

## CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES

June 2, 2015

The City Council of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in a Study Session at 5:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building Conference Room on the 2nd day of June, 2015, and notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at 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: Councilmembers Allison, Castleberry, Heiple, Holman, Jungman, Lang, Miller, Williams, Mayor Rosenthal

ABSENT: None

Item 1, being:

### DISCUSSION REGARDING THE FYE 2016 CITY OF NORMAN OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGETS INCLUDING POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS.

Mr. Steve Lewis, City Manager, said Councilmember Castleberry asked for proposals to bring the projected General Fund revenues for the fiscal year 2015-2016 (FYE 2016) in line with projected expenditures. Councilmember Castleberry proposed that all General Fund departments reduce approximately 1.5 percent (1.5%) of their budgets (based on the projected shortfall between revenues and expenditures of \$1,090,919 being approximately 1.5% of projected net expenditures of \$75,755,794). Mr. Lewis said Management Team members have discussed proposals through which this might be accomplished should Council direct the implementation of the proposal before the FYE 2016 budget is adopted.

The City has met all of its targeted reserves for the first time and the FYE 2016 General Fund budget projects that General Fund will have a year-end fund balance (the 3% Operational Reserve) in excess of its mandated level by \$763,260. In short, while the proposed FYE 2016 General Fund budget proposes to draw down some fund balances for operational purposes, there are adequate fund balances on hand to draw upon.

It should be noted that the City of Norman's governmental operations are already relatively small and cost effective and convincing arguments made that further reductions will inevitably result in reductions in public services. Rather than making across-the-board reductions, it may be more effective to consider which services to reduce or eliminate. Norman's General Fund and Capital Funds are also burdened to pay for stormwater maintenance and capital expenses that are paid for through a stormwater utility in other cities our size.

Mr. Lewis highlighted various budgetary allocations and their related services stating the proposed expenditure items are budget reductions from Council, City Manager, Human Resources, Planning, Public Works, and Parks and Recreation. He said Council may consider these areas, or others, rather than an across-the-board approach, if the proposal to bring current-year revenues in line with expenditures is implemented in the FYE 2016 budget.

Mr. Lewis said if it is mandated that current-year budgeted revenues be brought in line with current-year expenditures, some alternatives or supplements to across-the-board reductions may be considered as follows:

- Cutting the new positions that are proposed to be added to the FYE 2016 General Fund budget;
- Cutting the positions which are currently vacant from the General Fund budget; and
- Making programmatic, rather than across-the-board, reductions.

#### **Cut New Positions**

The FYE 2016 budget proposes to add five (5) new positions, (two (2) other positions are proposed to be added in the Utility Customer Service area, but the Utility Enterprise Funds are proposed to reimburse the costs for those positions to the General Fund). Mr. Lewis highlighted the salaries for the new positions and said the total annual salary amount would be \$236,701.

Item 1, continued:

**Cut Vacant Positions**

As of May 29, 2015, nine (9) positions are included in the proposed FYE 2016 General Fund budget that are unfilled, i.e., no employee has been hired to fill the position. Mr. Lewis highlighted the nine (9) unfilled positions stating the salaries ranged from \$21,728 to \$87,180, for a total annual salary amount of \$518,715.

Mr. Lewis said the impact of eliminating these positions, whether new positions and/or vacant positions, would be that the services that they would add would have to continue to be absorbed by other staff members with service impacts. The benefit would be that there would be no reductions to the current employee workforce (note: the Administrative Technician in Animal Welfare has already been hired).

**Cut Programmatically**

Mr. Lewis distributed a list reflecting programmatic areas that may be considered for reduction based on their relative priority in the consideration of General Fund services. He said much of this list was also considered last fiscal year and Council may want to consider some of these areas. Mr. Lewis highlighted the expenditure items and said the FYE 2016 General Fund cuts would be approximately \$1,090,919.

Mr. Lewis said the unsustainable condition of General Fund operational expenditures exceeding revenues is a very valid long-term concern that Council must consider, but he said it should be noted that increasing General Fund revenues by various means may be a better long-term solution to this problem. He requested guidance from Council and said Staff stands ready to bring current-year revenues in line with expenditures for the FYE 2016 budget if Council so desires.

Councilmember Castleberry asked whether the vacant positions are approved already in the budget and Mr. Lewis said yes, but the positions have not been filled yet. Councilmember Castleberry said many of the vacant positions have been vacant for some time and could be removed/not filled, i.e., Assistant City Attorney I has been vacant for three (3) years and asked whether the position could be eliminated at this time. Mr. Lewis said at times Council directs staff to conduct legal research, using oil and gas issues as an example, which can stretch current staffing and if there are additional policies that Council needs to be studied, the position may be required. Councilmember Castleberry asked if Staff utilizes outside legal services for legal research and Mr. Lewis said outside legal services are used primarily for labor arbitration at an annual budgeted cost of \$125,000. Councilmember Castleberry felt Staff could present Council with a budget request for additional outside legal services to “pay as you go” rather than appropriating money the City does not have for a position that has been empty for three (3) years. Mr. Lewis agrees with this principle but felt it would take away some of the flexibility that the City currently has in order to try to build up the reserve and fund balances which has been very successful over the last couple of years.

Councilmember Miller said she really appreciated Councilmember Castleberry, specifically his detail to the City’s budget, and appreciated Staff’s work on proposals to bring the projected General Fund revenues for FYE 2016 in line with projected expenditures. She said she does not agree with across the board cuts because some programs are more critical than others and she has heard strongly from our community about what programs/needs are important to them. In general, she felt Staff examines proposals and recommendations very carefully before presenting them to Council and felt the budget is looking healthier even if there is still a decreasing fund balance. Councilmember Miller encouraged Staff to continue to speak up if the positions are needed and felt Council asks a great deal of Staff.

Mayor Rosenthal agreed and wanted to piggyback off of Councilmember Miller’s statements. She said the City Manager and Finance Director have shown real prudence in managing the City’s budget and improving the fund balance. Mayor Rosenthal said she does not support cutting the vacant positions and does not think reducing flexibility is the way to approach the budget, i.e., by cutting the vacant positions. She felt the City Manager has done an excellent job managing a very tight budget with limited resources and felt Council has

Item 1, continued:

tasked Staff with many items/issues. She stated it is Council, not Staff, that has added items to the budget and felt Council needed to continue the path of trusting the City Manager's judgment with respect to vacant and/or new positions.

Mr. Lewis said he wanted to point out that six (6) of the nine (9) vacant positions are located in areas of public safety and/or municipal court and his approach has always been to limit cutting positions in public safety services.

Councilmember Castleberry said vacant jobs are positions that no one is currently doing and no employee would lose their job. He said, from a public service standpoint, there should be no changes and/or no effects for the day to day operations regarding public service.

Mr. Keith Humphrey, Chief of Police, said the vacant positions in the Police Department have only recently become vacant due to employees leaving the City and/or retiring.

Mr. Jeff Bryant, City Attorney, said the legal department has worked within the budget and been very fortunate at hiring legal interns to assist with legal research, as well as assisting with municipal court prosecutions. He said the City Attorney I position is a municipal court/public safety position and he felt the legal department has worked very well on a shoestring budget, especially during the last three (3) years the position has been vacant. Mr. Bryant said he did not want a misimpression that there would not be work for a new City Attorney since the position has been vacant because the workload is there.

Councilmember Jungman felt there was not a need to go on a search for massive cuts and the City Attorney position is a great example because, at times, Council has required a lot of work/research from legal staff. He felt the City did not have an expense problem but rather a revenue problem stating that is why a stormwater utility fee would be very beneficial to Norman.

Councilmember Lang said if the budget reflects a \$1,090,919 projected shortfall between revenues and expenditures he felt it needs to be determined whether the City is too low on the projected revenue or does the City need more revenue. He felt the City needed to reflect on paper that the City's projected General Fund revenues are in line with projected expenditures and he understood that some monies collected can only go into a certain fund and spent a certain way. Councilmember Lang said for the City to show on paper that it spends more than it takes in is not wise budgeting practices. He felt to be "ahead of the game" is better and that may mean the City needs to reduce expenditures.

Councilmember Holman said he agrees with Councilmember Lang and said citizens may look at the City's budget thinking the City spends \$1.1 million more than it takes in; therefore, the citizen's perception may be the City is already in the negative so now may not be the time to vote in favor of Norman Forward projects. He said he too understands the City does not spend more than it takes in even though that is what is reflected on paper.

Councilmember Castleberry said he not only wanted to reduce expenditures but have discussions to hire either a part-time or full-time Code Compliance Officer and add additional street sweeping; however, only under the framework of not spending more than is being taken in.

Councilmember Allison said he does have a hard time approving a budget that is not balanced or does not reflect taking more in than the expenditures going out. He understands the City does not spend more money than it brings in; however, on paper it appears that the City has the ability to do so.

Mayor Rosenthal said, to clarify, the Finance Committee reviews open positions throughout the year at monthly meetings and the City Manager reports to Council positions that are or are not currently being explored; therefore, the mechanism for monitoring additional expenditures is built in to the process. She said the General Fund balance

Item 1, continued:

is often better at the end of the fiscal year because of careful management as well as discussion and consultation throughout the year regarding open positions. Mayor Rosenthal said the fact that Council pre-approves a position does not mean that it is filled.

Mr. Lewis said if positions come open during the fiscal year the Department Head must give justification for each position and must receive approval from the City Manager's office for those positions to be filled. He said this process began during the recession and has been the policy going forward.

Councilmember Heiple said balancing a budget includes people making the right decisions at the right time and requires a certain amount of trust. He said Mr. Francisco has been doing this type of work for over 30 years, and more specifically, 17 years for the City of Norman. Councilmember Heiple said Staff has faced some of the most unbelievable financial hurdles our Country has ever seen, yet we still have a positive General Fund balance. He said with only 844 employees versus 122,000+ citizens and 194 square miles, he felt Staff has done exceptional work and the City's budget is lean and mean. Councilmember Heiple felt balancing a budget is not exact science but rather an art and trusts that we are all in this together. He said financial adjustments at the end of the year are not uncommon in order to get from a loss to a win. Councilmember Heiple said he cannot support the 1.5% budget cuts.

Councilmember Castleberry said he trusts Staff and said the City Manager has done a fantastic job at managing the City. He defines 17 years differently and asked how many of the 17 years did the City have revenues exceed the expenditures. Mr. Francisco said approximately six (6) budgets in the last 17 years had revenues that exceeded expenditures. Councilmember Castleberry said he does not consider, from a financial standpoint, losing money 6 of 17 years as a win. He said the City had a \$14 million General Fund balance in 2006 that has been depleted to the current amount of \$2 million; therefore, the "winning" the City has done in actuality has been depleting the savings. Councilmember Castleberry felt a stormwater fee will be supported and added within the next two (2) years; however, Council is looking at FYE 2016 Budget and he really would like to have a budget with revenues not exceeding expenditures. He said he understands that legally the City does have a balanced budget, but he cannot support or vote in favor of a budget that does not balance.

Mayor Rosenthal asked whether the five (5) new positions proposal should be cut for a savings of \$237,000 for the City and Councilmember Castleberry said he supports the new positions. Mayor Rosenthal asked whether the nine (9) vacant positions, six (6) of which are public safety positions, should be cut in the amount of \$518,715 and Councilmember Castleberry said he wants to look at those further. Mayor Rosenthal asked whether \$1,090,919 of expenditures presented should be cut from the FYE 2016 General Fund and Councilmember Castleberry said he did not suggest all of those proposals. Mayor Rosenthal said those are the options provided by Staff and suggested Council begin the process of stating which proposal each Councilmember will or will not support, specifically, what cuts are needed if they are in support of reducing the General Fund allocations by a total of \$1,090,919 for FYE 2016. Councilmember Castleberry said he would like some more time to review the options before making a final decision.

Councilmember Williams said he is torn on this issue because he heard good points on both sides and agreed this is a complex issue. He said he could only compare this to an event that transpired a couple of years ago at the non-profit he was employed with, specifically, when the non-profit did not receive a highly anticipated \$50,000 grant. Councilmember Williams said the grant was included in the budget and Staff was counting on it. He said the non-profit had a savings account in place, but the Board said they would rather not take any money out of the savings and requested Staff to simply not spend the money. He explained to the Board he would prefer to list the grant on the budget, but list expenditures that will not be funded if the grant is not received. Councilmember Williams said the grant was received the following year and the budget was balanced without making any budget or expenditures changes. He said it seems as though the City has a plan that is coming together that will bring

Item 1, continued:

more revenue to the City in the way of a stormwater utility; therefore, he would be comfortable with supporting the FYE 2016 budget as it is presented, knowing that the stormwater utility fee should be in effect soon. He said if two (2) or (3) three cycles pass and the stormwater utility fee is not in place, and the City is still in this particular budget situation he would not be as comfortable passing the budget speaking from a philosophical point of view. Councilmember Williams said he agreed with Councilmember Holman's statement regarding the public's perception that the City's budget will be operating in the negative, year in and year out.

