



CITY OF NORMAN, OK CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION

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

Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 5:30 PM

MINUTES

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 contact the ADA Technician at 405-366-5446, Relay Service: 711. To better serve you, five (5) business days' advance notice is preferred.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Heikkila called the Meeting to Order at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Larry Heikkila
Councilmember Ward 1 Austin Ball
Councilmember Ward 2 Lauren Schueler
Councilmember Ward 3 Bree Montoya
Councilmember Ward 4 Helen Grant
Councilmember Ward 5 Michael Nash
Councilmember Ward 6 Elizabeth Foreman
Councilmember Ward 7 Stephen Holman
Councilmember Ward 8 Matthew Peacock

ABSENT

None

AGENDA ITEMS

1. DISCUSSION REGARDING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE OPIOID SETTLEMENT GRANT PROGRAM.

Ms. Kathryn Walker, City Attorney, the Oklahoma Attorney General (OAG) settled the State's litigation against three opioid distributors (McKesson Corporation, Cardinal Health, and Amerisource Bergen. Non-litigating "primary subdivisions" are eligible for funding from the \$22 million in Distributor Settlement Proceeds.

Item 1, continued:

On August 23, 2022, Council elected to participate in the Distributors Oklahoma settlement, which is a prerequisite to be eligible for funding. The amount of funding will be determined by the State's Opioid Abatement Board.

The OAG settled the State's litigation against manufacturers, distributors, and retailers (CVS Pharmacy, Wal-Mart, Walgreens, Allergan, etc.). Settlement proceeds of more than \$220 million to be distributed based on distribution rules developed by the OAG and approved by the State Opioid Abatement Board. On April 13, 2023, Council elected to agree to the terms of the settlement, a prerequisite for receiving any distributions.

On August 28, 2023, the OAG announced a funding opportunity from the Opioid Abatement Board for \$23 million. On September 7, 2023, letters of intent were sent to seek an Opioid Grant and applications are due in late October with an estimated award date of December 2023 or January 2024.

Only counties, incorporated municipalities, public school districts, career tech districts, and public trusts benefitting these entities are eligible to apply. Applicants must demonstrate a strong use of funds for abatement; need for funds; capacity for implementation; evidence base for proposed projects; and community partnership and support. An "approved purpose" is evidence-based, forward-looking strategies, programming, and services related to treatment and prevention of opioid use/abuse.

The OAG will provide the application and the Opioid Abatement Board will review and allocate funds for an approved purpose with allocation based on number of people per capita suffering from opioid use disorder, number of opioid overdose deaths, and amount of attorney fees and allowable expenses associated with opioid litigation.

Possible applications include Oklahoma Parent Child Assistance Program that provides services to pregnant and parenting women with opioid use disorders and three years of intensive case management and home visitation. Other applications could be submitted in partnership with non-profits so the City needs to develop a submittal process quickly as the grant application is due in late October. The City will be required to memorialize utilization/expenditure by formal action.

Next steps include drafting a resolution for Council consideration and Council action authorizing Staff to submit a letter of intent. Staff will begin to solicit or begin gathering information to support possible grant application(s).

Items submitted for the record

1. 74 Oklahoma Statute § 30.5- Political Subdivisions Opioid Abatement Grants Act
- 2 PowerPoint entitled, "Opioid Settlement Grant Program," dated September 19, 2023

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2. CONSIDERATION OF ADJOURNING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AS AUTHORIZED BY OKLAHOMA STATUTES, TITLE 25 § 307(B)(4) TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION IN THE CASE OF KEVIN HAHN VS. CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, CLEVELAND COUNTY DISTRICT COURT, CASE CJ-2021-210.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 4 Foreman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Peacock.

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 2 Schueler, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Peacock.

The City Council adjourned into Executive Session at 5:44 p.m. Mr. Darrel Pyle, City Manager; Ms. Kathryn Walker, City Attorney; Mr. Rick Knighton, Assistant City Attorney, were in attendance at the Executive Session.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 2 Schueler.

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 2 Schueler, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Peacock.

The Executive Session was adjourned out of and the Special Session was reconvened at 6:26 p.m.

Pending litigation in the case of Kevin Hahn vs. City of Norman was discussed. No action was taken and no votes were cast.

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor