



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
October 7, 2019

The City Council of the City of The Village, Oklahoma, met in regular session at City Hall on Monday, October 7, 2019, at 7:30 p.m., at 2304 Manchester Drive.

**COUNCIL PRESENT**

Cathy Cummings, Mayor  
Dave Bennett, Vice-Mayor  
Adam Graham, Council Member  
Bubba Symes, Council Member

**STAFF PRESENT**

Bruce K. Stone, City Manager  
Beverly Whitener, City Treasurer  
Jeff Sabin, Assistant City Attorney

**ABSENT:**

Sonny Wilkinson, Council Member

**ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER.**

Mayor Cummings called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**ITEM II: INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

Vice-Mayor Bennett gave the invocation and Girl Scout Isabelle Miller led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

Mayor Cummings asked if there were any corrections, additions or deletions to the Minutes of the regular meeting held on September 16, 2019. There were no corrections, deletions or additions and the Council approved the Minutes of the meeting held on September 16, 2019, as written.

**ITEM IV: CITIZENS DESIRING TO BE HEARD; PRESENTATIONS.**

Mayor Cummings stated that this is the time for citizens to bring up matters that are not on the posted agenda.

The Council welcomed Isabelle Miller, Troop 6201, to the Council Meeting. The Council asked Isabelle to recite the scout pledge. Isabelle told the Council she is attending the meeting to fulfill a requirement of a merit badge.

Susan Sundholm, 2128 Gladstone, appeared before the Council to inquire about tree removal in Bumpass Park. Ms. Sundholm told the Council she is worried that large trees would be removed during park improvements. City Manager Bruce Stone advised that he did not think



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
October 7, 2019

the large trees would be removed but that he would take a look at the plans to confirm and let her know.

Jack Ransom appeared before the Council concerning the use of the City's roll off container service. Mr. Ransom told the Council that he owns three rental properties in The Village and pays the City utility bills but is not allowed to take waste to the roll off container unless he pays \$75 per pickup load. The City Council advised that the policy would be reviewed.

Tom Wolfe and Cheryl Steckler appeared before the Council to give an update on the progress made so far in adopting animals. Mr. Wolfe introduced Emma, a dog which was adopted after a lengthy stay at the animal shelter. Mr. Wolfe showed the Council a video presentation highlighting the volunteer group's success stories so far. Mr. Wolfe introduced Jim Abernathy who agreed to get plans and cost estimates for shelter improvements.

Jim Abernathy gave the Council a report showing the construction plans and equipment recommended for animal shelter improvement. Mr. Abernathy said the plans were done pro bono by an architect he knows and that he has received commitments for the donation of materials, labor and equipment valued at approximately \$20,000. Mr. Abernathy told the Council that he would present a budget for the proposed shelter improvements at the next meeting.

The Council thanked Mr. Abernathy and all the volunteers for their work on this project.

Vikki Smith appeared before the Council and told the Council about "Fetch A Fido Flight", a program to transport animals by air to other states for adoption. Ms. Smith explained the need for this program as well as the procedures to get animals on these flights.

Jane Lowther appeared before the Council with comments, complaints and suggestions:

- Ms. Lowther suggested the 2144 Carlton Way and 10212 Haverhill be considered for Yard of the Month.
- Ms. Lowther advised that the crash gate at 104<sup>th</sup> Terrace is down and needs to be put back in place.
- Ms. Lowther told the Council that the city manager's band, Gotcha Covered, performed at the John Marshall High School Class of 1969 reunion. Ms. Lowther said the band did a great job.
- Ms. Lowther reminded the Council that the Casady Manor Neighborhood Watch would sponsor "Halloween in the Park" on Halloween.



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
October 7, 2019

- Ms. Lowther told the Council that older members of her neighborhood do not want the City logo to be changed and are generally against spending a lot of money on community branding.

**ITEM V: CONSIDERATION APPEAL OF ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER TO ABATE A PUBLIC NUISANCE AT 2344 WEST BRITTON ROAD.**

City Manager Bruce Stone told the Council that the owner of the property at 2344 West Britton Road is out of state and says he can't remove the construction debris at this residence because of road construction. The city manager advised that the property is accessible and can be cleaned up.

After a brief discussion, Council Member Graham moved to deny the appeal and to waive the administrative fee if the owner removes the nuisance with due diligence. Vice-Mayor Bennett seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Graham, Bennett and Cummings. Nay – none.

**ITEM VI: DISCUSSION OF COMMUNITY BRANDING PROPOSALS AND DETERMINATION OF THE PROCESS FOR EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS, PHASING OPTIONS AND FUNDING**

The Council briefly discussed community branding. Council Member Graham suggested that further discussion on this item be tabled until Council Member Wilkinson can participate in the discussion.

Mayor Cummings tabled this item until the next City Council meeting. The Council took no formal action.

**ITEM VII: REPORTS:**

a) **Expenditure Reports:** The Council reviewed the following expenditure reports:

- General Fund, 09/13/2019:	\$39,483.11
- G.O. Bond Fund, 09/13/2019:	\$1,136.00
- G.O. Bond Fund, 09/17/2019:	\$72,014.37
- General Fund, 09/18/2019:	\$11,835.25
- Special Park Fund, 09/18/2019:	\$2,995.95
- General Fund, 09/23/2019:	\$24,255.41
- Capital Improvement Fund, 09/23/2019:	\$1,235.00
- G.O. Bond Fund, 09/23/2019:	\$240.00
- General Fund, 09/27/2019:	\$85,650.85
- G.O. Bond Fund, 09/27/2019:	\$10,269.71



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
October 7, 2019

- G.O. Bond Fund, 09/27/2019:	\$492,966.83
- General Fund, 10/03/2019:	\$79,139.35
- G.O. Bond Fund, 10/03/2019:	\$367.37

**b) Manager's Report:**

City Manager Bruce Stone reported that the webpage was out of service for several days due to a problem with the data center's web server. Mr. Stone advised that service was restored over the weekend.

