



OWENS CROSS ROADS CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

Wednesday, February 16, 2022@ 5:30 p.m.
Owens Cross Roads Court Room | 9032 Highway 431 S.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

GUESTS PRESENT:

Andrew Craig
Elizabeth Craig

CITY HALL STAFF PRESENT:

Christie Eason, Municipal Clerk
Teresa Carpenter, Assistant Clerk
Lora Martin, Assistant Clerk
Jason Dobbins, Chief of Police

COUNCIL MEMBERS

ABSENT:

Larry Furlough

MAYOR CRAIG: CALL TO ORDER @ 5:30 pm

Mayor Craig welcomed attendees; explained reason for meeting – proposing sewer rate increases.

Working copies of Ordinance No. 22-004 & 22-005 were presented to the council for review.

The purpose of the rate increase is 1) pay for sewer maintenance 2) pay for a new sewer plant 3) pay for services, as well as to bring our rates up to par with the surrounding communities. The average flat fee for a municipality our size is \$50.55/mo. currently. We are way under that rate.

Christie/Lora/Jake applied for a Sewer grant/loan from ADEM for a new sewer plant. Jake Roth is working on finalizing the engineering scope for the grant. Bill Thomas provided rough numbers early at \$5.5 – \$7.5 mil for a new plant.

James Mann asked where the funding would come from and Christie explained that if it is a loan it would be funded through the state, which would result in a much better interest rate. James explained that he had met with Pinnacle Bank and they have outstanding rates and a division that works with Municipalities for these types of projects.

Mayor Craig surveyed the council as to what they think about the proposal of increases:

Tim Wright – doesn't see any other choice; Scott Baker – agrees no other choice, just need to get out of this issue with Huntsville; Terry Mann – unsure, but wants to make sure that communication is clear with customers before changes take effect; James Mann – wants to get out of contract with Huntsville, concerned about rates increasing, etc., but, agrees that there doesn't seem to be any other option, doesn't want to pay that much, but knows that rates increase.

James Mann suggests researching commercial tap fees – do we need to increase?

MAYOR CRAIG ADJOURNED MEETING @ 6:10 pm.

*Respectfully Submitted by Christie D. Eason, Municipal Clerk
Lora Martin, Assistant Clerk
Teresa Carpenter, Assistant Clerk*

See attached documentation for information presented to council members during meeting.

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