

Special Meeting
Owenton City Council
April 17, 2025
5:30pm at City Hall

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

Council members present: Larry Dale Perry, Jimmy Marson, Patty Sue Miller, Jill Dunavent, Leigh Hawkins, James Abner and City Attorney Mitzy Ford. Also present: City Clerk Sherry Hamilton, Deputy Clerk Anita Sipple, Public Works Timmy DeZarn, Fire Chief Greg Estes, and Police Chief Clint Aldridge.

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: David Lilly

Guests: David Lilly, Gayle Parsons, Emilee Blackwell, Darrell Hearn, and Tina Eades.

Mayor Adam Gaines publicly swore in Officer Frank Blackwell. He had sworn in Officer Blackwell on March 21, 2025, so he could begin patrols.

March 13, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes Jill Dunavent made a motion to approve the March minutes. Patty Sue Miller seconded. Motion Carried.

March 2025 Financial Statement. Larry Dale Perry made a motion to approve the March financial statement. James Abner seconded. Motion carried.

Police Report: Chief Aldridge presented the police report. Chief Aldridge reported that with the assistance of the Sheriff's Department he had served a warrant to vacate property that the city had cited several times for nuisance violations. They also served a search warrant on a female they had been trying to arrest for a while. They were able to detain the individual. She had several drugs and cash on her at the time. Officer Blackwell has been working for about a month. Chief Aldridge acknowledged it was very good to have three officers to cover shifts.

Fire Report: Chief Greg Estes presented the fire report. Chief Estes reported the department had ordered some new gloves for the volunteers. The gloves will be paid for using State Aid. Fire Department will be having a Fish Fry on April 18th from 3:00 to 7:00pm. Search & Resue rescued over 100 individuals during the recent flooding. Units from other county assisted as well. Several areas are still cleaning up.

Public Works: Mr. DeZarn presented the public works report. Mr. DeZarn reported that he and Mr. Cobb had repaired the potholes from the winter. They had placed a second handicap pad at the County Clerks office to make it a smoother walk from the street to the sidewalk. Mr.

DeZarn had striped the handicap spaces and is waiting on paint to mark the lines. He had worked on weeds at the welcome signs and repaired a window seal at City Hall.

Old Business:

1. First reading of Ordinance 798 Microbreweries. Before Mayor Gaines read the ordinance, he asked Ms. Ford to briefly explain the changes she had made to the ordinance to have it be in compliance with the state. She explained she removed the section regarding the L100 license and added the charges for the nonquota licenses in section 7. Mayor Gaines then read the Ordinance. Larry Dale Perry made a motion to approve the ordinance. Leigh Hawkins seconded. Second reading will be held at the May meeting and the ordinance will be voted on at that time.
2. Discussion was held regarding placing a handrail on the sidewalk in front of the County Clerk's office. Pictures of the cracks on the sidewalk in front of the clerk's office were provided to the council. The mayor did not feel that what was there warranted taking the sidewalk out and repairing it. The council approved putting up the handrail and patching the cracks. Mr. Pettzinger will be notified of the approval.
3. Council was informed that the bids for the Kelly Court project had been published on the webpage, face book page and would run for three weeks in the New Herald. Bids are due May 6, 2025 and will be reviewed and awarded at the May 8, 2025 meeting.

New Business:

1. Council reviewed the new residential building permit for the city. The new permit requires more information that can be sent to the building inspector for his approval. This will provide him with the most accurate information to approve the projects. James Abner made a motion to approve the permit. Jill Dunavent seconded. Motion Carried.
2. Mayor Gaines read the Municipal Aid Resolution that needs to be approved every year in order to receive the road aid for the city. It required a poll vote from each member. Resolution passed with all six members voting "aye".
3. Mayor Gaines informed council that he had been made aware of an issue on West Perry of water running along the street in to a residents yard causing ruts in the yard. Since that is the only part of the street that does not have a sidewalk, the mayor felt the sidewalk would be better than trying to form a lip on the side of the street. Mayor Gaines met with Brad Wilhoite, Transform Excavation on installing a sidewalk along that area of the street. Mr. Wilhoite came back with a bid of \$9800.00 to do the project.
4. Council was informed that during one of the recent wind/rain storms the shingles on the roof above the City Clerk's office had blown off causing the roof to leak into the ceiling fan and the desk in the office. The insurance company required two bids to do the repairs. Both companies that were contacted for the bids found significant damage to other areas on the roof and recommended replacing the entire roof. Both quotes for the replacement of the shingles were sent to the insurance company and the repair was approved. The company that replaced the shingles suggested that the gutters also be

replaced as the old ones were not in good shape and were only 4" gutters. They gave an estimate of \$4320.00 to replace them with 6" gutters that would better accommodate the runoff from the roof. Mayor Gaines approved the quote.

5. Mayor Gaines then asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss property. Patty Sue Miller made the motion at 6:02pm. Larry Dale Perry Seconded. Motion Carried. Realtor Tina Eades joined the executive session.
6. Jimmy Marston made a motion at 6:31pm to come out of Executive Session. Jill Dunavent seconded. Motion Carried.
7. Upon leaving Executive Session, Jill Dunavent made a motion to counter offer the contract offer for old city hall with \$125,000.00, pay a stipend of \$50.00 for the cost of electric for the emergency siren and to have them agree to maintain the mural on the building for 10 years. Patty Sue Seconded. Motion Carried.

City Attorney Report: Ms. Ford said she had discussed with Josh Smith the issue of "air brakes" on trucks. Since the air brakes are a safety feature, it is very difficult to say the trucks can't use them. Other cities gear their ordinances more for noise violations. She said she understood that the real issue is going too fast in the city limits. Ms. Ford said maybe the focus could be more on enforcing the speed limits. The question was asked if there was a possibility of lowering the speed limit for trucks in the city limits. She said she would investigate if that were a possibility. The council decided to table removing the "no engine break" signs for now and investigate lowering the speed limit for trucks.

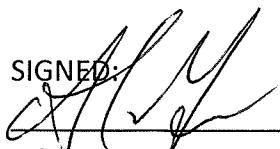
City Clerk Report: Ms. Hamilton reported that the 4th Spring Grant had been mailed to the businesses in the city and the deadline to apply was April 30, 2025. She updated the council on the property tax payments. The letter from the city attorney went out to those that had not paid the taxes. There were around 65 and after the letter, there are 18 tax bills not paid for 2024.

Council Member Comments:

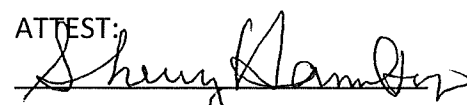
Jill Dunavent: Ms. Dunavent gave an update on the Rebel Outreach Day to be held May 3, 2025. Since the Evergreens that were planted in the fall had not survived the winter, the students are going to replace them with new flowers. She asked if there were any other projects that the council was aware of to let her know as soon as possible.

Having no further business, Mayor Gaines entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:54pm. James Abner made the motion to adjourn. Larry Dale Perry seconded.

SIGNED:


Adam Gaines, Mayor

ATTEST:


Sherry Hamilton, City Clerk