

OWENSBORO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Regular Meeting
June 2, 2026 | 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

Sharon NeSmith was unavailable

3. INVOCATION & PLEDGE – Commissioner Jeff Sanford

4. BUSINESS

4.A. Minutes dated May 19, 2026 were approved by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Mayor Pro Tem Glenn; motion carried.

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

- **Dogwood Azalea Neighborhood Alliance** – Reappoint Corinne Arcuri and Cheryl Sansom to a two-year term effective June 5, 2026
- **Wesleyan Shawnee Neighborhood Alliance** – Appoint Katie Elkins and Shane Davis to a two-year term effective June 2, 2026
- **Owensboro Sister Cities and Regions Board** – Reappoint Robin Joska and Elaine Wright to a three-year term effective June 7, 2026

5. ORDINANCES – 2nd READING

5.A. Ordinance 10-2026 entitled AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING AND APPROVING THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE CITY OF OWENSBORO, KENTUCKY, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2026, AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2027, AND APPROPRIATING THE REVENUES TO THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF THE CITY AS SET FORTH HEREIN was unanimously approved by roll call vote with motion of Mayor Watson and second by Commissioner Sanford.

The estimated revenues and fund balances set forth in the 2026-2027 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, 2026, and ending June 30, 2027, in the amount of \$171,876,952, inclusive of Internal Service Funds, for the various purposes

designated in the 2026-2027 Annual Budget. City Manager Pagan stated there are no changes to the draft general fund budget provided and no changes to the City's tax rates. The budget includes investments in the area prioritized by the Board of Commissioners, including public safety, infrastructure, and economic development. In addition, the budget provides resources needed for city departments to continue providing high-level, professional services and facilities to the community for the next fiscal year.

5.B. Ordinance 11-2026 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 roll call vote with motion of Mayor Pro Tem Glenn and second by Commissioner Maglinger.

The Board of Commissioners has delegated authority to establish certain employment and operational policies of the City, but has reserved certain policies to remain under the direct authority of the Commission. 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 added that state law requires the pay charts for the 2026-2027 fiscal year be adopted by ordinance. It is a companion to the budget just discussed. The pay charts are being adjusted by the cost-of-living increase included in the budget.

5.C. Ordinance 12-2026 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 APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR BLUEGRASS FIELDHOUSE OPERATIONS AND DEVELOPER INCENTIVE; VARIOUS FUNDS IN GENERAL FUND DEPARTMENTS AS NEEDED; RECEIVE AND APPROPRIATE GRANT FUNDS FOR TRANSIT AND TAX REVENUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE GATEWAY TIF; AND TO TRANSFER APPROPRIATIONS FROM SPORTSCENTER TO CONVENTION CENTER was unanimously approved by roll call vote with motion of Mayor Pro Tem Glenn and second by Commissioner Sanford.

Budget amendment to FY2025-2026 to appropriate funds for Bluegrass Fieldhouse operations and developer incentive; various funds in general fund departments as needed; receive and appropriate grant funds for transit and tax revenues associated with the Gateway TIF; and to transfer appropriations from Sportscenter to Convention Center. City Manager Pagan explained the ordinance approves a budget amendment for the current fiscal year, the 2025-26 fiscal year. The budget amendment primarily includes items previously approved. Of note, the City received several transit grants which saved the City approximately \$530,000. It is a typical end-of-year budget amendment.

6. ORDINANCE – 1st READING

6.A. Ordinance 13-2026 entitled AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE V, OF THE OWENSBORO MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO THE ELIZABETH MUNDAY SENIOR CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS was introduced and publicly read on first reading.

The Board of Directors (Board) for the Elizabeth Munday Senior Center has requested the ordinance be amended to reflect the status of the board membership and operating name. The Board requests the name of the facility be changed to reflect the current operating name of Senior Community Center of Owensboro-Daviess County, Inc. and reduce the number of board members to no less than twelve (12) and no more than fifteen (15). City Manager Pagan added that the ordinance currently provides for the board of directors to have 16-21 members. The organization has called itself the Senior Community Center of Owensboro-Daviess County for the last several years. Both of these changes are being made at the request of the Senior Center board.

7. MUNICIPAL ORDERS

7.A. Municipal Order 19-2026 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION FOR A KENTUCKY RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM EDUCATION & TRAINING MODERNIZATION GRANT THROUGH THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$29,796.00, THE PROCEEDS OF WHICH WILL BE UTILIZED BY THE CITY OF OWENSBORO TO PAY THE COST OF A SIMBODIES EMS TRAINING MANIKIN WITH AN ACCESSORY KIT FOR USE BY THE OWENSBORO FIRE DEPARTMENT; NO MATCH IS REQUIRED BY THE CITY was unanimously approved on one reading by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner Maglinger.

