

OWENSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
March 4, 2025 - 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 Bob Glenn

Commissioner Jeff Sanford

Commissioner Curtis Maglinger

Unavailable:

Commissioner Sharon NeSmith

3. INVOCATION & PLEDGE – Mayor Tom Watson

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.A. Mayor Watson presented the “Audubon Area Community Services Day” proclamation to Brandon Harley, Chief Executive Officer.

5. BUSINESS

5.A. Minutes dated February 18, 2025, were unanimously approved by motion of Mayor Pro Tem Bob Glenn and a second from Commissioner Jeff Sanford.

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

- **Audubon-Bon Harbor Area Neighborhood Alliance** – Reappoint Bryant Bell to a two-year term effective March 9, 2025
- **Midtown East Neighborhood Alliance** – Appoint Gerrimy Keiffer to a two-year term effective March 4, 2025
- **Old Owensboro Neighborhood Alliance** – Appoint John Ross Martin to a two-year term effective March 4, 2025

6. ORDINANCES – 2nd READING

6.A. Ordinance 2-2025 entitled AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING TEXT AMENDMENTS TO APPENDIX F, ARTICLE 8 OF THE OWENSBORO METROPOLITAN ZONING ORDINANCE FOR THE CITIES OF OWENSBORO AND WHITESVILLE, AND DAVIESS COUNTY was unanimously approved by roll call vote upon motion of Mayor Watson and seconded by Commissioner Sanford.

The Owensboro Metropolitan Planning Commission (OMPC) met in regular session on January 9, 2025, and proposed amendments to the text of the Zoning Ordinance for the Cities of Owensboro and Whitesville, and Daviess County regarding revisions to Article 8 related to Level 3 Solar Energy Systems. City Manager Pagan stated that this ordinance has limited applicability to the City and it was generated by Daviess County Fiscal Court (DCFC). Since we share a common zoning ordinance with DCFC and Whitesville, we are considering the change to keep the same community regulations.

7. ORDINANCES – 1st READING

7.A. Ordinance 3-2025 entitled AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AND ADOPTING TEXT AMENDMENTS TO THE OWENSBORO METROPOLITAN ZONING ORDINANCE FOR THE CITIES OF OWENSBORO AND WHITESVILLE, AND DAVIESS COUNTY, REGARDING REVISIONS TO ARTICLE 18 -FLOOD PLAIN REGULATIONS, SPECIFICALLY REGARDING THE DEFINITIONS OF SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT TO EXISTING STRUCTURES AND STANDARDS FOR MANUFACTURED HOMES AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES was introduced and publicly read on first reading.

The Owensboro Metropolitan Planning Commission met in regular session on February 13, 2025, and proposed amendments to the text of the Zoning Ordinance for the cities of Owensboro and Whitesville, and Daviess County regarding revisions to Article 18 – Flood Plain Regulations, specifically regarding the definitions of substantial improvement to existing structures and standards for manufactured homes and recreational vehicles. City Manager introduced Executive Director Brian Howard, Owensboro Metropolitan Planning, who provided an overview of the amendments. Both the City and Daviess County Fiscal Court participate in the Community Rating Systems (CRS), an optional program for communities to earn discounts on citizens' flood insurance policy premiums. CRS conducted their five-year audit this year and pointed out two areas of concern. The first is a statement in the zoning ordinance that states manufactured homes have to be elevated one (1) foot above the base flood elevation or thirty-six (36) inches above ground level. CRS stated that if the previous statement remains in the zoning ordinance, the best discount rate will be five percent (5%). By eliminating that statement, the discount remains at the current fifteen percent (15%). The second concern is related to substantial improvements for homes. Currently, it states that over a five-year (5) period if you have a home that's below base flood elevation and you put more than fifty percent (50%) of the value of the home into improvements that the home must be brought into current base flood elevation standards. Points could be gained from CRS if the language is changed from fifty percent (50%) to forty-nine percent (49%); so, the second change is a reduction

of one percent (1%). The second change could possibly increase the discount rate in the future.

8. MUNICIPAL ORDERS

8.A. Municipal Order 4-2025 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A DEED OF EASEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF OWENSBORO AND DAVIESS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT, GRANTING PERMANENT AND PERPETUAL EASEMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING, OPERATING, MAINTAINING, REPAIRING AND RECONSTRUCTING AN UNDERGROUND WATER LINE ACROSS PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1900 PARRISH AVENUE, OWENSBORO, KENTUCKY was read and unanimously approved on one reading with a motion by Mayor Watson and second by Commissioner Sanford.

Daviess County Water District requests a permanent and perpetual easement for the purpose of constructing, operating, maintaining, repairing and reconstructing an underground water line across property located at 1900 Parrish Avenue, Owensboro, Kentucky. The granting of this perpetual easement has been fully reviewed by city staff and will not unreasonably interfere with use of said property. City Manager Pagan added that the easement is at Fire Station #2 and it has been evaluated with no concerns.

9. CITY MANAGER ITEMS

9.A. The following Personnel Appointments were approved by acclimation:

NEW HIRE/PROBATIONARY STATUS:

- **Dartez G. Ashley** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Refuse Truck Driver with the Public Works Sanitation Department, effective March 10, 2025
- **John F. Hodges** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Bus Driver with the Public Works Transit Department, effective March 10, 2025

REGULAR STATUS:

- **Chase A. Knight** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Firefighter with the Fire Department, effective March 1, 2025
- **Donald P. Warren** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Laborer with the Police Department, effective March 11, 2025

9.B. City Manager Comments – City Manager Pagan congratulated Parks & Recreation Director Amanda Rogers on her 15-year anniversary with the City and gave her a card and service pin.

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Members of the Commission discussed the events they recently attended.

11. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

Makayla Paulin (2432 Tamarack Road) briefly gave an update on a recent gathering of youth (98 in attendance) at the Boys & Girls Club called *The Real Cost*. Highlights of the discussion included: household income, inclusive facilities for all income levels, peer pressure and gun violence.

12. There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Commissioner Sanford to adjourn the meeting at 5:24 p.m., Mayor Pro Tem Glenn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Thomas H. Watson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beth Davis, City Clerk