

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PONCA CITY, OKLAHOMA
SEPTEMBER 18, 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 Stone presiding:

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

Others Present: Jim Sindelar, Craig Stephenson, Don Bohon, Craige Baird, Tana McKinley, Butch Herring, City staff; Rhonda Skrapke, grant consultant; Harry Dawson, Bruce Jackson, OMPA; Shane Harland, Earl Ball, Link Cotham, YMCA; Bill Steuver, Lillian Taylor, citizens; Rolf Clements, Ponca City News.

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

3. RECEIVE OMPA PRESENTATION ON DIESEL ENGINE INSURANCE. (TAKEN OUT OF ORDER)

Bruce Jackson of OMPA gave an overview of problems they are having with insuring the City's old diesel generating units at the diesel plant. OMPA is recommending to cease insurance on the diesel plant. Discussion ensued. Finance Director Marc LaBossiere questioned whether the insurance was required by the City's lease agreement with OMPA, and would take an amendment to the existing agreement to allow a change. Jackson confirmed that the lease agreement did require OMPA to insure the units.

2. RECEIVE REVIEW OF MOTOCROSS BY AMBUC MEMBER DR. WILLIAM STEUVER.

Bill Steuver, representative of the Ponca City AMBUCS, came before the Commission to discuss the solid waste bill that the organization had received for the 2006 Moto-Cross event. Steuver stated that he ordered similar service as last year. After several days, a problem became apparent, when trash service personnel only backed the truck up and dumped the dumpster, but did not pick up trash piled up around the dumpster. Steuver contended that picking up bagged trash off the ground should be covered by the service calls. Steuver requested the extra charges be waived.

Foxworthy questioned if the AMBUC's are changing their procedures for trash and clean up for the coming year. Steuver explained space issues the AMBUC's have at the site, and did not confirm a change was forthcoming. City Manager Gary Martin addressed the service side by showing a series of slides depicted various amounts of piled and scattered trash at the event that was not in dumpsters. Martin noted that the additional work to clean up scattered trash

has a real cost in man hours. Commissioner Krueger noted that other businesses in Ponca City are held to the same standard, that as long as trash is in the dumpster it will be taken away, but additional piled trash is not. Steuver argued that as the AMBUC's are a not-for-profit, they should be given additional service. Krueger noted that his employer, Woodlands Christian Church, was also a not-for-profit and followed the same rules. Discussion ensued.

4. CONSIDER AND DISCUSS CONCEPT OF GIVING PREFERENCE TO LOCAL BIDDERS.

Mayor Stone reviewed past philosophies of the City Commission on giving preference to local vendors versus awarding bids on straight cost with consideration to quality.

City Murphy Kevin Murphy affirmed that the lowest bid is not always the best, and that State statute says if there are two bidders, and the price and goods equal, there should be preference to Oklahoma manufacturers. Murphy expanded that in case of a tie, if a local vendor is involved it can be considered an overall benefit to the community and the bid awarded locally. Murphy explained that Texas has a 5% preference to locals, and that the City has had that policy in the past. Murphy suggested that rather than a formal policy, the Commission address bids one by one, on an ad hoc basis. Murphy concluded that some problems can come from giving a percent for local preference, including a decrease in bids from out-of-town vendors bidding and providing competition to hold costs down.

Stone concluded by requesting better detail from staff justifying their recommendation for the best bid and why. Discussion ensued.

5. REVIEW PARK & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD.

Director of Park & Recreation Jim Sindelar began by describing the advisory board, which is made up of nine members who serve three year terms. There are also two student members. Sindelar explained that the board looks at Park related capital issues, programming, new events to Ponca City, and makes recommendations on fees. Mayor Stone questioned the board's process for identifying projects to be funded through the Hotel/Motel Tax portion that is dedicated to Park capital for recreation. Sindelar confirmed that the board is working on a recommendation list and is looking at permanent electrical hook-ups at the Lake Ponca campgrounds, as well as other updates for the facility. Discussion ensued.

6. CITY MANAGERS COMMENTS.

City Manager Gary Martin relayed several complaints from citizens of not being able to hear members of the Commission when they speak at night meetings, and urged commissioners to speak into the microphone when they talk.

Martin then updated the Commission on the scheduled arrival of a Chinese delegation from our Sister City on the coming Saturday. The delegation includes the new Mayor of Baiyin China, and scheduled events include a tour of City Hall, the Ponca City Library and Matzene

Art Collection and an evening hosted by Northern Oklahoma College their facility on NOC cove.

Martin relayed that he has received a request from Central Baptist Church to be annexed into the City at their new site on Highway 177. Martin noted that there have been several meetings with Ponca City Energy related to their move into the new facility.

Martin then outlined a recent problem with ornamental street lights on S 6th, and noted they are off pending further investigation into the source of the problem. Martin concluded by updating the Commission of an upcoming meeting with electrical engineering firm Algar Martin to discuss working on the planned addition of a substation in the Osage service area.

7. COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS.

Commissioner Foxworthy requested an item be added to the next work session to discuss televising work sessions, and perhaps advisory board meetings as well. Foxworthy also questioned departmental reports on nuisance abatements, where numbers did not go up dramatically, nor fines, despite the new “sweep” program that has been used in the recent month. City Manager Gary Martin stated he would schedule staff for a presentation on the topic.

Commissioner Krueger discussed issues related to a proposed contract with the schools and the ballot question regarding a proposal to construct an events center and schools auditorium. Krueger also noted he was very happy with the fantastic Ponca City birthday bash that was held the previous weekend for the community on the City Hall grounds.

Mayor Stone relayed having attended a red white and blue church service that honored police, fire, and City government that was very nice. Stone also passed news on regarding recent communication from District Attorney Mark Gibson, who would like to come to a City Commission meeting and do an informational presentation on the Open Meeting laws in Oklahoma, to address problems before they arise.

8. Mayor Stone adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

PASSED IN SESSION AND APPROVED THIS 23RD DAY OF OCTOBER 2006.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

