CITY COUNCIL RETREAT MINUTES

Saturday, August 16, 2014

The City Council of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Retreat at 8:00 a.m. in the Fire Training Facility on the 16th day of August, 2014, and notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at the Fire Station No. 9 located at 3001 Alameda Street, 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 Robert Castleberry, Greg Heiple, Stephen Holman, Greg Jungman, Lynne Miller, Chad Williams, Clint Williams, Mayor Rosenthal
ABSENT:	None

PLANNING WORK SESSION REGARDING CITY COUNCIL POLICY AGENDA FOR FYE 2015 AND FYE 2016.

City Manager Steve Lewis highlighted FYE 2013-2014 activities and accomplishments and departmental work plans for FYE 2014-2015.

- *Legacy Park* scheduled to open soon. Staff currently taking request for proposals for maintenance of the park. Entities such as Sooner Theatre, Norman Arts Council, etc., are interested in submitting a proposal to operate the park facility scheduling events, etc., once the park is closer to being completed so they will have a better idea of what features the park will have and how they may be used for events.
- *Norman West Library* is open and going well. Initial proposals have been completed on a new central library and east side branch that are estimated at $40 million for both.
- *Indian Hills Interchange* – Staff working to get funding through the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) to address improvements at the Indian Hills interchange. An agreement between the City of Norman, Cleveland County, and ODOT will be submitted for Council's consideration to study the area and develop an overall plan for the interchange.
- *Insurance Service Office (ISO) Rating Review* - Chief Fullingim has proposed the CON initiate an ISO review of east Norman with the addition of Fire Station 9. It could help insurance rates for those in the area.
- *Public Safety Sales Tax – Student Research Officer (SRO) Program* - working on joint agreement with NPS - real costs to be determined before agreement is finalized so cost sharing is appropriate. PSOC is very interested in overseeing the program.
- *Emergency Operations Center (EOC)* - Staff current looking at sites for the center and will be bringing recommendations to Council in the near future. (2-5 acres needed)
- *Water* – Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is starting to look at reuse.
- *Association of Central Oklahoma Governments (ACOG)* – ACOG's Rail Governance Committee looking at a metro wide sales tax to fund commuter rail. Only the portion of the cities and counties within the district boundaries would be subject to the tax.

Mayor Rosenthal highlighted Council Committee agenda issues for 2014-2015; those completed in 2013-2014 and those ongoing.

Accomplishments and Ongoing Issues

City Council

- Public Safety Sales Tax renewal
- Wastewater rate increase
- Center City Visioning Project underway
- Lindsey Street Design Modifications

Finance Committee

- Fleet and IT Performance Audits
- Bulk water sales
- Implementation of a Technology Fee to be charged on Municipal Court citations

Business and Community Affairs Committee (BACA)

- Green building practices
- Retail Gap Analysis Study

Community Planning and Transportation Committee

- Comprehensive Transportation Plan
- Wayfinding Program

Oversight Committee

- Abandoned houses
- *Three unrelated persons* living in a single-family residential house
- *Smoking* - recommendations coming forward to Council
- *Oil & Gas Well Drilling Regulations*

Councilmembers discussed the 2014-2015 Policy Calendar, which included items previously identified by Council Committees as well as new policy items identified during the session. A total of 18 policy issues were identified for further discussion and review in the coming year. Following is a list of those issues identified including carry over issues from 2013-2014:

1. Downtown electric grid
2. Center City Vision Project
3. 2025 Update
4. Zoning Ordinance update or selective zoning design standards
5. Oil and gas well site safety and setbacks
6. Robinson Street interchange west of I-35
7. Green building/infrastructure
8. Fiscal analysis tools for planning and development
9. Parking Authority – parking garage
10. Three unrelated persons in a single family residence
11. Buffer zones – protesters
12. Animal Welfare needs
13. Norman Regional Health System - continue to monitor
14. Business development process - continue to monitor and enhance – possibly look at developing a step-by-step manual for the building permit process
15. Budget – balance and monitor
16. Hire Retail Coordinator
17. Economic impact position mechanism at City level
18. Monitor PSST projects

Councilmembers discussed three issues that will require voter approval in the new 12-18 months. A future meeting will be scheduled to discuss the election calendar and scheduling potential dates for elections on the following topics:

Stormwater Utility
Mayor Rosenthal said the recommendation coming out of Finance Committee was a tiered system and the comments and questions received at the public meeting were related to credits, exemptions, and incentives. Council discussed the current structure and whether or not to do further study to consider these items. It was the consensus of Council to move forward with the standard equivalent residential unit (ERU) calculation and a tiered fee schedule. Council also agreed to continue the discussion on credits and/or exemptions.

Water Rate Increase
City Manager Steve Lewis said *Phase 2* of the Water Treatment Facility improvements needs to get underway soon, but will require a water rate increase in 2015 to cover the cost. He said the City is not currently under consent agreement with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), but if the City does not make some considerable progress in 2015, DEQ will probably issue a consent order to the City.

Quality of Life Initiative – Norman Forward
Mayor Rosenthal felt it would be good to update the polling information provided by Norman Forward to get some additional community input on the projects and packaging.

Mayor Rosenthal said she and the City Manager contacted the University of Oklahoma (OU) to determine whether there is a commitment from OU to participate in the land swap presented in the Norman Forward presentation. She said OU is open to conversation but has stated they are neither for it nor against it. She felt the land swap would be a complicated discussion and process. She said some members of Council also heard from constituents who do not want to do a land swap that included Reaves Park. She suggested using land already owned by the City for the projects.

Councilmembers discussed the program and it was the consensus of Council that Staff work with Norman Forward to development a timeline; provide opportunities for more public input; update the polling data conducted by Norman Forward; and discuss whether to include additional projects as well as the viability of dividing the projects into multiple sites.

Items submitted for the record
1. City of Norman Board and Commission Update dated August 2014
2. City of Norman 2013 Annual Report
3. 2013 Retreat Ratings of Priorities and Efforts by Committee
4. Potential Topics for Oil and Gas Well Drilling Operations
5. Storm Water Utility Points of Discussion
6. Phased Capacity Increases to Meet Demand: Portfolio 14
7. Norman Forward.Com Sports and Wellness Center Proposal

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

The meeting was adjourned at 12:18 p.m.

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ATTEST:

CITY OF NORMAN CORPORATE SEAL OKLAHOMA

Brenda Hall
City Clerk

Cindy Rosenthal
Mayor