



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
December 2, 2019

The City Council of the City of The Village, Oklahoma, met in regular session at City Hall on Monday, December 2, 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
Sonny Wilkinson, Council Member

STAFF PRESENT

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

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 18, 2019. There were no corrections, deletions or additions and the Council approved the Minutes of the meeting held on November 18, 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.

Heather Coleman appeared before the Council with "*I Survived the Britton Road Construction*" T-Shirts for sale. Ms. Coleman told the Council that proceeds would benefit The Village Animal Shelter and the Pine Pantry at Andrew Johnson Elementary School.

Melody Moore appeared before the Council with complaints about traffic on Nichols Road. Ms. Moore told the Council that there are many speeders on Nichols Road north of Britton Road, many of whom are people who live in the area and seem to be repeat offenders. Ms. Moore also complained about traffic from Casady School, especially those exiting campus just to the south of her home adjacent to the Country Leisure Pool and Spa building, which is now owned by Casady School. Council Member Graham suggested that a radar speed sign be placed on



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
December 2, 2019

Nichols Road. The city manager stated that additional patrol would be requested and that the issue would be brought up with Casady School officials.

Approximately twenty residents of the Hawthorn Addition, The Vineyard Cottages and The Villas attended the Council Meeting to express their opposition to preliminary plans for public improvements in Tax Increment District #1. The points of concern were similar to those made at two previous meetings where this issue was discussed.

Council Member Wilkinson stated that the information provided by citizens is very much appreciated and is needed by the Council to make a final decision on the TIF Project Plan. Council Member Wilkinson stated that there are differing opinions about the preliminary plan and that the Council should consider the big picture when making a final determination.

Mayor Cummings stated that a lot more work and discussion will be needed to come up with a final TIF Project Plan.

Jane Lowther appeared before the Council and mentioned two residents in need, one due to health and the other due to a house fire. Council Member Wilkinson stated that citizens should be aware of 211 service, which is now available to provide contacts for all kinds of services that are available to help citizens in need.

Ms. Lowther asked if the signal light at Manchester and Penn would be eliminated if the TIF Project Plan, as currently formulated, is adopted. The city manager advised that the preliminary plan provides for the reconfiguration of the intersection at Vineyard and Penn and would include the elimination of the light at Manchester and Penn. Ms. Lowther stated that many citizens in Casady Manor would be opposed to the elimination of the light.

Ms. Lowther also asked about the proposed elimination of the entrance to the library from Vineyard Boulevard. The city manager advised that city officials have had several meetings with the library staff about this matter and advised that the library staff has concerns about the elimination of this entrance but feels there is room for further discussion and compromise.

Mayor Cummings read a Proclamation expressing appreciation of the City Administrative staff and proclaiming the week of December 2 to December 8 as City Administrative Staff Appreciation Week in the City of The Village.

ITEM V: CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 12-02-2019 (A) ADOPTING AN ANIMAL CONTROL AND WELFARE POLICY.

City Manager Bruce Stone told the Council that this policy is needed to formalize and amend certain policies that have, in some cases, not been reduced to writing or have evolved overtime. Mr. Stone explained that that policy formalizes shelter maintenance procedures and



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
December 2, 2019

establishes a revised animal trapping policy. Mr. Stone also told the Council that the proposed policy provides guidelines for interacting with volunteers. Mr. Stone stated that staff met with representatives of The Village Animal League to provide an opportunity for the volunteers to comment on the proposed policy. Mr. Stone advised that revisions suggested by the volunteer group have been incorporated in the final draft of the policy. Mr. Stone told the Council that the policy would probably need revision over time as new situations arise.

Council Member Graham asked if staff recommends approval of this policy. Mr. Stone advised in the affirmative.

After a brief discussion, Council Member Wilkinson moved to approve Resolution 12-02-2019 (A) adopting an Animal Control and Welfare policy. Council Member Graham seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Graham, Bennett, Cummings and Wilkinson. Nay – none.

ITEM VI: CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 12-02-2019 (B) AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SOLICIT COMPETITIVE BIDS FOR THE ANIMAL SHELTER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING THE INTERFUND TRANSFER OF BUDGETED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS TO PAY A PORTION OF THE PROJECT COSTS.

City Manager Bruce Stone told the Council that the Resolution authorizes staff to solicit competitive bids for animal shelter improvements and authorizes the reallocation of budgeted Capital Improvement Fund monies to pay a portion of the cost of the project.

Mr. Stone told the Council that this project is a bit unusual as it will rely heavily on cash and in-kind donations to fully fund. Mr. Stone advised the Council that the estimated cost of the project is in the range of \$94,000 and that he is proposing that the City fund roughly 30% of the cost. Mr. Stone advised that the City's match of \$27,500 would come primarily from savings on the purchase of a salt and sand storage building and a food trailer, which the Council has already appropriated funds for. Mr. Stone noted that Jim Abernathy deserves much credit and appreciation for providing the bidding specifications for this project and for obtaining thousands of dollars of in-kind contributions from various suppliers and business associates. Mr. Stone told the Council that he does not intend to advertise for bids on the project until all the needed funds are donated and committed to this project.

