



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
July 6, 2021

The City Council of the City of The Village, Oklahoma, met in Regular Session on Tuesday, July 6, 2021, at 7:30 p.m., at The Village City Hall located at 2304 Manchester Drive, The Village, OK 73120.

COUNCIL PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

Bruce K. Stone, City Manager
Beverly K. Whitener, City Treasurer
Lisa Harden, Assistant City Attorney

ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER.

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

ITEM II: INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

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

ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON JUNE 9, 2021, AND JUNE 21, 2021.

The Mayor asked if there were any corrections, additions or deletions to the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on June 9, 2021, or to the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on June 21, 2021.

Mayor Wilkinson requested a revision for Agenda Item IV, Paragraph 3 of the Minutes of the meeting held on June 21, 2021. Mayor Wilkinson stated that the word "HOA's" should be deleted, and the words "People for Pedestrian Parks" inserted in its place. Assistant City Attorney Lisa Harden advised that in Agenda Item IV, Paragraph 3, the word "in" should be inserted before the word "favor".

Vice-Mayor Graham moved for the approval of the minutes of the June 9, 2021, meeting as written and the June 21, 2021, meeting as amended and corrected. Council Member Cummings seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Griffis, Cummings, Symes, Graham and Wilkinson. Nay – none.

ITEM IV: CITIZENS DESIRING TO BE HEARD, PRESENTATIONS & PROCLAMATIONS.

The mayor stated this is the time for citizens to address the Council on any issue that is not on the posted Agenda.



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Residents of Hawthorn including Steven Melsh, Suzanne Norfleet, Deborah Shinn, Linda Schoenhals, and Sandy Ellis appeared before the Council concerning their desire to preserve the Hawthorn Greenbelt and in opposition to a proposed bike path. The residents continued to make their case against preliminary TIF Project plans and restated various concerns already conveyed in previous meetings, including whether the City had a right to make improvements on the HOA's land. Linda Schoenhals told the Council that at a recent HOA meeting, 70% of the attendees were against a bike path through Hawthorn. Members of the Council asked about the working of the questionnaire and the methodology for taking the poll.

Mayor Wilkinson stated that he cannot be clearer on this and advised the residents that there is no actual plan to discuss yet and that when the time is right, all residents would have an opportunity to express their opinions. Mayor Wilkinson also noted that it seems residents have a misconception about the bike path and seem to be assuming it would be part of the existing sidewalk.

Chris Crawford, 10423 Haverhill, appeared before the Council with several code enforcement complaints including non-operable vehicles and other similar matters. The city manager advised that he would follow up on these to make sure the Code Department is working on them.

Joshua Cooper, 10100 Wimbledon Court, Delbert Butler, 9521 NW 102nd and John Sherrick, 10313 North McKinley, appeared before the Council concerning flooding and drainage in Crossings at The Village and abutting areas in Oklahoma City. Mr. Butler told the Council that his home in Oklahoma City flooded and sustained extensive damage. Mr. Cooper advised that his home in The Village was not flooded by that his fence was washed out. Mr. Sherrick told the Council that his house in Oklahoma City did not flood but that some of his dogs (*in a pen by the creek*) were tragically drowned. The city manager advised that the new drainage system was designed to handle the 100-year rainfall and that it is likely that the flooding issues can be attributed to debris in the federally regulated wetland (Army Corps of Engineers) which is on property owned by the Crossings at The Village HOA. Mr. Stone advised that the City would investigate the drainage area and determine what needs to be done and who is responsible for the maintenance. *(Note: The initial investigation determined that the flooding of homes in Oklahoma City was likely caused by debris and trash that was washed down the channel from Oklahoma City and which caused a substantial obstruction under an old bridge across the channel. Oklahoma City promptly came to remove the debris thereby removing the immediate flood hazard.)*

Peggy Vogt, 10721 Lakeside Drive, scolded the Council for allowing development to take place in The Village and causing all these problems.



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ITEM V: CONSIDERATION OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS LOCAL 3958 FOR FY 2021-22.

City Manager Bruce Stone explained the changes to the Collective Bargaining Agreement for FY 2021-22. Mr. Stone advised that some of the changes to the agreement were worked out over the past year between the Fire Chief and the Union by Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and should be included in the formal contract. Mr. Stone advised that these changes relate to additional probationary period for certain officer promotions and the adoption of a new policy for deployment of authorized personnel as part of the Oklahoma Search & Rescue Task Force. Mr. Stone advised that the only other proposed change to the contract is a provision providing for an additional two (2) days of Personal Leave, which is to be deducted from a unit member's "maxed-out" sick leave bank. Mr. Stone advised that this provision is added to discourage abuse of sick leave. Mr. Stone advised that the only other change in the contract is the adoption of the adjusted pay scale, which reflects the Cost-of-Living Adjustment approved by the Council in the FY 2021-22 General Fund Budget.

After a brief discussion, Vice-Mayor Graham moved to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the IAFF for FY 2021-22. Council Member Cummings seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Griffis, Cummings, Symes, Graham, and Wilkinson. Nay – none

ITEM VI: CONSIDERATION OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT WITH THE FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE LODGE 222 FOR FY 2021-22.

City Manager Bruce Stone explained the changes to the Collective Bargaining Agreement for FY 2021-22. Mr. Stone advised that the only change in the contract is a provision providing for Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Incentive Pay. Mr. Stone advised that this is added to encourage all officers to obtain CIT Certification. Mr. Stone advised that CIT Incentive Pay requires officers to obtain continuing education in this critical area of law enforcement. Mr. Stone advised that the only other change in the contract is the adoption of the adjusted pay scale, which reflects the Cost-of-Living Adjustment approved by the Council in the FY 2021-22 General Fund Budget.

After a brief discussion, Vice-Mayor Graham moved to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the FOP for FY 2021-22. Council Member Griffis seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Griffis, Cummings, Symes, Graham, and Wilkinson. Nay – none.

ITEM VII: REPORTS, CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

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



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b) **Manager's Report.**

City Manager Bruce Stone reported that four companies attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting for Sidewalk Project #2 and #3. Mr. Stone advised that the prospective bidders agreed that it would be beneficial to move the bid opening from July 15th to July 22nd.

Mr. Stone reported that Traffic Signals, Inc. is making progress on the new signalization at Lakeside and May but seems to be off to a slow start. .

The city manager reported that LAUD Studio is working on LED Lighting for the tennis courts and for future lighting/power requirements for Duffner, Harrison and Bumpass Parks. Mr. Stone advised that this work will also be necessary to provide power for additional facilities, Wi-Fi service, and security lighting in the parks.

Mr. Stone reported that only one budget transfer was needed to complete the fiscal year. Mr. Stone advised that \$5,000 was cancelled in 01-05-135 (Engineering Professional Services) and \$5,000 was added to 01-03-131 (Legal Professional Services).

Mr. Stone reviewed Phase II Park Improvements Field Report #6.

The city manager noted the survey performed by staff to advise the Council what other cities are doing with respect to the permitting/licensing of food trucks. Mr. Stone advised that the City has not been charging any permit fee for food trucks but there is a \$25 fee established by Resolution for "concessions". After a brief discussion, the consensus of the Council was to not require a permit or license fee for food trucks.

Mr. Stone reported that the Mayor has renewed the Household Hazardous Waste Disposal agreement with Oklahoma City, which is done each year by letter.

The city manager reviewed documents and diagrams pertaining to tank battery relocation on the property on the southeast corner of Hefner & Penn. Mr. Stone advised that this work is pursuant to an agreement with the new owner of the property, Alliance Investment Properties, LLC. Mr. Stone added that the relocation of the facilities is to reconfigure the site for future development.

Mr. Stone reported that Scooter's Coffee has made application to amend the Village Corner PUD to accommodate the company's Drive-Through coffee operation. Mr. Stone explained that the Village Corner PUD as approved contains a specific site plan and landscaping plan that, according to legal counsel, must be



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amended to fit the change in use of the property. Vice-Mayor Graham asked when the developer could be expected to start. Mr. Stone advised that company representatives seemed to be interested in moving forward as quickly as possible. Mr. Stone advised that it seems appropriate for the Council to authorize the issuance of a building permit for the development at the same meeting the PUD amendments are approved.

Jane Lowther told the Council that her back fence has been washed out twice due to water from Crossings at The Village.

Ms. Lowther asked if the Council would set a time for the splashpad to be used by residents only. Ms. Lowther advised that toddlers have a hard time playing safely when the facility is full of older children. The Council agreed to open the splashpad at 8 a.m. to provide more time for younger children to play.

Ms. Lowther asked about the status of the tall slide (Meeker Park). Mr. Stone advised that the plan is to renovate the slide and then reinstall it in Meeker Park. Mr. Stone advised that the City does not know yet what needs to be done to the slide to meet consumer product safety guidelines.

Ms. Lowther asked if children could sign their name in the new concrete sidewalks in Meeker Park. Mr. Stone advised against this but stated that a small concrete pad could be poured in an appropriate location in the park for children to sign.

Reports from the Council.

Council Member Symes told the Council about the paintings that Vicky Palmer donated to the fire station and advised that her generosity should be recognized by Mayoral Proclamation.

Council Member Symes stated that the City needs to investigate flooding in Crossings at The Village and should consult with the Army Corps of Engineers about wetlands maintenance.

Council Member Symes told Lisa Harden that it was good to see her representing the City at the meeting tonight.

Assistant City Attorney Lisa Harden briefed the Council on the final Lakeside Drive engineering report and the claim sent to Crossland's bonding company. Ms. Harden advised that she is hopeful of receiving a positive response in the coming weeks.



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Vice-Mayor Graham briefed the Council on preliminary plans for a Block Party at Andrew Johnson Pre-K School on August 7, 2021.

Vice-Mayor Graham provided the Council with a copy of a letter from Christopher Gibbons concerning flooding and overflowing manholes on Village Drive. Mr. Stone advised that upgrade of this outfall line is in the City's five-year capital plan and stated that ARPA funds could be used to fund the needed improvements.

Council Member Cummings shared copies of ACOG's budget documents.

Council Member Cummings thanked Public Works for cleaning the debris from the drain inlet behind Relax the Back.

Council Member Cummings reminded the Council of Yoga in the Park on Saturdays at 10:00 a.m.

Mayor Wilkinson reported that he is working with LAUD Studio to set up meetings to revisit the conceptual design of TIF #1 Project Area improvements.

Mayor Wilkinson asked about dumpsters in front of businesses on Hefner. Mr. Stone advised that he would investigate and take appropriate action.

Mayor Wilkinson advised that it seems more and more apparent that the City Council needs to adopt a Public Comment Policy to provide for a more organized and orderly process for citizens to address the Council on various matters of concern.

ITEM VIII: NEW BUSINESS.

There was no new business to come before the Council.

ITEM IX: ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business and Mayor Wilkinson adjourned the meeting at 10:30 p.m.

Mayor Wilkinson

Vice-Mayor Graham

Council Member Cummings

Council Member Symes

City Clerk

Council Member Griffis