

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
PONCA CITY, OKLAHOMA  
FEBRUARY 7, 2011

Pursuant to notice as required by law, the Ponca City Board of Commissioners met in work session at 2:00 p.m. in the Commission Chamber at City Hall, 516 E. Grand Avenue, with Mayor Homer Nicholson presiding:

Present:                   Homer Nicholson, Mayor  
                              Paul Krueger, Commissioner  
                              Diane Anderson, Commissioner  
                              Lanita Chapman, Commissioner  
                              Bill Flegler, Commissioner  
                              Craig Stephenson, City Manager  
                              Kevin Murphy, City Attorney  
                              Marc LaBossiere, Finance Director/City Clerk

Others Present:         Hong Fu, Chris Henderson, David Horinek, Tana McKinley, City staff.

1. Mayor Nicholson called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.
2. DISCUSS THE OPTION OF PRE-PAYING THE PCUA 1995A LOAN WITH OWRB.

Finance Director Marc LaBossiere reviewed the 95A debt issue that was used to construct water and wastewater utility infrastructure. LaBossiere reminded commissioners that the Wastewater Fund has been difficult to manage due to infrastructure needs, unfunded mandates, debt, and loss of a large industrial customer.

Given the current interest rate environment, LaBossiere reviewed for commissioners a proposal to utilize existing fund balance in the Water Fund to pay off remaining 95A debt. The difference in interest earned on the funds at current rates versus debt interest has a pay back of 6-months on the pre-pay premium, and the end result will be lower debt service expenses annually for both the water and wastewater utilities. Discussion ensued.

3. DISCUSS RESIDENTIAL REFUSE COLLECTION METHODOLOGIES.

City Manager Craig Stephenson introduced the topic as one some commissioners had requested more information about. Stephenson emphasized that the current scenario works well for our community, but that changes in technology are always worth reviewing for possible improvement to efficiencies.

Environmental Service Director Hong Fu then went through a powerpoint presentation which reviewed details on the current manual collection method. Fu then discussed options of semi-automated and fully automated collection as well as advantages and disadvantages of each. Fu next reviewed projections on costs for each method. Lengthy discussion ensued with Commission direction to research a pilot program to better determine feasibility.

4. RECEIVE OVERVIEW ON THE BUDGET PROCESS FOR FISCAL 2011-12.

Finance Director Marc LaBossiere began by discussing the City's budget philosophy. This

included budgeting to use current revenue to provide current services. The philosophy also centers on responsibility and conservatism, with a goal to minimize dramatic changes in rates and service levels.

LaBossiere then discussed application of those principles, supplemented by handouts with more detailed information. Next, LaBossiere discussed material issues for the coming budget year among City departments. The budget calendar was then reviewed, with LaBossiere stressing the two most important dates as the City Commission hearings with each individual department, scheduled for April 18 & 19, 2011. Discussion ensued.

5. COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS.

Mayor Nicholson complimented City staff for a smooth response and cleanup to recent snow storms. Commissioner Krueger also passed on appreciation of weather updates from City staff during recent storms. Commissioner Flegler echoed compliments on snow recovery by staff.

6. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS.

City Manager Craig Stephenson informed commissioners that an agenda item would be coming to them to create a second historic district in Ponca City, for Whitworth Street. Stephenson then noted that more snow is projected, and that crews and equipment are ready. Stephenson then invited commissioners to an upcoming OMPA regional meeting on February 24, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. Stephenson concluded with a listing of upcoming events.

7. ADJOURN.

Motion by Commissioner Flegler to adjourn, was seconded by Commissioner Anderson.

Roll: Yeas; Flegler, Chapman, Nicholson, Anderson, and Krueger. Nays; None. Motion carried.

Mayor Nicholson adjourned the meeting at 4:14 p.m.

***PASSED IN SESSION AND APPROVED THIS 28<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2011.***

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MAYOR

ATTEST:

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CITY CLERK