

**OWENBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**April 21, 2026 | 4:00 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 Curtis Maglinger

Commissioner Sharon NeSmith

Commissioner Jeff Sanford

3. INVOCATION & PLEDGE – Commissioner Sharon NeSmith

4. PRESENTATIONS

**4.A.** The Daviess County High School Dance Team was recognized and given the Mayor’s Award of Distinction for making school history. They earned first place in both the Large Hip Hop and Game Day categories at the Kentucky High School Athletic Association State Dance Competition. They also placed second in the nation in Large Varsity Hip Hop, received the Technical Excellence Award and placed fifth in the nation in Large Varsity Game Day.

**4.B.** Brad Howton, Friday After 5 Chairman, gave a preview of the upcoming 30<sup>th</sup> season (presentation attached).

**4.C.** Dr. James Cousins, President of Kentucky Wesleyan College (KWC), shared an update on the college. He recognized Board Vice Chair Keith Sharber, Chief of Staff/VP of Operations Scott Kramer and VP of Intercollegiate Athletics Jason Vittone. Dr. Cousins explained that KWC is using new marketing methods, replacing antiquated ways of processes, treating higher education as a living asset of Owensboro, maintaining and creating partnerships in an effort to remain strong, relevant and affordable.

**4.D.** Erica Wade, Executive Director of The Center of Owensboro-Daviess County, shared information on the mission and services they provide (attachment).

**4.E.** Mayor Watson recognized the retirement of Firefighter Dane Morris (not in attendance) effective April 30, 2026. Fire Chief James Howard shared some brief words regarding Dane’s time with the City.

**4.F.** The project list was presented. City Manager Pagan announced the ribbon cutting for Fire Station #3 on May 14.

## **5. BUSINESS**

**5.A.** Minutes dated April 7, 2026, were unanimously approved by motion of Mayor Watson and a second from Mayor Pro Tem Glenn.

## **6. ORDINANCES – 2nd READING**

**6.A.** Ordinance 7-2026 entitled 7-2026 entitled AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE IV, DIVISION 3 OF THE OWENSBORO MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO THE PROCUMENT CODE was unanimously approved on second reading by roll call vote with motion by Mayor Watson and second from Commissioner Sanford.

The Purchasing Department has requested the code be amended to better align with the Kentucky Model Procurement Code (KRS 45A). By referencing the KRS statutes in the Municipal Code, as opposed to the specific language within each statute, it ensures continued compliance when KRS 45A is revised. City Manager Nate Pagan explained the amendments are to better align the ordinance with state statute so the ordinance doesn't have to be amended with each state law change.

## **7. ORDINANCES – 1st READING**

**7.A.** Ordinance 8-2026 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 END OF HUNTERS RIDGE AND SUMMER VALLEY LANE (HUNTERS RIDGE SUBDIVISION – PHASE III) CONTAINING A TOTAL OF 55.578 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, AT THE REQUEST OF HUNTERS RIDGE ESTATES, LLC was introduced and publicly read on first reading.

Annexation request from Hunters Ridge Estates, LLC for property located at end of Hunters Ridge and Summer Valley Lane (Hunters Ridge Subdivision - Phase III) containing 55.578 acres. There will be an annexation incentive agreement. City Manager Pagan stated the consensual annexation is an expansion of the Hunter's Ridge subdivision and the existing homes are in the city.

**7.B.** Ordinance 8-2026 entitled AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE NAME OF LAGOON LANE TO BERTOLLI WAY was introduced and publicly read on first reading.

Mizkan, Inc. operates a food processing facility within the City containing approximately 56 acres and they have started an extensive expansion and the creation of additional full-time jobs. Mizkan, Inc. has requested that Lagoon Lane, which will serve as the new entrance for shipping and receiving to serve their facility, be renamed to Bertolli Way. City Manager Pagan explained that last year, Mizkan announced a large investment and

expansion of their local facility. As part of that project, the company plans to use Lagoon Lane for some access to their property, in addition to Ragu Drive. Lagoon is immediately east of their property and is the former bypass. The company asked if the City would consider renaming Lagoon Lane to Bertolli Way.

## **8. MUNICIPAL ORDERS**

**8.A.** Municipal Order 12-2026 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER WHEREBY THE OWENSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVES THE UPDATED BYLAWS OF OWENSBORO SISTER CITIES AND REGIONS, INC. was unanimously approved on one reading with a motion by Mayor Watson and second by Commissioner Sanford.

