

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION MINUTES

October 11, 2011

The City Council of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Special Session at 5:17 p.m. in the Municipal Building Conference Room on the 11th day of October, 2011, 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: Councilmembers Gallagher, Griffith, Kovach,  
Lockett, Spaulding, Quinn, Mayor Rosenthal

ABSENT: Councilmember Dillingham

TARDY: Councilmember Ezzell

Item 1, being:

CHANGE ORDER NO. TWO TO CONTRACT NO. K-1011-2 BY AND BETWEEN THE NORMAN UTILITIES AUTHORITY AND URBAN CONTRACTORS, L.L.C., INCREASING THE CONTRACT AMOUNT BY \$63,150 AND ADDING 30 CALENDAR DAYS FOR THE FYE 2009 SEWER MAINTENANCE PROJECT, PHASE 2.

The Norman Utilities Authority approved Contract No. K-1011-2 with Urban Contractors, L.L.C., in the amount of \$1,570,100 on July 13, 2010, for the FYE 2009 Sewer Maintenance Project, Phase 2, and approved Change Order No. One increasing the contract amount by \$69,250 on June 14, 2011, to assist the Line Maintenance Division for replacement of a sewer line on Red Oaks Drive between Evergreen and Cedarbrook Circles. Mr. Charlie Thomas, Capital Projects Engineer, said Change Order No. Two increasing the contract amount by \$63,150 and extending the contract 30 days will replace an eight inch sewer line outside the project area that is over 40 years old and prone to failure. Change Order No. Two is included on Council's regular meeting agenda later this evening.

Items submitted for the record

1. Text File No. K-1011-2 CO2 dated September 26, 2011, from Charlie Thomas, Capital Projects Engineer
2. Change Order No. Two to Contract No. K-1011-2

Item 2, being:

CONSIDERATION OF ADJOURNING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AS AUTHORIZED BY OKLAHOMA STATUTES TITLE 25 § 307(B)(2) TO DISCUSS NEGOTIATIONS REGARDING EMPLOYEES AND REPRESENTATIVES OF EMPLOYEE GROUPS.

Councilmember Kovach moved that the Special Session be adjourned out of and an Executive Session be convened in order to discuss negotiations regarding employees and representatives of employee groups, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Quinn; and the question being upon adjourning out of the Special Session and convening into an Executive Session in order to discuss negotiations regarding employees and representatives of employee groups, a vote was taken with the following result:

YEAS: Councilmembers Gallagher, Griffith, Kovach,  
Lockett, Spaulding, Quinn, Mayor Rosenthal

NAYES: None

The Mayor declared the motion carried and the Special Session adjourned out of; and an Executive Session was convened into in order to discuss negotiations regarding employees and representatives of employee groups.

The City Council adjourned into Executive Session at 5:21 p.m. Mr. Steve Lewis, City Manager; Mr. Jeff Bryant, City Attorney; Mr. Michael Bates, Union Negotiator; Ms. Gala Hicks, Director of Human Resources; and Mr. Anthony Francisco, Finance Director, were in attendance at the Executive Session.

Councilmember Ezzell arrived during the Executive Session.

Mayor Rosenthal acknowledged return to Open Session.

Item 2, continued:

Thereupon, Councilmember Quinn moved that the Special Session be reconvened, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Kovach; and the question being upon reconvening the Special Session, a vote was taken with the following result:

YEAS:	Councilmembers Ezzell, Gallagher, Griffith, Kovach, Lockett, Spaulding, Quinn, Mayor Rosenthal
NAYES:	None

The Mayor declared the motion carried and the Special Session was reconvened at 6:13 p.m.

The Mayor said negotiations regarding employees and representatives of employee groups was discussed in Executive Session. No action was taken and no votes were cast.

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Item 3, being:

DISCUSSION OF COUNCIL PROCEDURES REGARDING APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AND REVIEW OF EXISTING BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS INCLUDING POLICIES AND PRACTICES.

Mayor Rosenthal said this topic was continued from Council's annual planning session due to time constraints. She said since there is limited time to adequate discussion this topic this evening, she would prefer moving the discussion to an evening in the near future when there is nothing else on the agenda. For purposes of tonight's discussion, she suggested Council focus on staff's memorandum outlining those boards or commissions that are no longer holding meetings and the request submitted by Councilmembers Spaulding, Gallagher, and Lockett to discuss the dissolution of the Enforcement Authority. She asked whether Council wanted to give staff direction on the removal of those boards. There was a consensus to move forward with the removal of the Utilities Commission, Cable Communication Advisory Committee, and the Traffic Appeals Board. However, Council had mixed feelings about the disillusion of the Enforcement Authority.

Councilmember Ezzell said he is supportive of maintaining the local filing of campaign and expenditure reports, but felt the filing dates and requirements should mirror State statute to avoid confusion. He said the reporting could still take place without the Enforcement Authority and felt the process should be streamlined. Councilmember Kovach felt the Friday report prior to the Election is still needed, but the other filing dates could mirror State statute.

Councilmember Griffith felt the educational aspect the Enforcement Authority provides to candidates regarding filing reports, etc., was extremely helpful to him as a candidate, but Councilmember Spaulding felt the orientation sessions were unnecessary and made him feel threatened and uncomfortable.

Councilmember Kovach said the Oversight Committee recently recommended changes to Norman's ordinance to mirror State statute in many areas. He felt citizen input was important to the election process and felt like Council should look to limit the duties of the Enforcement Authority rather than dissolve it. Councilmember Lockett said the local requirements serve to see who is giving money to whom and felt the Enforcement Authority asking for additional information or threatening to issue a summons to obtain the information was too harsh.

Mayor Rosenthal said campaign disclosure was at the heart of the Enforcement Authority's function and felt if Council tried to dissolve it, there would be a large public outcry.

Councilmembers suggested the Oversight Committee look at the Enforcement Authority's again and the reporting requirements once again and make a recommendation to Council regarding how to proceed. Mayor Rosenthal said the other discussion regarding the appointment process and Council Committee norms could be scheduled for a study session as soon as possible and the Enforcement Authority portion could come back to Council following additional study by the Oversight Committee.

Item 3, continued:

Items submitted for the record

1. Memorandum dated October 6, 2011, from Steve Lewis, City Manager, to Mayor and Councilmembers
2. Boards/Commissions/Committees Summary dated September 15, 2011, prepared by the City Clerk's Office
3. Breakdown of Boards/Commissions/Committees by Ward dated September 15, 2011, prepared by the City Clerk's Office
4. Comparison of Boards with Other Cities dated October 6, 2011, prepared by Brenda Hall, City Clerk
5. Analysis of Boards Appointments from July 2007 to present prepared by Mayor Rosenthal
6. General Guidelines for Board and Commission Appointments revised December 2009
7. City Council Committee Norms dated September 17, 2011, prepared by Mayor Rosenthal
8. City Board List dated September 14, 2011
9. Summary of Citizen Committee Characteristics by Type, Purpose, and Organizational Structure, an excerpt from *Citizen Committees: A Guide to Their Use in Local Government* by Joseph Lee Rodgers
10. Request dated October 3, 2011, from Councilmembers Dave Spaulding, Roger Gallagher, and Linda Lockett

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Councilmember Quinn moved that the meeting be adjourned, which motion was duly seconded by Councilmember Kovach; and the question being upon adjournment of the meeting, a vote was taken with the following result:

YEAS: Councilmembers Ezzell, Gallagher, Griffith,  
Kovach, Lockett, Spaulding, Quinn, Mayor  
Rosenthal

NAYES: None

The Mayor declared the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

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City Clerk

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Mayor