

Regular Meeting
Owenton City Council
April 11, 2024
5:30pm at City Hall

Mayor Adam Gaines called the meeting to order at 5:30pm

Council members present: Larry Dale Perry, Joyce New, Clark Roberts, Jimmy Marston, Jill Dunavent, and Patty Sue Miller. Also present: City Clerk Sherry Hamilton, Deputy Clerk Anita Sipple, City Attorney Mitzy Ford, Fire Chief Greg Estes and Assistant Fire Chief Clay James. Absent: Police Chief Clint Aldridge and Public Works Timmy DeZarn.

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: David Lilly

Guests: Gayle Parsons, David Lilly, Breanna Lewis, Kaileigh Gibson, Sarah Young, Ann Carter, T.J. Wesselman, and Owen Wesselman.

Mayor Gaines recognized T.J. Wesselman, representing the Rebel Outreach program. Mr. Wesselman spoke briefly on the Outreach program that involves Owen County High School students. It is intended to have the students spend a day giving back to the community. They do various projects throughout the day such as plant flowers, spreading mulch, paint signs, and help a resident clean up their yards. This is the 10th anniversary of the program. This year's event will be on May 4th. Brennan Lewis and Kaileigh Gibson, students involved in the program spoke on what it means to them to have the opportunity to participate in the program. This year they are hoping to get over 100 students to participate, so they are wanting to obtain several worksites. They asked the council to reach out to the community and let everyone know students would be available to work on the 4th. The students and Mr. Wesselman thanked the city and the community for their support for the program. Mayor Gaines thanked Mr. Wesselman and the students for caring about their community and giving up a Saturday to this outreach program.

In the absence of Kelsey Davis and Jenni Urie, Jill Dunavent gave a brief report on the Crosswalk project. She reported the paint will cost \$633.76. Ms. Davis is working on turning the design into "boxes" so Ms. Urie can get stencils made. Mayor Gaines said he was still working with Kentucky American Water to have them mill and repave where the project would be located. The council chose to place the crosswalk on North Madison between the Courthouse and Slippery Rock Signs.

March 14, 2024 Minutes. Clark Roberts made a motion to approve the March minutes. Seconded by Joyce New. Motion carried.

March 2024 Financial Statement. Larry Dale Perry made a motion to approve the March financial statement. Patty Sue Miller seconded. Motion carried.

Police Report: In the absence of Chief Aldridge, Mayor Gaines read a summary of the activities for March. The department had 20 arrests, 5 narcotic arrests, 11 felony arrests, served 8 warrants and had 24 calls for service. Mr. Billy Cammack completed all the requirements to be hired as a police officer and will start on July 01, 2024. He is scheduled to start the academy in Richmond in September. The police chief represented the city on April 23rd to the community Easter Egg hunt.

Fire Report: Chief Greg Estes gave the Fire Report. He announced that the Fire Department will hold the first annual fish fry at the firehouse on May 11th from 11:00 to 3:00.

Public Works: In the absence of Timmy DeZarn, Mayor Gaines reported that Mr. DeZarn had trimmed tree branches on Beck Street that were hitting the buses, checked drains for blockages and hand delivered the Spring Grant applications to around 56 businesses. Mr. Cobb went to Northern Kentucky to pick up food for Meeting the Needs as well. There was a flooding issue on Kelly Court. The drain stopped due to leaves from yards above flowing down the street due to heavy rain. Mr. Cobb unstopped the drain, and the city is looking into improving the drainage system.

Old Business: No Old Business

New Business:

1. Mayor Gaines a background on how the Frankfort Housing Authority became the operator of the housing authority. He then read the Housing Authority letter requesting the city waive the taxes of \$1295.35 for 2023. Larry Dale Perry made a motion to waive the taxes. Jimmy Marston seconded. Motion carried.
2. Mayor Gaines read Resolution 2024-04 establishing and naming the streets in the city. Mayor Gaines explained that NKADD in conjunction with the transportation department had worked with cities to compile lists of streets to distribute Municipal Aid funds to the cities. Patty Sue Miller made a motion to approve the resolution. Jill Dunavent seconded. Motion carried.
3. At 5:49 Jill Dunavent made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss a city property. At 6:08 Clark Roberts made a motion to exit Executive Session. Joyce New Seconded. No action was taken.

City Attorney Report: Ms. Ford gave a report on the Rotary Club. On July 1, 2025, Rotary will be active for 100 years. They are planning a big celebration and would like the city to be a part of the activities. They would like for the city to make a proclamation acknowledging the Rotary.

Clark Roberts asked about the sign that was at Highway 127 and Highway 22. The condition of the sign was too bad to put back up.

City Clerk Report: No Comment

Council Member Comments:

Larry Dale Perry: No Comments

Jimmy Marston: Commented that the grass on the lot in front of Pounds of Plastic was very tall. Mayor Gaines said the city would send a letter.

Joyce New: Ms. New commented that Marlene and Holly were looking into getting the Veteran Banners put up. Mayor commented that he was told that Search and Rescue were going to take the banners down and put them for a donation to Search and Rescue.

Jill Dunavent: Ms. Dunavent asked if the Mayor had heard any news on the traffic island study. He said he had not heard but would try to reach out. Ms. Dunavent asked if there was anything for the Outreach program coming up on May 4, 2024. Discussed putting rock around the signs instead of mulch. Discussed where to put the trees that have become too big for the pots. Mr. Roberts thought there were seven trees left. It was decided that they could be planted at the city signs. Discussed trying to plant flowers in flowerpots on May 4th. Discussed planting small evergreens in the flowerpots and new dirt. Mayor Gaines asked where the materials were going to come from to replant the pots. It was decided the Outreach would plant the trees. The potting soil would be provided.

Clark Roberts: Mr. Roberts said the flowerpots would need new dirt if the trees were removed. Discussion was held on the cost of the project. Mayor Gaines set a budget amount of \$1500.00 to do the Spring and Summer flowers. The council also formed a committee to oversee the project. Jill Dunavent, Joyce New and Clark Roberts form the committee. Mayor asked that the materials be gathered by April 29, 2024.

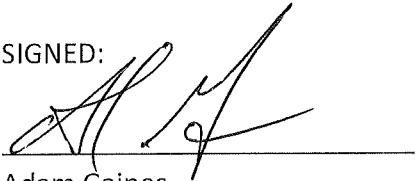
Mr. Roberts commented on vehicles parking by the courthouse where there are no parking signs, he asked what else could be done to stop them from parking there. Mayor said he would have the police start ticketing. He also commented on the parking on Bryan Street. Vehicles parking at the Veterinarian's office are causing issues with customers leaving the bank drive through. Mayor Gaines said we would investigate no parking signs.

Patty Sue Miller: Ms. Miller asked if there could be extra patrol on 127 south coming into the city. Big trucks are using jake braking to slow down because they are going too fast. Mayor Gaines said when he first came into office the city ordered signs that said no jake braking.

There is a company that has a patent on "jake braking". The signs had to be removed. Any sign that would be put up could not use "jake braking".

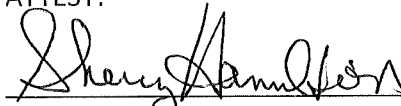
Having no further business, Mayor Adam Gaines entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:35pm. Clark Roberts made the motion to adjourn. Patty Sue Miller Seconded.

SIGNED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Gaines', written over a horizontal line.

Adam Gaines
Mayor

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Sherry Hamilton', written over a horizontal line.

Sherry Hamilton
City Clerk