Council Member Wilkinson briefly discussed his work on creating an endowment that would not only be for the benefit of animal welfare facilities and services but also for parks.

After a brief discussion, Vice-Mayor Bennett moved to approve Resolution 12-02-0019 (B). Council Member Symes seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Graham, Bennett, Cummings and Wilkinson. Nay – none.



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
December 2, 2019

ITEM VII: CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 12-02-2019 (C) APPROVING HOLIDAY BONUSES FOR CITY EMPLOYEES.

After a brief discussion, Council Member Graham moved to approve Resolution 12-02-2019 (C). Vice-Mayor Bennett seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Graham, Bennett, Cummings and Wilkinson. Nay – none.

ITEM VIII: REPORTS:

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

- G.O. Bond Fund, 11/19/2019:	\$509,826.75
- G.O. Bond Fund, 11/20/2019:	\$32,074.00
- General Fund, 11/22/2019:	\$93,827.80
- Capital Improvement Fund, 11/22/2019:	\$1,947.50
- Animal Bond Fund, 11/22/2019:	\$40.00

b) **Manager's Report:**

City Manager Bruce Stone gave the Council an update on the Britton Road reconstruction project. Mr. Stone told the Council that the contractor would be pouring concrete at night and that two-way traffic from approximately Ridgeview Drive is expected to be restored soon. Mr. Stone told the Council that this would allow motorists the ability to go east or west on Britton Road from Ridgeview and should be helpful for school traffic.

Mr. Stone showed the Council pictures of volunteers from the County Sheriff's Department cleaning up trash on Hefner Road. Mr. Stone advised that the County Sheriff's department would pick up trash on Hefner Road on a regular basis.

The city manager reported that Oklahoma City would resurface the north half of Hefner Road from Penn to Lake Hefner Parkway and would resurface their side of the intersections of Penn and Hefner. Mr. Stone advised that OKC proposes to resurface The Village side of the intersections for a cost of about \$23,000. Mr. Stone advised that the price is reasonable and that it would make sense for the entire intersection to be resurfaced. Mr. Stone noted that the Hefner resurfacing project was under budget and that he proposes to pay The Village share of the joint project from the unused funds. Mr. Stone advised that OKC would delay this project until Britton Road is completed.

Mr. Stone reported that the franchise for Cox Communications would expire in November 2022 and that renewal of the franchise could be done without an election by the adoption of an ordinance after holding a public hearing. Mr. Stone advised that Cox



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
December 2, 2019

Communications proposes renewal of the franchise under the same terms as the current franchise.

The city manager reported that legal counsel helped draft a letter to Commissioner Calvey about promised assistance on the Britton Road project and explaining why the assistance is authorized under state law. Mr. Stone advised that he is waiting for the Commissioner's response.

Mr. Stone reported that the draft of the audit of the City's financial statements is done and that the auditor should be ready to present the report to the Council in January.

Assistant City Attorney Jeff Sabin reported that preliminary work is underway pertaining to the possible annexation of unincorporated parts of Britton Road.

c) Reports from the Council:

Vice-Mayor Bennett told the Council that it appears that many people have yet to decorate their homes and that it might be necessary to wait a while longer before each Council Member chooses the best decorated home in their respective Wards.

Council Member Graham reported that the signals at Britton and Penn and the radar sign on Carlton Way are not working properly.

Council Member Graham asked about striping Hasley Drive in Casady Square. Mr. Stone advised that Public Works has this on their list to get done.

Council Member Symes thanked Melody Moore for her input on speeding on Nichols Road and thanked residents from Hawthorn, The Villas and The Vineyard Cottages for their input on the preliminary TIF Project Plan.

Council Member Symes asked if there had been any feedback on the drainage improvements on Northland and Sunrise. Mayor Cummings said that the feedback has been good so far. Mr. Stone advised that the new system has yet to be tested in an extremely heavy rain but that he is confident that the improvements will work as intended.

Council Member Wilkinson suggested that a speed hump be installed on Nichols Road. Ms. Moore advised that she really doesn't want anymore speed bumps as the one Casady School installed causes her house to shake when vehicles go over it.

Council Member Wilkinson told the Council that it is good to be home and to continue work on making The Village the best it can be. Council Member Wilkinson



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
December 2, 2019

acknowledged the input from residents about the preliminary TIF Project Plan and stated he is sensitive to the fact that this is in their backyard. Council Member Wilkinson said that we “need to put out thinking caps on”.

Mayor Cummings told the Council that she would meet with Rick Haynes (Johnnie’s) to discuss Britton Road and other issues.

Mayor Cummings mentioned a Facebook thread about a nuisance abatement. Mr. Stone advised that he is not familiar with this particular situation but that the \$300 mentioned in the post would not be a fine but the cost of a nuisance abated by the City.

Mayor Cummings thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

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 9:50 p.m.

Mayor Cummings

Vice-Mayor Bennett

Council Member Symes

Council Member Graham

City Clerk

Council Member Wilkinson