



CITY OF NORMAN, OK CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

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

Tuesday, March 07, 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, Kelly Lynn
Councilmember Ward 4 Helen Grant
Councilmember Ward 5 Rarchar Tortorello
Councilmember Ward 6 Elizabeth Foreman
Councilmember Ward 7 Stephen Holman
Councilmember Ward 8 Matthew Peacock

ABSENT

None

AGENDA ITEMS

1. DISCUSSION REGARDING FLOCK SAFETY CAMERA SOLUTIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY.

Major Jamie Shadduck, Patrol Bureau Commander with Norman Police Department (NPD), introduced Mr. Hector Soliman-Valdez, Community Engagement Manager with Flock Safety were in attendance. Mr. Soliman-Valdez said Flock Safety (Flock) is an American company that sells automated license recognition technology (ALPR) to law enforcement agencies and neighborhood associations.

Item 1, continued:

The cameras read license plates and sends instant alerts to law enforcement officers when the cameras identify license plates that match those on lists of cars that are stolen or otherwise of interest to the police. Private citizens and businesses who own Flock cameras can use their own hot lists. Unlike many other ALPR systems, Flock cameras allow searches based on a vehicle's color and various other visual features.

The cost of the camera is \$2,500 per year so they are affordable enough for the private sector. Costs include installation, maintenance, software upgrades, customer service, etc. Flock began selling to small businesses and Home Owner Associations (HOA's) so they could share footage with law enforcement, but cameras are the same quality as those used by PD's all over the nation.

The current reality is limited police resources, crime is on the rise, and trust is needed more than ever. The ALPR technology multiplies the force by capturing and distributing objective evidence to the right user and engages the community to support and grow.

With Flock, cities have objective, real-time and investigative leads that include license plate recognition and indiscriminate evidence from fixed locations, but no people, no facial recognition, no Personal Identifiable Information (PII), and no traffic enforcement. The technology gathers objective evidence and facts about vehicles, sends alerts to police regarding wanted vehicles, and can be used to solve crimes. The technology also adheres to all State laws. The technology is proactive and provides real time alerts, within 20 seconds, when stolen or wanted vehicles enter the City and as investigative clearance rates increase, crime rates decrease so Flock cameras act as a deterrent to crime.

Footage is owned by the City and will never be sold or shared by Flock. There is a 30-day data detention period before data is deleted, because this short retention period ensures that all data not associated with a crime is automatically deleted and unrecoverable. All data is stored securely in the Amazon Web Services (AWS) Cloud with end to end encryption of all data. A search reason is required for an audit trail and there is a transparency portal. The transparency portal is customizable for each agency, displays technology policies, publishes usage metrics, shares downloadable search audits, and the insights dashboard measures crime patterns as well as audit search history.

Mr. Soliman-Valdez said the first Police Department (PD) in Oklahoma to install Flock cameras was Locust Grove and they have recovered ten stolen vehicles, arrested two people in stolen vehicle with narcotics, and identified a wanted suspect from out of state. In Tulsa, Oklahoma, within the first two months, PD was able to recover 28 stolen vehicles, six stolen guns, \$400,000 in stolen property, and arrested a homicide suspect.

In a case study in San Bruno, California, five suspects attempted a smash and grab at a jewelry store, but were chased away by the owner. The suspects' vehicle was identified using Flock and the vehicle was placed on the hotlist due to chances the suspects might try again, this time using more violence. The San Bruno PD received a real time alert when the suspects were returning and officers located the vehicle within seconds preventing another attempt.

Item 1, continued:

In a case study in Chamblee, Georgia, on Amber Alerts when every second matters, Flock Safety's Machine Vision was critical in issuing the Amber Alert giving PD the ability to search Flock cameras locating the suspect vehicle that resulted in a felony stop and arrest with the baby reunited with its mother in less than six hours.

Councilmember Grant asked about the error rate and Mr. Soliman-Valdez said the system identifies the vehicle and tells PD this is a 98% probability that this is the correct vehicle. The important thing for camera owners is having a policy so when an alert comes in PD is not auto-dispatching; it is notification for verification by PD in their data system before dispatching.

Councilmember Tortorello asked about the sturdiness of the poles the cameras are attached to and Mr. Soliman-Valdez said the poles (12 feet tall) are approved by the Department of Transportation (DOT) and can withstand winds up to 95 miles per hour.

