

OWENSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

December 2, 2025 | 5:00 PM

Owensboro City Hall

101 E. 4th Street

Owensboro, Kentucky

1. CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Tom Watson

2. ROLL CALL – City Clerk Beth Davis

Present:

Mayor Tom Watson

Mayor Pro Tem Bob Glenn

Commissioner Jeff Sanford

Commissioner Curtis Maglinger

Commissioner Sharon NeSmith

3. INVOCATION & PLEDGE – Commissioner Curtis Maglinger

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.A. Public Events Director Tim Ross relayed the *Hometown Christmas* events taking place downtown.

4.B. Andrew Osborne, Street Manager, outlined the process of pre-treating streets and plowing snow (presentation attached).

5. BUSINESS

5.A. Minutes dated November 18, 2025 were unanimously approved by motion of Mayor Watson and a second from Commissioner Maglinger.

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

- **Owensboro City Utility Commission** – Appoint Kyle Aud to fill the remainder of an unexpired term ending December 31, 2025 (replacing Paul Martin) and a three-year term effective January 1, 2026. Reappoint Landon Tong to a three-year term effective January 1, 2026.
- **Police and Firefighters' Retirement Fund Board (Closed)** – Ratify the election of Marty Thorpe to a one-year term effective January 1, 2026. Appoint Chief James Howard to a one-year term effective January 1, 2026.
- **GRADD Board of Directors** – Reappoint Patsy Mayfield (Daviess County Mayor's Representative) to a two-year term effective January 1, 2026. Reappoint Nate Pagan (Mayor's Designee) to a two-year term effective January 1, 2026.

- **Seven Hills Neighborhood Alliance** – Reappoint Dinah Crowley, Kaye Yeiser-Taylor and David Norris to a two-year term effective December 14, 2025.
- **Owensboro Metropolitan Planning Commission** – Appoint Blake Edge to a four-year term effective January 1, 2026.
- **Ambulance Contracting Authority** – Reappoint Ted Johnston to a four-year term effective January 1, 2026.

6. ORDINANCE – 1st READING

6.A. Ordinance 20-2025 entitled AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2026, AND AMENDING ORDINANCE 6-2025 TO CARRYOVER AN APPROPRIATION FROM PRIOR YEAR, APPROPRIATE ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR CAPITAL PROJECT AND VARIOUS BUILDING CONSTRUCTION; TO PROVIDE FUNDING FOR A GRANT MATCH; TO RECEIVE AND APPROPRIATE GRANT FUNDS AND TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR A LAND PURCHASE, was introduced and publicly read on first reading.

Budget amendment to carryover an appropriation from prior year, appropriate additional funds for capital project and various building construction; to provide funding for a grant match; to receive and appropriate grant funds and to appropriate funds for a land purchase. City Manager Pagan explained the budget amendment includes various items that have accumulated over the last few months; various grants that have been received, most significantly a grant awarded that offsets the cost of an additional police officer. The amendment includes the receipt of grant funds and associated expenses for the additional officer.

In addition, the amendment includes previously approved items, such as appropriating funds for the purchase of Walnut Street and Pantle properties, funds to renovate bathrooms at Ben Hawes Park and the pickleball facility. Lastly, funding for a final carry-over from an item approved in last fiscal year.

7. MUNICIPAL ORDERS

7.A. Municipal Order 28-2025 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER APPROVING A 2.8% COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE FOR ELIGIBLE ANNUITANTS OF THE OWENSBORO POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS' RETIREMENT FUND (CLOSED), was unanimously approved on one reading with motion by Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner Maglinger.

The Board of Trustees of the Police and Firefighters' Retirement Fund (closed) met on November 19, 2025 and voted to recommend a 2.8% cost of living (COLA) increase effective with pension checks received in January 2026. City Manager Pagan stated the retirement fund is a closed, legacy plan, not the current County Employee Retirement System. The 2.8% COLA was recommended by the board of the plan at their meeting last month. Last year, a 2.5% adjustment was provided. This closed pension plan has no

assets, meaning the City funds the cost each year from the general fund. There are eighteen (18) remaining members in the plan.

7.B. Municipal Order 29-2025 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER APPROVING A 2.8% COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE FOR ALL ELIGIBLE PENSION ANNUITANTS UNDER THE (CLOSED) CITY EMPLOYEES' PENSION FUND, was approved 5-0 on one reading with motion by Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner NeSmith.

The Board of Trustees of the (closed) City Employees' Pension Fund met on November 19, 2025 and voted to recommend to the Owensboro Board of Commissioners that eligible annuitants receive a 2.8% cost-of-living increase effective with pension checks received in January 2026. City Manager Pagan further explained this order provides the annual cost of living increase for the City Employees' Pension Fund, a closed, legacy pension plan. The board for the plan recommended a 2.8% cost of living adjustment for members. There are ten (10) remaining members in the plan. The plan is financially sound, meaning funds provided to the members come from investments in the plan.

8. CITY MANAGER ITEMS

8.A. The Financial Report for the period ending October 31, 2025 was presented by Angela Waninger, Director of Finance and Support Services (presentation attached). Mayor Watson made a motion to file the financial report for audit; second was made by Commissioner Sanford and it carried unanimously.

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

NEW HIRE:

- **Katrena R. Lee** – Probationary, full-time, non-civil service appointment to Bus Driver with the Public Works Transit Department, effective December 8, 2025, ***contingent upon successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***

REGULAR, FULL-TIME, NON-CIVIL SERVICE APPOINTMENTS:

- **Darrin L. Brown** – Police Officer with the Police Department, effective December 2, 2025
- **Anthony A. Esparza** – Police Officer with the Police Department, effective December 2, 2025
- **Noah W. Hopper** – Police Officer with the Police Department, effective December 2, 2025
- **Dominic J. Jackson** – Police Officer with the Police Department, effective December 2, 2025

- **Derek D. Jessee** – Police Officer with the Police Department, effective December 2, 2025
- **Sarah D. Henry** – Laborer/Maintenance Helper with the Public Works Grounds Department, effective December 9, 2025
- **Ashley R. Agada** – Administrative Aide with the Finance and Support Services Department, effective December 17, 2025

8.C. City Manager Comments – None

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Members of the Commission discussed the events they recently attended, including a special viewing of *Bachelor Santa*. They also wished the football teams from Owensboro Catholic High and Owensboro High School good luck in the state tournament.

Commissioner Sanford mentioned the *Grind Session*, a basketball event hosted within the city.

10. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM – None

11. CLOSED SESSION

11.A. Motion was made by Mayor Watson and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Glenn to enter into a closed session under KRS 61.810 (1)(g) for discussions with a representative of a business entity concerning a specific proposal.

12. Motion was made by Mayor Watson and seconded by Commissioner Sanford to return to open session.

13. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:46 pm by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner NeSmith.

Thomas H. Watson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beth Davis, City Clerk