



# OWENS CROSS ROADS

## ALABAMA

EST. 1967

## MINUTES FOR COUNCIL MEETING

### FEBRUARY 23, 2021

#### COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tony Craig, Mayor  
Terry Mann  
Tim Wright  
Scott Baker  
Larry Furlough  
James Mann

#### COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

#### OTHERS PRESENT:

Jason & Nicole Keel, Rec Ctr  
Diane Nichols, Resident  
Phillip Kraus, CROY Engineers  
Hope Davis, Hope Davis Media

#### TOWN HALL STAFF PRESENT:

Teresa Carpenter, Asst Clerk  
Jason Dobbins, Chief of Police  
Scott Worsham, Lieutenant  
Tim Gaines, Administrator  
Michael Wilson, Chairman of Planning  
Com  
Brandy Wilson, Court Clerk

***\*\* This Council Meeting was broadcast live and in its entirety on the Owens Cross Roads AL facebook page***

Meeting called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Mayor Craig.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Tim Wright.

Minutes from the January 26, 2021 Council meeting and Work Session Minutes from January 28, 2021 along with the current bank balances were presented by Teresa Carpenter, Asst Clerk. Larry Furlough made the motion to approve the minutes and bank balances. Tim Wright 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Terry Mann – Aye; Tim Wright – Aye; Scott Baker – Aye; Mayor Craig – Aye; Larry Furlough – Aye; James Mann - Aye

Mayor surveyed the guests for points of discussion.

Diane Nicholson Miller - asked if selling products from your home in OCR to other locations was considered a business? Said that a neighbor is selling exotic animals from his home on Dudley Ln and she is very concerned about this activity. Mayor Craig stated that Town Hall staff have been made aware of the situation. Tim Gaines has been made aware and he will be leading the inquiry/investigation for evidence of any zoning violations. She also inquired about recent police presence at Sequel Youth Services on Hamer Rd. Chief Dobbins stated that officers had arrived on the scene following a call of an altercation between residents inside the facility as a back up measure for security purposes.

Jason Keel announced that Opening Day activities for the Spring Rec League Season would include an Easter Egg Hunt for the children.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Teresa Carpenter, Asst Clerk, gave a report on the recent sewer collections drive to lower the outstanding sewer bills. At the end of January, there was over \$29,000 in outstanding sewer bills. After letters were mailed outlining cutoff procedures, possible lien filings, and additional fines/charges that could be imposed, there have been payments totaling \$9,379.03 collected from the critical and serious past due accounts. Multiple payment plans have been established for residents not able to pay their balance in full. Teresa reported that Christie Eason, Municipal Clerk, has filed over \$10k of bad debt accumulated over several years through a program that will file for partial payments to be recovered from the parties responsible for these debts through garnishing part of their State Income Tax return money. This debt is from residents moving out of the Town and leaving large outstanding sewer debts
2. James Mann reported on the interviews for a new full-time Fire Fighter. Three interviews were conducted today with good results; an additional interview will take place next week, then a decision will be made on who will be hired.

#### **New Business:**

1. Ordinance No. 21-002AM - Addendum to Ordinance No. 21-002 Sewer Valves; Motion to consider: Tim Wright; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Scott Baker. Motion to adopt: James Mann; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Terry Mann. Terry Mann – Aye; Tim Wright – Aye; Scott Baker – Aye; Mayor Craig – Aye; Larry Furlough – Aye; James Mann – Aye
2. Ordinance No. 21-006 – Annexation of Suburban Propane Property; Motion to consider: Larry Furlough; 2<sup>nd</sup>: James Mann. Motion to adopt: Tim Wright; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Terry Mann. Terry Mann – Aye; Tim Wright – Aye; Scott Baker – Aye; Mayor Craig – Aye; Larry Furlough – Aye; James Mann – Aye
3. Ordinance No. 21-008 – Annexation of All-Star Properties, LLC (#86 #87); Motion to consider: Tim Wright; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Terry Mann. Motion to adopt: Terry Mann; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Scott Baker. Terry Mann – Aye; Tim Wright – Aye; Scott Baker – Aye; Mayor Craig – Aye; Larry Furlough – Aye; James Mann – Aye
4. Ordinance No. 21-008A – Annexation of All-Star Properties, LLC (#85); Motion to consider: Tim Wright; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Scott Baker. Motion to adopt: Larry Furlough; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Scott Baker. Terry Mann – Aye; Tim Wright – Aye; Scott Baker – Aye; Mayor Craig – Aye; Larry Furlough – Aye; James Mann – Aye
5. Ordinance No. 21-007 – Security Alarm Users & Businesses; Motion to consider: Tim Wright; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Scott Baker. Motion to adopt: James Mann; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tim Wright. Terry Mann – Aye; Tim Wright – Aye; Scott Baker – Aye; Mayor Craig – Aye; Larry Furlough – Aye; James Mann – Aye

6. Ordinance No. 21-009 – Construction Labor and Noise Regulation; after discussion, this Ordinance was tabled for further discussion regarding working. No vote was taken.
7. Ordinance No. 21-0010 – Annexation of Property owned by Larry and Tara Furlough; Motion to consider: Terry Mann; 2<sup>nd</sup>: James Mann. Motion to adopt: Terry Mann; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Scott Baker. Terry Mann – Aye; Tim Wright – Aye; Scott Baker – Aye; Mayor Craig – Aye; Larry Furlough – abstained; James Mann – Aye
8. Ordinance No. 21-0011- Annexation of Property owned by Gregory D. and Joni L. Gowan, .83 acres; Motion to consider: Larry Furlough; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tim Wright. Motion to adopt: Terry Mann; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tim Wright. Terry Mann – Aye; Tim Wright – Aye; Scott Baker – Aye; Mayor Craig – Aye; Larry Furlough – Aye; James Mann – Aye
9. Ordinance No. 21-0012 – Annexation of Property owned by Gregory D. and Joni L. Gowan, .85 acres; Motion to consider: Terry Mann; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Tim Wright. Motion to adopt: James Mann; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Larry Furlough. Terry Mann – Aye; Tim Wright – Aye; Scott Baker – Aye; Mayor Craig – Aye; Larry Furlough – Aye; James Mann – Aye
10. Mayor Craig stated at in the past the Council has supported the Opening Day activities for the Rec Center by donating \$100 to the event; asked for the Council to consider making that donation again this year. Teresa Carpenter, Asst Clerk, asked if they would consider raising that amount to \$150? James Mann suggested giving a donation of \$200. Terry Mann – Aye; Tim Wright – Aye; Scott Baker – Aye; Mayor Craig – Aye; Larry Furlough – Aye; James Mann – Aye. James Mann also instructed Jason Keel, Dir of the Rec Center to let the Council know if there were other areas in which they might could help.
11. Arcadia Subdivision - Michael Wilson – Planning Commission Chairman announced that the Planning Commission had approved the Preliminary Plat for Arcadia Subdivision and asked the Council for their approval for the subdivision. Tim Wright made the motion to approve Arcadia Subdivision’s Preliminary Plat; Larry Furlough 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Terry Mann – Aye; Tim Wright – Aye; Scott Baker – Aye; Mayor Craig – Aye; Larry Furlough – Aye; James Mann – Aye
12. Police Vehicle option – Chief Jason Dobbins stated that he has talked with other similar police departments who trade in vehicles under 100K miles every 4 to 5; advantages being warranty protection and higher trade-in values within that timeframe and hopefully saving \$\$ in the long run. Tim Wright asked if 4-5 years was the average for hitting 100k miles and Chief Dobbins affirmed. James Mann stated that the Department currently has 1 vehicle that qualifies for these trade-in specs. Chief Dobbins stated that is it his hope that OCR could work to trade in 1 or 2 vehicles per year to stager the swap-outs, thus avoiding having multiple vehicles down at any one time. He said there are currently no new police quality vehicles available, however he has been told by the dealership they anticipate having more built in August, 2021 that would be available for delivery in October, 2021. The anticipated price of each vehicle would be approximately \$35k. Chief Dobbins informed that Council that any vehicle models 2021 and up would require new cages and other equipment due to the design changes being made to Tahoes. James Mann suggested no more than 2 new vehicles per year and not to exceed \$75k

total for the two. James Mann then asked for information regarding leasing vehicles versus purchasing; Chief Dobbins said you lose the warranty, and turn the vehicle back in at the end of the lease with no trade-in value, and you are liable for any and all damage done to said leased vehicle. Terry Mann – Aye; Tim Wright – Aye; Scott Baker – Aye; Mayor Craig – Aye; Larry Furlough – Aye; James Mann – Aye: to replace vehicles reaching 4 to 5 years of age, but before reaching 100K miles, no more than 2 trade-ins per year and not to exceed \$75K total for the 2.

Chief Dobbins gave the January Report for the Police Department:

Calls for service 263

Traffic stops 135

Case reports 23

Arrest 7

Written warnings 71

Written citations 72

Traffic accidents 1

Brandy Wilson said the Court side is running well, bringing a lot of money. She said that she is coordinating Court Dates for May with Judge Polly, working around surgery dates, and will keep everyone apprised of those dates.

Tim Wright and James Mann complimented the collection efforts for the Sewer Department. James Mann said that he sees City Hall functioning well across the board, everyone doing a great job.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Tim Wright at 6:42; 2<sup>nd</sup> by James Mann; Terry Mann – Aye; Tim Wright – Aye; Scott Baker – Aye; Mayor Craig – Aye; Larry Furlough – Aye; James Mann - Aye

Respectfully submitted by:

Teresa Carpenter, Assistant Clerk