

Regular Meeting  
Owenton City Council  
November 14, 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, Jimmy Marston, and Patty Sue Miller.  
Absent: Jill Dunavent and Clark Roberts. Also present: City Clerk Sherry Hamilton, City Attorney Mitzy Ford, Fire Chief Greg Estes, Asst Fire Chief Clay James, and Police Chief Clint Aldridge.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Invocation:** Mitzy Ford

**Guests:** Gayle Parsons, David Lilly, James Abner, Ann Carter, Leigh Hawkins, and Noah Richardson.

**September 12, 2024 Minutes.** Larry Dale Perry made a motion to approve the regular September minutes. Patty Sue Miller seconded. Motion Carried.  
No October Meeting.

**September 2024 Financial Statement.** Patty Sue Miller made a motion to approve the September financial statement. Joyce New seconded. Motion carried.

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

**Police Report:** Chief Aldridge presented the September/October report. Chief Aldridge reported he and Mayor Gaines had helped with the recent helicopter crash. Mostly keeping people who did not need to be on scene away so emergency personnel could perform the duties. He also mentioned the incident that a sheriff's officer deputy was involved in. Chief Aldridge reported to council that the mayor had asked him to do some evening/early morning times to stop the big trucks that are going through town speeding. The "No Engine Braking" signs are up but it does not seem to be slowing them down. Chief Aldridge reported that he and Sheriff's Deputy Lewis had stopped several vehicles resulting in 10 citations and 2 arrests. Chief Aldridge reported that Officer Cammack was doing well at the Academy and will be graduating on December 19<sup>th</sup>. Special details for the month were Homecoming Parade, the Storywalk, and Halloween. Mr. Perry asked if the department needed anything at this time. He said they could use a new radar gun for another cruiser. Mayor Gaines said with just one officer at this time it would not be best right now to spend the money. When Officer Cammack

graduates and is on the road every day he would consider purchasing another one then. A really good radar gun runs about \$12,000.00.

**Fire Report:** Chief Greg Estes presented the fire report. Chief Estes reported that the annual pump tests had been performed on 9822 and 9823. Both trucks passed the test.

Chief Estes also asked everyone to remember the emergency workers that helped with the helicopter crash. The gear that the fire department received a grant for has been ordered. APG Grant that they applied for made far enough to receive money, but the funds ran out. The department has been advised to reapply and state that the application got to the stage where they would receive money, but the funds ran out. That may get them to the top of the list. Chief Estes reported that the generator on the fire truck is inoperable. He has an estimate of \$12,000.00 to \$15,000.00 for a new one.

Mayor Gaines gave a shout out to the professionalism that the emergency workers demonstrated in handling the Helicopter incident. He also commended the community for the support that was given to the workers.

Ms. Hamilton reported to the Chief that the State Aid has not been paid yet but they will be sending the payment in December and it would be \$14,500.00 this time.

**Public Works:** Timmy DeZarn gave the public works report. Mr. DeZarn reported that the Robin Dr project had been completed by Toni O'Banion. Mr. Cobb had repaired the yards along the curbs. Mr. Cobb and Mr. DeZarn had cleaned up limb debris from the recent high winds. They took several loads to the transfer station. Mr. Cobb removed and replaced a decaying culvert on East Perry. Mr. DeZarn reported that the rooster that had been running loose on Locust Alley and Gayle Ave had been caught and taken to a farm. He reported that the city had been through an OSHA audit. The audit went very well. There were a few minor items that the city had to fix and those were already complete. The Christmas lights are ready to be put up, lights that were not working from last year have been replaced and any loose wire secured. Chief Estes said they would get them put this coming week.

Old Business: None

New Business:

1. Mayor Gaines presented two bids to resurface A.C. Sparrow parking lot. Reliable Outdoor Services and Hinkle construction submitted bids to remove the old and crumbling asphalt, level the lot and repave. Mr. Richardson indicated that he would start the project as soon as he secured where he could get the asphalt and the ground temperature. Larry Dale Perry made a motion to approve the bid from Reliable Outdoor Services for \$19,250.00. Jimmy Marston Seconded. Motion carried.
2. Council discussed when to have the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Bob Osborne Christmas Light judging. The mayor will secure judges from out of town. The council set Wednesday December 18, 2024 at 8:00pm to judge the lights.

3. The first reading of Ordinance 794 was held. The ordinance revised the Employee Handbook to include a paragraph on the cities stand on employee use of medical cannabis. The mayor commented that he felt given the nature of the work of police and fire fighter, the city could not allow the use of medical cannabis for employees. It could be a liability issue. The paragraph being added "prohibits authorized cardholders from utilizing medical cannabis while employed by the city". Also in this amended ordinance Veteran's Day will be added as a paid holiday. Patty Sue Miller made a motion to approve Ordinance 794. Joyce New seconded. The Ordinance will be voted on at the second reading in December.
4. Mayor Gaines introduced a Resolution for Pounds of Plastic. Matt Adkins from the economic council sent him an email asking if the city could renew their original support of allowing the 1% payroll be given back to Pounds of Plastic if/when they reach 50 employees. For Pounds of Plastics to continue with the economic council's support they needs the support of a local group to obtain funding. Mayor Gaines read Resolution 2024-11 stating the cities continuing support. Larry Dale Perry made a motion to approve the resolution. Patty Sue Miller seconded. The resolution required a roll call vote. All four members present voted in favor.

**City Attorney Report:** Ms. Ford reported to council that since allowing a Microbrewery to be put in the city limits had passed on the 5<sup>th</sup> she was working on what ordinance the city needed to regulate Microbreweries. She has reached out to Megan Griffith at KLC for assistance.

**City Clerk Report:** Ms. Hamilton reported that the city has received so far \$132,787.70 in 2024 property taxes.

**Council Member Comments:**

**Larry Dale Perry:** Mr. Perry reported he did not have any other comments than the streetlight he had reported to Ms. Hamilton before the meeting that was out.

**Jimmy Marston:** No Comment

**Joyce New:** Ms. New asked about what was happening with the old laundry mat. Mayor Gaines informed council that Billy Sullivan had purchased the property along with Matt Cammack's property behind it. Mayor Gaines was not sure of the plans for the property at this time. Mr. Sullivan would like to open a laundry mat but the property on West Seminary may not be suitable for the new equipment. Ms. New asked if the city wanted to put greenery in the empty flowerpots around the square. There had been discussion in the past about possibly putting small evergreen trees. Ms. New was going to reach out to Clark Roberts to see if that was possible right now or whether it was too late in the year for the trees to be established before a freeze. Mayor Gaines asked Ms. New to either get the trees or get greenery in the pots before the Christmas parade.

**Jill Dunavent:** Absent

**Patty Sue Miller:** No Comment

**Clark Roberts:** Absent

Having no further business, Mayor Gaines entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:17pm. Larry Dale Perry made the motion to adjourn. Patty Sue Miller seconded.


SIGNED:



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Adam Gaines, Mayor

ATTEST:



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Sherry Hamilton, City Clerk