

Mayor & Board of Aldermen – Regular Meeting

Meeting Minutes

August 15, 2024

Present: Mayor Michael Brown
Vice Mayor Wiggins, Aldermen Cates, Fisher, Hummel & Sutton

Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

- 1. Call to order by Mayor Brown**
- 2. Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag**
- 3. Establish Quorum**

All present.

Mayor Brown called for a motion to enter an executive session. Alderman Fisher made the motion to enter an executive session. Alderman Sutton seconded the motion. All approved, none opposed. The motion passed.

The Mayor reconvened the regular board meeting at approximately 7:20pm.

- 4. Approval of Agenda**

Town Manager Ellis requested that Resolution 24-52, have inserted "*Sealed Bids*" as it relates to the SCADA Project, due to the anticipated cost.

Vice Mayor Wiggins made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Alderman Cates seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

- 5. Reading and Correction/Approval of Minutes of Regular Board**

July 18, 2024 – Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Vice Mayor Wiggins made a motion to approve the July 18, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Alderman Hummell seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

- 6. Special Item:**

None.

- 7. Citizen's Comments**

Renee Taylor – 185 Fairway Hills Drive – reported incidents of speeding, 50-60 mph in her neighborhood. She requested the board to consider speed bumps as a means of control.

Roy Neuhauser – 290 Countryside Drive – referring to the property tax comparison that Mayor Brown presented last month, pointed out while the property tax was higher in surrounding areas, the crime rates are also higher. He stated majority of people have and are moving to Oakland for the lower tax and crime rate.

He urged the Board to spend the taxpayers' dollars wisely instead of looking to increase property taxes.

Mr. Lindorth – 210 Terry Road – Inquired of Electric Smart Meters in the area. He was directed to contact Chickasaw Electric for information regarding the matter.

8. Communications from the Mayor

Fayette County Mayor Taylor was asked to speak to the Board, as there is a possibility of relocating the ambulance service, which is currently located in Oakland. Mayor Taylor stated a larger site was needed. The hope is to find something available in Oakland.

9. Communication from the Aldermen

Alderman Cates – Commented on the on-going issues of the current trash service

Vice Mayor Wiggins – Thanked Mayor Taylor for speaking.

10. Department Head Reports

None.

11. Town Manager Report

Town Manager Ellis welcomed Lori Rice as Oakland's new Finance Director. Mr. Ellis announced Harley McNeil has achieved a State Plumbing Inspection Certification. Mr. Ellis reported he had been contacted by the Oakland Chamber of Commerce related to the annual Oakland in October Festival, requesting the town to purchase flags, banners and small tote bags, not to exceed \$2000 (two-thousand dollars). Mr. Ellis requested direction of the board; Alderman Hummel agreed it would be good to participate, no-one opposed.

12. Old Business: Ordinances Second and Final Reading

A. Ordinance 24-08 Amending Municipal Code Title 12 International Energy Conservation Code

Vice Mayor Wiggins made a motion to hear Ordinance 24-08. Alderman Fisher seconded the motion to hear.

Vice Mayor Wiggins made a motion to approve the 2nd & Final Reading of Ordinance 24-08. Alderman Fisher seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Ordinance 24-08 passed.

13. New Business: Ordinances First Reading/ Public Hearing

Public Hearing Opened: No one approached to speak. The Public Hearing Closed.

A. Ordinance 24-09 Amending the Text of the Municipal Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Oakland to Amend ARTICLE III, SECTION 3.20

Vice Mayor Wiggins made a motion to hear Ordinance 24-09. Alderman Fisher seconded the motion to hear.

Alderman Cates made a motion to approve the 1st Reading of Ordinance 24-09. Alderman Hummel seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Ordinance 24-09 passed

14. Consideration of Resolutions: Old Business

None

15. Consideration of Resolutions: New Business

A. Resolution 24-52 – SCADA Project – Request for Bids Water Department

Vice Mayor Wiggins made a motion to hear Resolution 24-52.

Vice Mayor Wiggins made a motion to approve Resolution 24-52. Alderman Cates seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Resolution 24-52 passed.

16. Other Items of Business

A. Live Stream Audio Options

Town Manager Ellis presented three (3) options, his recommendation being CTI in the amount of \$4,914.84. No action necessary, the amount is within the purchasing guidelines.

B. Out-Sourcing Utility Billing

Town Manager Ellis described the process in outsourced billing and requested feedback from the Board. The town's current cost in materials and postage is estimated at \$51,000 annually. In out-sourcing, the estimated cost \$37,500 annually, a potential savings of \$13,500 annually.

Mr. Ellis stated he would bring a resolution to the Board requesting to solicit bids at the next regular meeting.

C. TCA 2-7-143 / Ordinance 15-5 Governing Signs

Attorney Minor provided an email to the Board, that was sent out in 2022. It addressed the issue of political signs in the right-of-way verses on private property. It is clear the town has the right to enforce the placement of political signs even within the state right-of-way. Right-

of-ways are viewed differently than that of private property, because of the "line of site safety issues" involved. If signs are in right-of-way, the town has total control in accordance with TCA 2-7-143. As for private property, if a sign is placed outside the time-limitations stated in the ordinance (90 days), the signs can technically be removed. If the signs are placed on private property without the owners' consent, the owner has the right to remove them. Permission must be given to place political signs on both private and public property.

It was determined further discussion on the issue will be taken up in a work-session.

D. Kroger Company Design Review Appeal

A motion was made by Alderman Cates to table until September 2024 Regular Board Meeting. Vice Mayor Wiggins seconded the motion. All voted in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

E. Establish Work-Session -Monday, August 26, 2024 @ 6pm

The time and date presented to the Board was approved. Items for consideration include fluoridation, Industrial Development Board, Ordinance 15-5, Kroger appeal and food truck ordinance.

15. Approval of Invoices

A motion was made by Alderman Sutton to approve the payment of USA Bluebook invoice #36148 in the amount of \$448.31. Vice Mayor Wiggins seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

16. Meeting Adjourned

Alderman Cates made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Date: August 15, 2024



H. Michael Brown, Mayor



K. Yvonne Bullard, City Recorder