

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PONCA CITY, OKLAHOMA
AUGUST 20, 2012

Southwest Business Products E1113067LD

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
R. Mark Macy, Commissioner
Steve Hermann, Commissioner
Lanita Chapman, Commissioner
Diane Anderson, Commissioner
Craig Stephenson, City Manager
Kevin Murphy, City Attorney
Marc LaBossiere, Finance Director/City Clerk

Others Present: Rob Dick, Chris Henderson, Phil Johnston, Mike Chapman, Tana McKinley, Dwaine Vincent, Jim Fairbanks, Jim Sindelar, City staff; citizens; Beverly Bryant, Ponca City News.

1. Mayor Nicholson called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.
2. DISCUSS DEMOLITION OF OLD NUMBER ONE BOILER AND UNUSED FUEL STORAGE TANK AT THE STEAM PLANT.

City Manager Craig Stephenson began, informing commissioners that while recent demolition was occurring on the interior of the diesel plant, it became apparent that there were several pieces of equipment outside of the plant that also needed to be removed.

Ponca City Energy Manager Phil Johnston gave a slide show presentation with plant pictures. Johnston explained that the biggest reason to address demolition now is to remove the final asbestos from the plant and with metal prices high, we can get the demolition done and still make some money above that. Johnston qualified that the contractor with the best proposal says no additional cost will be charged if more asbestos is found than expected so long as the City gives him a spot to bury it in the landfill. That bid includes removal plus a payment to the City of \$10,000. Discussion ensued.

3. RECEIVE A STAFF REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE FEMA DISASTER DECLARATION FOR KAY CO. AS A RESULT OF THE STORM EVENT THAT OCCURRED ON APRIL 19-30, 2012.

City Manager Craig Stephenson began, reminding all of the 9-inch rain event on April 29, 2012. Stephenson noted that although Ponca City had minimal flooding in homes, there was some damage to infrastructure. Since meeting with FEMA about a possible disaster declaration, it is possible the City could receive federal funding for 75% of damages, and State funding for 12.5%.

Development Services Director Chris Henderson continued, explaining that City staff has been documenting damage and wanted to update the Commission. Henderson stated that staff has walked every foot of drainage basins in Ponca City, and among the 500 photos taken has identified 50 locations where damage has occurred.

Henderson relayed that FEMA was in Ponca City this past Friday to look at the damaged locations. Most of the damage is downstream from Hartford. Henderson explained that staff has divided repair into four projects; the airport, Lake Ponca spillway, near Highland & 14th Street, and a general clean-up of drainage ways across town. Discussion ensued.

4. DISCUSS AN ORDINANCE REPEALING "PERMANENT RESIDENT" EXEMPTION FROM IMPOSITION OF HOTEL/MOTEL SALES TAX.

Finance Director Marc LaBossiere outlined the current 8% tax on hotel/motel stays in Ponca City, and reviewed a list of exemptions including government employees, churches, and guests staying over 30 consecutive days, or permanent residents. LaBossiere explained that the permanent resident may have been common decades ago, but is rare today, and that verification of an exemption is problematic and time consuming. LaBossiere also noted that one operator in particular may be abusing the exemption. Discussion ensued.

5. COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS.

Mayor Homer Nicholson reported having just returned from two meetings in Oklahoma City with OWRB and ODEQ to address massive increases they are trying to push down to cities for service fees. Discussion ensued.

Commissioner Lanita Chapman noted that while the mayor was out of town recently, she attended a welcome home celebration for National Guard troops returning from deployment in the Middle East. Chapman stated 60 troops returned and that the experience was awesome.

6. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS.

City Manager Craig Stephenson reported that staff is in the process of ordering new uniforms for City employees, including an updated look, updated winter gear, and the addition of several positions to fire resistant uniforms. Stephenson then informed commissioners of a recent bid opening on the lake Ponca Bridge Project, where the engineer estimate was \$1.88M and only one bid was received at over \$2M. Discussion followed.

Stephenson then relayed bid news for the Lansbrook Culvert Stormwater Project, where three bids were received, with the lowest bid slightly over the engineer estimate. Stephenson explained that the project will be funded with 75% FEMA grant funds and hopefully 12.5% State funds, with the City's stormwater fund paying the balance.

Stephenson then informed all of a Senior Fraud Conference to be held at the Pioneer Technology Center on September 14, 2012. Stephenson then elaborated on news of a reported film to be made about Lyde Marland and hopes for local filming. Discussion ensued.

Stephenson concluded with news that the new Fire Department pumper truck is set to arrive this weekend and will be parked out front of City Hall before the next regular meeting on August 27, 2012.

7. ADJOURN.

Motion was made by Commissioner Chapman to adjourn the Work Session of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Macy seconded.

Roll: Yeas; Chapman, Macy, Anderson, Hermann, Nicholson. Nays; none. Motion carried.

Mayor Nicholson adjourned the meeting at 2:49 p.m.

PASSED IN SESSION AND APPROVED THIS 27TH DAY OF AUGUST 2012.

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK



Homer Nicholson
MAYOR
