



CITY OF NORMAN, OK CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Municipal Building, Council Chambers, 201 West Gray, Norman, OK 73069
Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at 6:30 PM

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL, NORMAN UTILITIES AUTHORITY, NORMAN MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY, AND NORMAN TAX INCREMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY

The City Council of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Regular Session in the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building, on Tuesday, October 22, 2024, at 6:30 PM, and notice of the agenda of the meeting was posted at the Norman Municipal Building at 201 West Gray and on the City website at least 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

It is the policy of the City of Norman that no person or groups of persons shall on the grounds of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial status, marital status, including marriage to a person of the same sex, disability, relation, or genetic information, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination in employment activities or in all programs, services, or activities administered by the City, its recipients, sub-recipients, and contractors. In the event of any comments, complaints, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, and auxiliary aids and services regarding accessibility or inclusion, please call 405-366-5424, Relay Service: 711. To better serve you, five (5) business days' advance notice is preferred.

CITY COUNCIL, NORMAN UTILITIES AUTHORITY, NORMAN MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY, AND NORMAN TAX INCREMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mayor Larry Heikkila
Councilmember Ward 1 Austin Ball
Councilmember Ward 2 Matthew Peacock
Councilmember Ward 3 Bree Montoya
Councilmember Ward 4 Helen Grant
Councilmember Ward 5 Michael Nash
Councilmember Ward 6 Joshua Hinkle
Councilmember Ward 7 Stephen Holman
Councilmember Ward 8 Scott Dixon

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was led by Mayor Heikkila.

PROCLAMATIONS

1. CONSIDERATION OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF PROCLAMATION P-2425-8: A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, PROCLAIMING TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2024, AS SOUTH CENTRAL COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATE (CASA) DAY IN THE CITY OF NORMAN.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle.

Participants in discussion

1. Ms. Sherri Marsico, Executive Director, South Central CASA, accepted the proclamation and thanked the Council

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 2 Peacock, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4, Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

Proclamation P-2425-8 was Acknowledged.

2. CONSIDERATION OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF PROCLAMATION P-2425-9: A PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, PROCLAIMING NOVEMBER 3 THROUGH NOVEMBER 9, 2024, AS OKLAHOMA MOBILITY WEEK IN THE CITY OF NORMAN

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle.

Participants in discussion

1. Mr. Nelson Dent, Americans with Disabilities Act Citizens Advisory Committee Chair, accepted the proclamation and thanked the Council

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 2 Peacock, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4, Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

Proclamation P-2425-9 was Acknowledged.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ward 8 – Councilmember Dixon

Reported the University of Oklahoma men's golf team is currently ranked No. 1 in the country. The team is competing in a tournament at Oklahoma City Golf and Country Club, and Head Coach Ryan Hybl was recently inducted into the NCAA Men's Coaching Hall of Fame.

Ward 7 – Councilmember Holman

- Reminded residents of Fall Fest in downtown Norman on Friday. The event features street closures, candy distribution by local businesses, bounce houses, and family activities. Attendance in prior years has been in the thousands, and the event is free to the public.
- Announced a community conversation on food security and community gardens, scheduled for October 28th at 6:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church.
- Congratulated the recent graduates of the Norman Citizens Academy, noting the program provides participants with hands-on learning about City departments and services.
- Reported that the Center for Children and Families, Inc. (CCFI) will be moving Boys and Girls Club activities to the Reaves Center at Reaves Park.
- Announced that Norman's fixed-route bus system, Route 112, will begin 30-minute service on October 27th.
- Encouraged residents to participate in the upcoming election and early voting, noting that early voting will be held at Sooner Mall on October 30th – November 2nd.

Ward 6 – Councilmember Hinkle

Announced that the Center for Children and Families will host the Infant Crisis Services "BabyMobile" on October 28th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. No appointment is required. Families can receive a week's worth of diapers, formula, and food.

Ward 4 – Councilmember Grant

- Congratulated the Citizens Academy graduates and encouraged residents to consider participating in the future.
- Announced the reappointment of Ward 4 residents to boards and commissions, including Environmental Control and Advisory Board, Historic District Commission, Norman Election Commission, and Norman Housing Authority.
- Reported that Oscillator Press will hold a mask-making workshop on Wednesday evening, with an impromptu parade planned for Fall Fest on Friday.

Ward 3 – Councilmember Montoya

- Announced upcoming events:
 - November 5th. City election with early voting opportunities.
 - November 9th: Electronics Waste Recycling Event at Reaves Park, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
 - November 15th: "Right Tree, Right Place" tree giveaway at Griffin Community Park, beginning at 9:00 a.m.
- Expressed appreciation to City staff and Embark for bus service connecting Norman residents to Oklahoma City, including the Social Security office in Moore. Praised Norman's public transportation as a valuable community resource.
- Encouraged families to participate in numerous upcoming "Trunk or Treat" and Halloween events in Norman and surrounding areas.
- Highlighted the Citizens Academy program, noting participants consistently commend the dedication of City staff.

Ward 1 – Councilmember Ball

- Recognized City employees for securing significant grant funding to support programs and services, including:
 - \$11,874,464 for transit services (Taylor Johnson and Jason Huff, Transit Division)
 - \$423,000 in additional grant funding (Michelle Loudonback and Michelle Chao, Utilities Department)
- Reported that in total, staff secured \$20,065,818 in external funding, reducing the burden on local tax dollars.

CONSENT DOCKET

This item is placed on the agenda so that the City Council, by unanimous consent, can designate those routine agenda items that they wish to be approved or acknowledged by one motion. If any item proposed does not meet with approval of all Councilmembers, that item will be heard in regular order. Staff recommends that Item 3 through Item 18 be placed on the consent docket.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 2 Peacock, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4, Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

Items 3 through 18 were placed on the Consent Docket.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF THE MINUTES AS FOLLOWS:
CITY COUNCIL, NORMAN UTILITIES AUTHORITY, NORMAN MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY, AND NORMAN TAX INCREMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 10, 2023.

CITY COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2024.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

The minutes were Approved.

Reports/Communications

4. CONSIDERATION OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF THE MONTHLY DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 2024.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

Receipt of the Monthly Department Reports was Acknowledged.

5. CONSIDERATION OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RECEIPT OF THE FINANCE DIRECTOR'S INVESTMENT REPORT AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2024, AND DIRECTING THE FILING THEREOF.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

Receipt of the Finance Director's Investment Report was Acknowledged.

6. CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSION, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR REJECTION OF RECEIPT OF THE CITY MANAGER'S CONTRACT AND CHANGE ORDER REPORT AND DIRECTING THE FILING THEREOF.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

Receipt of the City Manager's Contract and Change Order Report was Acknowledged.

Appointments

7. CONSIDERATION OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT, APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF THE MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS AS FOLLOWS:

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

TERM: 10/22/24 TO 12/22/27, CURTIS MCCARTY, WARD 8

TERM: 10/22/24 TO 12/22/27, DR. BEN BIGELOW, WARD 6

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL ADVISORY BOARD

TERM: 10/22/24 TO 10/27/27, LAINEY PHILLIPS, WARD 6

TERM: 10/22/24 TO 10/27/27, NATHALIE ROCHER, WARD 4

TERM: 10/22/24 TO 07/31/27, TODD HOWERY, WARD 3

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

TERM: 10/22/24 TO 10/26/27, TABOR HALFORD, WARD 4

TERM: 10/22/24 TO 10/26/27, MITCH BAROFF, WARD 4

TERM: 10/22/24 TO 10/26/27, MICHAEL ZORBA, WARD 6

NORMAN ELECTION COMMISSION

TERM: 10/22/24 TO 09/01/27, TY HARDIMAN, WARD 4

NORMAN HOUSING AUTHORITY

TERM: 10/22/24 TO 11/21/27, PEGGY STOCKWELL, WARD 4

TERM: 10/22/24 TO 11/21/27, BECKY HUNT, WARD 2

NORMAN REGIONAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

TERM: 10/22/24 TO 10/31/27, MARY WOMACK, WARD 5

TERM: 10/22/24 TO 10/31/27, DR. MUHAMMAD, WARD 8

TERM: 10/22/24 TO 10/31/27, DR. KELLEY LOBB, WARD 5

PLANNING COMMISSION

TERM: 10/22/24 TO 11/01/27, LIZ MCKOWN, WARD 8

TERM: 10/22/24 TO 11/01/27, DOUG MCCLURE, WARD 7

TERM: 10/22/24 TO 11/01/27, STEVEN MCDANIEL, WARD 3

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

The appointments were Approved.

