

Regular Meeting
Owenton City Council
May 09, 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, Assistant Fire Chief Clay James, and Police Chief Greg Estes.

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: Patty Sue Miller

Guests: Gayle Parsons, David Lilly, Ann Carter, Tina Eades, Jim Ziege, and Kimberly Ziege.

Mayor Gaines announced the city would be awarding the 2024 Spring Grant. He explained the \$1000.00 Grant started as a way for the city to help the businesses in the city limits to upgrade their store fronts. This is the third grant to be awarded. The applications are given to someone not associated with Owenton to determine the winner, so it is based solely on the merit of the application. The city received 9 applications this year. Unfortunately, some of them did not have the essay attached, as required in the instructions, they could not be considered. This year's award was given to Physical Therapy Concepts, owned and operated by Jim Ziege. The money will be used to take down old signs from the previous business and replace them with signs for his business.

April 11, 2024 Minutes. Larry Dale Perry made a motion to approve the April minutes. Seconded by Patty Sue Miller. Motion carried.

April 2024 Financial Statement. Clark Roberts made a motion to approve the April financial statement. Larry Dale Perry seconded. Motion carried.

Police Report: Chief Aldridge read the April police report. He further stated that he had completed the Firearms Instructor Class in Richmond, meaning he can do the annual qualification training for officers. Chief Aldridge also informed council that Mr. Cammack's Academy Training had been moved to August, starting a month earlier than expected. Mr. Cammack will start work June 17, 2024. He will ride along with the officers to get some experience before the academy.

Fire Report: Chief Greg Estes gave the Fire Report. He informed council that the department attended the DES training in April. He reminded everyone on of the Fire Department first annual fish fry at the firehouse on May 11th from 11:00 to 3:00.

Public Works: In the absence of Mr. DeZarn, Mayor Gaines gave a short report on the Public Works activities in April. Mr. DeZarn unstopped several drains, assisted Ms. Sipple with nuisance letters and changed the sign at Duke Ave and Welch St to blue because they are private drives. He also replaced the Stop sign at Welch St. Mr. DeZarn worked with the Rebel Outreach on Saturday May 4th planting trees, mulching the city signs and pulling weeds.

Old Business:

1. Mayor Gaines informed council that the city had finally received income from the Alcohol Regulatory Fee, passed last year. Officers need to be vigilant in reporting their hours on alcohol-related calls to justify the need for the funds.

New Business:

1. The agenda was amended to read the Resolution from Municipal Aid Co-op Program that was received after the packets were delivered. This is where the street aid comes from and is a direct result of last month's adoption of the city street list. Larry Dale Perry made a motion to adopt the resolution. Seconded by Patty Sue Miller. A rollcall vote was required with all six members voting Aye.
2. Mayor Gaines read the proposed bid to repair the concrete curbs, drainage ditches on Robin Dr. O'Banion Construction submitted a bid of \$16,860.00. Larry Dale Perry made a motion to approve the bid. Seconded by Joyce New. Motion Carried.
3. Mayor Gaines asked for a vote to enter executive session to discuss property issues. Clark Roberts made a motion at 5:45. Seconded by Joyce New. Tina Eades stayed for the executive session. Clark Roberts made a motion at 6:09 to leave executive session. Seconded by Jill Dunavent. No Action taken.

City Attorney Report: Ms. Ford gave a report on the webinar she watched on the new Cannabis legislation that will take effect January 01, 2025. This legislation is for medical purposes only. The state is still working out the details on regulating this legislation. It is Ms. Ford's understanding from the webinar that the city has options from restricting where they are allowed to be in the city to keeping dispensaries out of the city altogether. Mayor Gaines said he is somewhat torn on keeping them out all together because of many patients in constant pain that this really helps. However, the potential for abuse is very great. After much discussion the council decided to be proactive and have Ms. Ford create an Ordinance banning dispensaries in the city limits. They felt like they could revisit the issue after the state settled on their regulations.

Ms. Ford went on to report that she had been working with Deputy Clerk, Anita Sipple on the unpaid 2023 property taxes. Property owners received a letter the first of April stating that

liens would be filed on the properties if the taxes were not paid within 30 days. As of this meeting only 10 (out of 688) had not been paid.

City Clerk Report: No Comment

Council Member Comments:

Larry Dale Perry: No Comments

Jimmy Marston: No Comments

Joyce New: Ms. New asked about the property at the beginning of Gayle Ave on the right. Attorney Mitzy Ford explained the property was in foreclosure, scheduled for next week. Ms. New said she had spoken with Marlene about getting the banners hung. Marlene had been in touch with the fire department, and they will hang the banners for a donation. She asked if the city had a contract to hang them. Mayor Gaines said the contract had expired. Ms. New reported that the Outreach program went well with co-operation from adults and students. They were able to replant the flowerpots around the square. One of the pots was missing the bucket and would have to get a replacement and then that one will be planted. She reported that the sign at Roland Ave and West Seminary was leaning. Mayor Gaines said he would have Mr. DeZarn look at it. Mayor Gaines also reported one of the signs at the city parking lot had been hit and needed straightening. Ms. New asked about all the construction signs in the city. Mayor Gaines informed council that the state was going to repave Hwy 22 (West Seminary) from Southfork Road to Main Street. He stated he had still not heard anything from the state on the triangle. At the same time, they would be putting bollards at the light in the no parking space so vehicles could not go to the right of traffic and turn. The judge's office also requested that bollards be installed on Main Street where the city painted the curb yellow to prevent parking too close to the intersection. Ms. New asked about the bricks that were in the pots. Mayor Gaines said he would have Mr. DeZarn put them back in the pots.

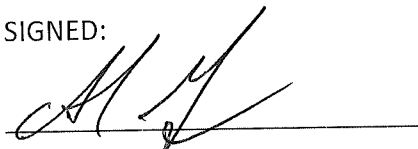
Jill Dunavent: Ms. Dunavent also commented on how well May 4th went and how much was accomplished. She thanked Joyce and Bryan New for the work they did on Friday night to make things go smoother on Saturday. Ms. Dunavent gave a brief update on the Crosswalk project. The design is close to being ready to send to have the stencils stamped. They will need a check for no more than \$150.00. Kentucky American Water has donated \$5000.00 to the project to get the pavement milled and repaved. Any extra funds will be used to purchase paint. Ms. Dunavent said the first Food Truck Friday is the 17th. They have 3 vendors lined up and John Herrod's band will be the entertainment. They also have a contingency plan for rain. They will move everything to the pavilion at the fairgrounds if necessary.

Patty Sue Miller: No Comments

Clark Roberts: Mr. Roberts commented that he felt the Outreach on Saturday May 4th went well. Everything looks great.

Having no further business, Mayor Adam Gaines entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:44pm. Clark Roberts made the motion to adjourn. Joyce New Seconded.

SIGNED:



Adam Gaines
Mayor

ATTEST:



Sherry Hamilton
City Clerk