



CITY OF NORMAN, OK CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

Municipal Building, Executive Conference Room, 201 West Gray, Norman,
OK 73069

Tuesday, March 03, 2026 at 5:30 PM

MINUTES

The City Council Special Meeting of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, will meet in Regular Session in the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building, on Tuesday, March 03, 2026 at 5:30 PM, and notice of the agenda of the meeting was posted at the Norman Municipal Building at 201 West Gray and on the City website at least 48 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

It is the policy of the City of Norman that no person or groups of persons shall on the grounds of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial status, marital status, including marriage to a person of the same sex, disability, relation, or genetic information, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination in employment activities or in all programs, services, or activities administered by the City, its recipients, sub-recipients, and contractors. In the event of any comments, complaints, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, and auxiliary aids and services regarding accessibility or inclusion, please call 405-366-5424, Relay Service: 711. To better serve you, five (5) business days' advance notice is preferred.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Holman called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Stephen Holman
Councilmember Ward 1 David Gandesbery
Councilmember Ward 3 Robert Bruce
Councilmember Ward 4 Helen Grant
Councilmember Ward 6 Joshua Hinkle
Councilmember Ward 7 Kimberly Blodgett
Councilmember Ward 8 Scott Dixon

ABSENT

Councilmember Ward 2 Matthew Peacock
Councilmember Ward 5 Brandon Nofire

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Darrel Pyle, City Manager
Mr. Tim Powers, Information Technology Director
Mr. Rick Knighton, City Attorney
Mr. Jacob Huckabaa, Budget Technician
Ms. Jane Hudson, Planning and Community Development Director
Mr. Chris Mattingly, Utilities Director
Ms. Joyce Green, GIS Services Manager
Mr. Tim Miles, City Engineer
Mr. Joseph Hill, Streets Program Manager
Mr. Jason Murphy, Stormwater Program Manager
Ms. Kimberly Coffman, Budget Manager
Mr. Travis King, Fire Chief
Mr. Kevin Foster, Chief of Police
Mr. Jason Olsen, Parks and Recreation Direction
Ms. Jamie Meyer, Interim City Clerk
Major Chad Vincent, Norman Police Department
Mr. Clint Mercer, Chief Accountant

AGENDA ITEMS

1. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE FYE 2027 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM BUDGET AND THE FYE 2027-2030 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN.

Ms. Kimberly Coffman, Budget Manager, and Mr. Jacob Huckabaa, Budget Technician, presented an overview of the Fiscal Year Ending 2027 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Budget and the Fiscal Year Ending 2027 through 2031 Capital Improvements Plan. Staff reviewed the current budget process and advised that the next CIP-related budget discussion is scheduled for May 5, 2026, when the City Manager's preliminary budget will be presented.

Staff reviewed the recurring capital work programs funded by the capital sales tax and explained that these recurring projects form the base of the annual capital budget. Projects discussed included street maintenance, stormwater drainage improvements, park amenities, tree planting, information technology hardware and software, capital outlay for fleet and equipment replacement, personnel costs funded through the capital fund, maintenance of existing facilities, sidewalk programs, ADA compliance projects, ODOT audit adjustment, pay-as-you-go bridge maintenance, traffic calming, regional transportation authority participation, and GIS mapping updates.

Council discussed the recurring capital allocations, the size of the debt service component within the "other projects" category, and requested that future graphics separate debt service into its own category for clarity. Staff also explained how fleet and technology replacement schedules are tracked and prioritized, noting increased costs for vehicles and equipment in recent years. Council requested additional benchmarking information regarding fleet age and comparisons with similarly sized municipalities.

Item 1, continued

Staff also reviewed the recurring sidewalk program for Fiscal Year 2027, including specific planned locations for school and arterial sidewalks, sidewalk accessibility improvements, the citywide 50/50 sidewalk replacement program, downtown sidewalk improvements, sidewalks and trails, and the horizontal saw cut program. Council discussed the value of the 50/50 sidewalk program and the horizontal saw cut program, as well as the relationship between these projects and separate CDBG sidewalk work.

Staff then reviewed the status of several voter-approved bond programs. With respect to the 2021–2026 Street Maintenance Bond Program, staff reported that all project categories are substantially complete, with only a small number of urban concrete pavement projects remaining under construction. Staff noted that the proposed renewal of the street maintenance bond program will appear on the April 7, 2026 ballot as a no-new-tax extension for five years in the amount of \$35 million.

Staff also provided updates on the final project in the 2012 Transportation Bond Program, noting that federal grant funding had been secured to advance phases of the project. Updates were also provided regarding the 2019 Transportation Bond Program, including completed projects, projects currently underway, federal funding received, and continued efforts to secure grant funding for remaining projects. Staff further reviewed the 2023 Bridge Maintenance Bond Program, noting completed projects, projects currently in design, and additional outside funding received to support bridge rehabilitation work.

Staff discussed the April 7, 2026 bond proposition for a permanent homeless shelter and resource facility, noting that if approved, the project would be included in the capital budget, while operations would be funded separately through the General Fund.

Using midpoint revenue projections and current appropriations, staff reported that the capital fund is projected to have a negative available balance for new projects in Fiscal Year 2027, demonstrating that most available capital revenue is already committed to recurring work programs and existing obligations.

Staff also provided a brief update regarding the Public Safety Sales Tax Fund and the remaining critical capital need for Fire Station No. 5. Council discussed the timing of Fire Station No. 5, the relationship between the Public Safety Sales Tax and previously approved projects, and whether the fund should continue to be tracked separately after current voter-approved capital obligations are completed. Staff noted that the upcoming Council agenda will include funding requests related to implementation of the fire service matrix assessment and next steps for station planning and design.

Finally, staff referenced the Norman Forward Fund, noting that a projected surplus may be available in later years and that Council is not required to make immediate decisions on those funds prior to budget adoption. Staff advised that budget amendments can be brought forward later as project priorities are refined.

Item 1, continued

Council discussed the importance of legal compliance in budget preparation, as well as the separate policy decisions involved in determining future priorities, additions, reductions, and risk-based funding decisions. Staff advised that additional information and the preliminary budget books would be provided to Council in advance of the next scheduled budget discussion.

- 2. CONSIDERATION OF ADJOURNING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AS AUTHORIZED BY OKLAHOMA STATUTES TITLE 25 § 307(B)(4) TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION ASSOCIATED WITH BAD DAY TOWING AND RECOVERY COMPANY, INC. VS. CITY OF NORMAN ET AL., OKLAHOMA SUPREME COURT CASE NO. SD-123,329.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle.

Voting Yea: Mayor Holman, Councilmember Ward 1 Gandesbery, Councilmember Ward 3 Bruce, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Blodgett, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

The City Council adjourned into Executive Session at 6:26 p.m. Mr. Darrel Pyle, City Manager; Ms. Shannon Stevenson, Assistant City Manager; Mr. Rick Knighton, City Attorney, were in attendance at the Executive Session.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle.

Voting Yea: Mayor Holman, Councilmember Ward 1 Gandesbery, Councilmember Ward 3 Bruce, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Blodgett, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

The Executive Session was adjourned out of and the Special Session was reconvened at 6:48 p.m.

The pending litigation associated with Bad Day Towing and Recovery Company, Inc. vs. City of Norman et al., Oklahoma Supreme Court Case No. SD-123,329 was discussed. No action was taken and no votes were cast.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor