



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
May 3, 2021

The City Council of the City of The Village, Oklahoma, met in Regular Session on Monday, May 3, 2021, at 7:30 p.m., at The Village City Hall located at 2304 Manchester Drive, The Village, OK 73120.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Sonny Wilkinson, Vice-Mayor
Adam Graham, Council Member
Cathy Cummings, Council Member
Bubba Symes, Council Member

STAFF PRESENT

Bruce K. Stone, City Manager
Beverly K. Whitener, City Treasurer
Jeff Sabin, Assistant City Attorney
Danny White, Municipal Judge

ABSENT:

Wynter Griffis, Council Member

ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER.

Vice-Mayor Wilkinson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ITEM II: INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Vice-Mayor Wilkinson gave the invocation and led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM III: ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE FOR NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS ADAM GRAHAM AND BUBBA SYMES.

Judge White administered the Oath of Office for newly elected Council Members Bubba Symes and Adam Graham.

ITEM IV: CONSIDERATION OF ELECTION OF A MAYOR TO SERVE A ONE-YEAR TERM.

Council Member Cummings moved to elect Vice-Mayor Sonny Wilkinson as Mayor. Council Member Symes seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Graham, Wilkinson, and Cummings. Nay – none.

ITEM V: CONSIDERATION OF ELECTION OF A VICE-MAYOR TO SERVE A ONE- YEAR TERM.

Mayor Wilkinson tabled consideration of the election of a Vice-Mayor until the regular meeting scheduled for May 17th when all the members of the City Council are sworn in and present.



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ITEM VI: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON APRIL 19, 2021.

The Mayor asked if there were any corrections, additions or deletions to the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on April 19, 2021. There were none. Council Member Graham moved the approval of the minutes of the April 19, 2021 meeting, as written. Council Member Cummings seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Graham, Wilkinson, and Cummings. Nay – none.

ITEM VII: CITIZENS DESIRING TO BE HEARD, PRESENTATIONS.

Melodie Moore appeared before the Council concerning a report that she saw on KFOR news recently regarding a civil lawsuit filed by a person of color against the City of The Village alleging certain wrongdoing. The Assistant City Attorney advised that it is not appropriate for the City to comment on the lawsuit at this time. Ms. Moore stated that she does not know much about the facts of the case but felt concerned as a person of color that the lawsuit occurred. Mayor Wilkinson advised that he appreciated her perspective and thanked her for the input.

Jane Lowther asked about the possibility of keeping the old slide in Meeker Park. The city manager advised that the City's architect would prefer not to keep the slide but, if the Council, wished to keep it, their recommendation would be to first evaluate the slide to determine what needs to be done to bring the slide into compliance with current safety standards. Mr. Stone advised that the next step would be to determine the cost of needed modifications. Mr. Stone further stated that, if the cost to upgrade the slide is deemed acceptable to the Council, the architect's recommendation would be to relocate the slide to the area set aside in the masterplan for a future fitness center. Mr. Stone advised that the slide currently encroaches on what is envisioned to be an open area to allow for activities that require an unimpeded play area such as soccer.

Ms. Lowther thanked residents who honored our firefighters during the month of April by burning red lights on their front porches.

ITEM VIII: CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 05-03-2021 (A) AWARDING A BID FOR MOWING SERVICES AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS WITH PRECISION LAWNWORKS, LLC FOR MOWING SERVICES.

City Manager Bruce Stone reviewed the bids submitted for mowing service. Mr. Stone told the Council that Precision Lawnworks was the low bidder and that the company appears qualified to perform the work specified in the City's bid. Mr. Stone advised that the prices offered by Precision Lawnworks would reduce annual mowing costs by approximately \$32,000 a year compared to the amount the City currently pays for the service. Mr. Stone advised that Precision



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Lawnworks did not submit a bid for weed control and fertilization but explained that this is a minor part of the bid and advised that this work can be done by another company.

After a brief discussion, Council Member Graham moved to approve Resolution 05-03-2021 (A) awarding the bid for mowing services to Precision Lawnworks and authorizing the city manager to execute contract documents. Council Member Cummings seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Graham, Wilkinson, and Cummings. Nay – none.

ITEM IX: CONSIDERATION OF ADDENDUM EXTENDING THE VIDEO SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH AT&T.

