

CITY OF OAK HILL
MINUTES
City Council Meeting - May 2022
May 09, 2022 - 5:30 PM

The regular monthly meeting of Oak Hill City Council was held on May 9, 2022 in the Council Chambers of Oak Hill City Hall at 5:30 p.m.

Call to Order

The Mayor called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

The City Clerk called the roll as follows:

PRESENT

Mayor Daniel Wright
Councilmember Thomas Oxley
Councilmember Diana Janney
Councilmember David Perry
Councilmember Christa Hodges
Councilmember Charles Smallwood, Jr.
Councilmember Ronald Stephen Hayslette
Councilmember Benitez Jackson

The invocation was led by Elder Sam Calloway of Spirit and Truth Ministries.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Janney.

Reading and Approval of Minutes

Motion – Dispense with the reading of and approve the minutes of the council meeting held on April 11, April 19, and April 26, 2022.

Motion carried 7 - 0.

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Hayslette.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Oxley, Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Perry, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

Treasurer's Report

Motion - Approve the treasurer's report as presented.

Motion carried 7- 0.

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Janney.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Oxley, Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Perry, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

Correspondence

None

Citizens Comments

Donald and Michelle Brooks owner of MAD Concessions expressed their opposition to the way the purchase of the BB&T building was handled.

Krista Mackowick spoke about an Airbnb designation for Ryan Sizemore. That will be handled at the BZA meeting later in the month.

Becky Sullivan, Director of the NRGCVB gave the annual report of the CVB.

A Minute from the Minutes

The Mayor read from the ordinances of 1937.

Unfinished Business

Before beginning the agenda items, the City Manager, Bill Hannabass, announced his retirement as of July 5, 2022.

He thanked the various employees that he has worked with during his tenure.

1. **Bid Opening for Demolition of Residential Structure Located at 137 Broadway, Map 7, Parcels 116 and 117, Owned by New Owner Dewayne Hopkins**

Motion - Table the demolition decision for the structure located at 137 Broadway owned by Dewayne Hopkins.

Motion made by Councilmember Oxley, Seconded by Councilmember Perry.

Discussion - Councilmember Perry has seen progress at this location and is in favor of not opening bids.

Councilmember Jackson thinks Mr. Hopkins should have been given more time.

Mr. Hopkins said he had missed the calls from the city due to him being out of his house all day while in school.

The City Manager asked Mr. Hopkins to bring in plans and a material list to file with the building permit needed for the renovations. The City Manager recommends rescinding the demolition order if the council intends to allow Mr. Hopkins to continue working on the house.

Motion failed 0 - 7.

Voting Nay: Councilmember Oxley, Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Perry, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

Motion - Rescind demolition resolution/order for 137 Broadway, owned by Dewayne Hopkins.

Motion carried 7 - 0.

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Jackson.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Oxley, Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Perry, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

2. Examination of Demolition Report of Residential Structure Located at 312 Main St., Map 32, Parcel 499, Owned by Joy Lynn Farrish

The City Manager reviewed the demolition report for the structure located at 312 Main Street, owned by Joy Lynn Farrish. He showed before and after pictures and reported the amount spent on the demolition was \$6,737.99

Motion - Accept the demolition report as presented by the City Manager.

Motion carried 7 - 0.

Motion made by Councilmember Oxley, Seconded by Councilmember Janney.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Oxley, Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Perry, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

3. Spirit of Oak Hill Award Committee Report on Vision, Guidelines, and Procedures

Councilmember Hodges reported that the committee met and discussed giving this award twice a year -- in the winter and the spring.

The committee members are Debby Bush, Christa Hodges, Tim Jordan, Dewayne Hopkins, and the Mayor.

They will meet again on May 23.

4. Alley Abandonment of Unused Right-of-Way at Former Basham Salvage Yard near Victory Street - 2nd Reading

Motion - Accept this as the 2nd reading of the abandonment of the unused right of way at the former Basham Salvage Yard near Victory Street.

Motion carried 7 - 0.

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Hayslette.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Oxley, Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Perry, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

5. **Recommendation from the Selection Committee to Select Chapman Technical Group as Consultant for Development Building Design Guidelines in the B-1 Zone of Main Street.**
Motion - *Accept the recommendation from the selection committee to select Chapman Technical Group as consultant for development building design guidelines in the B-1 zone of Main Street.*

Motion carried 7 - 0.

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Hodges.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Oxley, Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Perry, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

6. **Reassessment of Semi-Monthly Council Meetings**
Councilmember Janney stated that she didn't see the need for two meetings in a month.
Motion failed for a lack of action.

New Business

7. **General Fund Budget Revision**
The City Treasurer presented a general fund budget revision in the amount of \$168,000.

Motion - *Accept the budget revision as presented.*

Motion carried 7 - 0.

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Jackson.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Oxley, Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Perry, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

8. **Consideration and Approval of School Resource Officer Contract**
Motion - *Renew contract with the FCBE for the school resource officer.*

Motion carried 7 - 0.

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Smallwood, Jr..
Voting Yea: Councilmember Oxley, Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Perry, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

9. **Structural Inspection Board (SIB) Recommendation to demolish the Following Structures:**
- A. Harris St. (Off-Broadway Ave.) Map 7, Parcel 240, Owned by Andrew Thomas
 - B. 105 Rocklick Rd., Map 59J, Parcel 33, Owned by Brooke Armentrout
 - C. 30 Jordan St., Map 8A, Parcel 176, Owned by Jamie L. Adams & EAL

Motion - *Accept the recommendation of the SIB to demolish the structures at Harris Street, owned by Andrew Thomas; 105 Rocklick Rd, owned by Brooke Armentrout; and 30 Jordan St, owned by Jamie L. Adams & etal.*

Motion carried 7 - 0.

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Hayslette.

Voting Yea: Mayor Wright, Councilmember Oxley, Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Perry, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

10. Approval of the Bears and Brews Festival on August 6th, 2022, at the Lively Family Amphitheater

Harley Volksen with the Punishers Law Enforcement Club explained the purpose of the event and announced that the money made from the event will go to help veterans. This event was previously sponsored by Destination Downtown.

Motion - *Approve the Bears and Brews Festival to be held on August 6, 2022. This approval includes selling sampling tickets for craft beer.*

Motion carried 7-0

Motion made by Councilmember Oxley, Seconded by Councilmember Smallwood, Jr..

Voting Yea: Councilmember Oxley, Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Perry, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

11. Consideration to Contract with WQAZ Broadcasting for Airing City Council Meetings

WQAZ has not yet quoted prices for airing city council meetings. They will also include the Rail Trail Expo and the Oak Leaf Festival in the pricing.

Motion - *Table this item until WQAZ can get prices for this service.*

Motion carried 7 - 0.

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Janney.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Oxley, Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Perry, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

12. Naming a Committee for Charter / Ordinance Review

Motion - *Appoint a charter/ordinance review committee consisting of the City Clerk, the Mayor, Councilors Hodges, Perry, and Oxley, and a member of the community to be chosen by the City Manager.*

Motion carried 7 - 0.

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Hayslette.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Oxley, Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Perry,
Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette,
Councilmember Jackson

13. Posting of the GIS Coordinator Position

Motion - Post the GIS Coordinator position with the salary of \$50,000 - \$60,000 listed in the advertisement. The advertisement should also be sent to the WV Municipal League.

Motion carried 7 - 0.

Motion made by Councilmember Janney, Seconded by Councilmember Perry.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Oxley, Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Perry,
Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette,
Councilmember Jackson

14. Anticipated Executive Session for Personnel

Motion by Councilmember Perry to enter executive session pursuant to WV Code 6-9A-4B.

The City Manager stated that if the executive session was to discuss him, then he would like the discussion in open meeting.

Councilor Perry stated he has asked Mr. Hannabass to stay in his current position on several occasions. He thinks he does a good job. He is requesting the executive session to discuss filling the void that will be left.

All the council members and the Mayor individually spoke about Bill, complimenting him and the work he has done during his tenure as city manager.

Bill expressed his appreciation to council and the employees of the City of Oak Hill.

The motion for executive session died due to a lack of a second.

Motion - Accept the resignation of the City Manager Bill Hannabass, effective July 5, 2022, and authorize Mayor Wright to draft a letter commending the work of Mr. Hannabass and to be signed by each councilmember.

Motion failed 7 - 0 by a roll call vote.

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Jackson.
Councilmember Oxley - No
Councilmember Janney - No
Councilmember Perry - No
Councilmember Hodges - No
Councilmember Smallwood, Jr. - No
Councilmember Hayslette - No

Councilmember Jackson - No

Motion - *Enter executive session to discuss the the temporary filling of the city manager position.*

Motion carried 4 - 3 by a roll call vote.

Motion made by Councilmember Perry and seconded by Councilmember Hayslette

Councilmember Janney - No
Councilmember Hodges - No
Councilmember Perry - Yes
Councilmember Hayes - Yes
Councilmember Jackson - Yes
Councilmember Small - Yes
Councilmember Oxley - No

Council entered executive pursuant to the above motion. Upon return from executive session, the Mayor announced the reason for the executive session was to discuss temporarily filling the city manager position. No action was taken.

Motion – *Return to regular session.*

Motion carried 7 – 0.

Motion made by Councilmember Janney, Seconded by Councilmember Hodges.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Oxley, Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Perry, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

15. Recommendation to Council from the Planning Commission to Change the Zoning from R3 to B2 for Map 7, Parcel 30, East Main St.

Motion - *Accept the Planning Commissions recommendation to change the zoning from R3 to B2 for Map 7, Parcel 30 East Main Street.*

Motion carried 7 - 0.

Motion made by Councilmember Perry, Seconded by Councilmember Janney.
Voting Yea: Councilmember Oxley, Councilmember Janney, Councilmember Perry, Councilmember Hodges, Councilmember Smallwood, Jr., Councilmember Hayslette, Councilmember Jackson

Department Reports

The department reports were submitted and included in the council packet. Questions and comments were made concerning a police officer on foot patrol, speed signs, increase in police street patrol, street paving, results of engineering meeting with the fire department

Council Comments (with possible action)

The Mayor asked for Council comments. The following items were discussed: locations of cameras, status of LED lights on Main Street, houses on Rhodes/Lee Street, the easement needed from John Pino, the grant application for the community center, an explanation of items allowed to be put in the Collins Park brush area, the relocation of Bessie's Floral, empty buildings, Domino's, former Wal-Mart building, Long John Silvers building.

Mayoral Comments

The Mayor reiterated his earlier remarks about City Manager Bill Hannabass and wished him well in his retirement.

He also reported that he had issued proclamations for the National Day of Prayer, New River Intermediate School, Special Olympics, and Child Abuse.

Future Agenda Items

None

Adjournment

With no further business appearing, the meeting adjourned.

Mayor Daniel E. Wright

City Clerk Damita Johnson