Contracts

8. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF CHANGE ORDER ONE TO CONTRACT K-2324-70: BY AND BETWEEN THE NORMAN UTILITIES AUTHORITY AND KRAPFF-REYNOLDS CONSTRUCTION CO., IN THE NET AMOUNT OF -\$180,336, FOR THE SEWER MAINTENANCE PROJECT - 2019.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

Change Order One to Contract K-2324-70 was Approved.

9. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RFP-2425-18 AND CONTRACT K-2425-48: A CONTRACT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, AND UNLIMITED TREASURES, L.L.C., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,564 PER MONTH TO PROVIDE CUSTODIAL SERVICES FOR THE ADULT WELLNESS AND EDUCATION CENTER (AWE).

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

Request for Proposal RFP-2425-18 was Accepted and Contract K-2425-48 was Approved.

10. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RFP-2425-17 AND CONTRACT K-2425-49: A CONTRACT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, AND ANAGO OKC, INC., IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,142.30 PER MONTH TO PROVIDE CUSTODIAL SERVICES FOR THE 12th AVENUE RECREATION CENTER, IRVING RECREATION CENTER, WHITTIER RECREATION CENTER AND LITTLE AXE COMMUNITY CENTER.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

Request for Proposal RFP-2425-17 was Accepted and Contract K-2425-49 was Approved.

11. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF CONTRACT K-2425-61: A PUBLIC TRANSIT REVOLVING FUND AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, AND THE OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT) DISTRIBUTING A MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF FUNDS IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED TWO HUNDRED TWENTY-TWO THOUSAND SIXTY ONE DOLLARS (\$222,061) IN THREE (3) BILLINGS PAYABLE ON OR AFTER NOVEMBER 1, 2024, FEBRUARY 1, 2025, AND JUNE 1, 2025; SUCH FUNDS TO BE USED FOR ESTABLISHING, EXPANDING, IMPROVING, AND MAINTAINING THE CITY OF NORMAN'S URBAN PUBLIC MASS TRANSPORTATION SERVICES.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

Contract K-2425-61 was Approved.

Resolutions

12. CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2425-52: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA APPROPRIATING \$2,655,575 FROM THE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND BALANCE; \$130,048 FROM THE WESTWOOD FUND BALANCE; \$4,681,687 FROM THE RISK MANAGEMENT FUND BALANCE; \$4,814,280 FROM THE CAPITAL FUND BALANCE; AND \$1,291 FROM THE NORMAN FORWARD FUND BALANCE, TO CLOSE OUT YEAR-END ACCOUNTING ENTRIES FOR FYE 2024.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon.

Item 12, continued

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

Resolution R-2425-52 was Adopted.

13. CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2425-53: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN DIRECTING STAFF TO TERMINATE CONTRACT K-2223-56, A SERVICE AND LEASE AGREEMENT WITH FOOD AND SHELTER, INC. FOR OPERATION OF AN EMERGENCY OVERNIGHT SHELTER, PURSUANT TO ITS TERMS. THIS ITEM IS BEING POSTPONED TO ALLOW STAFF TO NEGOTIATE THE STARTING DATE FOR THE NEW CONTRACT.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

Resolution R-2425-53 was Postponed Indefinitely.

14. CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2425-56: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, DECLARING THAT THE CITY COUNCIL, NORMAN MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY, NORMAN UTILITIES AUTHORITY AND NORMAN TAX INCREMENT FINANCE AUTHORITY MEETING SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 24, 2024, SHALL BE CANCELLED.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

Resolution R-2425-56 was Adopted.

15. CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2425-59: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, GIVING THE SECRETARY OF THE CLEVELAND COUNTY ELECTION BOARD NOTICE OF 2025 MUNICIPAL AND MUNICIPAL RUNOFF ELECTIONS.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

Resolution R-2425-59 was Adopted.

16. CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2425-61: A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA AUTHORIZING GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$171,050 TO FUND SOLAR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ENERGY EFFICIENCY REVOLVING LOAN PROGRAM.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon.

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

Resolution R-2425-61 was Adopted.

NON-CONSENT ITEMS

17. CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF ORDINANCE O-2425-4 ON SECOND AND FINAL READING: AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, AMENDING SECTION 36-201 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF NORMAN SO AS TO GRANT SPECIAL USE FOR AUTOMOBILE SERVICE STATION IN THE C-1, LOCAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT FOR LOT 3, BLOCK 1 OF SOUTH LAKE ADDITION SECTION 12 OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, CLEVELAND COUNTY, OKLAHOMA; AND PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY THEREOF. (3301 CLASSEN BLVD.)

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon.

Participants in discussion

1. Mr. Scott Darr, Olsson, representing the applicant
2. Mr. Ben Plummer, Ward 4, made comments

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 2 Peacock, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

Ordinance O-2425-4 was Adopted on Second Reading section by section.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle.

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 2 Peacock, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman, Councilmember Ward 8 Dixon

Ordinance O-2425-4 was Adopted on Final Reading.

18. CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF RESOLUTION R-2425-60: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NORMAN REQUESTING THE OKLAHOMA TURNPIKE AUTHORITY'S ACCESS OKLAHOMA PROGRAM TO IMPROVE AND CONSTRUCT FACILITIES IN THE VICINITY OF THE CITY OF NORMAN ALONG THE EAST-WEST CONNECTOR.

Motion made by Councilmember Ward 2 Peacock to postpone indefinitely, Seconded by Councilmember Ward 4 Grant.

Participants in discussion

1. Ms. Sherylann Densow, Wards 4 and 6, opponent
2. Ms. Elizabeth Foreman, Ward 6, proponent
3. Ms. Amy Cerato, Ward 5, opponent
4. Mr. Dave Moore, Ward 5, opponent
5. Ms. Cassie Hirschfeld, Ward 5, made comments
6. Mr. Stephen Ellis, Ward 4, proponent
7. Ms. Kelly Wilson, Ward 6, proponent
8. Ms. Tiffany Stephens, Ward 5, proponent
9. Mr. Paul Wilson, Ward 1, made comments
10. Ms. Sheryl Hoggatt, Ward 5, proponent
11. Ms. Mary Boren, Ward 6, proponent
12. Mr. Jessie Matlock, Ward 5, proponent
13. Mr. Tanner Naeher, Ward 6, proponent
14. Ms. Marguerite Larson, Ward 6, proponent
15. Mr. Richard McKown, Ward 8, proponent
16. Mr. Howard Baer, Ward 4, proponent
17. Ms. Pam Post, Ward 5, proponent
18. Ms. Tracey Williamson, Ward 5, proponent
19. Mr. Randy Carter, Ward 5, proponent
20. Ms. Lesley Noble, Ward 3, proponent
21. Mr. Trey Kirby, Ward 5, proponent
22. Mr. Ben Plummer, Ward 4, proponent
23. Mr. John McKay, Ward 5, proponent
24. Mr. Trey Bates, Ward 8, proponent
25. Ms. Kate Brunt, Ward proponent
26. Mr. Mohammad Farzaneh, made comments
27. Ms. Mayumi Windler, Ward 2, made comments
28. Mr. Rob Norman, Ward 3, proponent
29. Ms. Chelsea Hinkle, Ward 6, proponent
30. Mr. Evan Dunn, Ward 7, opponent
31. Ms. Nadine Jewell, Ward 2, made comments
32. Ms. Cheryl Blake, Ward 4, made comments
33. Ms. Cynthia Rogers, Ward 4, proponent
34. Mr. Darrel Pyle, City Manager

Voting Yea: Mayor Heikkila, Councilmember Ward 1 Ball, Councilmember Ward 3 Montoya, Councilmember Ward 4 Grant, Councilmember Ward 5 Nash, Councilmember Ward 6 Hinkle, Councilmember Ward 7 Holman

* Councilmember Dixon outside the chambers when vote was taken.

Resolution R-2425-60 was Postponed indefinitely.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

Oklahoma Turnpike Authority – Access Oklahoma (OTA)

Rob Norman, Ward 3, criticized OTA requiring political resolutions before negotiations, calling it a red flag. Urged Council not to weaken its bargaining power and to coordinate with the Attorney General, legislature, and federal government.

Amy Cerato, Ward 5, compared the community's dealings with OTA to an "abusive relationship." Stated OTA had lied under oath and could not be trusted in contracts or resolutions. Urged Council to reject any resolution and to withhold consent that OTA could misuse.

Stephen Ellis, Ward 4, criticized Council for surprising constituents with sudden decisions, including the OTA resolution. Urged more open deliberation and engagement with residents.

Tiffany Stevens, Ward 5, preferred a contract over a resolution, but warned OTA could ignore contracts as well. Cited statutes giving Council authority over road access. Argued the turnpike served unconstitutional economic development purposes and destroyed homes.

Dave Moore, Ward 5, opposed postponing action for a study session, calling it evasive. Said OTA had failed to complete the required studies and would provide no new information. Urged Council to stand firmly with citizens.

Kelly Wilson, Ward 6, opposed a resolution with OTA that would allow the taking of 13 homes in Norman. Listed longtime homeowners who would be affected. Warned resolutions provided no legal protection and contracts had been ignored elsewhere.

Pam Post, Ward 5, thanked Council for reading to her emails. Raised concerns about flaws in the postponed resolution, including references to roads outside Norman. Questioned the involvement of consultants with OTA ties and alleged inappropriate influence on staff.

Margarite Larson, Ward 6, expressed disappointment that Council did not adhere to its prior "no" vote against OTA cooperation. Raised concerns about staff actions taken without Council's awareness and warning of outside developer influence.

Cheryl Hoggatt, Ward 5, questioned OTA's shifting deadlines tied to funding and expressed concern about coercion. Raised doubts about claims that Norman needed OTA cooperation for emergency service access. Cited state statutes protecting local roadways.

Richard McKown, Ward 8, spoke against the turnpike project, recalling prior discussions of a five-lane boulevard at Indian Hills Road that would have supported commercial growth and significant sales tax revenue. He criticized the sudden pivot to the Access Oklahoma turnpike, which he called inconsistent with prior planning. He emphasized that the resolution before Council concerned access roads, not the full turnpike project.

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Miscellaneous Comments, continued

Homelessness & Social Services

Rob Norman, Ward 3, thanked those working on solutions for businesses and unhoused individuals.

Stephen Ellis, Ward 4, criticized Council for the lack of transparency in other issues (arena TIF, Food and Shelter). Urged more open deliberation and engagement with residents.

John Scamehorn, Ward 1, spoke about funding approaches for homeless shelters, contrasting liberal (public funding) and conservative (fiscal restraint) views. Advocated for “compassionate conservatism” through partnerships with charities and faith groups. He warned that expanding municipal funding could lead to financial strain.

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Recycling and Environmental Issues

Mayumi Windler, Ward 2, suggested repurposing plastics that are not accepted by the City's recycling program. Proposed grinding plastics into bricks for resale or donation. Shared she had been stockpiling materials for such use.

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Community and Unity

Richard Baxter, founder of *Racism Stinks* and OU student. Promoted a community collaboration event with the Norman Police Department to encourage unity and counter divisiveness. Invited residents to a cookout at Andrews Park.

Paul Wilson, Ward 1, commented on political divisiveness at all levels of government, including Norman. Urged Council and residents to avoid hate-filled discourse and to work together with elections approaching.

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AIM Norman

Cynthia Rogers, Ward 4, criticized the AIM Steering Committee process for beginning with assumptions (22,000 additional housing units, presumption of turnpike construction). She called for Norman's growth discussions to focus on sustainability and quality of life rather than defaulting to strip malls and chain development. She highlighted housing affordability and the need for improved regional transportation, particularly bus service between Oklahoma City, the OU campus, and the law school and urged investment in commuting and cultural connections that strengthen Norman's role in the region.

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Miscellaneous Comments, continued

Infrastructure, Water, and Equity

Sherylann Densow, Wards 4 and 6, urged review of the City's newly released lead service line inventory, which shows disparities in safe water infrastructure. She questioned allocation of 25 years of Community Development Block Grant funds, noting promised improvements (water, stormwater, lighting, infrastructure) were not delivered to core neighborhoods. She pointed out that recent crime concerns brought new downtown lighting, while older neighborhoods remain underserved. She asked the Council to account for federal funding and ensure equity for the communities that generated the population basis for those funds.

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Sustainability and Environment

Evan Dunn, Ward 7, reflected on Norman's potential to lead in sustainability. He encouraged initiatives like food forestry (already practiced in rural Oklahoma) and more environmentally respectful community standards, including discouraging gasoline-powered equipment in parks. He linked sustainability efforts to the values of Norman's international student community, who invest heavily in the city through their studies. He urged the Council to pursue bold environmental leadership as an example for the region.

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Civic Engagement, Tone, and Public Discourse

Evan Dun, Ward 7, apologized for prior comments where he described a TIF proposal as "a strip mall with an arena." He acknowledged that such phrasing dismissed the work of planners and designers. He committed to offering more respectful and constructive feedback going forward. He also shared personal perspective shaped by living with a terminal illness, emphasizing gratitude, respectful dialogue, and the importance of meaningful advocacy.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

ATTEST:


City Clerk




Mayor