Mr. Stone briefed the Council on the meeting with the Executive Director of the Metropolitan Library System (MLS) on September 26<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Stone told the Council that the meeting went reasonably well and resulted in several ideas which would make the closing of the library entrance on Vineyard Boulevard more palatable to the library system.

Peggy Vogt asked about the water problem at the library. Mr. Stone advised that the library has had ground water issues since it opened in 1990 and that there appears to be a moisture problem affecting some of the new carpet tiles. Mr. Stone advised that the City is working with the MLS to determine the cause of the problem and to find the most cost-effective solution.

The city manager showed the Council quotes to clean a portion of the concrete channel on Village Drive. Mr. Stone advised that the low bid to do the cleaning is over \$18,000 and that funds are not available in the current budget to pay for this. Mr. Stone told the Council that, in the past, Oklahoma County has assisted the City in cleaning the channel but that the County Commissioner has been told by the District Attorney that the County can't legally assist the City on projects like this. Mr. Stone stated that the Interlocal Government Cooperation Act specifically allows these types of mutual assistance projects, so he doesn't understand the legal advice given by the D.A. Council Member Graham offered to reach out to the District Attorney about this matter.

City Manager Bruce Stone showed the Council pictures of a food trailer that staff has picked out for use at festivals and possibly at the splashpad. Mr. Stone advised that the trailer, which is designed to meet our needs (200-amp service) would cost more than the amount approved by the Council in the FY 2019-20 budget. Mr. Stone proposed buying the trailer through a lease purchase agreement, which would allow the City to pay for the equipment in two or possibly three fiscal years. The consensus of the Council was to proceed with the acquisition of this budgeted equipment as proposed.



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
October 7, 2019

Mr. Stone told the Council that the National League of Cities Congress of Cities would be held in San Antonio in November. Council Member Graham said he would like to attend as the representative for The Village.

The city manager gave a brief presentation on a program that Council Member Graham learned about at the OML Conference in Tulsa. Mr. Stone advised that he and Council Member Graham sat through a webinar to become familiar with the technology and how it might benefit The Village. Mr. Stone advised that the program involves the installation of GPS sensors on city vehicles, which monitor road conditions and provide reports that prioritize roads for preventive maintenance and resurfacing. Mr. Stone advised that the program also provides other fleet management services, which could be beneficial. Mr. Stone noted that it is hard to know if the data produced by such a program would be worth the cost and that it might be necessary to subscribe to the service for a year or two to evaluate the system. The Mayor and Vice-Mayor stated that this program might be more suited for larger cities.

Mr. Stone showed the Council a revision to the plans for Wayne Schooley Park. Mr. Stone advised that the path of the sidewalk has been moved to avoid damage to the root structure of existing trees. Mr. Stone reported that all twelve pieces of playground equipment put on eBay have been sold and that the buyers must remove them by October 14.

The city manager showed the Council the site plan for the Celtic Festival to be held in Duffner Park this weekend. Mayor Cummings explained the site plan and told the Council about the festival.

**c) Reports from the Council:**

Vice-Mayor Bennett thanked the Village Animal League for all their work.

Vice-Mayor Bennett told the Council that a neighbor of his is doing work in the backyard to resolve a drainage problem with abutting property in Oklahoma City and that the neighbor on the OKC side has installed cameras to monitor the work and to comment remotely on work in progress.

Vice-Mayor Bennett reported that ACOG 911 text service is in place and that commercials would air starting on October 14 to let residents know about the service in our area.

Vice-Mayor Bennett asked what the holdup is with starting construction of the new Braum's store. The city manager advised that the full set of construction plans have been submitted and that the company said that construction would start in mid to late 2019. Mr.



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
October 7, 2019

Stone stated that the company is probably waiting for Britton Road construction to be completed before breaking ground.

Vice-Mayor Bennett mentioned the recent house fire on Sheffield and thanked The Village Fire Department for their good work. The city manager advised that the 911 call was made with a cell phone (near the jurisdictional boundary with OKC) and the call was routed to Oklahoma City. Mr. Stone advised that OKC Station 22 responded to the call and took command of the fire. Mr. Stone advised that The Village Fire Department arrived six minutes after OKC arrived on scene. Mr. Stone told the Council that the fire started in a bedroom of the rental property and that the fire appears to have been caused by a short in electrical wiring. The city manager reported that the residents suffered smoke inhalation but refused transport by EMSA.

Mayor Cummings reported that the house at 2101 Westchester appears to be in need of maintenance and that there is trash and debris on the property.

Council Member Graham said that he has been advised of a loose dog in the area north of Westlake Hardware store (Lancet, Georgia, Nichols Road).

**ITEM VIII. NEW BUSINESS.**

There was no New Business to come before the Council.

**ITEM IX: ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 10:00 p.m.

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Mayor Cummings

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Vice-Mayor Bennett

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Council Member Symes

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Council Member Graham

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City Clerk

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Council Member Wilkinson