

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
May 11, 2017

The City Council Finance Committee of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met at 6:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building Multi-Purpose Room on the 11th day of May, 2017, and notice and agenda of the meeting were posted in the Municipal Building at 201 West Gray and the Norman Public Library at 225 North Webster 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

PRESENT: Members Heiple, Castleberry, Chappel, and Mayor Miller

ABSENT: none

OTHERS PRESENT: Aleisha Karjala, City Council Member
Steve Lewis, City Manager
Anthony Francisco, Finance Director
Suzanne Krohmer, Budget Manager
Jeff Bryant, City Attorney
Gala Hicks, Director of Human Resources
Jud Foster, Director of Parks and Recreation
Terry Floyd, Development Coordinator
Deputy Chief Jim Maisano, NPD
Sereta Wilson, City Council Member-Elect

Chair Heiple called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Item 1, being:

DISCUSSION OF THE FYE 2018 CITY OF NORMAN BUDGET:

Anthony Francisco gave the presentation. A handout about the proposed amendments to the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 (FYE 2018) Budget was given to the Committee members. The items on the handout are the amendments that there has been a consensus on. The first amendment is a proposal to include the Norman Public Schools' contribution to the School Resource Officer (SRO) program in the addition of 3 added SRO's for the upcoming fiscal year; this would amend the Public Safety Sales Tax (PSST) Fund. The second amendment would be an increase for capital projects and would affect the Community Development Block Grant Fund. The third amendment would be to increase the capital projects funding for the Norman Investigation Center (NIC), which would be a transfer from the Seizures & Restitutions Fund to the Capital Fund. The next amendment would be a reduction in revenue from the Westwood Pool not making the opening in the summer of 2018. The last amendment would increase the revenue for the Sanitation Fund interest income to be more reflective of historic collections.

Member Castleberry asked if we have the research on what it would take to fund the Animal Welfare division improvements discussed in the Animal Welfare Oversight Committee Strategic Plan. City Manager Steve Lewis stated that we have given Council Member Hickman some of

the research and what was actually being budgeted for the Animal Welfare Center. Chair Heiple stated that he thought Chief Humphrey said that more data was needed before the decision to fill any vacancies or additional employees in the Animal Welfare Center. Member Chappel stated that he thought that was directed at the Shelter Manager position that was being opened up in the Animal Welfare Center and was proposed to be budgeted for in FYE 2018.

City Manager Lewis wanted to make clear that when the City Manager's Budget was presented to the public it would be presented along with these additions. Member Castleberry requested the Animal Welfare Oversight Committee Strategic Plan information.

Chair Heiple wanted to state that he does not think the requested \$250,000 being put back in the Capital Fund for the stand alone Senior Center is a good idea and will not help to build a \$10 million Senior Center. He still believes that the best road to take is with the GO Bond and the remodeling of the current Library into the Senior Center.

Items submitted for the record:

1. FYE 18 Proposed Amendments

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Item 2, being

SUBMISSION OF THE REVENUE/EXPENDITURE REPORTS

Anthony Francisco gave the presentation. He stated that Council received information on the May Sales Tax on Tuesday evening, which was updated information than what is handed out at this meeting. We did not see any turn around in the sales tax collection this month.

Member Castleberry asked why the Room Tax numbers were down when he is being told that the room rentals have gone up 25% this year. Chair Heiple stated that it is probably to do with the City not being able to collect Room Tax from Air B&B. Francisco stated that anyone coming to stay in Norman who is on government business does not have to pay Room Tax. Member Castleberry stated that we need to look into how we can collect tax revenue from Air B&B because that is unfair to our local hotels and motels.

Chair Heiple stated that he and Member Chappel were discussing possible alternative revenue sources for City Manager Lewis and Francisco to look in to (light poles, smart meters, etc.). He believes that the Council seriously needs to start considering what we can do to generate revenue outside of taxes. City Manager Lewis stated that there are a number of avenues that we can start looking into for alternative revenue sources. We should prepare a business plan for other facilities to tap into more revenue. Mayor Miller stated that this summer might be a good time for the Council to meet and start to strategically plan for the future.

Items submitted for the record:

1. Monthly Financial Report
2. Appropriations
3. General Fund Transfers Over \$50,000 between Expenditure Categories-FYE 17 April 2017
4. Summary of Major General Fund Revenue Sources vs. Budget, FYE 2017-as of April 30, 2017

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Item 3, being

SUBMISSION OF THE REPORT ON OPEN POSITIONS

Gala Hicks gave the presentation. She stated that we currently have quite a few open positions including the 12 for the lateral transfer Police Academy.

Items submitted for the record:

1. Open Positions Report dated 5/3/2017

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Item 4, being:

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

Member Castleberry asked how we use the “aquatic rodent” program and when we are allowed to use it. City Manager Lewis stated that the “aquatic rodent” program can only be used for public lands and not for any private lands. It can be used on creeks, parks, and drainage ditches for example.

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The meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor