



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
April 20, 2020

The City Council of the City of The Village, Oklahoma, met in Special Session at City Hall on Monday, April 20, 2020, at 7:30 p.m., via teleconference.

COUNCIL PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

Bruce K. Stone, City Manager
Beverly 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: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD ON MARCH 2, 2020 AND MARCH 23, 2020.

The Mayor asked if there were any corrections, additions or deletions to the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on March 2, 2020 and the Emergency Meeting held on March 23, 2020. There were no corrections, additions, or deletions to the Minutes of either meeting. Council Member Graham moved to approve the minutes as written. Mayor Cummings seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Graham, Bennett, Cummings and Wilkinson. Nay – none.

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

a) *PROCLAMATION 04-20-2020 (A) – TELECOMMUNICATOR'S WEEK.*

The Mayor asked the city manager to read the Proclamation aloud. The Mayoral Proclamation proclaimed the week of April 20–26 as "Telecommunicator's Week" in recognition of the outstanding work done by our telecommunicators.

ITEM IV: CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 04-20-2020 (A) DENYING THE CLAIM SUBMITTED BY RAMALLE MEADOWS UPON ADVICE OF THE CITY'S INSURANCE CARRIER.

City Manager Bruce Stone advised the Council that the claim submitted by Ramalle Meadows was investigated by the City's insurance carrier, OMAG. Mr. Stone advised that the investigation determined that the City is not liable for the alleged wrongdoing by The Village Police Department and that OMAG recommends that the City Council formally deny the claim.



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After a brief discussion, Council Member Symes moved to approve Resolution 04-20-2020 (A) denying the claim submitted by Ramalle Meadows upon the recommendation of the City's insurance carrier. Council Member Graham seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Graham, Bennett, Cummings and Wilkinson. Nay – none.

ITEM V: CONSIDERATION OF ELECTION OF THREE TRUSTEES TO SERVE A THREE-YEAR TERM ON THE OMAG BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

City Manager Bruce Stone advised that the Council may vote for three of the candidates running for election to the OMAG Board of Trustees. Mr. Stone recommended that the Council cast the City's ballots for the following candidates:

1. Pam Polk, City Manager of Collinsville
2. Daniel Tarkington, Mayor of Checotah
3. Tim Lyon, City Manager of Midwest City.

After a brief discussion, Council Member Wilkinson moved to elect the slate of candidates recommended by the city manager. Council Member Graham seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Graham, Bennett, Cummings and Wilkinson. Nay – none.

ITEM VI: CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 04-20-2020 (B) ACCEPTING BID FOR MOWING SERVICES AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A THREE-YEAR CONTRACT FOR MOWING SERVICES.

City Manager Bruce Stone reported that two bids were received for mowing services. Mr. Stone advised that Landscape Partners and Landscape Enterprises were the only bidders. Mr. Stone further advised that the low bid from Landscape Enterprises is roughly double the amount the City is currently paying Landscape Partners. Mr. Stone advised that Landscape Partner's three-year contract with the City ends on June 30, 2020.

Mr. Stone advised that at this cost, the City would need to reduce the frequency of mowing of rights of ways, ditches and parks to keep costs under control. Mr. Stone advised that another option might be to get back in the mowing business and hire a couple of employees to mow the parks, rights-of-ways and ditches.

After a lengthy discussion, Council Member Wilkinson moved to award the bid to Landscape Enterprises for one-year contract only and provided that the City attempt to save money by mowing lower priority areas less frequently. Mayor Cummings seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Graham, Bennett, Cummings and Wilkinson. Nay – none.



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ITEM VII: REPORTS, CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

a) ***Review of Expenditures.*** *The Council reviewed the expenditure reports.*

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

The city manager reported that overall sales, use and tobacco taxes increased by \$90,676 (17.06%) over the same period last year. Mr. Stone advised that these revenues were generated before the pandemic and, if not for Use Taxes, the City's financial position would look much different. Mr. Stone advised that receipts in the month of May will begin to reflect the impact of the pandemic on the City finances. Mr. Stone advised that the full impact on revenue would be seen in the tax receipts the City receives in June.

Mr. Stone reported the Waste Connections would increase rates for recycling and residential and commercial sanitation service by 2% effective on August 1, 2020.

The city manager gave a report on the NLC Service Line warranty program. Mr. Stone advised that the program has saved residents a total of \$46,039 so far in repair costs. Mr. Stone advised that there are 609 active policies in The Village.

Mr. Stone gave the Council a report on a possible timeline for the sale of \$3,270,000 in General Obligations Bonds. Mr. Stone advised the pandemic has had an effect on the bond market and that the City's financial advisor recommends waiting to close on the sale of bonds until no earlier than August 20. The Council briefly discussed the timing of the bond sale and discussed the merits of delaying the sale to wait for better market conditions. Mr. Stone advised the Ben Oglesby with Municipal Finance Services of Oklahoma would be happy to give the Council and update at an upcoming meeting.

The city manager briefed the Council on upcoming public hearings and zoning and development matters: Mr. Stone listed the following:

- a) *Britton Road Annexation. Hearing Date to Be Determined.*
- b) *Coulter Carwash PUD. Hearing Date to Be Determined.*
- c) *The Offices on May Final Plat Approval: May 4, 2020*
- d) *Lot Split 1501 Gladstone: May 4, 2020.*
- e) *Zoning Review HTeaO: May 4, 2020.*



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c) **Monthly Department Reports.** *The city manager commented on selected reports submitted by the various departments.*

d) **Reports from City Council.**

Council Member Symes asked if there had been any progress in reference to the City's claim against Crossland Heavy Contractors. Assistant City Attorney Jeff Sabin advised that the pandemic has put this matter, along with many others, on hold. Mr. Sabin advised that he would ask Lisa Harden if she has an update on the status of the claim.

Council Member Graham told the Council that he took BBQ to the fire department and will also do this for the police department to show appreciation for all they are doing and especially for what they are doing on the front lines of the pandemic.

Council Member Wilkinson advised that there is a great deal of gravel on the drainage channel close to Vineyard Boulevard. Mr. Stone advised that he would ask Public Works to clean this up.

Council Member Wilkinson asked about the time for newly elected Council Members to take office after the June 30th delayed City Council election for Ward 5. Assistant City Attorney advised that the State Election Board has not given guidance on this matter.

Council Member Wilkinson showed the Council a draft of a door hanger for use by Code Enforcement. Council Member Wilkinson advised that he worked with City staff to prepare the draft. The Council discussed options for printing the door hangers.

Mayor Cummings gave the Council a report on the Blood Drive held at City Hall on April 17th. The Mayor said that the drive was a huge success and the Red Cross reports that they had twice as many donors as expected.

The Mayor asked for a "Slow, Children Playing" sign on Lakeside Drive between May Avenue and Northland Road.

Mayor Cummings told the Council that Jane Lowther suggested that the City recognize graduating seniors. The Council discussed various options for doing this. The city manager suggested that the Mayor do a Proclamation honoring graduates.



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Mayor Cummings reported that there are holes (for street boring) in the pavement on Vineyard Boulevard that are dangerous and should be filled. Mr. Stone advised that some of these have already been filled. Mr. Stone said he would ask the Street Department to check for holes that might have been missed.

ITEM VIII: NEW BUSINESS.

There was no New Business to come before the Council.

ITEM IX: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Cummings adjourned the meeting at 9:23 p.m.

Mayor Cummings

Vice-Mayor Bennett

Council Member Symes

Council Member Graham

City Clerk

Council Member Wilkinson