



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 05/28/2024

REQUESTER: Kathryn Walker, City Attorney

PRESENTER: Jeanne Snider, Assistant City Attorney

ITEM TITLE: DISCUSSION OF CITY OF NORMAN BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

BACKGROUND:

Over the past several years, City Council has discussed a number of proposals to amend some of the City's Boards, Commissions and Committees. At the October 2023 City Council Oversight Committee, Councilmembers agreed to move forward with the suggested changes.

DISCUSSION:

The following proposals have been discussed a number of times by Council.

1. Board of Adjustment. Increase membership from five to seven members with three year terms and the concurring vote of three members of the Board to four members necessary to reverse any other order, requirement, decision or determination of the administrative official, to decide in favor of the application on any matter upon which it is required to pass under the ordinance, or to effect any variation in the application of the ordinance. Sec. 2-301(a) will be amended to reflect the increase in membership and Sec. 36-570(2) will increase the concurring votes of the Board of Adjustment.
2. Consolidating the Greenbelt Commission and the Planning Commission and make Planning Commission appointments ward specific. After discussion, there was no support or consensus to consolidate the two Commissions, but there was support for making Planning Commission appointments ward specific. Sec. 2-301(g) will be amended to requiring one member from each ward and one at-large member.
3. Norman Election Commission. Increase committee membership from five to seven members. Sec. 10-201 will be amended to increase the membership. Norman Election Commission will be added to 2-301.
4. Consolidating the Tree Board, Bicycle Advisory Committee and the Board of Park Commissioners. There was no support or consensus to consolidate the three committees, but there was support to consolidate the Tree Board and the Board of Park Commissioners. There was support to add qualifiers to the appointment to the Board of Park Commissioners to ensure

at least one member of the Board of Park Commissioners have an interest or expertise regarding urban forestry. Sec. 2-301(c) will be amended to reflect one member shall be appointed based on their interest or expertise regarding urban forestry; Sec. 2-318 will be added reflecting duties related to trees; and Sec. 2-346 will be repealed.

5. Codifying the Animal Welfare Oversight Committee. The Animal Welfare Oversight Committee was originally appointed by Resolution 0203-111. The addition would make Animal Welfare Oversight Committee a permanent committee with term limits and requiring some rural representation. Sec. 2-347 will reflect the duties and powers of the Animal Welfare Oversight Committee. Resolution 0203-111 would be repealed.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends Council approve the amendments listed above.