The Owensboro Fire Department (OFD) has a new Training Center and seeks to upgrade to status as a Level 2 Training and Education Institution under the Kentucky Board of EMS. With the addition of a Simbodies EMS Training Manikin and accessories, the new Training Center will be able to host necessary initial EMT Basic certification training for OFD and neighboring departments. No match is required by the City.

7.B. Municipal Order 20-2026 entitled A MUNICIPAL ORDER AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN APPLICATION FOR A FY26 SAFE STREETS AND ROADS FOR ALL (SS4A) PROGRAM GRANT THROUGH THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,089,836.00, THE PROCEEDS OF WHICH WILL BE UTILIZED BY THE CITY OF OWENSBORO TO CARRY OUT A COMPREHENSIVE SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO ENHANCE INTERSECTIONS THROUGHOUT THE CITY; A TWENTY PERCENT (20%) MATCH OF \$217,967.20 IS REQUIRED BY THE CITY was unanimously approved on one reading by motion of Mayor Watson and a second by Commissioner Sanford.

The City of Owensboro desires to apply for a FY26 SS4A Implementation Grant in order to reduce traffic deaths and severe injuries on its streets. City Manager Pagan added that the match can be in-kind through salaries and similar expenses already incurred. In addition, the grant allows up to five years for project completion. City Engineer Kevin Collignon gave a brief presentation about the initiative (attached).

8. CITY MANAGER ITEMS

8.A. The following personnel appointments were approved with motion by Mayor Watson and second by Commissioner Sanford; motion carried.

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

- **Tim K. Potts** – Assistant Greens Superintendent with the Parks and Recreation Department, effective June 8, 2026, ***contingent on successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Savannah B. Glass** – Recruiting and Outreach Coordinator with the Personnel Department, effective June 15, 2026, ***contingent on successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***
- **Bradford T. Johnson** – Refuse Truck Driver with the Sanitation Department, effective June 15, 2026, ***contingent on successful completion of all post-offer, pre-employment requirements***

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

- **Chadd Clark** – Construction Inspector with the Engineering Department, effective June 2, 2026
- **James M. Kingsley** – Laborer/Maintenance Helper with the Street Department, effective June 2, 2026
- **Shawn L. Mattingly** – Maintenance Specialist with the Facilities Maintenance Buildings Department, effective June 2, 2026
- **Loren T. Yonts** – Police Officer with the Police Department, effective June 2, 2026
- **Allison M. Maier** – Administrative Aide with the Police Department, effective June 16, 2026

8.B. City Manager Comments – None

9. COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Members of the Commission discussed the events they recently attended.

10. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM

Jamie Sowders (2421 Hayden Bridge Rd) discussed the need for a responsible bidder ordinance to keep out-of-town contractors from not paying taxes and bringing a variety of people here to work. He will email a sample ordinance.

Madelyn Payne (6355 Sutherlin Lane) spoke against a data center.

Pam Smith-Wright (3520 Christie Place) introduced Mike Johnston from Evansville, IN. Commissioner NeSmith asked him to come to meeting. He displayed an original 1776 United States flag found in a Pennsylvania property. He is taking it to Owensboro Museum of Fine Arts for the 250th celebration.

Glenda Wright (711 Jed Place) commented on planning and zoning matters and encouraged public participation in planning and zoning meetings. She also commented on community responses to drug and alcohol addiction.

Sally Reynolds (3867 Lovell) spoke on the need to help homeless families and no data center.

Dianna Friend (316 Hale Ave) submitted a document for the record (attached), spoke against data centers and wants to help homeless.

Renee Kuegel (2140 Tamarack Rd) spoke against data center and requested one-year moratorium.

"Gray" (no address given) spoke against data center, acknowledged Pride month and questioned why the City didn't raise a pride flag.

Maranda McDaniel (672 Greenbriar St) spoke against data center.

Tatum Helm (1122 Booth Ave) discussed harm reduction services, fairness ordinance, banning data center and I-1 zoning at the Massie site.

Andy Gamblin (2920 Yale Pl) spoke against data center.

City Attorney Mark Pfeifer interjected to stop a dispute regarding religion.

11. CLOSED SESSION

11.A. Motion was made by Mayor Watson to enter into closed session under KRS 61.810(1)(c) to discuss proposed or pending litigation; motion was seconded by Commissioner Sanford and carried unanimously.

12. Motion was made by Commissioner Maglinger to return to open session; Mayor Pro Tem Glenn seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

13. There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned unanimously at 6:22 p.m. with motion of Mayor Pro Tem Glenn and a second from Commissioner Sanford.

Thomas H. Watson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Beth Davis, City Clerk