



CITY OF NORMAN, OK NORMAN FORWARD SALES TAX CITIZEN FINANCIAL OVERSIGHT BOARD MEETING

Young Family Athletic Center, 2501 Conference Drive, Norman, OK 73069
Friday, September 15, 2023 at 3:30 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.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Board Member Andy Rieger
Board Member Alva Brockus
Board Member Andy Sherrer
Board Member Cindy Rogers
Board Member Erik Paulson
Board Member Saidy Orellana
Board Member Misty Grantham
Board Member Zachary Simpson

ABSENT

Board Member Linda Price

OTHERS

Anthony Francisco, Director of Finance
Jason Olsen, Director of Parks & Recreation
Kellen McCoy, Field Operations Supervisor
Dannielle Risenhoover, Administrative Tech IV

MINUTES

1. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF MINUTES FROM JULY 18, 2023

Member Brockus made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 18, 2023 meeting, as amended, to include Member Andy Rieger as in attendance. Member Paulson duly seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Items submitted for the record:

Norman Forward Citizens Financial Oversight Board Minutes from July 18, 2023

REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS

2. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

Anthony Francisco gave the report. Francisco drew everyone's attention to the final project cost comparison sheet highlighting the Griffin Park Soccer Complex. This project is near final completion and is currently over budget by about \$106,865. There is about \$8.6 million left in the Young Family Athletic Center (YFAC) project. Francisco hopes to use some of the YFAC budget to make up for the Griffin Park Soccer Complex debt. "We hope that all of these projects will balance out," Francisco stated.

Francisco addressed pay-as-you-go projects verses bond projects on the expenditure sheets stating that each project has a project identifier code. The letters at the beginning of each code refer to the project type as follows:

NFB indicates the project is a Norman Forward bond project.

NFP indicates the project is a Norman Forward pay-as-you-go project.

City of Norman, Norman Forward sales tax revenue is 0.58% above the fiscal year projections and about 9.96% below the original projections from back in 2015. Use tax projections are 21.06% above the fiscal year projections and 151.43% above the original projections. For the combined sales tax and use tax projections, the City is 2.35% above the fiscal year projections and 3.64% below the original projections. Francisco stated, "We are closing the gap a bit, getting back to our original projections. We hope that we will be able to maintain and finish the projects on their budgeted levels. We had a couple of really bad months in August and September for sales tax collection City wide; and that is reflected here. Norman is kind of following the trends for the Oklahoma City metropolitan area. We're kind of in the middle for the cities that we compare to regionally. We'll just continue to monitor the trends and report them to you and respond appropriately." Member Simpson asked, "What happens if that gap does not close?" Francisco stated, "That's why we adjust things each fiscal year. If we are unable to meet the original budget projection for projects, we would cut back some projects. You'll also recall that this Committee made a recommendation to the Council that when we get to the end, if we don't have enough money, that Council will appropriate money from someplace else to make these projects whole."

Member Sherrer made a motion to approve the Financial Reports, which was duly seconded by Member Brockus. The motion passed unanimously.

Items submitted for the record:

Norman Forward Citizens Financial Oversight Board Financial Reports

3. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF PREVIOUSLY APPROVED COUNCIL ACTIONS

Francisco noted that the Operations Policy Manual was approved by Council. The Board did not have any questions or comments on the previously approved Council actions.

4. AD HOC COMMITTEE LIAISON REPORTS

Jason Olsen gave the report. "We have been meeting pretty consistently over at the Senior Center, once a month, with the Ad Hoc Committee," Olsen said. "This is usually how we close out a project. We try to meet with them, do tours, and have our operator there giving an update on what operations will look like."

5. PROJECT MANAGER REPORTS

Jason Olsen gave the report. A pickle ball and tennis court package was recently approved for Bentley Park. This is in addition to the previously approved playground package. Crews are currently working on sidewalk trails and they're planting trees within the park. A ribbon cutting ceremony is expected for this park in spring of 2024.

Griffin Park Soccer Complex has 22 soccer fields, over 1,000 parking spaces, almost half of the fields have lighting, and the City is working on building a road that runs through the park to connect 12th Avenue east to Robinson. An east exit/entrance into Griffin Park Soccer Complex off of 12th Avenue was constructed once it was realized that signal lights were going to be available. This street improvement wasn't originally budgeted for in the construction of the Griffin Park Soccer Complex. Olsen stated that this valuable improvement created some "over-run costs". There will be some renovations to the dog park that is adjacent to Griffin Park as well. A ribbon cutting ceremony for Griffin Park is scheduled for 9:30 AM on Saturday, September 16, 2023.

The Adult Wellness and Education Center is "almost completely done with construction," according to Olsen. He stated that furniture will be delivered in about a week. The exercise equipment vendor for the Adult Wellness and Education Center is providing the equipment on a finance-lease basis. "We found it more conducive to make a monthly payment so that it can be a regular budget item and not a capital item in the future, and after the five year lease expires we get new equipment," Olsen stated. This facility is expected to open around November 1, 2023.

The Parks and Recreation Department is planning a Norman Forward Half-way Celebration at the Adult Wellness and Education Center. This is scheduled for October 19, 2023. "All of our major projects are done and we are at a half-way point (for the Norman Forward tax). A lot of work has gotten done and we want to make sure that we highlight all the accomplishments with Norman Forward," Olsen said.

The James Garner Extension project is under construction. This is a State Department of Transportation managed project. The Trae Young Drive project is expected to be completed in a few weeks with a street dedication expected the end of September.

6. YOUNG FAMILY ATHLETIC CENTER (YFAC) UPDATE & BUSINESS PLAN REPORT

The Young Family Athletic Center (YFAC) walls are all constructed. The facility is fully air conditioned. The wood floor is being installed. Staff is expected to start reporting to the YFAC sometime in December 2023, with the facility opening in January 2024. The ribbon cutting ceremony is expected to occur around the National Basketball Association (NBA) All-star break in February 2024 so that the Young family can be in attendance.

MISCELLANEOUS

7. ESTABLISHMENT OF FUTURE MEETING TIME(S)

The Board determined that the next Norman Forward Sales Tax Citizen Financial Oversight Board Meeting would be November 3, 2023, at 3:30 PM at the Adult Wellness and Education Center, 602 N. Findlay, Norman, OK.

8. TOUR OF THE YOUNG FAMILY ATHLETIC CENTER

Kellen McCoy, Field Operations Supervisor for the YFAC, provided the Board a guided tour of the YFAC. McCoy answered questions and provided insight into the facility's layout and design.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Brockus made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was duly seconded by Member Simpson. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:10 PM.

Andy Rieger, Chair
Norman Forward Sales Tax Citizen Financial Oversight Board