



**OWENS CROSS ROADS CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
Tuesday, June 28, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.
Owens Cross Roads Court Room | 9032 Highway 431 S.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

none

GUESTS PRESENT:

Andrew Craig
Tom Jarvinen, Attorney
Elizabeth Craig
Polly Blalock, Judge

CITY HALL STAFF PRESENT:

Christie Eason, Municipal Clerk
Lora Martin, Assistant Clerk
Jason Dobbins, Police Chief
CT Locke, Maintenance
Will Maynes, Maintenance
Tim Gaines, Inspector
Brandy Wilson, Court Clerk
Jeff Graves, K-9 Officer
Bruce Swanson, Fire Department

MAYOR CRAIG: CALL TO ORDER @ 6:00 pm

TIM WRIGHT: Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting Minutes May 31st Regular Session, June 14th Work Session and Bank Balances – Christie Eason, City Clerk

Motion to Approve: Larry Furlough; 2nd-Tim Wright

Terry Mann Aye	Tim Wright Aye	Scott Baker Aye	Mayor Craig Aye	Larry Furlough Aye	James Mann Aye
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Mayor Tony Craig greeted and canvassed guests in attendance.

Brandy Wilson, Court Clerk – entered 36 cases this month, 59 adjudicated

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AGENDA ITEMS

Ordinance No. 22-018 Abatement of Unsafe Structures

This ordinance adopts Code of Alabama Section and also adds a Board of Abatement.

The term of the Board of Abatement is 2 years.

James – concerned about costs, leg work should be done

Christie – explained could set \$ amount to not go over w/out council approval; volunteer wants to take down the buildings/houses but we cannot allow that until we have an ordinance in place; \$5,000 and above is the current dollar amount that requires a council vote

Scott – good idea, liability could be greater than the expense if there are homes in bad shape where people could get hurt

Larry – good with the ordinance, do we want to add verbiage that sets expense limits, etc.?

Tim W. – good with the ordinance

Tom Jarvinen – deed search is minimal expense, could add verbiage stating limitations before proceeding

Mayor - if house is falling down and owner won't do anything & danger to anyone stepping on the property, can you not abate just based on safety?

Christie – we can check each situation individually, case by case basis, add the verbiage subject to findings of clean and marketable title

James – we must have clear titles

Christie – owner is given 60 days' notice with Board of Abatement consideration of condition of property and presents solution to council with costs involved, etc.

Ordinance No. 22-018 tabled until July 26th

Resolution No. 22-017 Adoption of Updated Division F Federal Mitigation Plan

For the City of Owens Cross Roads to be covered in a natural disaster, we must approve this

Motion to Approve: Tim Wright; 2nd Terry Mann

Terry Mann Aye	Tim Wright Aye	Scott Baker Aye	Mayor Craig Aye	Larry Furlough Aye	James Mann Aye
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ADOPTED

Resolution No. 22-018 Judge Polly Blalock from contractor to employee

Mayor - No pay increase except for taxes that city pays

Polly

- has been an honor to be contracted as sub judge for 14 years and 2 years as appointed judge
- retiring on July 1st from City of Huntsville
- adding court sessions to daytime – is cost effective and helps with scheduling
- we need to follow new requirements by state and they are not being met because of our limited schedule

James – what about more \$? You will be working more hours?!

Polly – this is the beginning, compensation would not change at this time

Motion to Approve: Larry Furlough; 2nd - Scott Baker

Terry Mann Aye	Tim Wright Aye	Scott Baker Aye	Mayor Craig Aye	Larry Furlough Aye	James Mann Aye
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ADOPTED

Resolution No. 22-019 Variance for 384 Brockway Road – Cooper

Tabled

Resolution No. 22-020 Correct zoning for 438 Brockway Road - Samples

Christie - correcting because paperwork was not filed properly in 2016 when approved by Planning Commission

Larry – is there a map?

Christie – no, not with us at this time.

Motion to Approve: Larry Furlough; 2nd - Terry Mann

Terry Mann Aye	Tim Wright Aye	Scott Baker Aye	Mayor Craig Aye	Larry Furlough Aye	James Mann Aye
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ADOPTED

Resolution No. 22-021 New Hope Recreation Center Agreement

Terry – asked if this agreement helped OCR kids in anyway?

Mayor – it benefits all community kids – some kids were not able to play with the correct age groups

Motion to Approve: Tim Wright; 2nd - Scott Baker

Terry Mann Nay	Tim Wright Aye	Scott Baker Aye	Mayor Craig Aye	Larry Furlough Aye	James Mann Nay
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ADOPTED

Resolution No. 22-022 Tommy Bush to become employee instead of Contractor

James – why change his status? What are the benefits?

Terry - Are we responsible for his equipment?

Tommy will continue to use his own equipment and will keep liability on his equipment.

Motion to Approve: Scott Baker; 2nd - Tim Wright

Terry Mann Nay	Tim Wright Aye	Scott Baker Aye	Mayor Craig Aye	Larry Furlough Aye	James Mann Nay
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ADOPTED

Employees Canvassed by Mayor Craig

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS/REQUESTS

1. LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- a. **Christie Eason, City Clerk** – gathering audit list, end of month, all clerks are very busy. Teresa on vacation but sewer department activities going well.
- b. **CT Locke Maintenance** –nothing
- c. **Tim Gaines, Inspector** – building inspections are very busy, things marching forward.

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- d. **Lora Martin, Building Clerk** – since 4/28-5/31/2022, there were \$14,098 worth of building permits sold for homes valued at \$5,409,376.
- e. **Will Maynes** – nothing

2. POLICE DEPARTMENT – Jason Dobbins, Police Chief

- 262 Calls of Service; 52 Traffic Citations; 30 Warnings; 25 case reports; 8 arrests; 1 traffic accident

3. FIRE DEPARTMENT – Bruce Swanson, Deputy Chief, here for Shannon Drake, Chief - ABSENT

- Programming radios
- Brush truck is back
- CPR courses will be offered soon for city employees
- Recruitment at 8 volunteers plus chief and himself

Elizabeth Craig suggested to make sure people are aware of latex allergy, etc.

Tom Jarvinen, City Attorney – great news that the NHRC agreement is finally settled.

Polly Blalock, Municipal Judge – thanks for hiring me

Terry Mann – nothing

Tim Wright – nothing

Scott Baker – nothing

Larry Furlough – nothing

James Mann – nothing

Motion to Adjourn Meeting by Tim Wright; 2nd Larry Furlough

Terry Mann Aye	Tim Wright Aye	Scott Baker Aye	Mayor Craig Aye	Larry Furlough Aye	James Mann Aye
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ADJOURNED MEETING AT 6:31 pm.

*Respectfully Submitted by Christie D. Eason, City Clerk
Lora Martin, Building Clerk*