

**Minutes of the Claremore Cultural Development Authority Regular Meeting  
Council Chambers, City Hall, 104 S. Muskogee Ave.  
Claremore, Oklahoma December 23, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order by Mayor Bill Flanagan at 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Flanagan asked City Clerk Sarah Sharp to note that members are present/absent as indicated below:

**Present:** Jennifer Lewis, Ken Hays, Herb McSpadden, Will DeMier, Bill Flanagan, Brian Callender, Justin Michael, Susan Kirtley, Scott Savage

**Absent:**

**Staff Present:** Jim Thomas, Bryan Drummond, Sarah Sharp, John McComb, David White, Garrett Ball, Tanya Andrews, Kendel Stocker, Lisa Wilson, Suzan Maloy, Taylor Williams, Todd Rue, John Feary, Noelle Hays, Ty Burnett, Terry Legates, Jonah Humes, Jason Miller, Matt Rice, Josh Hewitt

Pledge of Allegiance by all.

Invocation by: Reverend Ted Estes, Lifechanger Church

**CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Rhonda Bear- spoke in favor of Jim Thomas. Moved to Claremore 12 years ago and believes our community is great because our leaders are great. Appreciates the way Mr. Thomas operates the City with integrity.

Kurt LeVan-has issues with the traffic system, brown water, electric prices, and firefighters are in constant danger due to their negligence. Encourages council to vote in the interest of the citizens or be remembered as cowards by those of us who are watching.

Buddy Robertson- was on Council for 14 years and saw 5 city managers in his tenure and Jim was the best. Explained the process of how the city manager/city council works. Believes city deserves and needs a City Manager like Jim Thomas.

David Stogsdill- has two issues to discuss: downtown at Christmastime is disappointing. Does not draw people in to spend money so that businesses can thrive and prosper. Complained about how the City relies on the electric revenue to operate the other city departments. Other cities are not structured that way and they are thriving. Complained about the online portal for electric billing to view household usage that was promised 2 years ago. Wants someone brought in that is fresh and has new ideas and that will treat the citizens with respect.

Kevin Buff-seen heard and read several things that are shooting from the hip instead of listening to citizens before responding to comments. Whatever the issue it falls back on the manager no matter what department it is.

Ashley Buff- spoke about the intentionally deceptive statements that have been made and continue to be made. Attacked specific facebook posts regarding water testing. City continues to make deceptive statements and Thomas has destroyed trust of citizens and shows no sign of moving towards sincere transparency.

Brian Green- Claremore native all his life and has seen Claremore evolve into what it is today and the challenges it has faced. Has seen many city managers and has seen the change in the last 5 years with the decisions of city council and city manager. He works with many communities within the Tulsa metro area and Claremore is forward thinking and headed in the right direction.

Paul Pixley- is a 55-year resident of the City. He believes Jim is unfairly under attack. Thomas was tasked with finding solutions and identify problems. Believes Jim is a good leader and has employed talented staff. He's a very talented go-getter and I hope the unrest and disrespect against Jim and the Council will stop.

Ty Burnett- speaking to the regards of statements made to hydrant testing causing water discoloration. He's not aware of any issues within the last 20 years other than on a dead end line that may have caused a temporary problem. There are firemen on the force for over 30 years and have never seen these water conditions before. An aging system should show signs of a gradual change. There has been a drastic change in the system this year. Believes the City is making misleading statements regarding the hydrant testing. Asked the Council to look at City Charter to investigate these concerns. He has tried to bring up safety concerns regarding the fire department and has heard that Councilors have been told not to speak to him.

### **ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

Motion by Hays, second by Kirtley that the agenda for the regular CCDA meeting of December 23, 2019 be approved as written. Roll call vote: Lewis, yes; Hays, yes; McSpadden, yes; DeMier, yes; Flanagan, yes; Callender, yes; Michael, yes; Kirtley, yes; and Savage, yes. Motion carried.

### **ITEMS UNFORESEEN AT THE TIME AGENDA WAS POSTED**

None.

### **CURRENT BUSINESS**

**(2) Approve/Reject the following consent items:**

- (a) Minutes of the Regular Claremore Cultural Development Authority Meeting on December 9, 2019 as printed.**

**(b) All Claims as printed.**

Motion by Hays, second by Kirtley to approve the consent items as listed. Roll call vote: Lewis, yes; Hays, yes; McSpadden, yes; DeMier, yes; Flanagan, yes; Callender, yes; Michael, yes; Kirtley, yes; and Savage, yes. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Kirtley, second by Michael to adjourn. Roll call vote: Lewis, yes; Hays, yes; McSpadden, yes; DeMier, yes; Flanagan, yes; Callender, yes; Michael, yes; Kirtley, yes; and Savage, yes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:26 P.M.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah Sharp".

Sarah Sharp, CMC  
City Clerk

**Minutes of Claremore Public Works Authority Regular Meeting  
Council Chambers, City Hall, 104 S. Muskogee Ave.  
Claremore, Oklahoma December 23, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order by Mayor Flanagan at 6:26 P.M.

Mayor Flanagan asked City Clerk Sarah Sharp to note that members are present/absent as indicated below:

**Present:** Jennifer Lewis, Ken Hays, Herb McSpadden, Will DeMier, Bill Flanagan, Brian Callender, Justin Michael, Susan Kirtley, Scott Savage

**Absent:**

**Staff Present:** Jim Thomas, Bryan Drummond, Sarah Sharp, John McComb, David White, Garrett Ball, Tanya Andrews, Kendel Stocker, Lisa Wilson, Suzan Maloy, Taylor Williams, Todd Rue, John Feary, Noelle Hays, Ty Burnett, Terry Legates, Jonah Humes, Jason Miller, Matt Rice, Josh Hewitt

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

Motion by Hays, second by DeMier that the agenda for the regular CPWA meeting of December 23, 2019 be approved as written. Roll call vote: Lewis, yes; Hays, yes; McSpadden, yes; DeMier, yes; Flanagan, yes; Callender, yes; Michael, yes; Kirtley, yes; and Savage, yes. Motion carried.

**ITEMS UNFORESEEN AT THE TIME AGENDA WAS POSTED**

None.

**CURRENT BUSINESS**

**(1) Approve/Reject the following consent items:**

- (a) Minutes of the Claremore Public Works Authority Regular Meeting on December 9, 2019.**
- (b) All claims as printed.**
- (c) Approval of Permit #SL000066190801 from Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality for construction of a sanitary sewer line to serve Claremore Estates (Garrett Ball).**
- (d) Approval of Permit #WL000066190800 from Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality for construction of a potable water line to serve Claremore Estates (Garrett Ball).**

Motion by Hays, second by Savage to approve the consent items as listed. Roll call vote: Lewis, yes; Hays, yes; McSpadden, yes; DeMier, yes; Flanagan, yes; Callender, yes; Michael, yes; Kirtley, yes; and Savage, yes. Motion carried.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Kirtley, second by DeMier to adjourn. Roll call vote: Lewis, yes; Hays, yes; McSpadden, yes; DeMier, yes; Flanagan, yes; Callender, yes; Michael, yes; Kirtley, yes; and Savage, yes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:27 P.M.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah Sharp".

Sarah Sharp, CMC  
City Clerk

**Minutes of Claremore City Council Regular Meeting  
Council Chambers, City Hall, 104 S. Muskogee Ave.  
Claremore, Oklahoma December 23, 2019**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order by Mayor Flanagan at 6:09 P.M.

Mayor Flanagan asked City Clerk Sarah Sharp to note that members are present/absent as indicated below:

**Present:** Jennifer Lewis, Ken Hays, Herb McSpadden, Will DeMier, Bill Flanagan, Brian Callender, Justin Michael, Susan Kirtley, Scott Savage

**Absent:**

**Staff Present:** Jim Thomas, Bryan Drummond, Sarah Sharp, John McComb, David White, Garrett Ball, Tanya Andrews, Kendel Stocker, Lisa Wilson, Suzan Maloy, Taylor Williams, Todd Rue, John Feary, Noelle Hays, Ty Burnett, Terry Legates, Jonah Humes, Jason Miller, Matt Rice, Josh Hewitt

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

Motion by Hays, second by McSpadden that the agenda for the regular City Council meeting of December 23, 2019 be approved as written. Roll call vote: Lewis, yes; Hays, yes; McSpadden, yes; DeMier, yes; Flanagan, yes; Callender, yes; Michael, yes; Kirtley, yes; and Savage, yes. Motion carried.

**AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Tanya Andrews introduced Kendel Stocker- new special events manager for Claremore Expo & Tourism Development. She has worked with her for the past 4 years on special projects.

**MAYOR'S REPORT & APPOINTMENTS**

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Hall will be closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

**STAFF REPORTS**

**(1) Presentation and discussion of the Water Distribution System (Garrett Ball).**

There are 130 miles of water main in the City from 1 inch to 24 inch and two pressure zones. 70% of the system is 50-100 years old. 30% is cast iron and/or steel pipes, which corrode and

deteriorate over time. Closed valves and inadequate flushing of lines are other issues that are faced. Showed photos of lines tied back into on the First Street project that is standard within systems that are of this age. Mineral deposits are noted in the pipes.

The causes of discoloration: 25 main breaks in 2019. The highest concentration of breaks were at the end of October/first of November. High velocity flushing, dissolved minerals in the water from the distribution plant. 895 hydrants were assigned to be flushed this year; 695-700 have been inspected. We reviewed the water taste and odor issues of water. There have been no spikes of manganese in the system since August.

They showed pre-2019 system improvements:

Construction and expansion of the Water Treatment Plant, mixers were installed in storage tanks, extension of a 16 foot main, amended the contract with Inframark to flush the dead end lines- DEQ mandates these be done every 90 days, several closed valves have been located and opened.

2019 Improvements:

Inframark amended their procedures to better monitor manganese, engineering did a study to evaluate raw water quantity for future needs, replaced 3900 feet of 8 inch cast iron main from 1932 with 12 inch pvc pipe, Talbert Water Tower storage has been increased by 50,000 gallons. We located 21 closed valves within the system in 2019. The 66 tower increased from 44 feet to 83 feet. Talbert Tower increased as well. Storage has been increased by more than 1,700,000 gallons. This increases flow for the fire department and has allowed plant shutdowns at night which provides fresher water.

Discussed the Oologah water line improvements and Claremore Lake Dam improvements.

2020 Projects:

1. System-wide maintenance project- fire hydrant replacements and repairs, installing new gate valves and eliminate dead ends in the system. Looking at the end of summer to start the project.
2. Talbert-Sioux transmission line replacements

Mentioned projects through 2023. Encourages the public to let us know when there is discoloration in their water so that those areas can be addressed.

## **CURRENT BUSINESS**

**(2) Approve/Reject the following consent items:**

**(a) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting on December 9, 2019.**

**(b) All claims as printed.**

**(c) Actual salary claims for pay period ending November 30, 2019 in the amount of \$503,797.75 and estimated salary claims to include contractual agreement for Fire Union Dues, Flexible Spending Accounts, Life Insurance, Fire Pension, Police Pension, Oklahoma Municipal Retirement Fund, Supplemental Vision, and Short/Long Term disability plans, and United Way Contributions for the next pay period in the amount of \$600,000. Payroll at \$600,000 amount to include payables.**

**(d) Approve a request of special exemption to Ordinance 132.05 to allow a fireworks display on December 31st for New Year's Eve at the Elks Lodge (Christy East).**

Motion by Hays, second by Savage to approve the consent items as listed. Roll call vote: Lewis, yes; Hays, yes; McSpadden, yes; DeMier, yes; Flanagan, yes; Callender, yes; Michael, yes; Kirtley, yes; and Savage, yes. Motion carried.

**(3) Discussion and vote to Approve/Reject the Independent Audit Report for the City of Claremore for fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 (Suzan Maloy).**

Anne Elfrink, City Treasurer, presented the annual financial report. Cash decreased but the net position increased because capital asset improvements were made. The City is in a healthy financial status with over 3 months operating expenses in reserve.

Kirt Vanderslice with Hinkle and Company presented the audit. Internal controls were tested and inventory was observed; it was well-organized and much improved. No findings on internal controls or compliance. Management was very compliant and a pleasure to work with.

Motion by Flanagan, second by McSpadden to approve the Audit Report. Roll call vote: Lewis, yes; Hays, yes; McSpadden, yes; DeMier, yes; Flanagan, yes; Callender, yes; Michael, yes; Kirtley, yes; and Savage, yes. Motion carried.

**(4) Discussion and vote to Approve/Reject Ordinance No. 2019-20, amending Chapter 50 relating to Electric Service (David White).**

Most of the changes to the ordinance were moving sections around and grouping items together. The rate classes were separated out clearly. The only changes made were the rate changes proposed. The customer charge increased but the kilowatt hour charge decreased.

Michael stated he doesn't believe there has been enough time to investigate and debate the changes.

Motion by Michael, second by Callender to table the vote on Ordinance No. 2019-20. Roll call vote: Lewis, no; Hays, no; McSpadden, no; DeMier, no; Flanagan, no; Callender, yes; Michael, yes; Kirtley, no; and Savage, no. Motion failed.



Savage has taken a lot of time and investigated the issue. Sat in meetings with RSU and they were complimentary of the electric department. Scott encouraged Council to go out and do their homework when items like this come about, as part of their job.

Motion by DeMier, second by McSpadden to approve Ordinance No. 2019-20. Roll call vote: Lewis, yes; Hays, yes; McSpadden, yes; DeMier, yes; Flanagan, yes; Callender, no; Michael, no; Kirtley, yes; and Savage, yes. Motion carried.

**(5) Discussion and vote to Approve/Reject an emergency clause for Item #4 that Ordinance No. 2019-20 shall be in full force and effect on January 1, 2020 after its passage, approval and adoption (David White).**

Motion by Flanagan, second by Hays to approve the emergency clause. Roll call vote: Lewis, yes; Hays, yes; McSpadden, yes; DeMier, yes; Flanagan, yes; Michael, yes; Kirtley, yes; and Savage, yes. Motion carried.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**(6) Discussion and vote to Approve/Reject entering into Executive Session to discuss the following items:**

- (a) Discuss, evaluate, and discuss the employment performance of the City Manager as authorized by OKLA. STAT. tit. 25, Section 307(B)(1) & (7).**
- (b) Discuss the purchase of real property, as authorized by OKLA. STAT. tit. 25, Section 307(B)(3).**

Time In: 7:53 p.m. voted to convene in executive session after a 5 minute break.

John Feary came out at 8:57 p.m.

Motion by Kirtley, second by Lewis to enter into executive session. Roll call vote: Lewis, yes; Hays, yes; McSpadden, yes; DeMier, yes; Flanagan, yes; Callender, yes; Michael, yes; Kirtley, yes; and Savage, yes. Motion carried.

**(7) Discussion and vote to Approve/Reject to acknowledge return to open session.**

Time Out: 9:51 p.m.

Motion by Hays, second by DeMier to return to open session. Roll call vote: Lewis, yes; Hays, yes; McSpadden, yes; DeMier, yes; Flanagan, yes; Callender, yes; Michael, yes; Kirtley, yes; and Savage, yes. Motion carried.

**(8) Statement of executive session minutes.**

While in executive session, council met to discuss (a) the employment performance of the City Manager as authorized by OKLA. STAT. tit. 25, Section 307(B)(1) & (7), and (b) the purchase of real property, as authorized by OKLA. STAT. tit. 25, Section 307(B)(3). All Council members present at the meeting were present in executive session, as well as the City Manager (items a&b), City Attorney (items a&b), CIEDA Director (Item b). No other items were discussed and no votes taken.

**(9) Discussion and vote to Approve/Reject the City Manager's evaluation.**

Tabled until the next Council Meeting.

Motion by Hays, second by Savage to table this item until the next meeting. Roll call vote: Lewis, yes; Hays, yes; McSpadden, yes; DeMier, yes; Flanagan, yes; Callender, yes; Michael, yes; Kirtley, yes; and Savage, yes. Motion carried.

**(10) Discussion and vote to Approve/Reject regarding the purchase of real property.**

**Authorized John to proceed as discussed in executive session.**

Motion by Kirtley, second by Hays authorize John Feary to proceed as discussed. Roll call vote: Lewis, yes; Hays, yes; McSpadden, yes; DeMier, yes; Flanagan, yes; Callender, yes; Michael, yes; Kirtley, yes; and Savage, yes. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Savage, second by DeMier to adjourn. Motion by Hays, second by DeMier to return to open session. Roll call vote: Lewis, yes; Hays, yes; McSpadden, yes; DeMier, yes; Flanagan, yes; Callender, yes; Michael, yes; Kirtley, yes; and Savage, yes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:54 P.M.



Sarah Sharp, CMC  
City Clerk