



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

January 3, 2023

The City Council of the City of The Village, Oklahoma, met in regular session at City Hall on Tuesday, January 2023, at 6:30 p.m., at 2304 Manchester Drive.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Sonny Wilkinson, Mayor
Wynter Griffis, Vice-Mayor
David Glover, Council Member
Sean Cummings, Council Member
Bubba Symes, Council Member

STAFF PRESENT

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

ITEM I: CALL TO ORDER.

Mayor Wilkinson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ITEM II. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

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

ITEM III: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 16, 2022, DECEMBER 19, 2022, DECEMBER 20, 2022, AND DECEMBER 21, 2022.

The mayor asked if there were any corrections, additions, or deletions to the Minutes of the meetings held on December 16th, 19th, 20th and 21st, 2022. There were none. Mayor Wilkinson moved to approve the minutes of the meetings as written. Council Member Cummings seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Cummings, Griffis, Wilkinson, and Glover. Nay – none.

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

Mayor Wilkinson read a list of the Best Decorated Homes for 2022 and presented a plaque to Christopher Goldsworthy (Ward 2, 3001 Carlton Way) who was the only winner present.

Jacob Hershel gave the Council a report on activities and programs at The Village Library.

Jane Lowther gave an update on the SALT program and encouraged people to participate in the program.

Ms. Lowther told the Council that there is a rooster at an unknown location in Crossings at The Village.



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Ms. Lowther stated that it is not possible to take animals to the shelter on weekends and asked if there were any options to make the shelter available on weekends. Beverly Whitener advised that the shelter is located in a secured area within the Public Works facility and that access to the shelter has to be tightly regulated because of the amount of valuable city equipment stored there.

ITEM V: CONSIDERATION OF PROCLAMATION 01-03-2023 (A) CALLING FOR AN ELECTION FOR CITY COUNCIL MEMBER FOR WARDS 1, 2, AND 3 TO BE HELD ON APRIL 4, 2023.

City Manager Bruce Stone advised that the County Election Board indicates that the filing period for City Council elections this year is February 6th, 7th, and 8th. Council Member David Glover noted that the precinct boundaries and precinct voting locations have changed since the last election.

After a brief discussion, Mayor Wilkinson moved to approve Proclamation 01-03-2023 (A) calling for an election for City Council member for Wards 1, 2, and 3 on April 4, 2023, and providing for the Proclamation to be amended to show the filing dates of February 6, 7, and 8, 2023 and current list of precincts and polling places. Vice-Mayor Griffis seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Cummings, Griffis, Wilkinson, and Glover. Nay – none.

The city manager noted that the Council will need to meet at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, May 1, 2023, instead of 6:30 p.m. because the City Charter provides for newly elected or reelected Council Members to take office on the first Monday in May at 7:30 p.m.

ITEM VI: CONSIDERATION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION.

- a) **VOTE TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO 25 O.S. § 307(B)(1) TO ENGAGE IN A DISCUSSION PERTAINING TO THE EMPLOYMENT, HIRING OR APPOINTMENT OF A CITY MANAGER.**

Mayor Wilkinson moved to enter Executive Session. Council Member Cummings seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Cummings, Griffis, Wilkinson, and Glover. Nay – none.

- b) **VOTE TO RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION.**

Mayor Wilkinson moved to return from Executive Session and reconvene in Open Session. Council Member Cummings seconded the motion. The vote: Yea – Symes, Cummings, Griffis, Wilkinson, and Glover. Nay – none.



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ITEM VII: REPORTS, CORRESPONDENCE, ETC.

a) **Review of Expenditures:** *The Council reviewed the expenditure reports. The city manager explained several of the items on the expenditure list.*

b) **Manager's Report:** *City Manager Bruce Stone reported as follows:*

Dry Weather Screening: *The city manager briefly reviewed the dry weather screening report that was recently completed by Terracon. Mr. Stone advised that some follow up sampling might be needed for several problem areas detected by the study.*

Water Breaks: *Mr. Stone advised that there have been numerous water breaks in the last few weeks and that Oklahoma City reports a backlog of approximately 250 water breaks that are currently on the list for repair. Mr. Stone told the Council that the water break in the 2600 Block of Lakeside has been repaired but that he is concerned that the street will eventually fail due to damage caused by the water. Mr. Stone advised that he intends to contact Oklahoma City to advise of the City's concern that the street is likely to fail in the future as a direct result of the water break.*

Fire Sprinkler Repair: *The fire sprinkler line at City Hall cost approximately \$9,000 to repair. That does not include the overtime paid to Public Works employees who had to work for much of the weekend.*

Parks Phase III Bid Study. *The city manager briefly reviewed the bid study done by LAUD Studio for Phase III Park Improvements. The city manager advised that LAUD Studio has provided a plan to get the project costs within the budget and that it would be advisable for the Council to meet and discuss options before the thirty (30) day statutory deadline to award of the bid is reached. After a brief discussion, the Council agreed to meet in special session and directed staff and the design team to coordinate a time to meet with the Council.*

TIF #1 Project. *The city manager gave the Council a brief update on the TIF #1 Project and status of construction. Mr. Stone also noted Change Order #1 to the contract with Wynn Construction addressing certain construction issues and material quantities. The Change Order was included in his written report to the Council.*

c) **Reports from Council**

Council Member Symes thanked City Manager Bruce Stone for the remarkable job that he has done and for being "The Village."



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Council Member Symes stated that he was pleased to see so many homes decorated in his ward this year and that there seemed to be an increase over past years.

Chief of Police Russ Landon attended the meeting to brief the Council on issues and problems the Police Department is having with Midwest City Jail and the un-housed. Chief Landon advised that Midwest Jail will not accept prisoners who are uncooperative and that this creates a dilemma for the department as there are no other options available to incarcerate an individual for municipal offenses. After a discussion, the Council agreed that it would be in the best interest of the City to enter into a Jail Services Agreement with the Oklahoma County Jail to be used in rare and exceptional situations.

Chief Landon answered questions about the upcoming Citizens Police Academy and gave a report on the status of remodeling of the communications facility. The Chief thanked the Council for providing the resources necessary to upgrade the facility.

Council Member Cummings and Vice-Mayor Griffis thanked Mayor Wilkinson, Council Member Symes and City Attorney Jeff Sabin for their work on the recruitment of a new city manager.

Council Member Glover reminded everyone that Sean Cummings is on the ballot for County Clerk (February 14th) and encouraged everyone to apply for absentee ballots. Council Member Glover also stated that absentee ballot applications can be notarized for free at City Hall and The Village Library.

Mayor Sonny Wilkinson thanked City Manager Bruce Stone for the incredible job he has done for The Village and thanked the Council and City Attorney for all the hard work in recruiting his replacement.

ITEM VIII: ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the mayor adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Mayor Wilkinson

Vice-Mayor Wynter Griffis

Council Member Symes

Council Member Cummings

City Clerk

Council Member Glover