



City of Lawton

City Council

Minutes

Lawton City Hall
212 SW 9th Street
Lawton, Oklahoma
73501-3944

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

6:00 PM

Lawton City Hall
Wayne Gilley Auditorium

Meeting Called to Order with Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

"Official action can be taken only on items which appear on the agenda. The Council may adopt, approve, ratify, deny, defer, recommend, or continue any agenda item. The Council may also propose and enact floor amendments to any matter presented before them. When more information is needed to act on an item, the Council may refer the matter to the City Manager or the City Attorney. The Council may also refer items to standing committees of the Council or a board, commission, or authority for additional study. Under certain circumstances, items are deferred to a specific later date or stricken from the agenda entirely."

Meeting called to order by Mayor Stanley Booker with invocation led by Pastor Troy Taylor of First Baptist Church followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present:

Councilman - Ward 1 Lane Hooton
Councilman - Ward 2 Taron Epps
Councilman - Ward 3 Kirby Brown
Councilwoman - Ward 4 Tiffiney Dimery
Councilman - Ward 5 Allan Hampton
Councilman - Ward 6 Bob Weger
Councilwoman - Ward 7 Sherene L Williams
Councilman - Ward 8 Randy Warren

Absent:

Also Present:

Stanley Booker, Mayor
John Ratliff, City Manager
Jari Askins, Interim City Attorney
Donalynn Blazek-Scherler, City Clerk
CSM Jared F English, Fort Sill

Presentation

1. Presentation of the Medal of Valor to Officer Vannessa Ball, Lawton Police

Department

City Manager John Ratliff recognized Officer Vanessa Ball of the Lawton Police Department for receiving the Lawton Police Department Medal of Valor, the department's second-highest award.

Ratliff explained that Officer Ball had originally been nominated for the award following an incident in March 2025, but the recognition was inadvertently delayed due to the severe flooding events occurring at that time. He noted that although the recognition was later than intended, the City wanted to formally acknowledge Officer Ball's actions.

Ratliff read the official citation into the record. The citation described how, on March 28, 2025, Officer Ball responded to assist emergency medical personnel with a combative patient at a residence on Northwest Great Plains Boulevard. While speaking with the individual, the subject reached into a drawer and attempted to retrieve a firearm. Officer Ball immediately drew her service weapon, positioned herself to protect emergency medical personnel while allowing them to safely exit the residence, and issued verbal commands directing the individual to drop the weapon. The individual complied without injury to anyone involved.

The citation further recognized Officer Ball's restraint, tactical decision-making, and ability to successfully de-escalate the incident while protecting responding emergency personnel. Ratliff noted that Officer Ball's actions brought great credit upon herself, the Lawton Police Department, and the City of Lawton.

Proclamation

2. National Police Week

Mayor Booker presented a proclamation declaring May 11–17, 2026, as National Police Week in the City of Lawton and recognizing May 15, 2026, as National Peace Officers Memorial Day.

Mayor Booker read the proclamation, recognizing the professionalism, dedication, and sacrifices made by members of the Lawton Police Department and law enforcement officers nationwide. The proclamation honored officers who have lost their lives or become disabled in the line of duty while encouraging citizens to recognize the contributions of those who continue to serve and protect the community.

Following the proclamation, Mayor Booker spoke personally about the challenges faced by law enforcement officers. He commented that whenever he watches police programs on television, he thinks about the City's officers and the difficult situations they encounter each day. He encouraged everyone to remember the sacrifices made by law enforcement personnel and asked those in attendance to join him in recognizing the members of the Lawton Police Department with a standing ovation.

Police Chief Craig Akard thanked the Mayor and Council for the recognition. Chief Akard reflected on his more than thirty-two years in law enforcement and stated that every officer understands the risks associated with the profession each time they put on the uniform. He asked the community to remember law enforcement officers and their families in their prayers, recognizing that officers leave home each day knowing there is no guarantee they will return safely.

Mayor Booker then invited Bishop Dunaway to offer a prayer for the Lawton Police Department. Bishop Dunaway prayed for the safety and protection of the City's officers and their families, asked for peace throughout the community, and prayed for continued support of the Police Department by the City's leadership and citizens.

3. Asian American Pacific Islanders Month

Mayor Booker presented a proclamation recognizing May 2026 as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

Mayor Booker read the proclamation, recognizing more than thirty years of celebrating the history, culture, and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. He noted the 2026 theme, "Power and Unity: Strengthening Communities Together," and recognized the significant contributions Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have made in education, business, military service, health care, public service, the arts, and many other professions. He encouraged all residents to celebrate the diversity and cultural heritage that strengthen the Lawton community.

A representative of the local Asian American and Pacific Islander community thanked the Mayor, Council, and community members for recognizing the observance and expressed appreciation for those who helped organize the celebration.

Bishop Dunaway, Chairman of the Race Relations Commission, thanked the Mayor and Council for supporting the City's Race Relations Commission and encouraged citizens to learn more about the commission's work. He also thanked members of the Asian American and Pacific Islander community for their many contributions to both the local community and society as a whole.

Mayor Booker concluded by recognizing the students from MacArthur High School who participated in the presentation and expressed his appreciation for seeing young people involved in civic activities.

4. Citizen of the Month- Kathi Dunaway

Mayor Booker recognized Kathi Dunaway as the City's Citizen of the Month.

Mayor Booker explained that the recognition program is coordinated through the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women and noted that nominations are accepted throughout the year for outstanding citizens.

Mayor Booker read the proclamation recognizing Ms. Dunaway's longstanding

commitment to community service. The proclamation highlighted her volunteer work constructing wheelchair ramps, organizing monthly meal distributions, supporting educational field trips and STEM activities, assisting local charities, participating in church ministries, promoting mental health awareness, and providing clothing, furniture, and other necessities to families in need. The proclamation further recognized her compassion, humility, and dedication to serving others regardless of race, religion, or socioeconomic status, and declared Kathi Dunaway the City of Lawton's Citizen of the Month for May 2026.

Ms. Dunaway thanked the Mayor, Council, and those attending in support of her recognition. She stated that each person standing with her had impacted her life in some way and expressed appreciation for the encouragement and support she had received throughout the community.

Wyonna Alberty, Chair of the Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women, congratulated Ms. Dunaway and encouraged citizens to continue submitting nominations so outstanding volunteers could be recognized each month.

5. National Salvation Army Week

Mayor Booker presented a proclamation recognizing May 11–16, 2026, as National Salvation Army Week in the City of Lawton.

Mayor Booker read the proclamation recognizing the Salvation Army's longstanding commitment to serving individuals and families experiencing homelessness, food insecurity, financial hardship, and other challenges. He highlighted the organization's accomplishments over the previous year, including serving more than 13,000 meals, distributing more than 11,000 articles of clothing, providing food boxes and emergency assistance, and supporting hundreds of local families through its year-round programs.

Captain Brinlee of the Salvation Army thanked the Mayor and Council for the recognition and announced that he and his wife would remain in Lawton for another year. He discussed the organization's continued efforts to address homelessness, poverty, and family stability within the community. Captain Brinlee expressed appreciation for the City's partnership, particularly the support provided by the Mayor, City Council, and Lawton Police Department. He stated that Lawton is a community known for its faith and thanked everyone who serves the citizens of Lawton.

Reports: Mayor/City Council/City Manager

Command Sergeant Major English, representing Fort Sill, congratulated Officer Vanessa Ball and Kathi Dunaway on their recognitions. He also wished all mothers a happy belated Mother's Day and encouraged the community to attend the upcoming Armed Forces Day Parade. Command Sergeant Major English then introduced Colonel Jay Morgan as the incoming Garrison Commander for Fort Sill.

Colonel Morgan thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity to introduce himself. He stated that he would officially assume command as Garrison Commander later that

week and expressed his appreciation for the longstanding partnership between Fort Sill and the City of Lawton. Colonel Morgan shared that Fort Sill held special personal significance, noting that it was where he began his Army career twenty-one years earlier and where he became a father sixteen years ago. He stated that he looked forward to continuing the strong relationship between Fort Sill and the Lawton community.

Councilmember Warren congratulated the Dunaway family on Kathi Dunaway's recognition as Citizen of the Month and thanked them, along with the many volunteers throughout Lawton, for their continued commitment to serving the community. He remarked that Lawton is fortunate to have so many citizens working together to improve the city. Councilmember Warren also jokingly commented that he had provided "emotional support" to Councilmember Hampton after the Farmers Market was canceled, prompting laughter from those in attendance.

Councilmember Williams thanked the many volunteers who recently helped paint three homes in the Lawton View neighborhood, including volunteers from Catalyst Behavioral Services, neighborhood residents, and other community members. She noted that improving the appearance of homes helps increase property values and beautify neighborhoods. Councilmember Williams also thanked the Community Enrichment Department for the ongoing improvements at Lemuel Harkey Park, also known as the Dunbar Elementary School Park. She announced that the project would include new playground equipment and a monument commemorating the history of Dunbar Elementary School and Principal Lemuel Harkey, Sr. Councilmember Williams invited the public to attend the tentative unveiling ceremony on June 19 at 10:00 a.m., which would also include a community celebration.

Councilmember Weger reported that he, City Manager John Ratliff, and Neighborhood Services staff recently met with residents regarding improvements in Ward 6. He expressed appreciation for the collaborative efforts of City staff and the positive engagement of neighborhood residents in identifying community priorities. Councilmember Weger congratulated the Morales family on recently being recognized as Citizen of the Month in Ward 6 and commended their efforts to beautify the community. He also expressed his gratitude for the prayers and support he had received after his cancer returned the previous year and announced that he was once again in remission. Councilmember Weger thanked God for his healing and thanked everyone who had kept him in their prayers.

Councilmember Hampton congratulated Councilmember Weger on his remission and joked about the cancellation of the Farmers Market. He reminded residents about the upcoming Farmers Market golf tournament and encouraged participation. Councilmember Hampton also complimented the reconstruction of SW 38th Street, describing it as a smooth ride and thanking City staff for their work on that project and the additional street improvements planned throughout the city.

Councilmember Dimery encouraged citizens to attend the Armed Forces Day Parade in

support of the military and veterans. She also complimented the reconstruction of SW 38th Street and expressed appreciation for the work being completed throughout the city.

Councilmember Brown joked with Councilmember Hampton about finding all of the necessary food groups at Arts for All in a large corn dog.

Councilmember Epps reminded citizens that the Armed Forces Day Parade would begin at 10:00 a.m. He thanked Neighborhood Services, the Lawton Police Department, and other City departments for working together to address concerns in the Liberty Heights neighborhood, noting that residents had expressed appreciation for the City's coordinated efforts.

Councilmember Hooton reported that he recently attended a neighborhood meeting at the former Swinney School, now occupied by a local church, where Lawton Police Department officers discussed establishing a Neighborhood Watch program with area residents. He commended both the officers and neighborhood residents for working together to improve public safety and strengthen their community.

City Manager John Ratliff reminded the Council and public that the week was also National Public Works Week and recognized the City's Public Works Department for its service to the community. He announced that the Lawton Aquatic Center would open on Memorial Day with free admission for the public. Ratliff also reported that the City's May 2 bulky waste collection event was very successful, resulting in the removal of large amounts of debris, including tires and mattresses, from neighborhoods throughout the city. He thanked the Division of Safe and Clean Neighborhood Services, the Streets Division, the Solid Waste Division, and all employees who participated in the cleanup effort.

Consent Agenda

The following items are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted with one motion. Should discussion be desired on an item, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda prior to action and considered separately.

Motion by Randy Warren, Second by Allan Hampton, to approve the consent agenda as presented with the exception of pulling Scooter's Coffee Shop tort claim from Item 7 and pulling Item 25. AYE: Lane Hooton, Taron Epps, Kirby Brown, Tiffiney Dimery, Allan Hampton, Bob Weger, Sherene L Williams, Randy Warren. NAY: None. Motion Passed.

6. Consider the following tort claims recommended for approval: American Electric Power in the amount of \$1,965.71, and Lindsey Stolp in the amount of \$330.98, and approve a resolution authorizing the filing of a friendly suit and confessing judgment in the said amount.

American Electric Power in the amount of \$1,965.51: Resolution 26-129

7. Consider the following tort claims recommended for denial: James Harfield in the amount of \$300.00, Scooter's Coffee Shop in the amount of \$9,898.41, and JaDee Hopper in the amount of \$5,000.00.

Deputy City Attorney Garrett Lam presented the tort claim submitted by Tyrone Muldowney, owner of Scooter's Coffee Shop located at 2312 W. Gore Boulevard. Lam explained that the claim sought reimbursement in the amount of \$9,898.41 for damages allegedly resulting from a water main break that occurred on December 11, 2025.

Lam explained that, according to the claim, a water main broke in front of the business at approximately 10:00 a.m. Store employees were advised that water service would need to be interrupted while repairs were completed and were informed that the repair was expected to take approximately six hours. Because water service was unavailable, the business closed during the repair. Mr. Muldowney subsequently submitted a tort claim seeking reimbursement for property damage and business losses.

Lam reviewed the damages included in the claim, which consisted of replacement of a damaged power cord and adapter, lost business revenue, lost employee tips, accounting services used to calculate the claimed business losses, replacement of carbon filters, mineral filters, reverse osmosis membranes, refrigeration repairs, additional filtration system components, plumbing services, and the purchase of ice during the period the business was unable to operate.

Lam then summarized the City's investigation. He explained that City records showed 911 received a report of the water main break at approximately 2:36 a.m. Andy's Plumbing was retained as the City's emergency contractor to complete the repair. Water Distribution personnel shut down the affected water main at approximately 9:22 a.m., after which Andy's Plumbing requested emergency utility locates before beginning excavation. Excavation commenced at approximately 11:30 a.m., and the repair was completed at approximately 4:00 p.m.

Lam advised that, according to the investigation, an employee of Andy's Plumbing entered Scooter's Coffee Shop after the repair was completed to inspect the building after being advised there was water inside. The contractor reported finding no broken or damaged plumbing lines within the building and believed the building's filtration system may have relieved pressure during the event. Lam further stated that Andy's Plumbing advised the City that no dirt or debris entered the water main while the repair was being performed. Water Distribution staff also reviewed maintenance records and verified there was no prior history of failures or repairs involving that section of water main that would have placed the City on notice of a potential defect.

Lam explained that, after reviewing the investigation, the City Attorney's Office recommended denial of the claim for three primary reasons. First, there was no evidence that the City had prior notice of a defect in the water main or otherwise acted negligently before the break occurred. Second, the repair work was performed by Andy's Plumbing as an independent contractor, and the Oklahoma Governmental Tort

Claims Act generally exempts the City from liability for damages caused by the acts or omissions of an independent contractor. Finally, Lam stated that the City's investigation did not establish any negligent act or omission by City employees that would create a probability of liability. Based upon those findings, the City Attorney's Office recommended denial of the tort claim in its entirety.

Tyrone Muldowney, owner of Scooter's Coffee Shop, addressed the Council and disagreed with the findings of the City's investigation. Mr. Muldowney explained that the damage did not originate from the coffee shop's filtration system but instead from the City's domestic water supply entering the building. He stated that the pressure surge damaged plumbing connected to the sinks and other fixtures rather than the filtration equipment serving the espresso machines. He noted that had the filtration system itself failed, substantially more expensive equipment would have been damaged.

Mr. Muldowney further stated that an employee of Andy's Plumbing told his area manager the water service had been restored too quickly, resulting in the pressure surge. He advised that the business remained closed for three days following the incident.

Lam responded that the City's investigation relied upon information provided by the claims investigator and Andy's Plumbing. He reiterated that even if negligence by the contractor were established, the proper claim would be against the contractor rather than the City because the repair work was performed by an independent contractor. Lam further explained that the City's recommendation for denial was also based upon the absence of prior notice that the water main was defective.

Councilmember Williams asked whether the claimant had filed a claim with his private insurance carrier. Mr. Muldowney responded that he had not because filing a relatively small claim would increase his insurance premiums and, in his opinion, would not be worthwhile.

Mayor Booker asked Lam to clarify whether the City's position was that any liability resulting from the repair would rest with the contractor rather than the City. Lam confirmed that, if negligence by the contractor could be established, any claim would properly be directed toward the contractor in accordance with the Oklahoma Governmental Tort Claims Act.

Councilmember Dimery questioned whether the City's position would be the same regardless of whether the affected property was residential or commercial. Lam explained that the City evaluates all water main claims by determining whether prior notice existed of problems with the water line. He stated that staff reviews maintenance records and previous repairs to determine whether the City knew or should have known of a defect. Because no prior history of problems existed with the water main in question, the City determined there was no basis for liability.

Councilmember Epps asked Lam to clarify whether the City would remain immune from

liability even if the repair itself had been performed improperly. Lam confirmed that because the repair work was performed by an independent contractor, any negligence associated with that work would be attributable to the contractor rather than the City under the Governmental Tort Claims Act.

Councilmember Hooton then asked Mr. Muldowney what he believed caused the pressure surge inside the building. Mr. Muldowney again stated that Andy's Plumbing had acknowledged to his area manager that the water had been restored too quickly following completion of the repair.

Councilman Hooton asked when everything was cleaned up, and Mr. Muldowney stated the store was closed for three days.

Motion by Randy Warren, Second by Sherene L Williams, to deny Scooter's Coffee Shop claim in the amount of \$9,898.41. AYE: Taron Epps, Allan Hampton, Bob Weger, Sherene L Williams, Randy Warren. NAY: Lane Hooton, Kirby Brown, Tiffiney Dimery. Motion Passed.

8. Consider adopting a resolution approving the settlement agreement in the pending case in the District Court of Comanche County case style Angel Owens v City of Lawton, CJ-2024-576 in the amount of \$80,000.00 and directing the City Attorney to prepare and file the appropriate documents to effectuate settlement.

Resolution 26-130

9. Consider adopting a resolution approving certain new and revised pages in the form of a book entitled Volumes I and II to the City of Lawton Municipal Code, 2025, printed and designated as the 2026 Biennial Supplement, known as Supplement No. 1 to the Lawton City Code, 2025, and authorizing distribution.

Resolution 26-131

10. Consider approving a resolution directing the City Clerk to notify the public of the publication of the 2026 Biennial Supplement, known as Supplement No. 1 to the Lawton City Code, 2025 and further directing the City Clerk to file certified copies of this resolution and copies of Supplement No. 1 to the Lawton City Code, 2025 with designated governmental entities as required.

Resolution 26-132

11. Consider approving a resolution amending the City of Lawton FYE26 budget, as amended, to appropriate \$85,000 to the Stormwater Management Division's Professional and Technical Services account to purchase and demolish a property along I Avenue for the purpose of flood mitigation.

Resolution 26-133

12. Consider approving a Professional Services Agreement between the City of Lawton and Rubenstein & Pitts PLLC for consultation services related to Project No. EN2104, the US-62 Interchange at Goodyear Boulevard, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the Agreement.

13. Consider award of a task order to WSB for engineering services on Sheridan Road in the amount of \$468,577.00.

14. Consider approving the retainer agreement with James C. Ferguson of Walker, Ferguson, and Ferguson at a rate of \$145.00 per hour, for the defense of workers' compensation claims and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the agreement.

15. Consider approving the professional services agreement with McAfee & Taft for legal services related to the City's pension system, employment/labor related issues and other areas as requested by the City, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the Agreement.

16. Consider, and if desired take action to approve an agreement for professional services between the City of Lawton and Farzaneh Law Firm, PC for their expertise relating to employment visas for select City of Lawton employees and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the Agreement.

17. Consider approving an Addendum to the First Amended Retainer Agreement for Professional and Legal Services between the City of Lawton and Pierce, Couch, Hendrickson, Baysinger & Green, LLP for representation in the case of Joseph Gonzalez, as the Personal Representative of Tshante Gonzalez, Deceased vs. City of Lawton, et. al and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the Addendum.

18. Consider approving an agreement for professional services between the City of Lawton and Dunlap Coddling, P.C., for their expertise in trademark searches and trademark applications and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the agreement.

19. Consider awarding contract (CL26-013), Liquid Aluminum Sulfate, a Chemical used to treat water for potable use to Chameleon Industries, Inc. of Mesquite, Tx.

20. Consider awarding the contract for Public Works Project PW2501P7 for citywide road rehabilitation to Rudy Construction in the amount of \$511,093.50.

21. Consider approving the annual Cooperative Agreement and an Agreement for Limited Funding between the City of Lawton and the Transit Trust to provide funds for the operation of a public transit system and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute the same.