Councilmember Jungman asked Staff how is cutting and making adjustments more effective now versus at mid-year adjustments and felt like mid-year adjustments are more than adequate to solve any problems that are on the table. Mr. Lewis said he felt mid-year adjustments are "shading in" some areas based on the first six (6) months of the fiscal year and are not meant to be major cuts to the budget as that would be problematic. He said a \$1,090,919 cut to the budget would be considered a major cut.

Mr. Lewis stated one of the things done during the budget process is base-budget adjustments that often the City does not have any control over. He said examples include increased costs from the Cleveland County Sheriff for prisoner fees and the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system which is currently being installed at the Police and Fire Departments. He said the CAD system is a great system; however, it has additional Information Technology (IT) maintenance that goes along with the system that is needed and Staff's approach has been to plan for the additional expenditure in regards to the base-budget. Mr. Lewis said FYE 2016 budget includes more expenditures than the FYE 2015 due to employee pay increases and the one-time Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Disaster Recovery Grant.

Mayor Rosenthal stated the Overtime Budget item has continued to be overspent the last several budgets and Councilmember Allison asked why Staff has not requested more for overtime. Mr. Francisco said the overtime budget may simply go up due to the pay increase of the employee rather than more actual overtime hours; therefore, it has been practice for Staff to not request more overtime. He said the flipside would be to increase the overtime budget item to counteract the increased salaries but this practice does not offer a disincentive to manage the overtime hours better. Mr. Francisco felt it has been the past and current City Manager's strategy to incentivize managers to reduce the number of overtime hours and work within the budget. Mr. Lewis stated the overtime budget must be self-funded internally from each department so the process acts as a governor in order to try to drive the overtime costs down. He said much of the overtime budget is in the public safety areas of the City due to tragic accidents or storm related events in the community and appropriate resources must be assigned to investigate and/or work. Mr. Lewis said the City may get some of the public safety expenses reimbursed through Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as well as reimbursements through a contract with the University of Oklahoma (OU) for game day activities.

Councilmember Holman asked what time the Police Department makes their shift changes and Chief Humphrey explained the shift changes stating they "over-lap" which helps with police coverage 24/7. Councilmember Holman asked which Departments typically have more overtime and Staff said Fire, Police, and Public Works.

Mayor Rosenthal asked whether Staff had information related to the Senior Citizens Center (SCC) and Mr. Lewis said Staff received a proposal/estimate late this afternoon in the amount of \$50,000 - \$60,000 for the space allocation & parking lot study at the current library location. Mayor Rosenthal asked what can be done in the interim at the old facility to make it more comfortable and Mr. Lewis said Staff can partly accomplish the parking issues without any expenses. Mr. Jud Foster, Director of Parks and Recreation, has looked into the idea of expanding the on-street parking by flip-flopping the on-street parking from the north side of Symmes Street (which currently allows on-street parking) to the south side of Symmes Street. He said the south side of Symmes Street will allow additional parking spaces because the north side of Symmes Street has more curb cuts and

Item 1, continued:

driveway entrances. Mr. Foster said the City has contacted the property owners who all seem to be in favor of the proposal and Staff has also discussed with Public Works Staff, specifically Traffic Control, who has a procedure to follow. He said the proposal will add approximately 10 new on-street parallel parking spaces for the SCC. Mr. Lewis added that the City has some preliminary “feelers” out to private property owners who may be willing to lease space to the City for parking purposes. Councilmember Holman asked whether the parking lot at June Benson Park could be expanded and Mr. Foster said Staff looked into this option and discovered only eight (8) new parking spaces would be gained at a much larger expense to the City.

Councilmember Holman asked what the total cost would be to purchase land, construct a new stand-alone SCC building to include a covered parking lot and Mr. Lewis said Staff had a very preliminary conversation with Jeff Scherer’s office. Mr. Lewis said the recommendation was a parking garage would likely need to be constructed at a \$5-\$6 million cost if the City wanted to relocate the SCC to the proposed new library location. Councilmember Holman asked whether the City would need to buy more land and Staff said no. Mr. Lewis said Staff will be bringing a budget amendment for approximately \$60,000 for a space allocation and parking study to relocate the SCC to the current library location.

Mayor Rosenthal requested Councilmembers who see opportunities to cut positions and/or items from the FYE 2016 Budget bring forward those suggestions for Council consideration.

Items submitted for the record

1. Memorandum dated May 29, 2015, from Steven Lewis, City Manager, to Honorable Mayor and City Council Members with attachment FYE16 – General Fund Cuts - \$1,090,919 Goal
2. Memorandum dated May 29, 2015, from Anthony Francisco, Finance Director, to Honorable Mayor and City Council Members
3. FYE 16 Budget Information requested by Members of Council

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Item 2, being:

DISCUSSION REGARDING A CITIZENS’ QUALITY OF LIFE INITIATIVE ENTITLED “NORMAN FORWARD” AS WELL AS ADDITIONAL QUALITY OF LIFE PROJECTS, PACKAGING AND FINANCING OPTIONS.

Mayor Rosenthal said she requested the City Manager to provide an update on the Norman Forward (NF) initiatives regarding timetables for the next steps going forward. Mr. Steve Lewis, City Manager, said Staff spoke to three (3) firms and selected the services of Cole, Hargrave, Snodgrass and Associates (CHS) to conduct the statistically valid survey regarding NF and stated this is the same firm who did the initial NF survey for the citizen group. He said the earliest the survey could be completed and a report prepared was July 1<sup>st</sup>; consequently, the survey will be conducted in early/mid-June, with survey results and report completed and sent to Council by the first week of July. Staff will work with CHS to develop a draft survey instrument and will forward it to Council for input and approval, prior to being issued. It is anticipated the survey will be 30-35 questions and take 10-12 minutes to complete. The survey will be conducted by telephone, and CHS will utilize a list with both land line and cell phone numbers for their survey samples. The survey will be conducted using a sample size of 4,500 registered Norman voters, with 500 completed surveys needed. Mr. Lewis said Staff will work with CHS to devise a survey strategy to survey a combination of registered Norman voters and registered Norman voters who frequently vote in municipal elections.

Item 2, continued:

Mr. Lewis said he and Staff are working to address and gather additional details on the following remaining items for NF projects:

- Operating subsidies that may be needed;
- Anticipated costs of additional infrastructure needs at the project sites, i.e., traffic and drainage improvements in the North Base area/Griffin Park;
- Creating a future facilities maintenance reserve fund, utilizing excess operating subsidies;
- Additional staffing costs for project management and maintenance; and
- Ballot language.

Mr. Lewis said there has been discussion revolving around a potential NF referendum vote in September, 2015. In order to have a referendum on the September 8, 2015, ballot, the following timeline will need to be followed:

- Ordinance First Reading – June 23, 2015;
- Ordinance Second Reading – July 9, 2015;
- Notice to Election Board – July 14, 2015; and
- Election – September 8, 2015.

If it was decided to move the election date to October 13, 2015, there would be an additional 35 days to discuss and finalize the project package and financing, work through details for the additional remaining project items, and continue work on project operation and maintenance costs. If an October 13, 2015, referendum vote were scheduled, the following timeline would be needed:

- Wording for Ordinance finalized for publication – July 13, 2015;
- Ordinance First Reading – July 28, 2015;
- Ordinance Second Reading – August 11, 2015;
- Notice to Election Board – August 13, 2015;
- Election – October 13, 2015.

Councilmember Lang said he supported moving an election date to October 13, 2015, so as to be better prepared.

Councilmember Jungman asked whether the survey addressed sensitivity for property tax versus sales tax and Staff said yes. He said the property tax is paid by out of town people as well, i.e., big box stores and campus store owners. Councilmember Jungman said he would support an October election date, assuming that is enough of a timeframe as well.

Mayor Rosenthal agreed and felt an election in October will allow conclusion to some of the details which is very important. She felt having all of the necessary input from the survey and answers to questions will be key with drafting necessary election documents. Mayor Rosenthal asked Staff what the timeframe for a November, 2015, election date would be and Ms. Brenda Hall, City Clerk, said the timeframe would be as follows:

- Ordinance First Reading – August 25, 2015;
- Ordinance Second Reading – September 8, 2015;
- Notice to Election Board – September 10, 2015;
- Election – November 10, 2015.

Mayor Rosenthal suggested Council continue moving forward knowing there are election options available.

Councilmember Castleberry said over the last month more than 1,100 citizens have registered to vote in Norman and asked Staff if those newly registered Norman voters will be included in the survey. Staff said they would inform CHS about the newly registered voters.