City Manager Bruce Stone gave the Council a brief explanation of the origin of the video services agreement (2007) and certain legal issues pertaining to it. Mr. Stone told the Council that AT&T agreed to pay the same tax and to abide by the same regulations that are required by Cox Communications, which obtained a franchise to provide cable television services in The Village. Mr. Stone further advised that the company is asking for the agreement to be extended until May 2031.

After a brief discussion, Council Member Graham moved to approve the addendum extending the video service agreement with AT&T, as amended. Council Member Cummings seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Graham, Wilkinson, and Cummings. Nay – none.

ITEM X: REPORTS, CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

a) ***Review of Expenditures.*** *The Council reviewed the Expenditure Report. Mr. Stone explained several items on the expenditure list.*

b) ***Manager's Report.***

City Manager Bruce Stone reported that Huitt-Zollars is expected to submit final plans for the remaining general obligation bond sidewalk projects and the drainage project for Britton Road next week. Mr. Stone told the Council that he hopes to be able to ask the Council for permission to competitively bid these projects at the next meeting.

Mr. Stone reported that Sidewalk Project #1 is progressing at a good pace and that Rudy Construction is doing a good job. Mr. Stone advised that the contractor would work another project for a few days before they start working south on Penn towards Britton. Mr. Stone advised that many of the existing private driveway approaches do not comply with the ADA and the replacement of the driveways has been added to the project.



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The city manager reported that the Britton Road sidewalk project from Waverly to Penn is behind schedule and that to expedite the project he thought it might be possible to include the work in Rudy's contract for Sidewalk Project #1. Mr. Stone told the Council that the provisions of the Competitive Bidding Act would require 26 driveway replacements to be bid separately, which would complicate the project. After a brief discussion, the consensus of the Council was that it would be best to bid the entire project including the driveway replacements as one project.

c) Reports from Council.

Council Member Symes mentioned that some of the residents on Britton Road are not mowing the grass strip between the street and the sidewalk and suggested that drought tolerant shrubs or landscape rock be put in the gap. The city manager advised that one simple solution might be for the city's mowing contractor to mow the strip.

Assistant City Attorney Jeff Sabin advised that his colleague Lisa Harden is currently working on the third draft of the Lakeside Drive report.

The Council discussed possible dates for budget work sessions. The tentative meeting dates and times were May 26 and June 9 at 9:00 a.m.

Council Member Graham told the Council that he has enjoyed the last two years serving on the City Council.

Council Member Cummings gave the Council a brief report on Yoga in the Park, which resumed this past weekend.

Council Member Cummings told the Council that the State would receive \$180 million (CARES Act Funding) and that at the monthly ACOG meeting she brought up the idea of building a pedestrian/bike bridge over Lake Hefner Parkway. Council Member Cummings stated that the existing sidewalk across the bridge on Britton Road is horrible and dangerous. Council Member Cummings also advised that the ACOG staff would try to arrange a meeting with ODOT and OKC officials to start a dialog on a joint project.

Council Member Cummings reported that 911 System upgrades were discussed at the monthly ACOG meeting and that member cities will be required to shoulder the cost of the needed upgrades.

Council Member Cummings reminded the Council of the Tuscan Village Nursing Center Job Fair and Block Party scheduled for May 14th.



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Mayor Wilkinson told the Council that he would like to move forward with planning for TIF #1 improvements and described the process he has in mind for implementation.

Mayor Wilkinson thanked Council Member Cummings for getting the ball rolling on the Hefner Parkway pedestrian crossing idea at the recent ACOG meeting. The Mayor stated that he would like to take a more active role in ACOG.

Assistant City Attorney Jeff Sabin told the Council that the Governor rescinded the State's Emergency Declaration, which means teleconferences are no longer allowed under the Oklahoma Open Meetings Act.

The Council discussed policy for social distancing and face coverings. The consensus of the Council was that social distancing and face coverings should be required for Council Meetings and that City staff should continue to wear face coverings when meeting face to face with the public. The Mayor stated that this policy should be reviewed in June to see if continuation of the policy is warranted.

Council Member Cummings mentioned "green scooters" and wondered if a scooter station could be established at City Hall. The Council briefly discussed some of the pros and cons of scooters. Assistant City Attorney Jeff Sabin told the Council that Oklahoma City has an agreement with the company that provides the scooters and that it might be appropriate for The Village to enter such an agreement as well.

ITEM XI: NEW BUSINESS.

There was no New Business to come before the Council.

ITEM XII: ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and Mayor Wilkinson adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Mayor Wilkinson

Council Member Graham

Council Member Cummings

Council Member Symes

City Clerk

Council Member Griffis