



# CITY OF NORMAN, OK CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE

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

Tuesday, August 23, 2022 at 5:30 PM

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## MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Conference in the Council Chambers of the Norman Municipal Building on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2022, at 5:30 p.m., and notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at the Municipal Building at 201 West Gray 48 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

### CALL TO ORDER

#### PRESENT

Mayor Larry Heikkila  
Councilmember Ward 1 Brandy Studley  
Councilmember Ward 2 Lauren Schueler  
Councilmember Ward 3 Kelly Lynn  
Councilmember Ward 4 Helen Grant  
Councilmember Ward 5 Rarchar Tortorello  
Councilmember Ward 7 Stephen Holman  
Councilmember Ward 8 Matthew Peacock

#### ABSENT

Councilmember Ward 6 Elizabeth Foreman

### AGENDA ITEMS

1. DISCUSSION WITH NORMAN ARTS COUNCIL REGARDING THE PUBLIC ART PROGRAM.

Ms. Erinn Gavaghan, Executive Director, Norman Arts Council (NAC), said the Norman Arts Council began collaborating with the City of Norman on the arts programs with the establishment of the Guest Room Tax on hotel stays in Norman. The tax has generated over \$4.2 million over the past 40 years.

In 2007, the Norman Public Art Board (PAB) was established by Council to work with NAC for the purchase of public art from designated monies received through the utility bills. PAB works to enhance Norman's image locally, regionally, and nationally by ensuring the creation of the highest quality art for display in our community's public places. Four members of the seven member Board are currently appointed by Council and the Director of Parks and Recreation and Parks Planner are ex officio members.

Ms. Gavaghan said NAC proposes PAB become a committee of the NAC, forming the Norman Public Arts Committee. Becoming a committee under NAC clearly defines legal standing; allows for more community involvement in public art; allows the committee to work more nimbly; merges like missions and expands the current definition of Public Art in Norman; and provides a full time

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staff of expertise in public art administration, nonprofit administration, fundraising, and marketing.

Ms. Gavaghan said the NAC Board has already approved the transition. She said utility bill donations would continue to be administered exactly as they are now. NAC would operate under a contract with the City of Norman similar to the contract for Guest Room Tax and the NORMAN FORWARD 1% Art Program. She said all current members of the Committee would be allowed to remain and it could be expanded to others to participate.

Ms. Gavaghan said the first goals of the Public Art Committee would be to expand involvement in the committee; prepare a Public Art Strategic Plan; create a mural program; advocate for a percentage for art in NORMAN FORWARD II; and build an artist-initiated project process and funding mechanism in collaboration with the NAC's Programs and Grants Committees.

Councilmember supported the recommendations and an ordinance amendment and contract will be prepared to bring forward to Council for formal consideration.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

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City Clerk

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Mayor