Item 2, continued:

Councilmember Castleberry said it was his understanding that the Cleveland County YMCA was to cover the pool subsidies and the City would not need to pay \$175,000. Councilmember Allison said the letter is a little vague, but stated if the City offered the YMCA operation of the gymnasium/basketball facility, any excess funds made could be used toward funding the pool before the City put in the \$175,000. Mayor Rosenthal said it may partly be a drafting issue in terms of the language, but it begins with the assumption the operating costs must first be covered/funded. Councilmember Castleberry said for budget projections the City can cap its funding at \$175,000; however, based on the letter he does not think the City will have to spend that amount. Mr. Lewis said the worst-case scenario is the funding partners would not be able to meet all of their commitments, even though they have all shown their willingness to do so; therefore, he felt the City needs to be prudent about that issue.

Mayor Rosenthal said, in regards to drafting, the question of bundling all the NF projects under one vote has been discussed in various forms and the legal staff has been speaking to Oklahoma City (OKC) representatives about the MAP Project. Mr. Jeff Bryant, City Attorney, said the issue had to do with the combination of too many subjects, stating there is a body of case law that focuses more on state legislative acts. He said there are also State statutes that deal with General Obligation (GO) Bonds. Mr. Bryant said state requirements obligate designating at least 70% of the projects that would be funded by the proceeds from the GO Bonds; however, there are not similar state statutes that govern sales tax initiatives. He said the one subject really is, whether or not the voters will allow themselves to be taxed for a period of time or increment that will be placed on the ballot and the rest is informational about how the City plans to spend the money.

Councilmember Miller asked whether one of OKC's MAP Project initiatives was challenged in court and Mr. Bryant said yes, but not on that particular point. He said all of the ballots were upheld, if they were challenged, for the OKC MAP Projects. Mr. Bryant said Staff looked at OKC's ballot information and they were similar to the way the Public Safety Sales Tax (PSST) was done, in that a separate outline of how the City would spend the money was included in the ballot language. Mayor Rosenthal said the City has a history of including a lot of detail on the title and ballot and Mr. Bryant said yes, although it is not a legal requirement to do so. He said discussions regarding the amount of information needed in the ballot language are important, necessary, and prudent politically to make certain to obtain the type of support from the voters to pass the initiative(s).

Mayor Rosenthal reminded Council that the ½ percent sales tax proposition in August, 2006, for public safety as well as other initiatives, was voted down partly due to the ballot language not being specific enough and the City came back with the public safety initiative in 2008, that included very detailed information in the ballot language, which was approved by the Norman voters. She felt more specific, rather than general, ballot information has historically shown to favor voter approval.

Councilmember Holman felt the ballot language did not need to be too specific so that the City does not end up in the same situation as with the PSST Fund, i.e., the City's needs are at times not met because the language used states another priority must be accomplished first.

Mayor Rosenthal said suggestions have been made that language could be included in an accompanying ordinance that states if a project could not be negotiated because the details did not get worked out then that project did not have to go forward; however, the community may think the City had the community write a blank check. She felt the appropriate amount of specific details was important and general ballot information is not easily sold to Norman voters.

Councilmember Jungman said a number of constituents have stated they would like to have more than one (1) ballot item so they have an option to vote yes for some NF projects and an option to vote no on other NF Projects.

Item 2, continued:

Councilmember Castleberry said the public comments were pretty clear about putting all the NF projects on the ballot so citizens will have a chance to vote on all of the projects. Councilmember Miller felt the statistically valid survey will help determine what would be best since the survey will include registered Norman voters as well as Norman voters who frequently vote in municipal elections.

Councilmember Jungman said he would like more information on control and access of the use of facilities, i.e., Westwood tennis course can be utilized by the public, including outside clubs, if the tennis course is available; however, some of the facilities that are to be utilized by the club sports will not be available to the public and Staff said they would research and bring forward information.

Mr. Lewis said the consultant can make a survey presentation to include the results at the July 7, 2015, Council meeting if Council desired. He said the Council meeting would include a swearing in ceremony for the elected Councilmembers in Wards, 1, 3, 5, and 7, and typically it is not a lengthy meeting. Council discussed and agreed the consultant should make their survey presentation on the same night.

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The meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

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ATTEST:

  
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City Clerk

  
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Mayor

