

MINUTES
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
CITY TRANSIT TRUST
JULY 12, 2005 - 6:00 P.M.
WAYNE GILLEY CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman John P. Purcell, Jr. Notice of meeting and agenda were posted on the City Hall notice board as required by law.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Janice Drewry, Keith Jackson, Robert Shanklin, Jeffrey Patton. Stanley Haywood (arrived @ 6:02 p.m.), Randy Warren, Bill Shoemate, Rex Givens. ABSENT: None
ALSO PRESENT: Larry Mitchell, City Manager; John Vincent, City Attorney; Traci Hushbeck, City Clerk; Col. Sonny Uberti, Fort Sill Liaison

PROCLAMATION FOR SWEET ADELINES INTERNATIONAL.

Mayor Purcell presented a proclamation to The Lawton Harmony Chorus. The chorus proceeded to sing the National Anthem.

Mayor Purcell introduced Col. Sonny Uberti who is the new Garrison Commander at Fort Sill.

BUSINESS ITEM:

1. Consider approving the text and graphics of the proposed bus wraps submitted by the Lawton Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) and the Fort Sill Apache Casino. Exhibits: Photos.

Debra Jones, Acting Planning Director, stated staff has received two requests for bus wraps, one from the Lawton Chamber of Commerce and one from the Fort Sill Apache Casino. Per Transit Trust policy, the City Council is required to approve all wraps. The rent for the wrap is \$800 a month. The Fort Sill Apache Casino has offered to pay all of the annual rent upfront in one payment if the Trust would consider offering the 13th month free. The Chamber of Commerce opted to pay the rent in 12 separate payments. The City Clerk distributed to the City Council a copy of a petition submitted to her office as well as a copy of the Transit Trust advertising policy.

Cindy Reynolds, 5702 NW Chestnut Lane, stated she submitted to the City Clerk a petition in protest of the Red Hot Ruby graphic in the bus wrap proposed by the Fort Sill Apache Casino. She is in attendance to represent those citizens who signed the petition. The petition is in protest of the suggestive Red Hot Ruby graphic and not the advertisement. She stated the petitioners feel that drivers cannot shield their young children from the graphic while at stop lights since it is on the back of the bus. People will associate this image with the city of Lawton regardless of the true affiliation. There is also concern about the method in which bus wraps are approved. Citizens depend on the protection of the Transit Trust to make decisions which are seen all over town.

Amy Ewing-Holmstrom, 220 NE 46th Street, stated she is in attendance because of the nature of the bus wrap. She stated as a woman she is offended by the graphic. There are so many other things that could be promoted on the buses. These are rolling billboards. People come to Lawton from all over and the first thing they may see is a transit bus that is driving onto Fort Sill. Do they really want to be promoting a casino. She stated she is not here to judge whether gambling is good or bad, but this will set a precedent. Gambling is not one of the initiatives that they should be promoting in Lawton. Hopefully other businesses will step up and take advantage of this form of advertisement. The decisions made by the trust will have long-term ramifications and they must be very careful.

Haywood stated that there are 82 plus casinos in Oklahoma, and the teachers have received free insurance because of the casinos. This is a way of life that we cannot stop. There will be a lottery starting in October. It is up to the individual to not gamble.

MOVED by Haywood to approve the text and graphics for the proposed bus wrap submitted by the Lawton Chamber of Commerce and Fort Sill Apache Casino and discount one free month when twelve months are paid in full at the beginning of the contract.

Motion failed due to the lack of a second.

Drewry stated she felt it was okay to advertise the casino, but found the red hot ruby graphic very offensive.

Patton stated that he feels that they should not limit the casinos, but the graphic is a little too much.

Mayor Purcell suggested that the City Council table the item and ask that the casino bring back a graphic for the back of the bus that is a little more appropriate. He stated it seems that the City Council does not object to the casino advertising.

Patton questioned if they could proceed and approve the Chamber of Commerce bus wrap.

MOVED by Warren, SECOND by Shoemate, to approve the text and graphics for the proposed bus wrap submitted by the Lawton Chamber of Commerce and table the request by Fort Sill Apache Casino and request that staff confer with the Fort Sill Apache Casino and request they change the wrap on the rear of the bus to more appropriate graphics. AYE: Shanklin, Patton, Haywood, Warren, Shoemate, Givens, Drewry, Jackson. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:19 p.m. upon motion, second and roll call vote.

JOHN P. PURCELL, JR., CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SECRETARY