



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 05/13/2025

REQUESTER: AshLynn Wilkerson, Assistant City Attorney

PRESENTER: AshLynn Wilkerson, Assistant City Attorney

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RECOMMENDATION FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE A SETTLEMENT OF MISTY DAWN DEAN IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000.00 TO RESOLVE HER TORT CLAIM FILED FEBRUARY 3, 2025.

BACKGROUND:

A claim was filed by Misty Dawn Dean, through her legal counsel L. Grant Gibson, for personal injury damages, for an initial demand of an amount of \$125,000.00, resulting from an automobile accident with a City vehicle in the intersection of N Porter Ave. and E Rock Creek Rd. on the afternoon of March 28, 2024.

DISCUSSION:

City Attorney staff discussed the merits of this claim and potential settlement during an executive session held on April 29, 2025. The settlement offer amount is within the range discussed and authorized by Council in such executive session.

Following Council approval of the settlement, a friendly suit will be initiated in the Cleveland County District Court so that the settlement may be reduced to a judgment to allow for it to be placed on the property tax rolls and paid over three years, as described in further detail below.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is believed that the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable and in the best interests of the City. It is recommended the settlement of this matter be approved by City Council and that this office be directed to reduce the settlement amount to judgment in accordance with 51 O.S. §159, and 62 O.S. §362. The settlement amount will then be placed on the property tax rolls for collection over the next three years. Under this process, one-third of the judgment amount plus interest at the statutory rate on the unpaid balance is collected through property tax roll assessments over that time period. This statutorily allowed procedure for payment of judgments against a municipality will minimize the impact of the settlement on City funds.