

## COMMUNITY

Error  
cont. from pg. 1

of \$89,152 to the Health Tax District.

He said Rob Day was meeting with County Clerk Roger Coyle and PVA Jackie Watson and said the money would have to be reimbursed to the Sheriff's Department. From there, Stewart said Day would figure out where the money would go, ultimately back to the Bath County taxpayers. Stewart added that they would have to create a list of taxpayer reimbursements for who and how much would be returned.

County Attorney Kim Price said she had looked over the audit and would speak with Day. She said she was going to suggest adjusting this year's property taxes instead of mailing out refunds of the overpayment, many of which would only be less than a dollar. Sheriff Stewart said he mailed out over 6000 tax bills for 2025.

In other matters, Fiscal Court members also approved a \$2500 match for state agriculture funds for dead animal removal in the county; and approved the reappointment of Tim Johnson to the Bath County Ambulance Board for another four-year term and the reappointment of Judy Harmon to the Sharpsburg Water Board for another four-year term.

County Attorney Price also announced that she had hired Morgan Smith Miller as Assistant County Attorney to help with prosecutions, and she said she would know next week if she would be able to hire another assistant to help with Fiscal Court matters.

May 22 - Special Propane Price Day  
June 6 - Preston First Church of God Car Show, 2 - 7 p.m. at The Store  
June 27 - 28 - Vendor Fair at The Store  
July 18 - Veterans Program to honor Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan veterans

## Owingsville City Council begins process of moving forward with new electric, gas franchise agreements

By Cecil Lawson  
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Owingsville City Council members had a short agenda for their first meeting of 2026 on Monday evening.

They approved a second reading of an ordinance creating an exclusive ten-year electrical service franchise in the city, for which Kentucky Utilities is expected to be the only bidder. The last franchise agreement was approved ten years ago, and Mayor Gary Hunt explained that it was time to renew the franchise. The city collects a 3 percent franchise fee from all electric bills in the city.

A public notice of sale will be advertised on February 19, after which bids will be taken through March 9. The new franchise agreement will take effect on July 14. Mayor Hunt noted that KU will take care of all associated advertising fees.

Council members also approved a first reading of an ordinance creating a non-exclusive natural gas service franchise, similar to the electrical franchise, for which Delta Natural Gas is expected to be the only bidder. It will also follow a similar timeline as the electrical franchise.

Some discussion was held regarding a proposed amendment to the city's water meter installation fees and sewer tap on fees for residences and businesses.

erans, with the Ky. Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall and special guests  
July 25 - Movie Night  
August 1 - Preston First Church of God Car Show, 2 to 7 p.m.  
August - Rube Blevins Memorial Horseshoe Tournament, date TBD



Photo by Cecil Lawson  
Owingsville City Council members review paperwork Monday evening related to the creation of electrical and natural gas service franchises to homes and businesses in Owingsville. These franchises are renewed every ten years.

Mayor Hunt said the fees for those actions had not been evaluated "for a long time." He proposed to the increase the water meter installation fee from \$750 for a 3/4 inch residential line to \$1250, and increase the cost of the sewer tap on fee from current costs of \$400 for residential gravity fee and \$1000 for residential grinder pump fees to the cost of material and labor.

Council member Karen Ratliff said she could not vote for a fee increase following increases in water and sewer service fees last year until she knew the cost of installing a new meter. Mayor Hunt found that new meters cost \$985 from their local supplier, Utility Solutions.

Council members agreed to alter the amendment to reflect the fee increase from current rates to the cost of new equipment plus labor. A second reading of the amendment will be held

at next month's meeting.

Mayor Hunt wanted to remind everyone that the city has an election sign ordinance already in place, and for the upcoming Primary Election on May 12, no election signs are allowed to be posted in the city limits prior to April 4 (45 days prior to the election) and must be taken down by May 27 (15 days after the election).

The City of Owingsville had \$142,000 in alcohol sales during the month of November 2025, and it collected \$6619 in regulatory fees. Its regulatory fee account to date has \$106,000.

