



CITY OF NORMAN, OK CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

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

Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 5:00 PM

MINUTES

The City Council Special Meeting of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Special Session in the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building, on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 5:00 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.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Heikkila called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Larry Heikkila
Councilmember Ward 1 Austin Ball
Councilmember Ward 2 Lauren Schueler
Councilmember Ward 3 Bree Montoya
Councilmember Ward 4 Helen Grant
Councilmember Ward 5 Michael Nash
Councilmember Ward 6 Elizabeth Foreman
Councilmember Ward 7 Stephen Holman
Councilmember Ward 8 Matthew Peacock

AGENDA ITEMS

1. UPDATE AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE LINDSEY STREET WATER TOWER.

Mr. Chris Mattingly, Utilities Director, said the Lindsey Street water tower was removed from service in 2014. The exterior coating has visible rust and contains lead-based paint. The original plan was to demolish, but, future use has been considered. However, it is very expensive.

Mr. Ken Giannone, Capital Projects Engineer, reiterated the poor condition of the water tower and stated the four available alternatives for rehabilitation.

First, being to rehabilitate the tower and construct a non-potable Recycled Water (RCW) System. This would require 40,000 feet of pipe to deliver that water, which is unreasonably expensive considering operating and maintenance costs.

Second, would be to rehabilitate the tower and return it to normal service. Rehabilitation would include re-painting the exterior. This was unfeasible, as the cost to construct a new water tower would be cheaper.

Item 1, continued:

The third option is demolition, which is the most affordable, but considered a futile expense as the money spent for demolition would produce no benefit.

Finally, the fourth alternative is to rehabilitate the exterior only and fill it with ballast (sand) for stability. OU has reached out and would like to pay to have their logo painted on (\$50,000). However, this is not within Norman Utilities Authority's (NUA) budget. The cost is about \$1.2 million. The question was made of whether NUA can expend capital and/or Operation & Maintenance funds for the non-operation costs.

If City Council chooses to spend from the General Fund the price difference between option 3 and 4, NUA can transfer ownership of the Lindsey Tower plus the funds that would have been spent on demolition (\$300,000) to the City of Norman to complete the painting of the tower (\$1,124,739 - \$300,000 = \$824,739). The consensus from Council is to delay tearing down the tower until bids are received outlining the cost of repainting. Actual contributions from NUA and the General Fund would be based on actual bid prices received and City Council would then make a decision.

2. CONSIDERATION OF ADJOURNING INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AS AUTHORIZED BY OKLAHOMA STATUTES, TITLE 25 § 307(B)(3) TO DISCUSS THE POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY LOCATED AT 601 SOUTH CARTER AVENUE.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 2 Schueler.

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

The City Council adjourned into Executive Session at 5:26 p.m. Mr. Anthony Purinton, Assistant City Attorney II, Mr. Darrel Pyle, City Manager, Beth Muckala, Assistant City Attorney III, and Ms. Shaakira Calnick, Internal Auditor, were in attendance at Executive Session.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 6 Foreman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 2 Schueler.

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

The Executive Session was adjourned out of, and the Special Session was reconvened at 6:07 p.m.

The possible purchase of real property located at 601 South Carter Avenue was discussed in Executive Session. No action was taken, and no votes were cast.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor