

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
PONCA CITY, OKLAHOMA  
DECEMBER 4, 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 Chamber at City Hall, 516 E. Grand with Mayor Richard Stone presiding:

Present: Richard Stone, Mayor  
Paul Krueger, Commissioner  
Wayne Foxworthy, Commissioner  
Stan Paynter, Commissioner  
Diane Anderson, Commissioner  
Gary Martin, City Manager  
Kevin Murphy, City Attorney  
Marc LaBossiere, Finance Director/City Clerk

Others Present: David Keathly, Jim Eck, Craig Stephenson, Sam Whitecotton, Rob Dick, Dwaine Vincent, Chris Henderson, Tana McKinley, Mike Lane, City staff; Homer Nicholson, citizens, Rolf Clements, Ponca City News.

1. Mayor Stone called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

2. RECEIVE SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD UPDATE.

Chuck Clark, Chairman of the Senior Advisory Board, passed out an outline of accomplishments from the past year, including an informational brochure, the Art Linkletter show, a successful aging expo, and establishing subcommittee teams. Clark then elaborated on some of the committee team initiatives and events from the past year. Clark stressed an attempt was made to bring together all retiree groups across the area, including Conoco retirees, traditional users of the Senior Center, and others.

Clark then thanked the Commission for assistance in upgrading Senior Center facilities in the past year, including new tables, equipment, and signage. Clark reviewed services to seniors that the board is working on as well as board policies. Communications was identified as a difficult yet important area, with the board working on better ways to get information out .

Clark outlined critical areas to be addressed in the coming year, including transportation, board effectiveness, and working with other organizations to pull others in, and pull seniors into other organizations. City Attorney Kevin Murphy arrived at 2:11 p.m. Clarke concluded by informing the Commission that a second Successful Aging Expo will be held in 2007 and offered gratitude to Commissioner Wayne Foxworthy and Assistant City Manager Tana McKinley for their assistance during the year. Clark also thanked Community Development Director Chris Henderson and grants consultant Rhonda Skrapke for assistance, as well as Park & Recreation Director Jim Sindelar and Katie Goss who also give much assistance to the Senior Center. Discussion ensued.

3. RECEIVE PRESENTATION OF THE CITY OF PONCA CITY'S SNOW AND ICE CONTROL MANUAL.

City Manager Gary Martin noted that each year staff brings the City Snow and Ice policy to the City Commission for review. Martin noted that the Commission Policy Statement would be outlined today for informational purposes, as well as at the next regular evening meeting.

Assistant City Manager Craig Stephenson began the powerpoint presentation by reviewing basic policy on removal of snow and ice. Stephenson reminded the Commission that no two storms are alike, so there is some flexibility on procedures depending on the case. Stephenson clarified that snow is plowed only on major streets, and not side streets, with adjacent property owners responsible for clearing their own driveways.

Stephenson then outlined the various sand and salt mixtures applied to streets. Stephenson emphasized that snow and ice removal priority routes include major arterials such as Waverly, Pecan, 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Highland, South Avenue, Pine, Hartford, and Prospect. The State of Oklahoma removes snow on the State Highway portions of Grand Avenue and 14<sup>th</sup> Street. Stephenson identified secondary arterials as the next priority, followed by school bus district routes.

Stephenson informed the Commission that the City Park & Recreation Department also assists with snow removal. Priorities for the Park Department include removing snow from municipally owned facilities, City parking lots, and adjacent sidewalks, as well as assisting the Street Department on removal of accumulated snow piles. Discussion ensued.

4. RECEIVE UPDATE ON CHRISTMAS GALA AT THE MARLAND ESTATE.

David Keathly, Manager of Marland Estate, thanked Jim Eck and his crews for their assistance in snow removal at the Mansion during the previous weekend, which helped save several events from cancellation. Keathly noted that Louise Abercrombie is the current Chairperson of the Marland Estate Foundation (MEF). Keathly identified the two main annual events presented by the MEF as the Octoberfest and the Christmas Gala, the latter to be held on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

Keathly complimented Tammee Paresko, who is the event chairperson, and relayed the long timetable of preparation necessary for the festive event. Keathly stated that there are currently more than twenty Christmas trees in mansion, and that food will be served on both levels, with Head Country responsible for one and Steve Ellenwood the other. There will also be live music on both floors. Keathly explained that tickets are still available, and that the cost is \$50 per person. All proceeds go to the MEF.

5. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS.

City Manager Gary Martin reviewed upcoming events, including the Christmas Gala and the Christmas Parade. Martin noted that City departments will be very customer friendly during the holidays and gave some examples. Martin then informed the Commission that the Police Department has received a grant to fund some radar units. Next, Martin conveyed gratitude from the Oklahoma Community Institute for allowing them to hold their annual meeting in City Hall.

Martin announced that the Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority (OMPA) has named Cindy Holman as executive director, filling the position that is to be vacated by the retiring Harry Dawson. Martin qualified that OMPA will also be hiring a second individual as director of operations to fill other duties that Dawson carried on.

Martin then informed Commissioners that if interested, they may ride in a Park & Recreation Department float in the Christmas Parade on the coming Friday evening, and to meet at the Public Safety Center at 5:30 p.m. Martin noted that Highway 177 South of South Avenue is open, and is now a very nice entrance into Ponca City.

Martin informed the Commission that the Big Snake Bridge won an outstanding award this year. Martin then updated the Commission on progress made with the City channel 22. Finally, Martin addressed requests made by citizens to restore a Christmas tree at the center of Grand Avenue and Third Street, and that the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) will not allow a tree be placed there, as it is a State highway.

6. COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS.

Commissioner Krueger encouraged all citizens to vote, as it is their American right.

Commissioner Paynter made positive comments on City staff working in the snow, and for removal of the same after the recent storm.

Mayor Stone relayed many positive comments on Highway 177. Stone then noted two structure fires that occurred during the storm and passed on compliments to the Fire and Ambulance departments for their work during that time. Stone then thanked Major Johnny Poff of the Salvation Army, who brought coffee and hot chocolate to assist firefighters during storm events. Stone concluded by relaying questions he received about the future of the Hutchins facility if the proposed sales tax fails at election, and noted that there has been no decision made regarding the future.

7. Mayor Stone adjourned the meeting at 2:59 p.m.

***PASSED IN SESSION AND APPROVED THIS 8<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JANUARY, 2007.***

ATTEST:

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MAYOR

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CITY CLERK