

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PONCA CITY, OKLAHOMA
May 16, 2016

Southwest Business Products E1505510LD

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
Lanita Chapman, Commissioner
Ryan Austin, Commissioner
Nancy Rathbun, Commissioner
Craig Stephenson, City Manager
Michael Vanderburg, City Attorney
Marc LaBossiere, Finance Director/City Clerk

Absent: Mary Beth Moore, Commissioner

Others Present: Jim Sindelar, Mike Lane, Anthony Rogers, Don Bohon, Chris Henderson, Rhonda Skrapke, City staff, Shane Harland, Stephanie Williams, YMCA; citizens; Steve Dye, Ponca City News, Beverly Bryant, TEAM Radio.

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Mayor Nicholson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. RECEIVE SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT ON THE PONCA CITY AQUATIC AND FAMILY CENTER- YMCA.

YMCA Executive Director Shane Harland began a powerpoint presentation, informing all that the YMCA currently has 7,480 members, or 3,280 units. Harland noted that a year ago they had approximately 8,300 members and that so far in 2016, 1,814 members have received financial assistance.

Stephanie Williams, Senior Director of Programs & Marketing, continued, listing various community collaborations for events including the Boy Scouts, Red Cross, Ponca City High School Athletic Department, Operation Pioneer Spirit, among others.

Harland then informed commissioners that the YMCA is in the middle of their annual support campaign, with a goal of \$60,000 and a little over \$30,000 raised so far.

Williams then relayed various facility rentals, including five after prom rentals and school rentals that served 614 area students.

Harland continued, outlining their "Everybody In The Pool" program, which targets community second graders. Harland noted that the program grants free swim lessons to second graders and that Garfield Elementary School was added this year. So far, the program has served over 1,000 second grade students.

Williams then described their recent Healthy Kids Day celebration. Harland followed, updating commissioners on the outdoor ball fields, and that Ponca City Junior Baseball has coordinated with the Girls Softball Association. Harland stated a belief that there would be increased utilization in the coming year and that this weekend's activities include a second annual soccer tournament.

Williams then reviewed the several adult leagues hosted at the facility. Williams continued, reviewing their Youth Giving Garden program, which served 50-60 E Middle School 8th grade students who test seedlings, then transplant them into a youth garden. Williams noted that they have collaborated with OSU extension services on a Master Gardener class as well.

Harland then announced the acquisition of a new large piece of equipment, a Queenax. The equipment is built by Precor, and is a combination of crossfit and other activities. Harland explained that staff is giving lessons to members now, and coordinating with aerobic classes for use on it. The addition adds hundreds of new exercises and is a nice asset for members. Harland noted that they just finished an indoor youth triathlon, where entrants ran about a mile, biked a mile, then swam as well.

Mayor Nicholson questioned revenues and expenses for the YMCA. Harland stated that year to date they are about \$6,000 in revenues over expenses and that they have cut back on some personnel and some services. Discussion ensued.

3. DISCUSS THE REQUEST FROM THE OKLAHOMA EARTH BIKE FELLOWSHIP PONCA CITY TO CLOSE A SECTION OF SNAKE ROAD BETWEEN WENTZ CAMP AND HUBBARD ROAD.

Park & Recreation Director Jim Sindelar distributed a handout that discussed proposed gating of a portion of East Snake Road, adjacent to Lake Ponca. Sindelar listed the many recent improvements made in the area by a citizen mountain bike society. Sindelar recounted efforts by the Park & Recreation Advisory Board, who studied the issue intensely. The society has proposed gating a section of the roadway for safety purposes. Initially the advisory board voted no; but after further study, at the recent April meeting they voted yes with a vote of 6-3.

Sindelar then detailed the area, its users, and safety concerns. City Manager Craig Stephenson added that the roadway is closed from November to March annually, to discourage illegal dumping that occurs in the area, but that it is opened in Spring & Summer for access to fishermen. Sindelar then illustrated on a map the proposed location for new gates and discussed parking, access areas, and fishing spots. Discussion ensued.

4. COMMENTS FROM MAYOR AND COMMISSIONERS.

Mayor Nicholson informed all that Commissioner Moore's mother had passed away, and requested that she be kept in our prayers. Commissioner Rathbun expressed gratitude to the Ponca City Library for their recent "Touch a Truck" program, and noted that fun was had by all.

5. CITY MANAGER COMMENTS.

City Manager Craig Stephenson noted it has come to the attention of Ponca City Energy that the State legislature is considering requiring our wholesale power supplier, the Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority, to contribute a portion of its revenue to the state's general fund. OMPA is a "cost of service" organization that is not appropriated by the State, and is funded entirely through the sale of electric power. Therefore, any move by the state to require funding from OMPA to offset the state's budget would be a direct cost to Ponca City Energy and its customers. This is a cost that other non-municipal served cities and their customers in Oklahoma would not have to pay. Stephenson urged all to contact

their State Representative and State Senator immediately to oppose this tax on Ponca City Energy customers. OMPA will continue to monitor activities in connection with the budget crisis. Discussion ensued.

6. VOTE ON A MOTION TO HOLD AN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO TITLE 25 O.S. § 307B3 FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING THE TERMS OF A POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF AND INTEREST IN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN BLOCKS 9 AND 10 IN WEITZEL'S ADDITION TO THE CITY OF PONCA CITY.

At 3:05 p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Chapman to enter into executive session. Commissioner Austin seconded.

Roll: Yeas; Chapman, Austin, Nicholson, Rathbun. Nays; None. Motion Carried.

7. ADJOURN.

A motion was made by Commissioner Rathbun to adjourn. Commissioner Chapman seconded.

Roll: Yeas; Rathbun, Chapman, Nicholson, Austin. Nays; None. Motion carried.

Mayor Nicholson adjourned the meeting at 3:22 p.m.

PASSED IN SESSION AND APPROVED THIS 23RD DAY OF MAY 2016.

ATTEST

James H. Hiers
DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Gregory Moore
VICE MAYOR

