



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
November 18, 2019

The City Council of the City of The Village, Oklahoma, met in regular session at City Hall on Monday, November 18, 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 K. Whitener, City Treasurer
Leslie Batchelor, 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.

Mayor Cummings gave the invocation and 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 November 4, 2019. There were no corrections, deletions or additions and the Council approved the Minutes of the meeting held on November 4, 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.

Approximately fifty residents of Hawthorn Addition and The Villas attended the Council Meeting to express their opposition to preliminary plans for public improvements in Tax Increment District #1. The citizens who spoke at the meeting included the following:

- *Carrie Askins, 10332 Veneto Circle*
- *Steve Adkins, 10252 Kingston Way*
- *Sue Adkins, 10252 Kingston Way*
- *Linda Schoenhals, 10329 Hawthorn Drive*



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- *Allyson Collins, 10211 Kingston Way*
- *David Wilson, 10260 Bald Cypress*

A summary of the comments are as follows:

- *We don't want an "event center" or outsiders coming into our area.*
- *We want the area to be more "senior" oriented and the civic park could be designed as a "senior" park.*
- *We don't want to import activities and events that are currently held in Duffner Park.*
- *We don't want to lose the four-lane boulevard.*
- *We don't want food trucks.*
- *We don't want a water park.*
- *We like sidewalks, trees and landscaping.*
- *We don't want a temporary multicourt or basketball court on Love's vacant property.*
- *We don't want a "carnival" atmosphere.*
- *Fix the street and beautify.*
- *Involve the Assisted Living Center and other retirement facilities in the decision-making process.*
- *Keep the area quiet.*
- *Form a citizens committee to work with the Council on the improvement plan.*

Mayor Cummings stated that the Council appreciates all the feedback and stated that she loves the idea of a senior park. The Mayor also stated that she would be happy to work with a citizen committee.

Rick Haynes appeared before the Council to ask that the Council consider making the completed lane on Britton Road eastbound only. Mr. Haynes told the Council that he plans to reopen on December 10th and the traffic from May Avenue is imperative. City Manager Bruce Stone told the Council that he hopes that it won't be necessary to change the direction of traffic but, if the Council does make the change, the plan should avoid detouring through the residential neighborhoods if at all possible.



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Jane Lowther appeared before the Council and read a letter honoring Beverly Whitener for 39 years at the City of The Village. The letter is attached to the minutes.

Jane Lowther asked if the Police could check on three cars parked on the street at Lanesboro and Haverhill.

Jane Lowther asked to be able to have citizen input on park improvements for Meeker Park when the City starts working on Phase II of the Park improvement project.

ITEM V: **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 11-18-2019 (A) ESTABLISHING THE MEETING DATES, TIMES AND LOCATION OF CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS IN CALENDAR YEAR 2020.**

After a brief discussion, Vice-Mayor Bennett moved to approve Resolution 11/18/2019 (A), Resolution 11/18/2019 (B), Resolution 11/18/2019 (C), Resolution 11/18/2019 (D) and Resolution 11/18/2019 (E), establishing the date, times and location of regular meetings for the City Council, Planning & Zoning Commission, Village Public Works Authority, Traffic & Safety Commission and The Village Development Authority for calendar year 2020. Council Member Symes seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Graham, Bennett and Cummings. Nay – none.

ITEM VI. **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 11-18-2019 (B) ESTABLISHING THE MEETING DATES, TIMES AND LOCATION OF PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION MEETINGS IN CALENDAR YEAR 2020.**

See Item V.

ITEM VII. **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 11-18-2019 (C) ESTABLISHING THE MEETING DATES, TIMES AND LOCATION OF VILLAGE PUBLIC WORKS AUTHORITY MEETINGS IN CALENDAR YEAR 2020.**

See Item V.

ITEM VIII. **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 11-18-2019 (D) ESTABLISHING THE MEETING DATES, TIMES AND LOCATION OF TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMISSION MEETINGS IN CALENDAR YEAR 2020.**

See Item V.

ITEM IX. **CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 11-18-2019 (E) ESTABLISHING THE MEETING DATES, TIMES AND LOCATION OF THE VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETINGS IN CALENDAR YEAR 2020.**



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See Item V.