Hunt also provided updates on new businesses coming to Owingsville, including the Fresh Spin Laundry (Miller Plaza), Seouful Skin (Miller Plaza), Ace Auto Parts (Water Street), Owingsville Barber Co. (South Court Street), Juniper Recovery (old Owingsville Manor building, open house Jan. 22), and

the Salt Mine Café (South Court Street), which opened last year. He also noted that he heard that Hazel Hills residential drug treatment center might be reopening.

Hunt also reported that the Owingsville Fire Department recently took possession of their new fire truck, a 4000 gallon tanker, and he praised the Department for bringing the residential blaze of an historic home on Suddith Street under control.

Prior to the end of the meeting, Council member Jackie Anderson said he had been asked by a concerned citizen if the Police Department's members wore body cameras. He said the citizen was concerned in light of recent events in Minnesota. Chief John Sutherland was present at the meeting, and he responded that they did not wear cameras, largely due to the \$5000 a month needed for storage of camera footage. Sutherland said with the town's call volume, he did not think body cameras were necessary.

Anderson also said he had heard complaints about the crosswalk sign located at the corner of West Main and Cecil Street. Mayor Hunt said because Main Street is a state highway, regulations require all signs be placed at a height of nine feet.

ville First Church of God, 7 p.m.

October 14 - 19 - Preston Court Days  
October 24 - Preston First Church of God Car Show, at The Store, 1 to 6 p.m.

December 16 - Robin Tolle Piano Recital and Carriage Rides, Owings-

ville First Church of God, 7 p.m.

December - The Store

will host Preston Christmas Lights and Homemad-

Holiday Shopping, up to 25

local/in-county vendors,

held two weekends before

Christmas

## Reprinted from May 5, 2022

# Most

Rowan County elected Officials and their staffs, have earned our respect, trust, and appreciation.

**They are still telling stories, we are told by our readers, but every word of these ads is provably true.**  
**What will your excuse be to the Rowan County Taxpayers when the right person finally reads these ads?**

**Will a Senior United States District Court Judge order the Rowan County Fiscal Court and Row-**

**an County Attorney "Taxpayers" to pay MILLIONS for knowingly utilizing a false affidavit in its defense of a federal lawsuit it could have won legitimately? The aggravating factor (legal term) is the multitude of public reminders the Fiscal Court and County Attorney ignored, or failed to face, considering the devastating damages they inflicted, and failed to make restitution.**

**Both the Lower Court, and 6th Circuit, believed the content of the affidavit, as evidenced in their explanations of their rulings. Did 3 high powered Lexington (Fayette County) Attorneys lie with no apparent motive, or did one Morehead (Rowan County) Attorney lie with obvious motives?**

**It is our belief that the fraud committed will toll the statute of limitations in this matter.**

# \*\$1,185,000.00 CASH REWARD

**A bonus will be added too, if you bring us the proof of what we know is the truth.**

**Do Most people realize that ATTORNEY (C) accurately described the Fiscal Court's reason for denying our Variance as POLITICS/PAYBACK?**

**"Would you let someone build a fence on your property?"**

**-- (Their property, but 10 feet of our front lawn)**

**Fiscal Court**

**Bluegrass Trust**

**Which the county has NEVER "mowed, weeded, or maintained" (or 90% of the rest of the properties, as well).**

\* For U.S. District Court admissible evidence of

**Do Most people realize that COUNTY ATTORNEY NOW DENIES saying "POLITICS & PAYBACK"?**

**When County Attorney denies saying Politics and Payback, and having signed an affidavit to that effect, do Most people realize that Lexington Attorney (D) put in WRITING that Attorney (A) confirmed that COUNTY ATTORNEY**

**made the statement that HE NOW DENIES making?**

**BRAVO 7 - F.D.N.Y. - LEADING TO THE TRUTH - 911 - ALSO**

**false testimony**

**PLEASE CONTACT BY TEXT OR CALL - (702) 591-2799**

**Paid for by Bluegrass Dutch Trust**