Councilmember Tortorello asked if the 30 day data retention could be extended and Mr. Soliman-Valdez said that is Flock's standard retention policy, but if Council approved a longer period then Flock would program that; however, there would be a small price increase for that extension. He said the audit trail is forever.

Councilmember Ball asked how many cameras Norman would need to be effective and Mr. Soliman-Valdez said thirteen cameras would be installed surrounding the ingresses into Norman.

Councilmember Ball asked if there will be signs and public education before cameras are installed and Mr. Soliman-Valdez said that would be up to the City.

Flock will offer a 45 to 60 day demo program with no obligation; however, there will be a price increase on April 1st to \$3,000 per camera. The cameras can be installed on existing City poles at no cost if no City permit is required, \$350 on existing City poles if permit is required, and \$700 for poles provided by Flock if City permit is required.

Items submitted for the record

1. PowerPoint entitled, "Flock Safety – Leverage the future of policing, now"

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2. CONTINUED DISCUSSION REGARDING A WATER RATE INCREASE.

Mr. Chris Mattingly, Director of Utilities, said Councilmember Tortorello requested information on a hybrid model for non-residential rates versus options discussed February 2, 2023.

Item 2, continued:

Proposed residential rate alternatives, currently with a base fee of \$6 with a Capital Improvement Charge (CIC) of \$1.50, as follows:

Tiers	Gallons	Current Rate	Alternative One: Across the Board	Alternative Two: Fixed Charge Recovery
Base Fee		\$6.00 + \$1.50	\$7.70 + \$1.50	\$10.90 + \$1.50
Tier 1	0-5	\$3.35	\$4.27	\$ 3.46
Tier 2	5-15	\$4.10	\$5.23	\$ 4.50
Tier 3	5-20	\$5.20	\$6.63	\$ 6.75
Tier 4	More than 20	\$6.80	\$8.67	\$ 9.51

Proposed commercial rate alternatives currently with a base fee \$6.00, are as follows:

Tiers	Gallons	Current Rate	Alternative One: Across the Board	Alternative Two: Fixed Charge Recovery
Base Fee		\$6.00	\$7.70	\$10.90
Tier 1	0-AWC*	\$3.80	\$5.62	\$ 5.15
Tier 2	More than AWC*	\$4.20	\$6.21	\$ 7.72

*AWC = Average Winter Consumption

Proposed irrigation rate alternatives, currently with a base fee of \$6 with a Capital Improvement Charge (CIC) of \$1.50, are as follows:

Tiers	Gallons	Current Rate	Alternative One: Across the Board	Alternative Two: Fixed Charge Recovery
Base Fee		\$6.00 + \$1.50	\$7.70 + \$1.50	\$10.90 + \$1.50
Tier 1	0-5	\$3.35	\$4.27	\$ 3.46
Tier 2	5-15	\$4.10	\$5.23	\$ 4.50
Tier 3	5-20	\$5.20	\$6.63	\$ 6.75
Tier 4	More than 20	\$6.80	\$8.67	\$ 9.51

Mr. Nathan Madenwald, Utilities Engineer, said an additional “middle of the road” non-residential option would include Alternate 1 with a base fee of 8.70 and a CIC of \$1.50. Users of 0 to 5 gallons would pay \$3.76; 5 to 15 gallons would pay \$4.89; 5 to 20 gallons would pay \$7.34; and over 20 gallons would pay \$10.34. He said the City of Norman would still have the lowest average water and sewer rates compared to cities that include Newcastle; Mustang; Moore; Oklahoma City; Tulsa; Midwest City, and Edmond.

First Reading for a Special Election and proposed rate change Ordinances will be on the March 28, 2023, Council agenda, Second Reading will be on April 11, 2023, with a water rate election on June 13, 2023.

Item 2, continued:

Councilmembers preferred Alternative Two, Fixed Charge Recovery due to the stability of the rates.

Mr. Mattingly said the City currently has four forms for low-income residents and to make the process easier for residents, Staff combined the four forms into one form that includes water, sewer, trash, and recycle. The process requires one notarized form rather than four separate notarized forms. The low-income reduction includes water – 25% reduction of base fee and first 5,000 gallons; sewer – 50% reduction of maintenance fee; and Sanitation/Recycling – 25% reduction of monthly fees.

Items submitted for the record

1. PowerPoint entitled, "Water Rate Increase Discussion," dated March 7, 2023

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ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor