

Tony Craig, Mayor  
 Elizabeth Craig, Councilmember, Place 1  
 Scott Baker, Councilmember, Place 2  
 Claude Lang, Councilmember, Place 3  
 Terry Mann, Councilmember, Place 4  
 James Mann, Councilmember, Place 5



Christie Eason, City Clerk  
 Jason Dobbins, Police Chief  
 Bruce Swanson, Interim Fire Chief  
 Matt Balch, City Attorney  
 Tom Jarvinen, City Attorney  
 Jake Roth, City Engineer

**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**6:00 P.M.**

**Tuesday, January 7, 2025**

**MINUTES FOR REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:	CITY STAFF PRESENT:	GUESTS PRESENT:
Scott Baker Elizabeth Craig Tony Craig, Mayor James Mann Terry Mann <b>Absent:</b> Claude Lang	Jason Dobbins, Police Chief Christie Eason, City Clerk/Treasurer Jake Roth, City Engineer Bruce Swanson, Interim Fire Chief Brandy Wilson, Court Clerk	Deborah Buskirk, Planning Commission Jason Denenny, Planning Commission Crystal Gregory, Dept of Homeland Sec Dr. Sonny Hatcher, City Chaplain Landon Hoffman, Dept of Homeland Sec Chris Lehmann, Dept of Homeland Sec Jennifer Liddle Nathan Nickelson Betsy Stine Melanie Stover Michael Wilson

**CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Tony Craig @ 6:00 P.M.**

1. **INVOCATION** – Dr. Sonny Hatcher, Chaplain for the City of Owens Cross Roads
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**  
**Led by:** Councilmember Terry Mann
3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING(S) & BANK BALANCES**
  - a. City Council Minutes of the Work Meeting held on December 17, 2024
  - b. City Council Minutes of the Regular Meeting held December 17, 2024
  - c. Bank Balances as of January 7, 2025**Sponsor & Presenter:** Christie Eason, City Clerk/Treasurer

**Motion to Approve Minutes and Bank Balances: Terry Mann; 2<sup>nd</sup> Elizabeth Craig**

Terry Mann Yea	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Absent	James Mann Nay
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**Minutes & Bank Balances Motion Carried**

4. **MAYOR: SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS - NONE**
5. **ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS –**
  - a. **Proclamation of Human Trafficking Awareness Month January 2025 - Mayor read and presented to: Crystal Gregory, Landon Hoffman (Area Director), Chris Lehmann all from Department of Homeland Security, and Melanie Stover.**

**6. ORDINANCES FOR CONSIDERATION AND/OR ADOPTION –**

**a. ORDINANCE No. 25-001: Ordinance Adopting New Zoning Regulations for the City of Owens Cross Roads**

**Councilman T. Mann** asked to postpone vote until he can read the new document.

**J. Denenny, Planning Commission Chairperson**, explained the process to get to the new regulations.

**J. Roth, City Engineer**, explained minor changes such as revamping older language and bringing up to date.

**J. Mann** asked if there was a template to follow and is there a national standard.

**J. Roth** stated that TARCOG created the old zoning regulations. This one is more cleaned up; landscaping and signage regulations made clearer. There are no new zoning districts.

**7. RESOLUTIONS FOR ADOPTION –**

**a. RESOLUTION No. 25-001: Resolution to Dispose of Broken/Unusable Equipment**

Terry Mann Yea	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Absent	James Mann Yea
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**RESOLUTION NO. 25-001: Approved**

**8. OPEN FLOOR TO PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Deb Buskirk** asked about status of Owen Road and potholes in Gingerwood. (See **Jake Roth, City Engineer** Comments # 11)

**9. CITY ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

**Matt Balch** – absent

**Tom Jarvinen** - absent

**10. DEPARTMENT COMMENTS**

**a. Building and Planning Department**

**Lora Martin** - absent

**Tim Gaines** - absent

**b. Business Licenses**

**Teresa Carpenter** – absent

**c. Fire Department**

**Bruce Swanson** – Prepping for possibility of winter weather on Friday. There is a 10-20% chance of 6-10” of snow.

**d. Local Government**

**Christie Eason** – Requesting to purchase a shed for storage at City Hall for holiday décor and excess items. J. Mann agrees this is a good idea. Mayor Craig suggests not to exceed \$10,500. Motion to purchase by E. Craig, 2nd by S. Baker, all were in favor.

**RESOLUTION No. 25-002 APPROVED**

**e. Municipal Court**

**Brandy Wilson** – Yearly report attached. Sending notes to folks that have old cases.

**f. Police Department**

**Jason Dobbins** – Alex Monson, Reserve, will soon graduate with APOST Certification in Jefferson County at Fultondale.

**Scott Worsham** - absent

- g. Sewer Department  
 Teresa Carpenter – absent

**11. CITY ENGINEER COMMENTS**

**Jake Roth** – Update on sewer plant – rebar for main pad; pouring concrete for larger basin. Around 100 concrete trucks will run around midnight; they will work with Chief Dobbins on that. About 1 mil in on the 7 mil grant.

**Wilson Mann Sidewalk update** – Caveat to change scope to provide a wider sidewalk which causes cost increase. ALDOT recommended to not use grant to pay for engineering fees – have one year to start contract. Croy Engineering was the first quote and was over \$30k. RGS has made a quote on it.

**Owen Road update** – Rebuild Alabama Grant for \$188k; the three bids received were significantly higher.

**Annual maintenance paving contract has expired;** will go out again and rebid.

**12. COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS**

**Terry Mann** – nothing

**Elizabeth Craig** – nothing

**Scott Baker** - nothing

**Claude Lang** - absent

**James Mann** – requested the City Clerk add an email address for Eddie Phillips for FD

13. **Mayor Craig** addressed a memorandum he received from the City Clerk with the recommendation to not renew Pathway of Madison County, LLC’s business licenses FY 2025. He discussed with the Council and polled them for their vote. **Christie Eason, City Clerk**, made the council aware that since she sent the memo to Mayor Craig that she has received a copy of a petition circulated by the citizens of Owens Cross Roads. In a 2-hour period, Mr. Nickelson was able to acquire over 35 names.

Terry Mann don't renew	Elizabeth Craig don't renew	Scott Baker Abstain	Mayor Tony Craig don't renew	Claude Lang Absent	James Mann don't renew*
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\***Councilman James Mann** – fully support not renewing, but feels there are more steps that must be taken legally than the memorandum is communicating.

**Christie Eason, City Clerk and Mayor Tony Craig** explained that the memo and letter to be sent to Pathway has been reviewed by City Legal Counsel as well as the League of Municipalities Legal Counsel and agrees the steps taken by the City is correct. The letter that will be sent to Pathway of Madison County, LLC communicates that polling vote taken by the City Council as well as the date set for the due process public hearing – January 21 @ 6 PM.

**Motion to Adjourn: James Mann; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Elizabeth Craig**

Terry Mann Yea	Elizabeth Craig Yea	Scott Baker Yea	Mayor Tony Craig Yea	Claude Lang Absent	James Mann Yea
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**Motion Carried – Meeting Adjourned at 6:45 pm**

**Respectfully Submitted by:** *Christie Eason, City Clerk/Treasurer & Brandy Wilson, Court Clerk*