

## FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

September 15, 2010

The City Council Finance Committee of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met at 5:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building Study Session Room on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of September 2010, 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 48 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

PRESENT: Members Dillingham, Ezzell, Quinn, and Chair Cubberley

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Cindy Rosenthal, Mayor  
Al Atkins, Council Member  
Jim Griffith, Council Member  
Steve Lewis, City Manager  
Anthony Francisco, Finance Director  
Suzanne Krohmer, Budget Manager  
Chris Mattingly, Utilities Superintendent  
Scottie Williams, Utilities Superintendent  
Kathryn Walker, Assistant City Attorney II

### DISCUSSION REGARDING MUNICIPAL FINANCE SERIES

- Will use Draft #2 handout as outline for sessions
- Educational process for citizens
- Start in October
- Sessions will be held every 2 weeks
- Avoid Transportation Committee meetings which are held on 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday each month
- Cubberley – liked writing down questions from attendees – similar to Water Forum format
- Play when sessions are completed and at later time on Channel 20 as learning tool

Items submitted for the record

1. Municipal Finance Series Draft #2 outline from Anthony Francisco, Finance Director

### CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON FYE 11 WATER AND SANITATION RATES

#### Water

- Emergency contract versus “pay-ahead” for water with City of Oklahoma City
- Reducing water pressure totally off table for consideration – not an alternative to be presented

### Sanitation

- Mayor wants ordinance change to cancel fall clean-up and reduce yard waste pickup in winter months – once every 2 weeks only
- Committee agrees too late to cancel the fall clean-up scheduled for October
- Look at alternatives for spring clean-up
- What are the costs to have transfer station open for spring clean-up – advertising costs
- Elderly and others - “no way to haul” concerns if we only have transfer station option
- Ezzell – Charge fee for pick-up for those can’t haul their own trash
- City has that service now
- Last Council meeting in September – bring forward ordinance change for yard waste reduction in services to once a month only during months of December, January and February
- Alley pick-up changes – recommend one-way pick-up of alleys
- Recommend optimization study with results to be presented at October 21st meeting
- Look at alley pick-up with study results at a study session
- Want monetary damage - costs to fleet, other properties, etc. – claims have to be paid for damage by City vehicle to property, etc
- Every other week pick-up reduction – approximate \$17,000
- Eliminating service for 3 months – approximately \$34,000 to \$35,000 savings in yard waste
- Look at yard waste pick-up just once a month during December, January and February
- There’s sufficient work for the staff, if any of these options are enacted

### Items submitted for the record

1. Report on Water and Sanitation Division Savings and Additional Fees prepared by Utilities Department

### DISCUSSION REGARDING THE REVENUE / EXPENDITURE REPORT

- Sanitation - residential collections down
- Sales tax collections were up 1% from the previous year

### Items submitted for the record

1. Summary of Major Funds-General; Capital; Westwood; Water; Wastewater; Sewer Maintenance; New Development Excise; Sewer Sales Tax; and Sanitation Fund Revenue Sources vs. Budget, Financial Report dated August 31, 2010

Finance Committee will review Westwood Golf Course Business Plan at the January meeting.

Mayor mentioned that she had calls and comments about sales tax collections in relation to TIF #2 and also citizens not understanding City of Norman budget and audit figures. Recommends posting FAQ’s section on both on the website.

DISCUSSION REGARDING REPORT ON OPEN POSITIONS

- Ezzell – City Engineer position status – using search firms
- Helping budget to hold positions vacant
- Clarify Public Safety Sales Tax positions

Items submitted for the record

1. City of Norman/Human Resources Department Recruitment and Selection Report dated September 8, 2010

City won Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District lawsuit – water surcharge - COMCD wanted contract interpreted. Using wells more and rainfall have decreased water sales and saved on water.

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

ATTEST:

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City Clerk

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Mayor