

OWENSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

June 3, 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

Commissioner Sharon NeSmith

3. INVOCATION & PLEDGE - Mayor Pro Tem Bob Glenn

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.A. The retirement of Police Sergeant Whitney Adamson-Payne, effective May 31, 2025, was recognized (she was not in attendance).

5. BUSINESS

5.A. Minutes dated May 20, 2025 were unanimously approved by motion of Commissioner Sanford and a second from Mayor Pro Tem Glenn.

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

- **Dugan Best Neighborhood Alliance** - Appoint Maeghan Woodruff to a two-year term effective June 3, 2025
- **Owensboro Sister Cities and Regions Board** – Reappoint Katherine Zboril to a three-year term effective June 5, 2025
- **Owensboro City Utility Commission** – Appoint Landon Tong to fill the remainder of an unexpired term ending December 31, 2025 (replacing Tony Cecil)
- **Regional Water Resource Agency Board of Directors** – Reappoint Harry Roberts, Jr. to a four-year term effective July 1, 2025

6. ORDINANCES - 2nd READING

6.A. Ordinance 6-2025 entitled AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF OWENSBORO, KENTUCKY, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2026, AND APPROPRIATING THE REVENUES TO THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY AS SET FORTH HEREIN, was unanimously approved by a roll call vote with a motion by Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner Sanford.

The estimated revenues and fund balances set forth in the 2025-2026 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, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, in the amount of \$163,560,522, inclusive of Internal Service Funds, for the various purposes designated in the 2025-2026 Annual Budget. City Manager Pagan explained that there are no changes to the draft balanced budget previously provided and it includes no changes to the City's tax rates. The budget includes investments in the 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 continue high-level, professional services and facilities to the community for the next fiscal year.

6.B. Ordinance 7-2025 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 unanimously approved by a roll call vote with a motion by Commissioner Maglinger 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 pay plan by ordinance; therefore, these charts represent the pay structure for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. The pay plan serves as a companion to the budget, and the only change is a 3.5% cost-of-living adjustment.

6.C. Ordinance 8-2025 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 PROVIDE FOR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY, DEVELOPER INCENTIVE PAYMENTS, CONSTRUCTION OF BUS SHELTERS, AND CONTRIBUTION TO THE COLD FOOD STORAGE PROJECT; TO PROVIDE FOR RECEIPT OF GRANT REVENUE AND APPROPRIATE THOSE FUNDS; AND TO TRUE UP YEAR-END ACTIVITY, was unanimously approved by a roll call vote with a motion by Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner Sanford.

Budget amendment to provide for purchase of property, developer incentive payments, construction of bus shelters, and contribution to the cold food storage project; to provide for receipt of grant revenue and appropriate those funds; and to true up year-end activity.

City Manager Pagan stated this is second reading of an ordinance approving a budget amendment for the current 2024-25 fiscal year. Our fiscal year ends on June 30, and this is a typical end-of-year budget amendment considered prior to the end of each year. The City previously appropriated \$100,000 for the refrigerated food warehouse project, but after recent discussion, the Board of Commissioners support increased funding. This amendment appropriates an additional \$400,000 for the project, for a total contribution to the project from the City of \$500,000. Other than that item, the budget amendment primarily includes items previously approved, such as accounting for the receipt and expenditure of grant funds. Also included are approved incentives, such as for the family entertainment center at the mall and various appropriations.

7. ORDINANCES - 1st READING

7.A. Ordinance 9-2025 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 PROVIDE RECEIPT OF, AND APPROPRIATIONS FOR, FUNDS FROM DAVIESS COUNTY FISCAL COURT TOWARD CONSTRUCTION OF THE SENIOR CENTER, was introduced and publicly read on first reading.

Budget amendment to provide receipt of, and appropriations for, funds from Daviess County Fiscal Court toward construction of the Senior Center. City Manager Pagan explained this is a budget amendment for the current fiscal year and is for the receipt and expenditure of the County's contribution to the new senior center project. In order to keep the project moving and for accounting purposes, now is the appropriate time to consider the budget amendment.

8. MUNICIPAL ORDERS

8.A. Municipal Order 12-2025 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION FOR COPS HIRING PROGRAM FUNDING GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR AN AMOUNT UP TO \$125,000.00, FOR WHICH A TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT (25%) MATCH MAY BE REQUIRED, was read and unanimously approved on one reading with a motion by Mayor Watson and second by Commissioner Sanford.

The City is applying for funding up to \$125,000.00 from the Fiscal Year 2025 COPS Hiring Program to assist in hiring Owensboro Police Department officers to ensure that violent crime can be reduced and security for its citizens can be enhanced. The City of Owensboro is willing to pay the twenty-five percent (25%) match required if it is awarded any funds from the Fiscal Year 2025 COPS Hiring Program. City Manager Pagan added that the 2025-2026 budget contains funding to add two additional police officers. This grant will allow the police department to hire a third new officer.

9. CITY MANAGER ITEMS

9.A. The following Personnel Appointments were unanimously approved by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner Sanford:

PROMOTIONAL/PROBATIONARY STATUS:

- **Teresa M. Jarrett** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service, promotional appointment to Bus Driver with the Public Works Transit Department, effective June 16, 2025
- **Allison M. Maier** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service, promotional appointment to Administrative Aide with the Police Department, effective June 16, 2025

REGULAR STATUS:

- **Michael J. Knight** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Instrument Technician with the Public Works Engineering Department, effective June 3, 2025
- **Danny J. Prater** – Regular, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Mechanic with the Public Works Garage Department, effective June 3, 2025

9.B. City Manager Comments – None

10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Members of the Commission discussed the events they recently attended.

Commissioner Maglinger recently presented the “Focus on Fitness Day” proclamation at Morning Pointe Senior Living. Ron Du Preez accepted the proclamation and encouraged older adults to be more active.

Mayor Pro Tem Glenn thanked Tony Cecil for his years of volunteer service to the city boards, most recently the City Utility Commission.

Mayor Watson stated he was recently appointed to the Board of Trustees for Kentucky Wesleyan College and looks forward to serving.

11. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

Isabelle Birkett (3537 Cannonade Loop N) requested an ordinance be considered that would allow city residents to keep backyard chickens with specific regulations. She states the larger cities in Kentucky already allow backyard chickens.

Diana Friend (316 Hale Ave, Apt 19B) requested additional information on the initiative between the Greater Owensboro Leadership and Harwood Institute. She also supports backyard chickens.

12. There being no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mayor Watson to adjourn the meeting at 5:23 pm, Mayor Pro Tem Glenn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Thomas H. Watson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beth Davis, City Clerk