

**MINUTES
LAWTON ACCESS BOARD
NEW CITY HALL
CITY ATTORNEY'S CONFERENCE ROOM
212 SW 9th STREET
JULY 25, 2017**

Mike Jones called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. in the City Attorney's Conference Room. Notice of meeting and agenda were posted on the City Hall notice board as required by law.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Joseph Harper; Don Kesler, Jr.; Mike Jones; Kay Love; Ray Polk.

ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Denise Ezell, City Clerk's Office; Keith Neitzke, Parks and Recreation.

APPROVE MINUTES from May 30, 2017 meeting

Motion by Kesler, **Second** by Polk, to approve the minutes of May 30, 2017 as written.
Aye: Kesler; Love; Jones; Polk; Harper. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed**

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. New Business

A. Review and discuss proposed sidewalk project priority plans. Take action for reprioritization if necessary.

Jones stated if you have been wondering about our Priority I we believe this project will begin soon. We have been acquiring the easements along Lee Boulevard from 4 property owners. One of those owners had concerns. Typically sidewalks are constructed with concrete 4" deep. When it intersects a driveway it is required to be 6" deep for reinforcement. He was concerned if we built a sidewalk with the standard 4" and at a later date he decided to build a driveway he would tear out the 4" sidewalk and be required to reconstruct with a 6" sidewalk. We proposed to pour a 6" sidewalk and he has verbally agreed. This is in exchange for him granting us the easement. This is the last link in the chain to getting the sidewalk off the ground. We can move forward once he signs the documents. Once Council approves this the contractor will have 60 days to complete the project. Maybe we can do another press release.

Love stated this is great. We have so much complaining about what isn't going on this will be good. We do need to get this published.

Harper stated I agree.

Jones stated a lot of people are under informed. We need to get as much in the paper as possible.

Harper stated in front of Memorial they put in a new sidewalk with no curb ramps and on the south side of Smith the trees and bushes are so overgrown it makes it hard to get to the bus stop.

Jones stated I'll look into that. Phase I of the east Gore project has been completed. The contractor will begin on Phase II pretty soon. The VA Center is excited to see this project moving along. Whisenhunt stated on Priority 9 the street division has installed 5' sidewalk along SW 27th from G to J. That is about half of Priority 9.

Neitzke stated so when they are doing the roadwork they are filling in the gaps.

Jones stated exactly. For our small projects we use the Sidewalk In Lieu of funds. Currently there are no funds.

Harper asked where do the funds come from.

Jones stated I'll use the new Walmart as an example. When they built the store they were required to place sidewalks along 38th Street. The city knew that in the future they would be doing a sewer line replacement project on 38th Street. Instead of Walmart putting the sidewalk in and the city tearing it out Walmart placed funds in the Sidewalk In Lieu of Fund. Once the city has completed the sewer line project they will construct the sidewalk. It's just a commons sense kind of thing. That's all the updates I have.

B. Continue discussion of proposal from Don Kesler to assign board members to distinct areas of the city

Kesler stated I can't come up with an equitable way to split the city into quarters. I still have concerns about different things going on. Council members are meeting with neighborhoods on how to split the last bond money and I would like to make sure someone from this committee is present. We want the neighborhood to be aware there is an issue. I don't believe there is awareness outside this room. I just don't have a best way to attack this.

Jones stated I could ask Whisenhunt about this. His department would have some involvement with projects in the different wards.

Harper asked could they put something in the paper. The average citizen doesn't know.

Love stated we could contact our Council members when we see thing that need to be done.

Neitzke asked has the Community Relations Director attended this meeting.

Jones stated no. She would be a great tool.

Kesler stated since our last meeting there has been 2 or 3 articles in the paper. Information is being fed to McConnell and she is getting it in the paper. I'm just lost on how to approach this.

Jones stated now that we have Vrska I wonder if she has a direct connection. I'm guessing everything is being funneled through her.

Neitzke stated I would think so. She would be a good point of contact.

Jones stated I'll reach out to her and we will invite her to become a part of our meetings.

Love stated we can always call Jones or Ezell when we see things.

Jones stated definitely.

Kesler stated I suggest we use Jones. We can feed the information to him and he can decide what to do with it.

Jones stated I can go check those situations out.

Harper stated there is a sidewalk in need of repair just west of Numu Creek. It has a drop off.

Jones stated we discussed using a contractor out of Oklahoma City to grid down those types of issues. Once we have funds in the Sidewalk In Lieu of we might look into hiring him. Is there anything else that anyone would like to talk about?

2. Comments/Discussion

Jones stated these are some posting I have updated. First are the standard ADA notice and the instructions for the grievance procedure. These are posted around the city facilities and on the website. Your next handout is an email in regards to the TDY and TBD equipment. I met with the E911 Director and her assistant and they showed me how this equipment operates. When a call comes in from a teletype machine you hear a series of tones like a fax machine. This alerts the E911 operator to pull out the teletype keyboard and pull up the interface on their computer screens. Then it works like a chat window. The operator has default questions that go out very quickly and they are able to type a response. A suspected problem rose from somewhere. I went through a simulated call and everything worked perfectly. All the dispatchers are made familiar with the equipment. I reported to the City Attorney and the Police of Chief that I was satisfied that there wasn't a situation where a TDY or TDB call would be mishandled or go unrecognized or unanswered. They did tell me that they almost receive no calls on this equipment. There is a new service called Oklahoma Relay that is used. Instead of calling 911 your call 711 and Oklahoma Relay picks up and relays your information.

Love asked can a death person text to the relay service.

Jones stated I believe so.

Love stated I have used a TDY and they were great back in the 90's.

Jones stated if you would like to see how they work you can visit their website at Oklahomarelay.com. We touched on disability training at the last meeting and I made contact with Bill Farmer. He has agreed to help and be a part of it. The Deputy Chief of the Police Department has agreed to be the point of contact and he would fit this into the officers training. Farmer stated they were looking at starting the training in the fall. I would like to start with the police department and then with other city employees that have contact with the public. These are issued that unless you are confronted with them you really don't know how best to handle them. I believe awareness training will benefit city employees.

Love stated I thought it was fascinating.

Kesler stated we need to make contact with the state office and they will work with people that can't hear or see.

Jones stated I'll get with Farmer and he can contact them.

Love stated we invited other agencies to come be a part of the training.

Jones stated I'll add that to my notes. Once I have the dates I'll make them available to you.

Love stated my husband and I were at the Chamber and it is not ADA accessible.

Jones stated the new building.

Love stated yes. The doors are not accessible. It is a long walk from the parking lot to the ramp. Also there are not sidewalks on 61st Street.

Jones stated I have a note to go look at that along with the area in front of Comanche County Memorial.

3. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Motion by Kesler, Second by Harper, to adjourn. **Aye: Love; Jones; Polk; Harper; Kesler. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed****