



CITY OF NORMAN, OK STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 01/23/2024

REQUESTER: Anthony Francisco

PRESENTER: Anthony Francisco, Director of Finance

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2324-110: A RESOLUTION FIXING THE AMOUNT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2024A TO MATURE EACH YEAR; FIXING THE TIME AND PLACE THE BONDS ARE TO BE SOLD; DESIGNATING A PAYING AGENT/REGISTRAR AND DISCLOSURE COUNSEL; APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY OFFICIAL STATEMENT AND DISTRIBUTION THEREOF; AND AUTHORIZING THE CLERK TO GIVE NOTICE OF SAID SALE AS REQUIRED BY LAW AND FIXING OTHER DETAILS OF THE ISSUE.

BACKGROUND:

On October 10, 2023, the voters of Norman authorized the issuance of up to \$50,000,000 in General Obligation bonds (GO Bonds) for “constructing, reconstructing, repairing, improving and rehabilitating bridges in the city (including lighting, sidewalks/bike paths, landscaping, drainage improvements, driveway reconstruction and other related improvements)”. The authorized bonds were anticipated to be issued in phases, to coincide with the design and construction schedules for the bridge improvement projects.

Pursuant to the Oklahoma Bond Proceeds Act, the sale of General Obligation Bonds must be done competitively, using a set process that begins with an open solicitation for bidders through a Notice of Sale of the bonds and an award of the bid to the qualified bidder (firm) who proposes to purchase the bonds at the lowest True Interest Cost to the City (issuer).

DISCUSSION:

In order to keep to the design and construction schedules desired for the bridge projects and to complete the sale of the General Obligation Bonds authorized by the voters in a timely manner, an aggressive schedule for the competitive placement of the bonds needs to be followed. The attached Resolution R-2324-110 would set a sale date of February 27, 2024 for the competitive sale of the GO Bonds to an underwriter, as directed by Oklahoma statutes. The Resolution would also reaffirm the appointments of BancFirst of Oklahoma as Registrar/Paying Agent; Municipal Finance Services as Financial Advisors for the bond issuances; Public Finance Law Group and Floyd Law Firm as Bond Counsel for the transactions; and Kutak Rock Law Firm as special Disclosure Counsel for the City’s bond issuance.

Subsequent to a successful competitive sale of the bonds, the Council will consider Ordinances approving the indebtedness, approving the underwriter and the interest rate of the bonds on February 27, 2024.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that Resolution R-2324-110 be approved.