

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PONCA CITY, OKLAHOMA
MARCH 6, 2006

Pursuant to notice as required by law, the Ponca City Board of Commissioners met in regular (work) session at 2:00 p.m. in the Commission Room at City Hall, 516 E. Grand with Mayor Stone presiding:

Present: Richard Stone, Mayor
David Cummings, Commissioner
Diane Anderson, Commissioner
Stan Paynter, Commissioner
Gary Martin, City Manager
Marc LaBossiere, Finance Director/City Clerk

Absent: Wayne Foxworthy, Commissioner
Kevin Murphy, City Attorney

Others Present: Jim Sindelar, Craig Stephenson, Chris Henderson, Tana McKinley, Hong Fu, Mike Chapman, Darwin Haney, Butch Herring, City staff; Phil Bandy, Jayne Detten, Dave Bishop MS, Verle Caid, Laura Corff, T.L. Walker, Rich Cantillon, Steve Paresko, citizens.

1. Mayor Stone called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.
2. RECEIVE :REQUEST FROM OUTSIDE AGENCIES FOR “CONTRACTUAL SERVICES” FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006-07.

Rich Cantillon of the Ponca City Chamber of Commerce reviewed the mission of the Tourism Bureau that is managed by the Chamber. Cantillon then outlined upcoming tourism related opportunities in Ponca City, and concluded by informing the Commission of summary budget for the coming year. Discussion ensued.

Jayne Detten of Ponca City Main Street began with a handout summary of the past years activity and a budget proposal for the coming year. Detten then summarized history of the organization since it was founded in 1987.

Detten continued, with news for the Commission that Main Street had met with the State director and after the State had done a survey of downtown merchants, our Main Street scored results of 7.7 of 10. Compared with other communities in Oklahoma, that ranks Ponca City's program in the top 10%. Detten concluded by reviewing accomplishments of the past year, and reinvestments made in the downtown area. The contract amount requested is the same as the current year at \$30,000, plus some in-kind resources. Detten also qualified that the organization has begun to designate \$5,000 annually in funds to be used only for relocation of Main Street offices out of City Hall and on to Grand Avenue for an office. Discussion ensued.

Laura Corff, representing Cimarron Transit began, noting that the organization is half way through their seventh year of operations. Corff explained that for the first time in several years they may be able to get additional funds through the upcoming funding cycle, and add a driver, but this will require increased funding at the local level. Corff qualified this is the reason for their requested increase of \$15,000 more, to \$25,000. Discussion ensued regarding

cities and service areas covered, clients served, and service levels.

Verle Caid of Northern Oklahoma Youth Services began, noting their request is the same as recent years at \$15,000. Caid explained the importance of the local funding to leverage their grant funding for services offered. Caid gave some examples, and discussion ensued.

Rich Cantillon, representing Give Ponca the Business outlined their request for funding at \$5,000 for Community wide giveaway program. Cantillon reviewed the recent holiday event and successes of the program. Discussion ensued. No representative from Pro-Teens was in attendance, so City Manager Gary Martin gave a history on funding and the programming need.

3. DISCUSS “PROPOSED 24” PARALLEL SEWER INTERCEPTOR BETWEEN HARTFORD AVENUE AND LAKE ROAD.

Environmental Services Director Hong Fu began by reminding the Commission of several months ago when the City submitted a preliminary engineering plan to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) to satisfy a consent order to address wastewater collection system problems. Fu reviewed the most expensive and critical item, a 24-inch interceptor line running north to south near 14th Street. Fu then discussed options evaluated and timing.

City Manager Gary Martin stated he had requested the item be discussed at work session, as the collection system needs could affect our ability to approve growth in northeast Ponca City. Martin raised the question of whether or not we can wait 18 months to start the project, when it will take one year to complete. Martin went on to describe the collection system, and what area feeds into the line in question. Discussion ensued. Commission consensus was to move forward with design for the project.

4. COMMENTS FROM CITY MANAGER.

City Manager Gary Martin began by discussing wastewater collection in relation to development occurring north of Prospect, near Pecan. Martin explained that staff is looking at alternatives and will bring an agenda item to next work session to discuss extending a sewer line north on Pecan, where existing residents could tie on as well as new development. Discussion ensued regarding philosophy of extending lines and who pays for the improvement.

Martin then gave an update on the budget process. Next, Martin passed out photos of the pond clean-up project at the Marland Estate. Regarding Wentz Camp, Martin informed the Commission that it is obvious there are problems at the facility and that staff had met with architects last week, when many red flags were raised. Martin noted that it may be difficult to address all possible issues with the budget dedicated from the Public Facilities sales tax.

Martin relayed news of a meeting with staff to work on a FEMA mitigation grant. The outcome was a desire to use funding for some bank stabilization by the wastewater plant, as well as providing weather radios to residents and other localized drainage improvements.

Martin addressed the downtown sidewalk project to be funded from the Public Facilities sales tax, and informed the Commission that timing may be problematic if we hold off the current grant funded project while we wait for Vision 2020 projects to be defined and presented for public consideration.

Martin informed the Commission that on the following morning a portion of South Avenue would be closed while staff completes water distribution system valve work. Next Martin outlined a proposal by the local Rotary Club to recognize B.S. Barnes with a monument on the right side of Centennial plaza, by the benches.

Martin then updated the Commission on a safe room grant for community residents that has 250 applicants and has been approved by the State and sent to Washington D.C. Ponca City is one of five in the State, and if we are selected it will be a good project for our citizens.

Martin then reviewed a list of pending legislation, and possible consequences. Mayor Stone commented that he had requested a wage survey of department heads. Finally, Martin noted that on the following evening there would be storm spotter training in Tonkawa, free to the public, at 7 p.m. in Walcher Hall at NOC. The Kroc grant was discussed briefly.

6. COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS.

Commissioner Krueger requested that due to the early Spring weather, staff look into holding the annual Spring Clean-up early, if possible.

Mayor Stone relayed events that occurred on a recent trip to Washington D.C. regarding the OSU Sensor Testing facility and meeting with our elected officials. Stone then informed the Commission of news received from the Kroc foundation. After several meetings the City sent a letter to the Kroc Foundation committing to taking a sales tax vote to the people for consideration. If approved, the City will go to district court for declaratory judgement, which will ensure that future Commissions cannot void the tax. Stone stated that we have received a letter today from the Kroc Foundation notifying us that they are going forward to approve our plan and giving local authorities permission to go forward to complete a plan, with drawings at a cost as high as \$15M.

Stone then questioned where the City is on doing a skate park. City Manager Gary Martin replied that staff and the Park Advisory Board have looked at various areas, but there are concerns with each location as well as mixing older kids with younger. Discussion ensued.

7. ADJOURN

Mayor Stone adjourned the Work Session at 4:10 p.m.

PASSED IN SESSION AND APPROVED THIS 10TH DAY OF APRIL 2006.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK