro-Daviess, had recently received certification from the State as a “Recovery Ready Community”.

10. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

DeMarcus Curry (2711 Cravens Avenue) spoke about the increasing homeless population and suggested temporary transitional housing for them.

Anonymous spoke about inflation and taxes.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m. by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner Smith-Wright.

Thomas H. Watson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beth Davis, City Clerk