**ITEM X. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 11-18-2019 (F) MAKING AN APPOINTMENT TO
FILL AN UNEXPIRED TERM ON THE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION.**

Mayor Cummings introduced Megan Engelhard. Mayor Cummings told the Council that she would like the Council to consider Ms. Engelhard to fill the vacancy on the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Ms. Engelhard introduced herself and told the Council that she has lived in The Village for about two years and would like to be active in the community.

After a brief discussion, Mayor Cummings moved to approve Resolution 11/18/2019 (F) appointing Megan Engelhard to fill an unexpired term on the Planning & Zoning Commission. Council Member Graham seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Graham, Bennett and Cummings. Nay – none.

**ITEM XI. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 11-18-2019 (G) APPROVING TRAFFIC & SAFETY
COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION FOR TRAFFIC CONTROL AT ANDREW
JOHNSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.**

City Manager Bruce Stone advised the Council that the Police Department, in conjunction with school officials, implemented an emergency traffic control plan to address chaotic conditions at Andrew Johnson Elementary School during student drop off and pick up times. Mr. Stone advised that the plan provides for Hasley Drive to be One Way westbound from Sheffield Road to Stratford Drive during student drop off and pickup hours on school days. Mr. Stone advised that the Traffic & Safety Commission reviewed the plan and recommends that the plan be formally adopted by the City Council.

After a brief discussion, Council Member Graham moved to approve Resolution 11/18/2019 (E) accepting the recommendations of the Traffic & Safety Commission to establish One Way traffic for westbound vehicles on Hasley Drive between Sheffield Road and Stratford Drive during student drop off and pickup times at Andrew Johnson Elementary School. Vice-Mayor Bennett seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Graham, Bennett and Cummings. Nay – none.

**ITEM XII. CONSIDERATION OF FISCAL SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION OF OKLAHOMA AND THE CITY OF THE VILLAGE.**

City Attorney Leslie Batchelor explained the Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement and how it can be used to facilitate and handle tax-exempt charitable donations for animal shelter improvements and other animal welfare services. Ms. Batchelor explained that the Mayor, City Manager and one Council Member are authorized to approve expenditures from the fund. Ms.



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Batchelor told the Council that the donated funds are held and administered by the foundation, which deducts an administrative fee of 5% from the donated funds.

After a brief discussion, Council Member Graham moved to approve the Fiscal Responsibility Agreement between the City of The Village and the Oklahoma Communities Foundation. Council Member Symes seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Graham, Bennett and Cummings. Nay – none.

ITEM XIII: REPORTS:

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

- General Fund, 11/05/2019:	\$469.24
- Capital Improvement Fund, 11/05/2019:	\$35,916.00
- General Fund, 11/06/2019:	\$54,388.13
- Animal Bond Fund, 11/06/2019:	\$350.00
- Special Park Fund, 11/06/2019:	\$653.12
- GO Bond Project Fund, 11/06/2019:	355.50
- General Fund, 11/07/2019:	\$3,025.39
- Capital Improvement Fund, 11/08/2019:	\$750.00
- General Fund, 11/14/2018:	\$7,609.51

b) Manager's Report:

City Manager Bruce Stone reported that the monthly Sales Tax for November was \$465,124.36, which is a decrease of \$24,105 or 4.93% over the same period last year. Mr. Stone reported that Use Tax was \$171,583.69, which is an increase of \$109,893 over the same period last year. Mr. Stone noted that the strong showing in Use Tax more than offsets the decrease in Sales Tax.

Mr. Stone reported that Commissioner Calvey indicated that the County cannot honor his predecessor's (Commissioner Vaughn) agreement to reimburse the City \$60,000 for a small portion of the cost of Britton Road reconstruction. Mr. Stone advised that the District Attorney now believes that this would be unlawful. The city manager stated that every commissioner in (at least) the last 35 years has helped defray costs of maintenance on section line roads in The Village.

The city manager reported that engineers have a "work around" for the water line conflict at Sunnymead and Britton. Mr. Stone advised that this auspicious turn of events makes most of the information and options provided in his written report on this subject inapplicable or moot. Mr. Stone noted that the idea proposed by Rick Haynes (Johnnies) for changing the flow of traffic from westbound to eastbound could be



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beneficial for certain businesses but could also cause problems for residents due to detouring through residential neighborhoods. Mr. Stone told the Council that there is a good chance that changing the flow of traffic can be avoided but, if it the Council decides to make the change, it would be best to make traffic eastbound from May to Penn with no westbound traffic in order to avoid detouring through the neighborhoods.

Mr. Stone noted that Cox has announced rate increases for cable services in 2020. Mr. Stone stated that 5G wireless service is expected to become available in the future and that companies providing video programming services via land line could have much more competition.

The Council briefly discussed the audit of utility franchise and gross receipts taxes. The consensus of the Council was that this would be something to explore further.

Mr. Stone noted the proposal submitted by Ford Audio to upgrade the audio-visual system in the Council Chambers. Mr. Stone advised that this upgrade was suggested by Council Member Wilkinson but that the upgrade is not essential and could wait or be scaled back to keep the cost down.

The city manager briefed the Council on the status of park improvements.

Mr. Stone told the Council that consideration of a new animal policy was delayed at the request of volunteers who had not had an opportunity to review the policy and comment. Mr. Stone told the Council that he hoped to have the policy of the next City Council agenda.

Stan Alexander arrived at the meeting and asked if could comment on proposed TIF improvements. Mr. Alexander told the Council that he opposes the plan, especially the elimination of lanes of traffic on Vineyard. Mayor Cummings told Mr. Alexander that this was all discussed in detail earlier in the meeting and that she had proposed the formation of a citizen committee to work with the City on the final plan.

c) Reports from the Council:

Council Member Symes asked about the status of Lakeside Drive. Mr. Stone advised that legal counsel has notified the bonding company of the City's claim.

Council Member Symes asked if the City Manager would contact Braum's to find out when they would begin construction of their new store in Casady Square.

Council Member Graham told the Council that the Casady Square Merchant's Association asked if the City could stripe Hasley Drive.



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Council Member Graham advised the he would be leaving in the morning to attend the National League of Cities conference in San Antonio.

Vice-Mayor Bennett gave a brief report on meetings he attended to help formulate ACOG legislative issues for the coming year.

Vice-Mayor Bennett gave a brief report on ACOG 911 efforts to get all participating jurisdictions on the same radio frequency.

The Council decided to recognize the best decorated homes in the various wards. The Council decided that each Council Member will pick a winner in his or her Ward and report the winner at the meeting on December 16.

Mayor Cummings asked about the status of community branding proposals. Mr. Stone advised that Council Member Wilkinson volunteered to set up meetings with the interested companies but, due to scheduling conflicts or other complications, was unable to set the meetings up. The Council agreed that an effort should be made to get this back on track after the holidays.

City Attorney Leslie Batchelor mentioned the possible annexation of the unincorporated portions of Britton Road east of May. Vice-Mayor Bennett stated that annexing the unincorporated portions of Britton Road west of May might also be considered.

ITEM VIV. NEW BUSINESS.

There was no New Business to come before the Council.

ITEM XV: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:47 p.m.

Mayor Cummings

Vice-Mayor Bennett

Council Member Symes

Council Member Graham

City Clerk

Council Member Wilkinson



39th Work

At The City of the Village

November 10, 2019

Dear Beverly Whitener, The Village CityTreasurer,

Thanks for all you do to keep The Village running smoothly and being a member of the administrative staff for 39 years. Happy 39th work anniversary and filling the role of the city treasurer. I know you have seen a lot of changes over the years and have adapted to them and appreciate your calm ways and keeping everything and everyone on keel. That's a long time to continue plugging away but your consistent work ethics are reflected in how efficiently the administrative branch is run.

I think people should know how long you have been employed by The Village and wish they would have something on the email site so others would be aware. To have completed half as many years as you would be quite a feat but doubling that, is SUPER impressive.

I have no brilliant powers to use or the monetary means to give you a big, fat bonus but if I did, you would be given a key to the city and have a day dedicated to recognizing your endeavors and dedication. You are appreciated far more than you will ever know and I, for one, am happy that you are on The Village's team. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Sincerely,

Jane Lowther

A Lifelong Village Resident