

## CITY COUNCIL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 9, 2020

The City Council Oversight Committee of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met at 4:05 p.m. in the Conference Room on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of January 2020, and notice and agenda of the meeting were posted in the Municipal Building at 201 West Gray 48 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

PRESENT: Councilmembers Petrone, Scott and Chairman Bierman

ABSENT: Councilmembers Carter and Holman

OTHERS PRESENT: Councilmember Hall  
Ms. Jeanne Snider, Assistant City Attorney  
Ms. Beth Muckala, Assistant City Attorney  
Ms. Kathryn Walker, Interim City Attorney  
Ms. Jane Hudson, Interim Director of Planning and Community Development  
Mr. Ken Komiske, Director of Utilities  
Ms. Rendy Martin, Administrative Tech III

Item 1, being:

### STATUS UPDATE ON ONGOING AND ASSIGNED COMMITTEE TOPICS.

Ms. Kathryn Walker, Interim City Attorney, said Council had asked for updates on three specific topics; however, Staff found several things unresolved and wanted to get Council feedback on them.

Ms. Jane Hudson, Interim Director of Planning and Community Development, said the Center City Zoning Overlay District (CNZOD) was one of the remaining topics and Staff plans to bring this topic back to the Committee in February.

Ms. Walker said Staff has also discussed bringing the Smoking Ordinance forward in February, specifically in regards to vaping. There has been a recent change in Federal Law and the City's ordinances needs to match State Law for vaping under the age of eighteen.

Chairman Bierman asked if other Ordinances needed to be amended with the change in law for the age to purchase tobacco and Ms. Walker said Staff is currently checking into that, and right now that is just a Federal law change. She said there is a State Bill that is going to be filed this session, so Council may want to wait and see what the State ends up doing, since Council will ultimately follow what the state does.

Ms. Walker said the next issue Council asked Staff to look at was Marijuana. Ms. Hudson said Staff was planning to amend the RE, Rural Estates Zoning District, to remove that loop hole that allowed applicants the ability to request one of the uses within the M-1 District, which includes marijuana. She said she also planned to bring language forward that would allow applicants that had received a medical

hardship provision to allow a secondary dwelling on their property for an aging parent to go before the Board of Adjustment instead of Planning Commission as well as a request for carports.

Councilmember Hall said there is a lot of interest in the Center City Form Based Code, the agenda items we were not able to cover in the time period allowed in the Ad Hoc Committee, intense interest in those items and other areas within core Norman.

Councilmember Scott said she was under the impression that the “Ban the Box” Ordinance would come to the Oversight Committee but it went through another Committee and asked Ms. Walker for an update. Ms. Walker said the committee discussed it and it is more of a policy issue as far as the City employees go. We do not use it as a bases of elimination, since do not do background checks until after the interview process is done.

Ms. Walker said the Noise Ordinance was assigned to the Business and Community Affairs Committee. However, at the Retreat, the discussion was more about creating an Entertainment Overlay District. It was last discussed in April and the direction was to continue with the same process, granting a special use or look at creating an Entertaining Overlay District.

Chairman Bierman said Staff will be updating the Committee on E-Scooters next month. Ms. Beth Muckala, Assistant City Attorney, said she would talk with Sara more about it; however, OU should be implementing their program when the students get back next month.

Councilmember Hall asked the status of residential lighting. She said apparently it had a lot of activity for a while and now it is kind of hovering. Ms. Hudson said it moved forward to Planning Commission and was denied. Ms. Muckala said there was concern from the Planning Commission, when the commercial ordinance was passed. She said residential was included with it and there were many reasons why that did not go forward and it was her understanding those concerns are still there. Councilmember Hickman wanted to get additional comments from some of the people that he was speaking to and among them was Sean Rieger, who is representing the Builders Association. Staff did have some comments, but his comments were from a legal standpoint somewhat problematic and I think that is where it stalled out. There was not any resolution on the language.

Councilmember Hall asked who would be the best person for her to get an overall update about it and Ms. Walker said Ms. Hudson and Ms. Muckala should be able to get her up to speed.

Ms. Hudson said the Center City Form Based Code Administrative Delay was in March 2019 and wanted to keep that fresh on Council’s mind to bring the Ad Hoc Committee back together to finish the remaining items.

Chairman Bierman stated she supports Ms. Hudson in that effort and wanted to provide whatever support was needed from the Committee to make that happen.

Item submitted for the record

1. Council Goals and Priorities 2019-2020
2. Committee Agendas Topics 2019-2020

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Item 2, being:

SCHEDULE FUTURE DISCUSSIONS AND PRIORITIZE TOPICS FOR REMAINDER OF FYE 2020.

Chairman Bierman said for February the Committee will review the extension of the Central Norman Zoning Overlay District (CNZOD), clean up ordinance language for vaping and possibly an update on e-scooters. March, could also be an update on e-scooters and possibly the proposed Visitability Ordinance. She said the Committee will have the ability to bring Residential Lighting to Oversight if there is no room on the Community Planning and Transportation Committee schedule.

Chairman Bierman said the Committee also needed to bring back Restructuring Boards, Commissions and Committees. She met with some members of the Greenbelt Commission and talked about things they have been trying to work on. She said the Greenbelt Commission is preparing to ask for an expansion of their scope, to talk about master planning a Greenbelt system. She said the Commission wants to think creatively, develop solutions to develop greenways. Ms. Walker said it makes sense to tie the Parks Plan and Greenbelt Plan together.

Chairman Bierman said another committee that needs their duties updated is the Animal Welfare Oversight Committee and then she really wants to go through it to set some structure for ward representation. She said the Animal Welfare Oversight Committee, by precedent, has had two Veterinarians on the committee at all times until Dr. Carter stepped down. She does not want to lose the importance of things of that nature.

Chairman Bierman said in March for the next discussion of the Boards and Commissions she would like to see some of this historic background information be reduced to writing for the packet.

Chairman Bierman said be ready to look generally at guidelines and requirements for committees. See if there is anything else that we should formalize in an ordinance. Just having as a common practice, everyone needs the same length of terms, maybe we want to set a term limit that you can only serve three successful terms on any committee before one term break, there needs to be some general guidelines that can be applied to all the committees and then we can start breaking down individual committees.

Chairman Bierman said she would like to have some discussion for April on solar panels and Building Codes as she is hearing installers are fleeing Norman for other metro communities where it is not as difficult to do business.

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ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.