The City of Owensboro joined Sister Cities International in 1994 and has since recognized as its sister city the City of Olomouc, Moravia, Czech Republic. Owensboro Sister Cities and Regions, Inc., is a Kentucky non-profit corporation and plays an important and indispensable part in administering the sister cities program. The bylaws of the Owensboro Sister Cities and Regions, Inc., has recently been reviewed by their Board of Directors and updates have been recommended for approval by the Owensboro Board of Commissioners.

**8.B.** Municipal Order 13-2026 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION FOR A FY2027 TRAINING FACILITY GRANT THROUGH THE KENTUCKY FIRE COMMISSION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$23,290.85, THE PROCEEDS OF WHICH WILL BE UTILIZED BY THE CITY OF OWENSBORO TO PAY THE COST OF AN UNHINGED MODULAR WALL PROP FOR USE BY THE OWENSBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT; NO MATCH IS REQUIRED BY THE CITY was unanimously approved on one reading with a motion by Mayor Watson and second by Mayor Pro Tem Glenn.

The Owensboro Fire Department (OFD) has a new Training Center and with the addition of an Unhinged Modular Wall Prop, the new Training Center will be able to host necessary training for OFD and neighboring departments. OFD seeks to file an application for a FY2027 Training Facility Grant through the Kentucky Fire Commission in the amount of \$23,290.85, the proceeds of which will be utilized by OFD to purchase an Unhinged Modular Wall Prop, no match required by the City.

**8.C.** Municipal Order 14-2026 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH OWENSBORO COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE, DAVIESS COUNTY FISCAL COURT, THE CITY OF HENDERSON, AND THE CITY OF MADISONVILLE TO COLLABORATIVELY OFFER COURSEWORK FOR THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (EMT) CERTIFICATE was unanimously approved on one reading with a motion by Mayor Watson and second by Commissioner Maglinger.

The City of Owensboro through its Owensboro Fire Department, Daviess County Fiscal Court through its Daviess County Fire Department, the City of Henderson, Kentucky through its Henderson Fire Department, and the City of Madisonville, Kentucky through its Madisonville Fire Department desire to collaborate with Owensboro Community and Technical College to provide coursework for their employees for an accelerated Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Certificate, which program will better meet the need for emergency medical technicians in the area. The Parties now seek to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement to establish the terms and conditions for their collaboration in providing coursework for the accelerated EMT Certificate program. City Manager Pagan explained the partnership allows collaboration and shared support to benefit all parties. It is based on a similar cohort approved in 2024, with Madisonville added for this class.

## 9. CITY MANAGER ITEMS

**9.A.** The financial report for the period ending March 31, 2026 was presented by Director of Finance & Support Services Angela Waninger (attached). There being no discussion, the report was unanimously approved to file for audit by motion of Mayor Watson and second by Commissioner Sanford.

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

### **(NEW HIRE) PROBATIONARY, FULL-TIME, NON-CIVIL SERVICE APPOINTMENT:**

- **Charles A. Boone** – Maintenance Equipment Operator with the Public Works Street Department, effective May 4, 2026

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

- **Tyler D. Denson** – Road Worker with the Public Works Street Department, effective April 28, 2026
- **Steven C. McLeish** – Refuse Truck Driver with the Public Works Sanitation Department, effective April 28, 2026

**9.C.** City Manager Comments – City Manager Pagan invited Parks Director Amanda Rogers to the podium where she announced her retirement effective November 1, 2026.

He also recognized Police Chief Art Ealum for 35 years of service to the City.

## 10. COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Members of the Commission discussed the events they recently attended.

Commissioner Sanford thanked state officials for monies for the Massie project and YMCA childcare.

Commissioner NeSmith thanked state officials for monies for the Food Warehouse project.

Mayor Pro Tem Glenn explained that many potholes are on state maintained streets.

#### **11. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM**

Glenda Wright (711 Jed Place) discussed homelessness.

Jamie Sowders (2411 Hayden Bridge Road) thanked the Board of Commissioners for listening to him as he discussed the procurement code. He also discussed the need for certified payroll and a minimum number in the local workforce.

**12.** There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 5:13pm by motion of Mayor Watson and a second from Commissioner Sanford.

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Thomas H. Watson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Beth Davis, City Clerk