



CITY OF NORMAN, OK CITY COUNCIL CONFERENCE MEETING

**Municipal Building, Executive Conference Room, 201 West Gray, Norman,
OK 73069**

Tuesday, August 13, 2024 at 5:00 PM

MINUTES

The City Council of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Conference in the Executive Conference Room in the Municipal Building, on Tuesday, August 13, 2024 at 5:00 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.

CALL TO ORDER

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

AGENDA ITEMS

1. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE CITY OF NORMAN'S METER INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM (MIP).

Ms. Alyssa Pourciau, Project Manager at ESource, opened the discussion by highlighting the benefits of implementing a modern Meter Infrastructure Program (MIP), emphasizing improved efficiency, real-time monitoring, and enhanced data accuracy for water usage. She noted that Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) systems are increasingly being adopted nationwide to reduce water loss and support proactive maintenance. Ms. Pourciau stated this program would allow the City to detect leaks quickly, improve billing accuracy, and give residents access to detailed usage data through a customer portal.

Councilmember Grant asked if this was primarily accessible through a desktop computer, and if so, would it be ADA accessible? Ms. Pourciau assured that they were in compliance with ADA and it would be accessible to customers with disabilities.

Councilmember Ball asked questions about system cybersecurity, especially concerning customer data security. Ms. Pourciau said there would be no personal identifiable information in the system, it would all be tracked by meter number and serial number.

Councilmember Dixon was concerned about water accessibility to the residence if the meter were to fail. Ms. Pourciau assured that water flow would continue to be a manual switch, the only issue with meters in this case would be a communication failure.

Item 1, continued:

Mr. Brian Kyser, Utilities Project Manager, detailed the technical and logistical aspects of the MIP rollout. He outlined a phased implementation strategy that begins with pilot neighborhoods before citywide deployment.

Mr. Nathan Madenwald, Utilities Engineer, emphasized the importance of community engagement and explained that mailers, public forums, and social media would all be information sources for public awareness.

Council Discussion Highlights:

There was strong interest in the environmental benefits, particularly in supporting water conservation goals during periods of drought. Council requested quarterly updates during the deployment phase, including customer feedback and implementation challenges. They expressed broad support for the Meter Infrastructure Program (MIP), citing benefits in operational efficiency and conservation. Staff was instructed to proceed with phased implementation and maintain communication with residents throughout the rollout.

2. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE CITY OF NORMAN'S INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS RELATED TO THE OKLAHOMA TURNPIKE AUTHORITY'S ACCESS PROGRAM.

Mr. Scott Sturtz, Director of Public Works, provided a comprehensive overview of anticipated infrastructure improvements required to support the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority's Access Program. These include upgrades to roadways, relocation of utilities, and enhancements to stormwater systems. Mr. Sturtz emphasized the importance of early coordination with OTA to avoid costly delays and ensure that Norman's infrastructure is prepared for increased traffic volumes.

He displayed conceptual maps highlighting areas most likely to be affected, including key intersections, residential neighborhoods, and commercial corridors.

Councilmember Grant said that she would like to see a noise study done on the North/South corridor. Mr. Sturtz assured that when the North/South corridor, was constructed, the study would be performed.

Councilmember Nash asked if the Oklahoma Department of Transportation (ODOT) obtained permits from the City of Norman. Mr. Sturtz said there are currently no requirements for permits on state owned property. However, ODOT does obtain permits from the City of Norman when they are completing work in Norman city limits.


Council emphasized the need for transparency, requesting staff to hold public meetings and provide residents with regular updates. Councilmember Peacock said that he would like Council to review the resolution with more time.

Council consensus was to postpone the adoption of Resolution R-2425-35.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Heikkila adjourned the meeting at 5:54 p.m.

ATTEST:



City Clerk



Mayor

