



CITY OF NORMAN, OK
WARD 3 CANDIDATE SELECTION COMMITTEE
Municipal Building, Executive Conference Room, 204 West Gray, Norman,
OK 73069
Monday, October 20, 2025 at 4:00 PM

MINUTES

The Ward 3 Candidate Selection Committee Meeting of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Regular Session in the Executive Conference Room in the Municipal Building, on Monday, October 20, 2025, at 4:00 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

Chairman Castleberry called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Robert Castleberry
Stacy Bruce
Alison Petrone
Ben Carter
Sandra Artman

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

OTHERS PRESENT:

Kathryn Walker, Assistant City Attorney
Jamie Meyer, Deputy City Clerk

AGENDA ITEMS

1. INTERVIEWS WITH INTERIM WARD 3 CANDIDATES:

Robert Bruce
Heather Hall
James Howard
Rendon Chambers
James Beaty

Committee members interviewed the candidates by asking the questions listed below in a round table environment.

1. We've all reviewed your application and resume, but more informally, can you tell us a little about yourself?
2. What motivated you to apply for this appointment, and why do you want to serve Ward 3 at this time?
3. In your view, what are the 3 most important issues facing Ward 3? How should these issues be addressed by the City?
4. What are the most important issue(s) facing the City of Norman as a whole?
5. Ward 3 has unique characteristics and needs compared to other wards. How would you balance the interests of Ward 3 with those of the entire city?
6. How much time do you anticipate devoting to City Council matters if appointed?
7. What professional, personal, or community experiences do you feel best prepare you to serve as a contributing member of the City Council?
8. Give an example of a contentious issue you have helped resolve, and explain how you approached conflict resolution, consensus building, or problem solving.
9. What do you believe are effective methods of communicating with ward constituents?
10. Is there anything else you would like the Panel to know regarding your application or your interest in serving Ward 3?
11. Public officials are held to high ethical and behavioral standards, both online and in person. How will you maintain those standards and handle conflict or criticism appropriately?
12. Homelessness, including youth and family homelessness, is a complex issue that affects our entire community. As the city considers policies and partnerships to address it, how would you ensure decisions are made in a way that treats all individuals with fairness and dignity?
13. How many City Council meetings have you attended or watched in the last 10 months?
14. Are you in support of the Bob Moore Farms Project?
15. Are you in support of the City of Norman financially maintaining on-ramps for the Turnpike?
16. Do you think that the TIF for the Rock Creek Entertainment District should go to a vote of the people?
17. Are you in support of the City requiring audits from organizations it gives money to like the Norman Economic Development Coalition (now the Cleveland County Economic Development Coalition)?

All candidates participated in the interviews.

2. DISCUSSION OF CANDIDATES AND MOTION TO RECOMMEND A CANDIDATE FOR CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION.

Member Artman moved that Robert Bruce be approved for the Ward 3 Interim Council seat and his name be submitted to City Council for formal consideration, the motion was not seconded and the motion failed.

The Committee discussed the strong/weak points for each of the applicants. Chairman Castleberry said he was impressed with all five of the finalists. He said all were sincere, service-minded and community-oriented and the Committee Members concurred.

After identifying each committee member's top two candidates, Chairman Castleberry moved that Robert Bruce be approved for the Ward 3 Interim Council seat and his name be submitted to City Council for formal consideration, which motion was seconded by Member Artman; and the question being upon recommending Robert Bruce for the Ward 3 Interim Council seat and upon the subsequent submission, a vote was taken with the following result:

YEAS: Members Sandra Artman, Stacy Bruce, and Chairman Robert Castleberry

NAYES: Members Alison Petrone, and Ben Carter.

Chairman Castleberry declared the motion carried and Robert Bruce as the Ward 3 Interim Council seat nomination approved; and his name will be submitted to City Council for formal consideration. The Committee noted that the two nay votes would've preferred that the Committee select candidate Heather Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.