22. Consider approving a sponsorship agreement between the City of Lawton and Liberty National Bank in the amount of \$2,000 for sponsorship of the opening day celebration of the City of Lawton Aquatics Center on May 25, 2026.

23. Consider approving an agreement between The City of Lawton and the Red Cross to assist with issuing certifications to staffing hired to work at the Lawton Aquatics Center and the Splash Pads and authorizing the Mayor & City Clerk to execute the agreement.

24. Consider and take action in approving Change Order no. 1 reducing the contract by \$671,265.10, accepting the project in the final contract amount of \$7,079,873.90, and placing the maintenance bond into effect for the Map 58 Waterline Replacement Project PU2410 as constructed by TIMCO Blasting & Coatings, INC.

25. Consider and take action in approving Change Order No. 1 to Amendment No. 2 to the Master Services Agreement for professional services with Jacobs Engineering Group Inc. to include services during construction on the Ellsworth Spillway Project PU2312, adding \$248,334.00 to the cost of Amendment No. 2 for a total cost of \$1,187,084.00.

Public Utilities Director Rusty Whisenhunt presented the item. Whisenhunt explained

that the Ellsworth Spillway Project was bid in two phases because, at the time the project was advertised, the City was uncertain whether sufficient funding would be available to complete both phases of construction. As a result, the original engineering agreement with Jacobs Engineering included construction phase engineering services only for Phase One.

Whisenhunt stated that an earlier bid for the project had been approximately \$65 million, while available funding at the time would have supported only about \$45 million in construction. Because of that uncertainty, the project was structured so Phase Two could be awarded only if bids came in within the available budget. He explained that the bids ultimately came in low enough to allow the City to award both Phase One and Phase Two of the project.

Whisenhunt advised that the proposed change order would amend the professional services agreement to provide engineering services during construction for Phase Two. He explained that the additional services include geotechnical engineering support during installation of rock anchors, structural engineering inspections, review of construction documents and contractor submittals, responses to requests for information, project certifications required for project funding, and other engineering support necessary throughout construction.

Councilmember Dimery asked Whisenhunt to explain why additional engineering services were necessary after the project had already been awarded. Whisenhunt clarified that the requested funding was not for work already completed, but rather for engineering services that would be required as the project transitions into Phase Two construction. He explained that each phase of construction lasts approximately one year and that the project was nearing completion of Phase One.

Councilmember Dimery questioned whether the nearly \$250,000 cost appeared excessive given that much of the scope referenced project management and meetings.

Whisenhunt explained that construction phase engineering services involve considerably more than attending meetings. He stated that Jacobs Engineering conducts weekly construction progress meetings, provides on-site engineering support, performs structural inspections, reviews contractor requests for information (RFIs), evaluates contractor submittals, answers technical questions regarding the design documents, and prepares engineering recommendations when unforeseen field conditions are encountered during construction.

Councilmember Dimery also asked why the agreement was structured as a lump-sum contract for services that would not begin until July and extend into 2028.

Whisenhunt explained that the agreement is a not-to-exceed contract rather than a guaranteed payment. He advised that Jacobs Engineering invoices the City only for services actually performed and that any unused hours would not be billed. He further stated that the contract establishes the maximum amount that may be paid during

Phase Two construction.

Councilmember Dimery continued to ask about several line items within the proposal, including project management, construction progress meetings, general meetings, requests for information, and construction observation, stating that some of the categories appeared to overlap.

Whisenhunt explained that many project management and coordination meetings are conducted virtually, while others require in-person attendance. He further advised that the project's structural and geotechnical engineers are located in Corvallis, Oregon, requiring travel to Lawton for scheduled inspections and reviews. He explained that each site visit includes travel time, on-site inspections lasting several days, and preparation of engineering reports upon returning to their offices.

Whisenhunt also explained that contractor requests for information often require multiple engineering disciplines to review field conditions, compare those conditions to the approved design documents, coordinate responses among the design team, and provide written guidance to the contractor before construction can proceed. He noted that contractor submittals, design clarifications, and unforeseen field conditions require similar engineering review throughout the duration of construction.

Following the discussion, Councilmember Dimery stated that she had no further questions.

Motion by Randy Warren, Second by Allan Hampton, to approve. AYE: Lane Hooton, Taron Epps, Kirby Brown, Tiffiney Dimery, Allan Hampton, Bob Weger, Sherene L Williams, Randy Warren. NAY: None. Motion Passed.

26. Consider and adopt the recommendation of a monthly charge for the seven (7) existing customers and a flat fee to cover construction costs of the City of Lawton water main and recovery payments for the Wedgewood Water Association's delinquent water bill payment overages, costs of the completed repairs and replacement, and revenue losses incurred by the City of Lawton. Approve the recommendation of fees to incorporate into contracts to recover the construction cost and delinquent account charges as recommended by the Water Conservation Committee.

27. Consider approving the construction plans for Prairie Acres Addition Part 2 subject to conditions recommended by staff and approved by the CPC for the instillation of 380 linear feet of 8 inch water line and a fire hydrant and take appropriate action as deemed necessary.

28. Consider approving the record plat for M and M Development, a Replat of Lot 5, Block 1, Prairie Acres Addition Part 1, and take appropriate action as deemed necessary.

29. Approve the purchase of a treadmill for use within the fire department, utilizing remaining funds from the sale of the 2004 Scotty Trailer "smokehouse".

30. Consider a request to authorize the installation of a weather station on the City Right-of-Way on East Rogers Lane by the Texoma Weather Lab for the purpose of flood monitoring and weather data to be incorporated into a larger weather network at no cost to the city, and if desired, approve an agreement authorizing the installation.

31. Consider authorizing the City Manager to apply for a Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP) Grant for Fort Sill water line realignment project from Tower 2 Road to Artillery Ridge Road.

32. Consider accepting the America250 grant of \$2,500.00 from the Oklahoma Department of Libraries for activities connected to the America 250 commemoration and ratify the actions of the City Manager.

33. Consider accepting the Continuing Education Conference grants in the amount of \$3,077.68 from the Oklahoma Department of Libraries for three staff members to attend the Oklahoma Library Association Conference and ratify the actions of the City Manager.

34. Consider determining the actual costs of the dismantling and removal of dilapidated buildings and other expenses that may be necessary in conjunction with same by approving invoices for demolition of properties as required by Oklahoma State Statute, Title 11 §22-112.4 for properties located at 23 NW 24th Street, 1408 SW H Avenue, 2207 NW Pollard Avenue, 1509 NW Lawton Avenue, 910 SW 5th Street and 712 NW Ferris Avenue

35. Consider approving the claims list from April 11, 2026 through May 8, 2026.

36. Consider approving the minutes of the April 28, 2026 meeting.

Business Items

37. Consider holding a public hearing and consider an ordinance for a change of zoning request from Melissa Busse on behalf of Huet Dao and Xin V Ngo from the C-1, Local Commercial District to C-5, General Commercial District zoning classification with a binding site plan for the property located at 1218 NW 31st Street more particularly described as Lot 3, Block 6, Greer Addition, and take appropriate action as deemed necessary.

Planning Department Senior Planner Kameron Good presented the request submitted by Melissa Busse on behalf of Huet Dao and Xin Ngo. Good explained that the property is located just south of Cache Road on the west side of NW 31st Street and consists of Lot 3, Block 6, Greer Addition. He stated that the site is currently developed with a commercial building and is presently zoned C-1 Local Commercial District.

Good advised that the applicant was requesting to rezone the property to C-5 General Commercial District with a binding site plan. He explained that a binding site plan was required because the property adjoins residentially zoned property to the south. Good stated that the site already contains a tree buffer and screening fence, but those improvements would be required to be brought into compliance with current City Code as part of the rezoning approval. He further noted that properties immediately east and west of the site are already zoned C-5 General Commercial District.

Good reviewed the proposed binding site plan, explaining that it reflected the existing development on the property, including the location of the commercial building, parking spaces, screening fence, and tree buffer.

Good advised that notice of the public hearing had been mailed to twenty-three (23) property owners within 300 feet of the property on April 17, 2026, and published in the Lawton Constitution on April 22, 2026. He stated that the Planning Department received no comments either in support of or opposition to the request. Good further advised that the Planning Commission considered the request on April 16, 2026, and recommended approval by a vote of 7-0, with one abstention.

Mayor Booker reminded the Council that questions regarding the item were appropriate prior to opening the public hearing but asked Councilmembers to refrain from expressing opinions until after citizens had been given an opportunity to speak.

Councilmember Brown asked Good to clarify the relationship between the current zoning request and the following agenda item, noting that both involved the same property address.

Good explained that the requests involved two separate lots owned by the same applicant. He stated that the current item applied only to Lot 3, which is adjacent to residential zoning and therefore required a binding site plan. He explained that the following agenda item involved Lot 2, which does not adjoin residential property and therefore did not require a binding site plan.

Councilmember Brown then asked Good to identify which portion of the existing development was included within the current request. Referring to the site photographs, Good explained that Item 37 encompassed the portion of the building containing the three garage bays and the taller section of the structure, while the adjoining building displaying the large "31" would be considered under the following agenda item.

Mayor Booker opened the public hearing. No one appeared to speak, and the public hearing was closed.

Motion by Kirby Brown, Second by Lane Hooton, to approve Ordinance 26-11, waive the reading of the ordinance, and read the title only.

The Interim City Attorney read the title: ORDINANCE 26-11
AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE EXISTING ZONING CLASSIFICATION FROM THE C-1, LOCAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT TO C-5, GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT ZONING CLASSIFICATION ON THE TRACT OF LAND WHICH IS HEREINAFTER MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN SECTION ONE (1) HEREOF; AND AUTHORIZING CHANGES TO BE MADE UPON THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ORDINANCE.

VOTE ON MOTION: AYE: Lane Hooton, Taron Epps, Kirby Brown, Tiffiney Dimery, Allan Hampton, Bob Weger, Sherene L Williams, Randy Warren. NAY: None. Motion Passed.

38. Consider holding a public hearing and consider an ordinance for a change of zoning request from Melissa Busse on behalf of Huet Dao and Xin V Ngo from the C-1, Local Commercial District to C-5, General Commercial District zoning classification for the property located at 1220 NW 31st Street more particularly described as Lot 2, Block 6, Greer Addition, and take appropriate action as deemed necessary.

Planning Department Senior Planner Kameron Good explained that the request involved Lot 2, Block 6, Greer Addition, which adjoins the property considered under the previous agenda item.

Good reviewed the aerial photograph and existing development on the site, noting that

the property is currently zoned C-1 Local Commercial District. He advised that the surrounding properties are zoned C-5 General Commercial District to the north, east, and west, while the property to the south had just been rezoned to C-5 under the preceding agenda item.

Good explained that, unlike the previous request, this property does not adjoin residentially zoned property and therefore does not require a binding site plan as part of the rezoning.

Good advised that notice of the public hearing had been mailed to twenty-three (23) property owners on March 25, 2026, and published in the Lawton Constitution on March 29, 2026. He further stated that the Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on April 16, 2026, and recommended approval of the request by a vote of 7-0, with one abstention.

Mayor Booker opened the public hearing and invited comments from the public. No one appeared to speak, and the public hearing was closed.

Motion by Kirby Brown, Second by Lane Hooton, to approve Ordinance 26-12, waive the reading of the ordinance, and read the title only.

The Interim City Attorney read the title: ORDINANCE 26-12
AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE EXISTING ZONING CLASSIFICATION FROM THE C-1, LOCAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT TO C-5, GENERAL COMMERCIAL DISTRICT ZONING CLASSIFICATION ON THE TRACT OF LAND WHICH IS HEREINAFTER MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED IN SECTION ONE (1) HEREOF; AND AUTHORIZING CHANGES TO BE MADE UPON THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ORDINANCE.

VOTE ON MOTION: AYE: Lane Hooton, Taron Epps, Kirby Brown, Tiffiney Dimery, Allan Hampton, Bob Weger, Sherene L Williams, Randy Warren. NAY: None. Motion Passed.

39. Consider approving an ordinance pertaining to Boards, Commissions, and Committees, creating Section 2-3-9-368, Division 2-3-9, Article 2-3, Chapter 2, Lawton City Code, 2025, relating to the Youth and Family Affairs Committee by providing an exception to the committee funding recommendation requirement for certain PROPEL 2019 Youth Program funding requests; providing for codification; providing for severability; and establishing an effective date.

City Clerk Donalynn Blazek-Scherler presented the item. Blazek-Scherler explained that the ordinance was a housekeeping measure to make the City Code consistent with existing Council Policy. She advised that the current Council Policy provides exceptions to the Youth and Family Affairs Committee funding recommendation requirement for Lawton Public Schools and Marie Detty Youth & Family Services, while the City Code is

currently silent on those exceptions. The proposed ordinance would amend the Code to match the existing Council Policy.

Motion by Bob Weger, Second by Sherene L Williams, to approve Ordinance 26-13, waive the reading, and read the title only.

The Interim City Attorney read the title: ORDINANCE 26-13
AN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES, CREATING SECTION 2-3-9-368, DIVISION 2-3-9, ARTICLE 2-3, CHAPTER 2, LAWTON CITY CODE 2025, RELATING TO THE YOUTH AND FAMILY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE BY PROVIDING AN EXCEPTION TO THE COMMITTEE FUNDING RECOMMENDATION REQUIREMENT FOR CERTAIN PROPEL 2019 YOUTH PROGRAM FUNDING REQUESTS; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

VOTE ON MOTION: AYE: Lane Hooton, Taron Epps, Kirby Brown, Tiffiney Dimery, Allan Hampton, Bob Weger, Sherene L Williams, Randy Warren. NAY: None. Motion Passed.

40. Contingent upon council approving an ordinance creating Section 2-3-9-368 of Division 2-3-9 of Article 2-3, Chapter 2, Lawton City Code, 2025, consider and take action to approve a Support Agreement between the City of Lawton and Lawton Public Schools in the amount of \$75,000.00 to support the Lawton Public Schools Makerspace Camp.

Vanessa Perez, Director of Instructional Technology for Lawton Public Schools, provided an overview of the Maker Space Camp program. Perez explained that the upcoming camp marks the program's fifth year and noted that it has continued to expand each year to serve more students and offer additional educational opportunities.

Perez advised that the program, which originally served elementary-aged students, has expanded to include students in the third through twelfth grades. She stated that the curriculum has also grown significantly and now includes photography, multiple 3D printing units, aviation, fashion, media, earth-based recycling, and additional STEM-focused activities. Perez explained that the program's curriculum is developed based on student feedback, allowing new learning opportunities to be added each year in response to students' interests. She further noted that one of the most rewarding aspects of the program is seeing students return year after year and remain engaged throughout the school year.

Mayor Booker recalled that the program originally served only third through fifth grade students and asked Perez to confirm that it now serves students from third through twelfth grade. Perez confirmed the expansion of the program.

Mayor Booker commended Lawton Public Schools for the continued success of the

Maker Space Camp and stated that he makes a point to visit the program each year. He described it as an outstanding partnership between the City and Lawton Public Schools and expressed his appreciation for the leadership and growth of the program. Mayor Booker also noted that the City's financial contribution remains consistent with the funding originally established through the PROPEL 2019 program.

Motion by Bob Weger, Second by Allan Hampton, to approve. AYE: Lane Hooton, Taron Epps, Kirby Brown, Tiffiney Dimery, Allan Hampton, Bob Weger, Sherene L Williams, Randy Warren. NAY: None. Motion Passed.

