

## CITY COUNCIL RETREAT MINUTES

August 22, 2015

The City Council of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Retreat at 8:00 a.m. at Fire Station No. 9 on the 22nd day of August, 2015, and notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at the Fire Station No. 9 at 3001 East Alameda, Municipal Building at 201 West Gray, and the Norman Public Library at 225 North Webster 48 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Allison, Castleberry, Heiple, Holman\*, Lang, Miller, Williams, Mayor Rosenthal

ABSENT: Councilmember Jungman

\*Councilmember Holman left the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

### PLANNING WORK SESSION REGARDING CITY COUNCIL POLICY AGENDA FOR FYE 2016.

Mayor Rosenthal said she likes to begin Council's annual planning session by reflecting on some of the accomplishments and/or items Council spent time working on in the prior fiscal year. Some of the work included a successful water rate increase; calling a special election to consider the quality of life initiative included in Norman Forward; ordinance amendments related to the City's oil and gas regulations; the Center City Visioning process; and studying regulations on transportation network companies such as Uber and Lyft.

City Manager Steve Lewis highlighted some of the projects included in the 2015-2016 City of Norman Work Plan.

- Development of the next five-year Transportation GO Bond package to be considered by voters in the spring of 2016. He said in speaking with the City's Financial Advisor, the bond issuance could increase up to \$25 million without a change in property taxes. However, in order to keep the property tax level a special election would need to be held no later than March 2016.
- Lindsey Street – the Oklahoma Department of Transportation bid letting is scheduled for January 2016. It is anticipated the Lindsey Street Overpass will be taken out of service in April 2016. Lindsey Street construction is expected to begin in May 2016 and be completed by June 2017.
- The Main Street Downtown Enhancement Package is scheduled to begin the design process in September 2015.
- The Animal Welfare ordinances are currently being reviewed by the Citizens Animal Welfare Oversight Committee and will be coming forward to Council for further consideration this fall. There are some big changes to the current regulations; one example being dogs will no longer be allowed to run at-large in agricultural zoning districts.
- Coordination of ISO (Insurance Services Office) community review. The City's Fire Department will be re-evaluated in 2015 and Norman is expected to improve our ISO rating resulting in lower insurance rates for many rural residents due to the addition of new apparatus, staffing, etc.
- Issue the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the 2030 Land Use and Transportation Plan update and engage a consultant to begin work in late 2015. The Council Community Planning and Transportation Committee is scheduled to review the draft RFP at its meeting on August 27, 2015.
- Support planning collaboration between the City and the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services for the ULI Panel.
- Support and participate in the community planning project for a master plan and building form standards for the Center City Visioning Project area. Once there is a final draft Code prepared by the consultant, staff will hold public meetings to receive comments, updates will be provided to the Planning Commission and the City Council for adoption of the Code.

Mr. Lewis said there are other projects and issues Council will be facing in the coming year and highlighted some of those topics.

- Water Reuse - Water reuse has been met with opposition with our partner cities at Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District (COMCD). He said there was recently a small breakthrough with the COMCD Board approval to submit the Phase 1 Report to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The Board also approved the Phase 2 study in July, which is anticipated to take approximately one year to complete. Mayor Rosenthal said this could be an opportunity for the Environmental Control Advisory Board (ECAB) to work on an educational component with the Norman community about reuse.
- Norman Public Schools Administration has approached the City to reopen the discussion of ownership of the Whittier and Irving Recreation Centers. It is not anticipated the City would see a loss of City services currently provided in the centers.
- Norman Forward (pending October 13th successful election) - project scheduling; land acquisition for Central Library and Adult Football/Softball Facility; Senior Citizens Center location; project management; and establishing a citizen financial oversight committee. Councilmember Lang felt the east side library could be a logical first project if the election is successful since the City already owns the land and design could get underway quickly.
- Urban Land Institute – development of Griffin Hospital property – waiting for completion of final report. Staff currently working the Department of Mental Health on a memorandum of understanding for development of the property.

#### Storm Water Utility

Mayor Rosenthal reminded Council that creation of a Storm Water Utility is needed to not only address maintenance of storm water activities, but provide relief to the General Fund as well, which is desperately needed. She highlighted a compromise alternative for purposes of discussion for establishing a rate structure and method that included a three tiered rate structure and considerations for a phase-in for new development as well as credits and incentives.

Councilmember Castleberry expressed concerns about Homeowners Associations' (HOA) and/or Property Owner Associations' (POA) ability to maintain structural storm water facilities and felt that issue would need to be addressed in order to get support for a new Storm Water Utility. He said these HOAs and/or POAs do not have the expertise or financial means to take on such a large capital maintenance item.

Councilmembers discussed various methods of calculating a rate and asked staff to provide an assessment cost by basin for capital projects and the larger storm water detention projects currently maintained by HOAs and/or POAs. Staff was also asked to prepare a breakdown of equivalent resident units (ERU) by category.

#### Miscellaneous Items

Councilmember Castleberry said with so many major projects taking place throughout the community in the coming years, communication appears to be the biggest need. He felt the addition of a Communications Manager was important to provide better communication between the City and its citizens on community related projects and issues. Other members of Council agreed communication is the key to any successful organization.

Councilmember Jungman said he had been contacted by a constituent who would like for Council to consider adoption of a residential lighting ordinance; however, other members of Council felt like it would be very difficult to implement and would still not address existing issues or concerns. It was the consensus of Council not to pursue study of the issue at this time.

Other items identified for further discussion and/or review include updates to the City's website; creation of a City app; recycling for schools; and recycling for commercial businesses that are in or next to residential neighborhoods.

## Items submitted for the record

1. 2014 City of Norman Annual Report
2. Overview and Status of 2015-2016 Work Plan
3. City of Norman Boards and Commission Update dated August 2015
4. 2014-2015 Retreat Ratings of Priorities and Efforts by Committee
5. Norman Forward Overview of Projects and Estimated Costs
6. Ordinance No. O-1516-5 and Proclamation and Notice of Election
7. Urban Land Institute Site Evaluation for Griffin State property
8. PowerPoint presentation entitled, "Storm Water Master Plan Storm Water Utility" dated June 29, 2014
9. Summary of comments from the Storm Water Utility Public Meeting of June 19, 2014
10. 2016 Potential Election Dates
11. Storm Water Utility Revenue Comparison, April 2014 Fee Proposal to 2015 Fee Proposal Alternative dated August 17, 2015
12. Mayor's Storm Water Utility Compromise Alternative
13. Suggested Early Priorities – Norman Forward

## Participants in discussion

1. Mr. Steve Lewis, City Manager
2. Ms. Brenda Hall, City Clerk

The meeting was adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

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ATTEST:

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City Clerk

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Mayor