

Mayor & Board of Aldermen – Regular Meeting

Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2025

Present: Mayor Adrain Wiggins
Vice Mayor Cates
Aldermen Austin, Bailey, Campbell and Hummel

Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

1. Call to order by Mayor Wiggins

2. Establish Quorum

All present

3. Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

4. Approval of Agenda

Town Manager Ellis requested that *Haley Duffy of the Carl Perkins Center* be added to the agenda to speak under section VI, Special Item. He also requested to add *Resolution 25-06 Amending Charter* under section XV, Consideration of Resolutions: New Business.

Alderman Bailey made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Alderman Campbell seconded the motion. Four (4) in favor, one (1) opposed, Alderman Hummel was opposed to adding *Resolution 25-06 Amending Charter*. The motion passed.

5. Reading and Correction/Approval of Minutes

January 16, 2025 – Beer Board Meeting Minutes

Vice Mayor Cates made a motion to approve January 16, 2025 Beer Board Meeting Minutes. Alderman Campbell seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

January 16, 2025 – Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Vice Mayor Cates made a motion to approve the January 16, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Alderman Austin seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

February 6, 2025 – Special Call Meeting Minutes

Vice Mayor Cates made a motion to approve the February 6, 2025 Special Call Meeting Minutes. Alderman Bailey seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

6. Special Item:

A. Bill Dwyer spoke briefly of the Sons of the American Revolution and the “Tree of Liberty” in Boston. The Liberty Tree was a symbol for freedom before the Revolution began. He asked if the board would be interested in a donated tree, which he would like to plant it at the Northwood Park, with a brass plaque memorializing all who have fought and marking the 250th Anniversary of the United States. He stated that his recommendation for Northwood Park was because he, Mr. Dwyer, offered to take care of maintaining it for the first couple of years himself, rather than placing another task on the park’s maintenance crew. Vice Mayor Cates inquired about it being planted in the new park. Mr. Dwyer offered; it could be placed at any location the board chose.

Alderman Hummel made a motion to accept the elm tree from the Isaac Shelby Chapter Sons of the American Revolution; and under the direction of Town Manager and Public Works, finding a suitable location for the tree to be planted. Vice Mayor Cates seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The motion passed.

B. Haley Duffy, Director of the Carl Perkins Center, announced that April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. The advisory board for the center decided to invite all Fayette County Leaders to attend a two and a half hour training course to teach adults how to prevent child abuse, how to react responsibly to the abuse and how properly report abuse.

She concluded by encouraging everyone to attend the free training session and bring others along.

7. Citizen’s Comments

None to speak

8. Communications from the Mayor

Mayor Wiggins announced he has met with a local business who wishes to contribute to the new park. He said that he looks forward to more local businesses supporting the park project.

9. Communication from the Aldermen

None

10. Department Head Reports

Water Director Armstrong reminded everyone of the meeting next month related to ceasing the use of fluoride in Oakland’s public water system. He alerted the board to be ready for a large crowd, who will be advocating for the move. Mr. Armstrong touched on the Annual Water Quality Report describing it as the latest data related to the town’s drinking water. The annual report is placed each year on the town’s website.

Vice Mayor Cates inquired about the status of the FY24 Audit. Ms. Rice, Oakland's Finance Director, reported that information is continuing to be compiled for the auditors. Town Manager Ellis acknowledged the audit would most likely be late this year.

11. Town Manager Report

Town Manager Ellis reported the FY26 Budget process is underway. He also announced Bethany Green of Human Resources and, Stacey Grooms of Finance, had completed their Tennessee Association of Municipal Clerks And Recorder (TAMCAR) certifications.

12. Old Business: Ordinances Second and Final Reading w/ Public Hearing

A. None

13. New Business: Ordinances First Reading

A. Ordinance 25-01 – FY25 Budget Amendment (Amendment #1)

A motion to hear the 1st Reading of Ordinance 25-01 was made by Alderman Hummel. Vice Mayor Cates seconded the motion.

Finance Director Rice explained additional funds are needed to cover general liability insurance for Police Department, street paving, contractual services (VC3) and to add an additional position. She further pointed out that there are expenses applied to budget lines which have not been budgeted, as well as several budget lines being under budget, due to product cost increases, specifically to vehicles.

A motion to approve Ordinance 25-01 was made by Vice Mayor Cates. Alderman Austin seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. The 1st Reading of Ordinance 25-01 passed.

14. Consideration of Resolutions: Old Business

A. None

15. Consideration of Resolutions: New Business

A. Resolution 25-03 – 2025 FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS – CONTRACT AWARD

A motion to hear Resolution 25-03 was made by Vice Mayor Cates.

A motion to approve Resolution 25-03 was made by Alderman Hummel, awarding Pyro Shows in the amount of \$15,900. Alderman Bailey seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Resolution 25-03 passed.

B. Resolution 25-04 – 2023 LOCAL PARK AND RECREATION FUND (LPRF) FOR OAKLAND SPORTS COMPLEX, PH 1B - CONTRACT AWARD

A motion to hear Resolution 25-04 was made by Vice Mayor Cates.

A motion to approve Resolution 25-04 was made by Alderman Bailey, awarding the lowest bidder Grinder Taber and Grinder in the amount of \$5,874,508. Alderman Campbell seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Resolution 25-04 passed.

C. Resolution 25-05 – AUTHORIZING THE ORGANIZATION OF THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF THE TOWN OF OAKLAND, TENNESSEE

A motion to hear Resolution 25-05 was made by Vice Mayor Cates.

A motion to approve Resolution 25-05 was made by Vice Mayor Cates. Alderman Austin seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed. Resolution 25-05 passed.

D. Resolution 25-06 – REQUEST FOR CHARTER CHANGE

A motion to hear Resolution 25-06 was made by Vice Mayor Cates.

Summary of the changes: Defining a time of the swearing in newly elected Mayor and Board, while specifying the final day of the outgoing Mayor and Board; and, assigning positions in elections; and, the ability to increase the number of board members to 6, based on official census resulting in a population of 18k or more. Increasing the number of board members will be done at the discretion of the board and is to be accomplished by an Ordinance.

A motion to approve Resolution 25-06 was made by Vice Mayor Cates. Alderman Austin seconded the motion. A roll-call vote resulted in a unanimous decision. All in favor, none opposed. Resolution 25-06 passed.

16. Other Item of Business:

A. Establish Work Session – _____ @ 5pm

Town Manager Ellis stated that scheduling a work session was unnecessary at this time. The Board agreed.

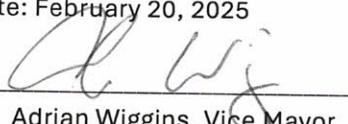
17. Approval of Invoices

None

18. Meeting Adjourned

Vice Mayor Cates made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Date: February 20, 2025


Adrian Wiggins, Vice Mayor


K. Yvonne Bullard, City Recorder