

Special Meeting  
Owenton City Council  
June 19, 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, and Police Chief Clint Aldridge. Chief Greg Estes was absent.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Invocation:** Patty Sue Miller

**Guests:** Gayle Parsons and David Lilly.

**May 08, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes** James Abner made a motion to approve May 8th minutes. Patty Sue Miller seconded. Motion Carried.

**May 2025 Financial Statement.** Larry Dale Perry made a motion to approve the May financial statement. Patty Sue Miller seconded. Motion carried.

**Police Report:** Chief Aldridge presented the police report. Chief Aldridge reported the Durango was still in the shop. They are waiting on parts. He has been told everything should be under warranty. The department has completed the training required for the new Taser Guns. All the city officers are certified instructors now. All three officers spent some time at the Christian Pre-School talking with the students. Officers assisted with graduation at the High School. Chief Aldridge reported that with the warmer weather there have been complaints of parties going into the late hours of the night. The officers are adjusting their schedules to address the issue.

**Fire Report:** David Lilly gave the fire report for April and May. Mr. Lilly reported that the volunteers had completed the required 10 hours of training. They have also completed the rope training required. The department has received a Rescue Grant but they are still waiting to hear about the other grants they have applied for.

**Public Works:** In the absence of Mr. DeZarn, Mayor Gaines gave the Public Works report. Mr. DeZarn assisted with the Rebel Outreach Day. The students pulled weeds and mulched the Owenton Welcome signs. Mr. DeZarn has checked and when necessary removed debris from

the storm drains. He spent a day weeding at the A.C. Sparrow parking lot. Mr. DeZarn cleared drains in the city and picked up debris along the street in front of Hometown.

**Old Business:**

1. Second reading of Ordinance 799-Budget 2025-2026. Mayor Gaines read the Budget Ordinance. Larry Dale Perry made a motion to approve the ordinance. Jill Dunavent seconded. Motion carried.
2. Second Reading of Ordinance 800-Salary of the Fire Chief. Mayor Gaines read the Ordinance. Jimmy Marston made a motion to approve the ordinance. Leigh Hawkins seconded. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

1. None

**City Attorney Report:** Ms. Ford reported that she had contacted the state transportation department about changing the speed limit in the city. This had been discussed previously as a possibility to slow the big trucks down, so they did not have to use their engine brakes. The gentleman she spoke to said the state controlled the speed limits so the city would need to tell them where they wanted the limit changed. They would then do a study to determine if the speed limit needed to be changed. Chief Aldridge said Officer Blackwell worked for the transportation department at one time and it had been his experience that rarely did they lower speed and the study would take a long time. It was decided not to do a study but focus on enforcement of the current speed limits to slow traffic down.

**City Clerk Report:** Ms. Hamilton reported that liens had been filed on the 2024 unpaid property taxes. The city started with 696 tax bills and only filed on 8 unpaid, some of which were repeaters. She also reported that the hailstorm that damaged the city truck also damaged the new roof. Damage was significant enough that the insurance company approved replacing the entire roof.

**Council Member Comments:**

**Larry Dale Perry:** Mr. Perry said he had been approached regarding the Microbrewery Ordinance and why the city was limiting the location to Industrial property. The city's intent was to control where a Microbrewery could go until the boundaries of the city are established. The process has been started and will take a while to complete. Mr. Perry asked why the city was trying to reestablish the boundaries. Mayor Gaines said it was because there are conflicts with what is reported by the state and what the city receives tax bills for. Mr. Abner said he had spoken as well to an individual that wanted to have the location changed to commercial. Mr. Abner asked if he had a business plan for the Microbrewery and how it would work on the commercial property. The individual did not have a plan at this time. Mr. Abner said if he could get that together and bring something to council, the council might consider changing the location to include commercial properties.

**Jimmy Marston:** Mr. Marston reported that he had received complaints that the residents at the apartment complex next to the fire station were parking along the street making it difficult to get the trucks out. Chief Aldridge said he had been informed of the situation and would speak to them. If that did not resolve the situation, the officers would write citations.

**Jill Dunavent:** Ms. Dunavent reported that she and Leigh Hawkins had met with Keith Clifton regarding the crosswalk project. Mr. Clifton agreed to work on getting the project completed. They discussed trying to have the project complete by Sweet Owen Day.

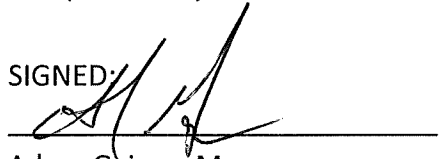
Ms. Dunavent said she had been asked by Friends of Animals if the city could give a donation to the shelter. She was informed that the County provides funding of around \$35,000.00 a year. Since the city also benefits from the shelter, they were asking if the city could give a donation. After much discussion on where the donation would come from, Jill Dunavent made a motion to donate \$2000.00 to Friends of Animals, using the allocated funds for 2024-2025 that had not been spent. James Abner seconded. Motion Carried.

**James Abner:** Mr. Abner reported that there was a streetlight at Cubbage Ave that is staying on all the time. Ms. Sipple said she would report it to KU.

Mr. Abner said he had been approached regarding renting the old city hall building. He was informed that the city had been contacted but no one responded. Ms. Hamilton said she was not sure if it was the same contact that had reached out to her but after consulting the mayor, she informed the individual that the city was not looking to rent at this time.

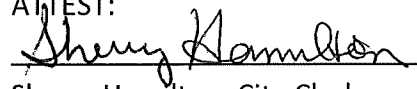
Having no further business, Mayor Gaines entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:26pm. Patty Sue Miller made the motion to adjourn. Larry Dale Perry seconded.

SIGNED:



Adam Gaines, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sherry Hamilton, City Clerk