

**Minutes of Claremore City Council Special Meeting
Council Chambers, City Hall, 104 S. Muskogee Ave.
Claremore, Oklahoma November 18, 2010**

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mayor Flo Guthrie at 6:05 P.M.

Present: Flo Guthrie, Paula Watson, Buddy Robertson, Don Myers,
Cory Williams, Kimber Cobb

Absent: none

Staff Present: Daryl Golbek, Matt Ballard, Sarah Sharp, Sean Douglas,
Chris Cochran, Mickey Perry, Cassie Woods, Andrew Willis,
Ruby Maline

1. Discussion with IT Director Andrew Willis regarding purchasing I Pads for Council Members to receive City updates, emails, and Council agendas on.

IT Director Andrew Willis addressed the Council on the advantages of purchasing I Pads for City Councilors. Willis stated that it would be the easiest way for Council members to receive their agendas. There are two models, one has 3G, which would require a monthly fee for internet, the other model can connect at any WIFI spot. The emails that come out of the server are encrypted, so there would be no security issue there. The Primary use for the I Pads would be to receive agendas. Guthrie is doing this and have had great results, they love it, and it is saving them money every year on paper, ink, etc. It will also save employee time copying and delivering the agendas to Council members.

Myers: Would it be better to lease vs. buying?

Willis: I am not sure if Apple has that option, but I doubt it. The average lifespan of them will be about 3 years either way.

Myers: Would they be insured?

Willis: Apple has something called Applecare that we could purchase, but it is limited as to what it covers.

Myers: Andrew, why go with this instead of a notebook or laptop Is there a state price we can get them at?

Willis: They are cheaper and the software is more compatible. I also suggest we purchase cases for them. I am still checking into whether or not we can get state pricing on them.

Robertson: I don't see a down side to it.

Willis: Then I will get a full proposal together to bring before Council.

2. Discussion regarding Railroad Grade Separation Project and funding issues with the project.

Golbek- The City's portion of the project is \$10 million. ODOT has \$30 million set aside in their 8 year plan. They want the City to keep looking for our portion.

We met with Transystems today; the EA should be done by the first of the year.

I have been looking at alternate ways to come up with the \$10 million. One of the things that I have been looking at a utility fees. If it were \$5 residential, \$20 Commercial, \$30 industrial, that would be \$629,000 a year. Matt is looking into the fee charges.

Myers-Who will be the administrator of the project?

Golbek- ODOT wants to be the administrator; BNSF wants either themselves or the City to be the administrator. The bridges and structures is an issue , because BNSF wants the city to be responsible for the maintenance and I do not believe that we can be responsible for something that we do not own. The Tiger Grant did not go through-makes us \$20 million short there, plus the \$10 million we committed.

Was any of this contingent upon us receiving the Tiger Grant?

Golbek-No, project was talked about before Tiger Grant was brought up. If Tiger Grant does not go through in the future, ODOT cannot fund all of project, and BNSF will probably put a double track in.

The possibility of using the Hospital Fund was discussed, and whether or not using the money would have to go before a vote of the people.

Maline: Interest on the hospital money goes to pay the WWTP bond

Another option: talking to UP. Elevated track would benefit them too because diamond with BNSF would come out.

Myers: We need to let the people know what is going on with the railroad and the overhead track.

Woods: We don't know, that's the problem. I would not have a problem with releasing a statement once we talk to ODOT.

Daryl will set up a meeting with Gary Ridley at ODOT to see where we stand now that the Tiger Grant is a no-go.

Williams left meeting at 6:45

3. Discussion regarding former Library/Fire Administration Building located at 121 N. Weenonah Ave. and disposition of the building.

4. Discussion regarding partnership with RCIDA regarding the rent of the DPS location at The Market.

*Items #3 and #4 were discussed at the same time, considering it has been discussed to move DPS from its current location at The Market to the Old Fire Administration Building at 121 N. Weenonah Ave.

Perry: I have spoken with Mick Thomas, RCIDA is still up in the air. The County Commissioners have not approved the transfer of money to RCIDA.

When is the contract up?

Ballard: Contract is up, we are on a month to month basis at this point.

Maline: Rent is \$1,380.00 a month.

Douglas: We are still waiting on a sprinkler system quote, but estimates are already at \$41,000.00 in order for the Historical Society to bring it up to code. Quotes for Fire Administration to move back into the building would be about \$12,000.00 DPS would be more, but closer to 12,000- Probably between \$12,000 and \$20,000.

Woods: The Historical Society has applied to put it on the historical register.

Perry: Mick Thomas said that he would contact me as soon as he knew something.

Myers-We need to put Fire Administration back there, they are shoved in all these cubbies around here, they need the space.

Woods- Have we asked the State to help fund the DPS location?

Perry-yes, they say they have no money.

If the City keeps the building, the Council would like to see the Fire Administration move back into the building.

5. Discussion regarding Traffic Loop Study, a partnership with Rogers County regarding the study and construction of traffic loops, and update regarding road construction projects.

Golbek- BWR quoted the study at \$294,000.00. We have \$125,000.00 set aside for it. Still not sure where the county is at on funding. 95% of the study is in the county. We have our comprehensive study done. We need to step back from the loop study and work on what our comprehensive study told us we need to do.

The cost for connecting Country Club to Southaven is \$4.5 million.

Myers: What do you suggest our next biggest project is after Country Club?

Golbek: King/Southaven

6. Discussion regarding grant from INCOG to widen J.M. Davis Blvd.

Golbek: Grant was done with INCOG when Sam Balsinger was with the City. Grant is to widen J.M. Davis Blvd. from Will Rogers Blvd. to Highway 66.

Elevated track will take up all the railroad right-of-way on the East. If we go to the West, it will take out some parking for businesses. Another area of concern is that if the elevated track goes through (short or long version), it will completely eliminate the Archer St. crossing. This grant completely re-vamps the Archer Street intersection. The grant would also add a center turn lane on J.M.Davis from Highway 66 to Will Rogers Blvd.

Golbek: I just hate to spend that money and then have the intersection torn up. We have \$750,000.00 (required 25%) in the budget for our portion. The money is up this year; we must spend it or lose it. We could walk away from the grant, but I hate to give up any money. I would also hate to spend the money on something that could be torn up in a few years.

Golbek will continue with the engineering and grant.

7. Report from Interim City Manager regarding infrastructure needs and update on ongoing infrastructure projects.

Golbek- I have some maps here for you all to look at. They show streets and water/sewer line improvements and Phase I and II of the Stormwater master plan and also underground electric; they are divided by Ward, prices are included.

In the past few years, we have not spent a lot of money on Infrastructure. We now have a DEQ consent that we are working on in Holiday Hills, and then the lift station.

Ron Kolker would like to have a retreat soon with Council just for the financials. We also need to look at selling surplus land, project kind of died in the water when Phil Stowell left.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.