MINUTES
LAWTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 13, 2022 – 2:00 P.M.
LAWTON CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS/AUDITORIUM

Stan Booker, Mayor

Also Present:
Michael Cleghorn, City Manager
John Ratliff, City Attorney
Traci Hushbeck, City Clerk
CSM William Taylor, Fort Sill

Mayor Booker called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Notice of meeting and agenda were posted on the City Hall notice board as required by law. Invocation was given by Pastor Terry Marsh, Carriage Hills Christian Church, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:
Mary Ann Hankins, Ward One
Kelly Harris, Ward Two
Linda Chapman, Ward Three
Jay Burk, Ward Four
Allan Hampton, Ward Five
Sean Fortenbaugh, Ward Six
Onreka Johnson, Ward Seven (arrived @ 2:36 p.m.)
Randy Warren, Ward Eight

ABSENT: None

PROCLAMATIONS:

Employee Spotlight Award to Kristina Rorrer - Emergency Communications

The City Manager recognized Kristina Rorrer for her outstanding performance.

REPORTS: MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL:

Hankins stated she is concerned with citizens running red/yellow lights.

Chapman encouraged citizens to go to the showing of "Washington's Armour" on January 13th at the Museum of the Great Plains.

Burk encouraged younger people to get involved in the city council or on committees.

Hampton thanked all those who are providing Christmas meals.

Ratliff introduced a sophomore at Eisenhower High School who is a student with the AIM program.

Warren stated he feels that the community is doing a better job of working together.

Command Sgt Major William Taylor, Garrison Commander, stated Fort Sill will be hosting their final basic training graduation tomorrow.

Mayor Booker stated Lawton is a great community because it is driven by citizen volunteers.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

Mayor Booker stated item #3 will be considered separately.

<u>MOVED by Warren SECOND by Burk</u> to approve the consent agenda with the exception of item #3. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

1. Consider the following damage claim recommended for denial: Eduardo Vargas in the amount of $2,200.00.

2. Consider approving a Settlement Agreement and Release in the pending action in United States District Court titled City of Lawton v. Engie Services, U.S., Inc. f/k/a OpTerra Energy Services, Inc., CIV-21-455-R and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the same.

3. Consider approving the placement of a memorial honoring those who lost their lives in the September 11th, 2001, terrorist attack at the Public Safety Center.

Christine James, Parks and Recreation Director, updated the council on the status of the memorial. She stated the funding for the memorial will be from private organizations.

Mayor Booker stated he feels the public safety center is the right place for this memorial.

<u>MOVED by Burk SECOND by Chapman</u> to approve the placement of a memorial honoring those who lost their lives in the September 11th, 2001, terrorist attack at the Public Safety Center. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Consider approving the acceptance of a reimbursement grant in the amount of $50,873.82 from the State of Oklahoma - Office of Homeland Security for Interoperable Communications - Repeater Project.

5. Consider approving a Memorandum of Agreement between LEDA, The City of Lawton, and LURA regarding the transfer of two tracts of land located at 910 SW B Avenue and 909 SW C Avenue owned by LEDA, to the City of Lawton, in exchange for waiver of the obligation of LURA for landfill fees incurred on behalf of LEDA and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute all necessary documents for the transfer of the property.

6. Authorize the Mayor to sign a contract with Oklahoma Human Services for the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP).

7. Consider approving a resolution amending the City of Lawton FY22-23 budget by appropriating $180,000 from CIP 2019 for ITS Improvement Projects. **Resolution 22-220**

8. Consider approving the resolution declaring the eligibility of the City of Lawton to apply to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for use of Transportation Alternatives Program Funds set forth by IIJA for the East Gore Blvd. Sidewalk Project and authorizing the Mayor to sign the resolution. **Resolution 22-221**

9. Consider approving the resolution declaring the eligibility of the City of Lawton to apply to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for use of Transportation Alternatives Program Funds set forth by IIJA for the East Gore Blvd Bikepath Project and authorizing the Mayor to sign the resolution. **Resolution 22-222**

10. Consider approving the resolution declaring the eligibility of the City of Lawton to apply to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation for use of Transportation Alternatives Program Funds set forth by IIJA for the Lake Helen Trail Project and authorizing the Mayor to sign the resolution. **Resolution 22-223**

11. Consider approving plans and specifications for the Cache Road Waterline Replacement Projects PU2202 and PU2203 and authorizing staff to advertise for bids.

12. Consider acknowledging receipt of a permit WL000016220806 for the construction of the Cache Road Water Line Replacement Projects from Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality.

13. Consider accepting the Elmer Thomas Park Electrical Project (PR2301) Phases 3 and 5 as constructed by Lee Construction & Maintenance Company dba LMC Corporation of Houston, TX. And place Maintenance Bond in effect.

14. Consider extending contract CL22-015 Pest Control Services to Allstate Termite & Pest Solutions of Shady Point, OK.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

15. Hold a public hearing and adopt a resolution declaring the structures located at 2004 NW Smith Avenue, to be dilapidated pursuant to Section 6-5-1 Lawton City Code, ordering the owner to abate the nuisance, authorizing summary abatement, and authorizing the City Attorney to commence legal action in District Court to abate the nuisance.

Charlotte Brown, Community Services Director, stated this was brought to council on November 15th and it was discovered the property was in probate, so the public hearing was continued to this meeting.

Ratliff stated staff reached out to the attorney for the administrator of the estate and they do not oppose being place on the dilapidated list.

PUBLIC HEARING IS RECONVENED. No one appeared to speak and the public hearing was closed.

MOVED by Harris SECOND by Chapman, to approve **Resolution 22-224** declaring the structure/s on the property a dilapidated public nuisance and authorize the abatement thereof as set forth in the resolution. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

16. Receive a presentation concerning the outside water rates and how they compare to inside water rates and consider adopting the revised Council Policy 5-2 and approving a resolution lifting the moratorium on water sales outside of the city limits, effective immediately.

Joe Don Dunham, Finance Director, stated staff is approximately 95% - 98% complete with their analysis on the rates and he requested council table this item until January 10, 2023.

MOVED by Fortenbaugh SECOND by Hampton, to table to January 10, 2023. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

17. Hold a public hearing and adopt a resolution declaring the structures located at 122 NE Angus Avenue, 407 NW 16th Street aka 1516 NW Dearborn Avenue (STRICKEN), 510 SW Monroe Avenue, 1103 SW 9th Street, 1510 SW Texas Avenue, 1612 SW Douglas Avenue, 1812 SW A Avenue, 2422 SW Washington Avenue, to be dilapidated pursuant to Section 6-5-1 Lawton City Code, ordering the owner to abate the nuisance, authorizing summary abatement, and authorizing the City Attorney to commence legal action in District Court to abate the nuisance.

Mayor Booker stated 407 NW 16th Street aka 516 NW Dearborn Avenue will be stricken from the agenda.

122 NE Angus Avenue

Terry Bayones, Acting Neighborhood Services Supervisor, reported the numerous violations of city code existing on the property which are documented on the Property Maintenance Evaluation Sheet. Bayones presented photographs of the property. Utilities are inactive.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED. No one appeared to speak and the public hearing was closed.

MOVED by Harris SECOND by Chapman, to approve **Resolution 22-225** declaring the structure/s on the property a dilapidated public nuisance and authorize the abatement thereof as set forth in the resolution. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

510 SW Monroe Avenue

Bayones reported the numerous violations of city code existing on the property which are documented on the Property Maintenance Evaluation Sheet. Bayones presented photographs of the property. Utilities are inactive.

Ratliff stated this property is also going through probate. He received a letter from the executor of the estate requesting this property be tabled because the attorney of record was not able to be in attendance.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED. No one appeared to speak.

MOVED by Warren SECOND by Burk, to continue public hearing to January 24, 2023. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

1103 SW 9th Street

Bayones reported the numerous violations of city code existing on the property which are documented on the Property Maintenance Evaluation Sheet. Bayones presented photographs of the property. Utilities are inactive.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED.

Mr. Ramirez, 1303 SW Summit, stated he bought the property at auction and paid $3,000. He requested an extension so that he can get the property back to city standards.

(Unknown citizen) stated the letter never came to the property owner at her address.

Bayones reported the notice procedures that staff follows.

Ratliff stated he is satisfied that staff has met the requirements for legal notice.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED.

MOVED by Hampton SECOND by Warren, to approve **Resolution 22-226** declaring the structure/s on the property a dilapidated public nuisance and authorize the abatement thereof as set forth in the resolution. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

1510 SW Texas Avenue

Bayones reported the numerous violations of city code existing on the property which are documented on the Property Maintenance Evaluation Sheet. Bayones presented photographs of the property. Utilities are inactive.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED. No one appeared to speak and the public hearing was closed.

MOVED by Warren SECOND by Burk, to approve **Resolution 22-227** declaring the structure/s on the property a dilapidated public nuisance and authorize the abatement thereof as set forth in the resolution. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

(Johnson entered the meeting at 2:36 p.m.)

1612 SW Douglas Avenue

Bayones reported the numerous violations of city code existing on the property which are documented on the Property Maintenance Evaluation Sheet. Bayones presented photographs of the property. Utilities are inactive.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED.

Katrina Johnson, 2214 NW Hoover, she stated her husband is buying this property and they have done a lot of work on the property, but her husband is incarcerated for the next 3-5 months.

Burk requested she get a permit and get the process started and staff will work with her.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED.

MOVED by Johnson SECOND by Burk, to approve **Resolution 22-228** declaring the structure/s on the property a dilapidated public nuisance and authorize the abatement thereof as set forth in the resolution. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

1812 SW A Avenue

Bayones reported the numerous violations of city code existing on the property which are documented on the Property Maintenance Evaluation Sheet. Bayones presented photographs of the property. Utilities are inactive.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED. No one appeared to speak and the public hearing was closed.

MOVED by Hampton SECOND by Burk, to approve **Resolution 22-229** declaring the structure/s on the property a dilapidated public nuisance and authorize the abatement thereof as set forth in the resolution. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

2422 SW Washington Avenue

Bayones reported the numerous violations of city code existing on the property which are documented on the Property Maintenance Evaluation Sheet. Bayones presented photographs of the property. Utilities are inactive.

Burk stated someone needs to pick up these poly carts that are at theses properties.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED. No one appeared to speak and the public hearing was closed.

MOVED by Johnson SECOND by Burk, to approve **Resolution 22-230** declaring the structure/s on the property a dilapidated public nuisance and authorize the abatement thereof as set forth in the resolution. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

18. Hold a public hearing to consider closing a portion of the right-of-way of NW Pershing Drive, adjacent to Lots 1 & 20, Block 19, Liberty Heights Addition.

Kameron Good, Planner II, presented information on the request to close the right-of-way.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED. No one appeared to speak and the public hearing was closed.

MOVED by Fortenbaugh SECOND by Burk to adopt **Ordinance 22-37**, waive the reading of the ordinance, read the title only. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

(Title read by City Attorney) Ordinance 22-37

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING 50 FEET OF ROW TO THE EAST OF LOT 1 AND LOT 20, BLOCK 19, LIBERTY HEIGHTS ADDITION.

19. Hold a public hearing to consider closing a utility easement located on Lots 11-14, Block 3, Morford Addition.

Good presented information on the request to close the utility easement.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED. No one appeared to speak and the public hearing was closed.

MOVED by Fortenbaugh SECOND by Hampton to adopt **Ordinance 22-38**, waive the reading of the ordinance, read the title only. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

(Title read by City Attorney) Ordinance 22-38

AN ORDINANCE CLOSING A UTILITY EASEMENT LOCATED ON THE WEST 5 FEET OF LOTS 11 AND 12 AND THE EAST 5 FEET OF LOTS 13 AND 14, BLOCK 3, MORFORD ADDITION, LAWTON, OKLAHOMA.

20. Consider approving an amendment to Council Policy 1-6, Council Rules of Procedure, by establishing requirements on items that are tabled indefinitely and items that require staff research.

Ratliff stated this item will amend Council Policy 1-6 so when council does not specify a period of time that an item will be tabled or it does not give staff a time limit for research, this just establishes that the item will come back 60 days after it was tabled or staff was given a directive to research a particular topic and every 30 days thereafter.

Fortenbaugh stated he would hope that the council will not get in the habit of tabling things indefinitely, a date certain is always best.

<u>MOVED by Burk SECOND by Warren</u> to approving an amendment to Council Policy 1-6. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

21. Direct staff to determine the necessity and efficiency of the two Deputy City Manager positions, one of which is currently vacant. Further direct the City Manager to leave the vacant position open until such time as Council considers whether having two Deputy City Managers is feasible in light of current budgetary constraints.

<u>MOVED by Johnson SECOND by Warren</u> to direct staff to prepare a report no later than March 23, 2023 and make appropriate comparisons using accurate data, further direct the City Manager to not fill the vacant Deputy City Manager position until Council has had an opportunity to determine if the position can still be justified in the light of current fiscal constraints faced by the City.

Harris stated he is concerned because the previous assistant city manager carried a heavy workload and if they are not going to replace him, who is going to carry the load. Will this fall on the city manager or are they going to retitle the position and have someone else do the work. He does not see the savings because they are going to pay someone to do the work. He does not see the necessity of this.

Burk stated the best thing they ever did was have two deputy city managers because there are too many departments in this city and they need to be broken up. He suggested the council put the position back in because the issue will be getting a response to the citizens and getting things done fast enough.

Mayor Booker stated this is just to reevaluate the issue. The individual who left that position is on terminal leave and is still being paid. He stated this will show the citizens that the council is doing their job and reevaluating and making sure we are spending the citizens money the best way possible. The best time to reevaluate the position is when it is empty.

Chapman stated most citizens don't realize how many departments are under these two gentlemen now and how complex that is.

Johnson stated she feels they should take this time to reevaluate and streamline some things and when that position is filled again that it is more precise in what's going on.

Warren stated they are already looking at how we compare to other cities our size and this is the time to do this.

Hampton stated looking at the details is not a bad idea and this is the time to evaluate those responsibilities.

Hankins stated this is the perfect time to evaluate the financial feasibility.

Fortenbaugh stated this is over $200,000 in personnel costs and they owe it to the citizens to look at this.

Harris questioned if this was a budget issue.

Cleghorn stated it would be improper to fill the position at this time when the are still paying the previous deputy city manager.

VOTE ON THE MOTION: AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

22. Discuss the idea of a "Bag & Tie" Campaign and direct staff accordingly.

Caitlin Gatlin, Communications and Marketing Manager, presented information on a bag and tie campaign. (Presentation on file in the City Clerk's office)

Burk stated they need to aim this at children, who will go home and tell their parents. He stated he thought we still had inmates picking up the trash and they should pick up a lot of trash.

Clegghorn stated they are getting back to that.

Burk stated there is an amount set up through tipping fees that should be used to pick up trash along 11th Street. He stated this is a great campaign, but the problem is that they need to continually keep advertising.

Fortenbaugh stated they burned over 1,000 manhours picking up trash at the landfill alone and this seems pretty cheap to deal with the problem.

Warren believes they need to do TV and radio as well as social media.

Johnson questioned if the ads will pop up on streaming devices.

Gatlin stated she would need to check on that.

Harris suggested they offset these costs by increasing the fines for those who are violating the bulk trash policy.

Mayor Booker questioned if staff ever followed through with the sticker campaign they talked about a year ago and how many citations have been issued for violations.

Cleghorn stated they have issued door knockers, but he is not sure about citations. He would have to talk to our prosecutors.

Hampton questioned if there would be a mascot in marketing to the kids. He feels that branding would help in this being an ongoing campaign.

Johnson suggested they could put up signs like the neighborhood watch signs that could become part of the community.

Burk suggested they let the kids come up with ideas for the campaign and LETA will help promote it.

MOVED by Burk SECOND by Warren to approve funding in the amount of $30,476.02 to promote a Bag & Tie Campaign. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

23. Discuss the funding source for demolition of the burnt nursing home located at 1301 NW Andrews Avenue and take action as Council directs and deems appropriate.

Brown reported there is asbestos with this property and the quote is $261,800. She stated she needs some direction on a funding source. She stated finance staff is recommending CIP funding.

Ratliff stated emergency funding is on the table also.

Joe Don Dunham, Finance Director, stated there are three options, the dilapidated building fund, the emergency fund and departmental funds.

Brown stated they budgeted $270,000 for dilapidated properties this year and they have already encumbered $94,418.

Cleghorn stated PROPEL CIP has funded the administrative position as well as the operational funds for the D&D program for a number of years.

Mayor Booker stated there was some funding remaining for D&D in the previous CIP and they need to check on that. He stated there was some talk about taking this owner to court and we would get a lien against him and his other business in town. He questioned if staff pursued that avenue.

Ratliff stated they have done that before, but he would not recommend it for this case because if they sue under a nuisance theory, the only thing they will accomplish is ensuring that the property is never sold because they will attach a $270,000 lien for the abatement and the property is not worth that. He recommended using one of the pots of money and he can pursue collection efforts after the fact.

Mayor Booker questioned if we could attach the lien to the other property owned by the property owner.

Ratliff stated they were not able to determine if he owned other property because he had moved the property among LLC's and those LLC's don't have any assets. He stated this will take a while to work through the judicial process. He suggested they remediate first and do collection efforts after the fact. They can sue individually and personally.

Burk stated it is not fair to those citizens that live around the property. He suggested they get this taken care of.

Cleghorn suggested they use emergency funds to abate a public health hazard.

Ratliff stated the council can direct that staff use those funds to abate. He requested the council empower him to pursue collection actions against the owner.

MOVED by Burk SECOND by Warren to use emergency funds to demolish the property and to empower the City Attorney to pursue collection actions against the owner. AYE: Hankins, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: Harris. MOTION CARRIED.

Harris stated he abstained from voting because he has had a longstanding business arrangement with the previous owners of the facility.

24. Consider accepting a donation of underground fiber optics within Elmer Thomas Park from Hilliary Communications in the approximate amount of $40,000.00.

Krista Ratliff, President of the Lawton Fort Sill Chamber of Commerce, reported on the donation of fiber optics within Elmer Thomas Park and updated council on status of Holiday in the Park.

Harris questioned if this has already been installed.

Ratliff stated it has been installed.

Harris questioned if this went through the Parks and Recreation Commission or did it come through council.

Ratliff stated it did not get approved by council throughout the process, but two parks and recreation commission members do sit on the Holiday in the Park board.

MOVED by Burk SECOND by Hankins to accept a donation of underground fiber optics within Elmer Thomas Park from Hilliary Communications in the approximate amount of $40,000.00. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Burk, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

25. Consider amending previous direction from Council and direct staff to offer current School House Slough tenants an annual lease beginning January 1, 2023, instead of the previously recommended four-month lease.

Dewayne Burk, Deputy City Attorney, stated at the last council meeting it was suggested that instead of a four-month extension, staff would offer a one-year extension with no changes because our consultant is still working on the Lakes Master Plan which is expected to be completed in March.

Warren questioned if there is any option to extend past the one year.

D. Burk stated there is no extension.

Mayor Booker clarified that this does not include the store.

Fortenbaugh stated a citizen made this suggestion. He stated this will take some pressure off staff who are scrambling to get ready for all these new leases that will come in a couple weeks.

D. Burk stated they will also offer tenants the option of making semi-annual payments.

Lynn York, current tenant at School House Slough, stated he felt the store needed to be contracted out and not run by the City of Lawton.

MOVED by Fortenbaugh SECOND by Hankins to direct staff to offer current School House Slough tenants an annual lease beginning January 1, 2023. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. ABSENT: Burk. MOTION CARRIED.

26. Consider discussing the potential dissolution of the existing lease agreement between the City of Lawton and the Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA) concerning the property and facility located at 900 NW Cache Road adjacent to Lawton Public School's Central Middle School and direct staff to take appropriate action.

D. Burk stated that the Armed Services YMCA is no longer using the facility and are interested in dissolving the existing lease. Lawton Public Schools has expressed an interest in the facility to provide programs. He stated the options are a long-term lease or a possible land swap that could involve the deed on the current City Hall. In order to move forward they need to dissolve the lease with ASYMCA and receive direction from council to move forward with negotiations with LPS.

MOVED by Warren SECOND by Harris to direct staff to negate the current lease and to enter into discussions with Lawton Public Schools. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. ABSENT: Burk. MOTION CARRIED.

27. Consider directing staff to research the possibility of implementing an administrative process for declaring structures dilapidated as provided in 11 OS 22-112.B.

Cleghorn stated that state statute does allow the governing body to delegate that responsibility to a person and/or body if they choose.

Warren stated he would like to look at this idea and he feels this could be workable. It provides the ability for a group or the city manager to handle all the D&D issues up until the owner has an issue, and if they don't agree with the decision, they have the ability to bring that to council.

Hampton stated he wants to make sure that the citizens are represented. A lot of people that he deals with have no clue on the process and he sees the possibility of a hybrid situation. There are a lot of properties that no one seems to care about, but at the same time he does not want to lose focus on the fact that he represents those property owners and he does not want it to become an administrative process in the future where council is not even aware of property, from the owners perspective, being taken away.

Johnson stated the council needs to be informed about what is in their wards and they need to look at commercial properties to make sure that the process is looking across the city.

Warren stated he has been told by citizens that it is intimidating to attend a council meeting. This would take it to a one-on-one situation. He stated this will also move quickly through those properties that no one cares about.

Hampton stated this is an opportunity to streamline the process.

Cleghorn stated this will allow that body to process those requests for D&D and property owners can appeal to the city council. The items will also be addressed to the council through an email or distribution system.

Hampton stated he wants to look at what staff comes up with and make sure that citizen representation is still there. He also feels that this process will slow down since they have made so much progress in the past year.

Harris stated in Oklahoma City they approve properties in one motion provided they don't pull a specific address and if no one shows up to speak on a property, the pictures are not shown. He feels this might be a middle of the road approach.

Burk stated he feels it is important for citizens to have the ability to come before the council and the council makes the final decision. He feels the system is working.

Ratliff stated that Oklahoma City has had a lot of issues with their D&D program and they have been sued several times. He feels that what we are doing is working even though it takes some time.

Warren stated he feels there is a more efficient way to do it. He stated there is money in the CIP for 500 houses and we have done around 200.

Mayor Booker questioned how many we have torn down and how many of those the city has paid for.

Terry Bayones, Acting Neighborhood Services Supervisor, stated we have taken down 200 homes since they have had CIP money. We have not been reimbursed for many, maybe three or four. We have a number of residential lots out there with liens ranging from $1,500 to $3,500.

Hampton questioned what they will do with these empty lots. That is something they will have to deal with.

Warren stated he would like to see an ongoing report on the number of houses that we have put on the D&D, how many we have torn down, and how many the property owners have torn down.

Hankins stated she feels they do not have enough information to even debate this.

Harris questioned if they could look at putting these on a consent agenda.

Mayor Booker stated what they are voting on is for the city manager to bring back some options on moving forward.

MOVED by Warren SECOND by Harris to direct staff to research the possibility of implementing an administrative process for declaring structures dilapidated. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Burk, Chapman, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

28. Receive a project update and consider approving plans and specifications for the Project EN2004A City Hall Renovation Main Building Package and authorizing staff to advertise for bids.

Scott Vaughan, Project Manager, and staff from MA+ Architecture and CMS Willowbrook presented an update on the City Hall Renovation project. (Presentation is on file in the City Clerk’s office)

MOVED by Warren SECOND by Harris to approve plans and specifications for the Project EN2004A City Hall Renovation Main Building Package and authorize staff to advertise for bids. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Burk, Chapman, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

STAFF REPORTS:

D. Burk reported that Charlotte Brown has been promoted to Community Services Director. Brown introduced Ray Howard the new Chief Building Official and Jonathan Jernigen, the new Neighborhood Services Supervisor.

Council received an update on the FISTA Project - James Taylor, FISTA Director, (Presentation is on file in the City Clerk's office)

The Mayor and Council convened in executive session at 4:41 p.m. and reconvened in regular, open session at 5:06 p.m. Roll call reflected all members present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS:

29. Pursuant to Section 307B.4, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session to discuss the pending action in Oklahoma County District Court titled State of Oklahoma, ex rel The Department of Transportation vs. Gills Waste Oil, LLC, Virgil Brooks, and Scottsdale Insurance Company and Gill's Waste Oil, LLC vs City of Lawton, CV-2020-2134, and if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.

Ratliff read the title of item #29. No action was taken.

30. Pursuant to Section 307B.3, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session to discuss the purchase of real property located at 911 SW C Avenue, and if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.

Ratliff read the title of item #30.

MOVED by Burk SECOND by Harris to authorize the City Attorney to enter into negotiations with the property owner to purchase the property located at 911 SW C Avenue. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Burk, Chapman, Hampton, Fortenbaugh, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

There being no further business to consider, the meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m. upon motion, Second and roll call vote.

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STAN BOOKER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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TRACI HUSHBECK, CITY CLERK