41. Contingent upon the approval of a resolution implementing increases in water and sewer rates, consider approving an ordinance pertaining to Utilities, amending Section 22-1-3-133, Division 22-1-3, Article 22-1, Chapter 22, Lawton City Code, 2025, by amending the sewer fee for users outside of corporate limits, providing for severability and establishing an effective date.

Public Utilities Director Rusty Whisenhunt presented the item. Whisenhunt explained that Items 41 and 42 were companion items to the action previously taken by the Lawton Water Authority regarding water and sewer rates.

Whisenhunt advised that the proposed ordinance amends the City's existing sewer rate ordinance for customers located outside the corporate limits. He explained that the current ordinance establishes the sewer rate at one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the City's standard sewer rate for outside users. However, the cost-of-service study completed by Freese and Nichols recommended a different rate structure that is less than the current one hundred fifty percent (150%) multiplier. Whisenhunt stated that the ordinance amendment was necessary to allow implementation of the rate structure approved by the Lawton Water Authority.

Mayor Booker asked Whisenhunt to clarify that the ordinance change applied only to sewer customers outside the city limits. Whisenhunt confirmed that the amendment was limited to outside-city sewer customers. Mayor Booker further clarified that approval of the ordinance would implement the action previously approved by the Lawton Water Authority.

Motion by Randy Warren, Second by Taron Epps, to approve the ordinance 26-14, waive the reading of the ordinance, and read the title only.

The Interim City Attorney read the title: ORDINANCE 26-14
AN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO UTILITIES, AMENDING SECTION 22-1-3-133, DIVISION 22-1-3, ARTICLE 22-1, CHAPTER 22, LAWTON CITY CODE, 2025, BY AMENDING THE SEWER FEE FOR USERS OUTSIDE OF CORPORATE CITY LIMITS, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

VOTE ON MOTION: AYE: Lane Hooton, Taron Epps, Kirby Brown, Tiffiney Dimery,

Allan Hampton, Randy Warren. NAY: Bob Weger, Sherene L Williams. Motion Passed.

42. Contingent upon the approval of an ordinance amending Section 22-1-3-133 of the Lawton City Code, consider and take action approving action of the Lawton Water Authority by approving a resolution amending Appendix A, Schedule of Fees and Charges, Lawton City Code, 2025, by implementing increases in water and sewer rates as set forth in Exhibit "A" of the resolution and establishing an effective date.

Public Utilities Director Rusty Whisenhunt presented the item. Whisenhunt explained that the resolution was a companion item to the ordinance approved under the previous agenda item. He stated that, with the ordinance amendment in place, the Council's action would approve the Lawton Water Authority's resolution amending the Schedule of Fees and Charges to implement the revised water and sewer rates previously approved by the Lawton Water Authority.

Whisenhunt explained that the resolution formally amends Appendix A of the Lawton City Code to incorporate the updated water and sewer rate schedule as reflected in Exhibit A of the resolution.

Motion by Randy Warren, Second by Lane Hooton, to approve Resolution 26-134. AYE: Lane Hooton, Taron Epps, Kirby Brown, Tiffiney Dimery, Allan Hampton, Randy Warren. NAY: Bob Weger, Sherene L Williams. Motion Passed.

43. Consider, and if desired, authorize the Library of Tomorrow Committee to develop its own scope and bring back for council ratification.

Councilmember Warren stated that authorizing the Library of Tomorrow Committee to develop its own scope of work would allow the committee to move the project forward more efficiently. He explained that the committee could prepare a proposed scope of work and then return it to the City Council for review and ratification, rather than waiting for the Council to develop the scope itself.

Mayor Booker recognized that a citizen had signed up to speak on the item. However, the speaker indicated that she wished to withdraw her request to address the Council.

Motion by Lane Hooton, Second by Randy Warren, to approve. AYE: Lane Hooton, Taron Epps, Kirby Brown, Tiffiney Dimery, Allan Hampton, Bob Weger, Sherene L Williams, Randy Warren. NAY: None. Motion Passed.

Audience Participation

Lawton citizens who have completed a Request to Speak Form and wish to address business not listed on the agenda may step forward at this time.

To ensure compliance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act, the Mayor and Council will receive comments but will NOT engage in direct responses. However, they may refer matters to the appropriate department or individual for further consideration and follow-up action.

To participate, speakers must submit a Request to Speak Form to the City Clerk and reside within the Lawton city limits. Each speaker is allotted 3 minutes, with a maximum of 9 minutes per topic, and Audience Participation is limited to 30 minutes total. All participants are expected to follow the Rules of Decorum as outlined in Council Policy 1-6.

No Request to Speak Forms were submitted.

Adjournment

The City of Lawton encourages participation from all of its citizens. If participation at any public meeting is not possible due to a disability, notification to the City Clerk at (580) 581-3305 at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting is encouraged to make the necessary accommodations. The City may waive the 48 hour rule if interpreters for the deaf (signing) is not the necessary accommodation."

Motion by Sherene L Williams, Second by Randy Warren, to adjourn. AYE: Lane Hooton, Taron Epps, Kirby Brown, Tiffiney Dimery, Allan Hampton, Bob Weger, Sherene L Williams, Randy Warren. NAY: None. Motion Passed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:57PM.