



CITY OF NORMAN, OK CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 201 West Gray, Norman, OK 73069
Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at 4:30 PM

MINUTES

The City Council Special Meeting of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, will meet in Regular Session in the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building, on Tuesday, July 16, 2024 at 4:30 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 contact the ADA Technician at 405-366-5424, 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 4:30 p.m.

Present:

Mayor Larry Heikkila
Councilmember Ward 1 – Austin Ball - 4:55 p.m.
Councilmember Ward 2 – Matthew Peacock
Councilmember Ward 3 – Bree Montoya
Councilmember Ward 4 – Helen Grant
Councilmember Ward 5 – Michael Nash
Councilmember Ward 6 – Joshua Hinkle
Councilmember Ward 7 – Stephen Holman
Councilmember Ward 8 – Scott Dixon

AGENDA ITEMS

1. DISCUSSION REGARDING A PROJECT PROPOSAL THAT WOULD REQUIRE THE VACATING OF COMANCHE STREET.

Mr. Darrel Pyle, City Manager, provided an overview of a proposed development project that would require vacating a portion of Comanche Street. Council discussion included:

- Impacts on traffic circulation, accessibility, and surrounding neighborhoods.
- Long-term infrastructure implications.
- Need for public engagement and further staff analysis.

Item 1, continued

Staff was directed to continue evaluating the proposal and return with additional information at a later date.

2. DISCUSSION REGARDING PROCEDURES FOR PURSUING ABATEMENT OF DILAPIDATED STRUCTURES.

Ms. Beth Muckala, Assistant City Attorney, provided a briefing on current procedures for the abatement of dilapidated structures, including:

- Legal framework and notice requirements.
- Challenges with non-responsive or absentee property owners.
- Possible updates to City Code to streamline enforcement.
- Budget considerations for increasing abatement activity.

Council expressed interest in reviewing potential ordinance revisions and supporting increased enforcement capacity.

3. DISCUSSION OF THE PAYMENT FOR SRO'S FROM THE NORMAN PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR.

Mr. Darrel Pyle, City Manager, and Mr. Rick Knighton, City Attorney, discussed the terms of the agreement between the City of Norman and Norman Public Schools for the School Resource Officer (SRO) Program for the 2023–2024 school year.

Topics included:

- Funding contributions from the school district.
- Officer assignments and school coverage.
- Legal terms of the interlocal agreement.
- Program evaluation and community impact.

Councilmembers discussed continued support for the program and emphasized the importance of maintaining transparency regarding staffing levels, particularly in light of recent vacancies within the department. Staff explained that the agreement is structured in such a way that Norman Police Department (NPD) is only reimbursed for SROs actually assigned to the schools and performing those duties. Therefore, if a position is vacant or reassigned, no billing occurs for that time.

Council expressed appreciation for the partnership with Norman Public Schools and acknowledged the significance of the SRO program in enhancing school safety.

4. 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 *NATIONS ET AL. V. CITY OF NORMAN ET AL.*, CASE NO. CV-2024-2035 TB.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, seconded by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman to adjourn into Executive Session.

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

The City Council adjourned into Executive Session at 5:35 p.m. Mr. Darrel Pyle, City Manager; Ms. Shannon Stevenson, Assistant City Manager; and Mr. Rick Knighton, Interim City Attorney, were in attendance at the Executive Session.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, seconded by Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya to adjourn out of Executive Session and reconvene the Special Session.

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

The Executive Session was adjourned out of and the Special Session was reconvened at 5:57 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

City Clerk

Mayor