

**LAWTON ENHANCEMENT TRUST AUTHORITY
BANQUET HALL
212 SW 9th STREET
JULY 8, 2020**

Jay Burk, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in the Banquet Hall. Notice of meeting and agenda was posted on the City Hall notice board as required by law.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Burk Jay; Hankins, Mary Ann; McConnell, Lou; Morford, Robert; Smith, Addie (entered after roll call); Sweeney, Kerry; Symuleski, Ted.

ABSENT: Ezerski, Barry.

OTHER PRESENT: Richard Rogalski (by phone) and Charlotte Brown, Planning; Billie Whipp, Parks and Recreation; Corey Bowen, Neighborhood Services; Susan Schlecht, Finance Department; Tiffany Vrska, Public Relations Director, Gregg Gibson, Legal.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

Burk stated thanks to everyone for coming. I know this is not ideal. We could start doing these meetings virtually if everyone wants to. Instead of everyone coming here we could do a virtual setup. Right now, everyone is up in arms about being in groups. Coming here and sitting in this room is not bad but we could do a virtual meeting like we have done before. If that is something that you are interested in, we can do that instead of meeting in person. We could do the meeting that way. I don't care so are there any thoughts. Would you prefer to do it that way since you can be at your home or business?

Sweeney asked what is the format that you would use. I'm not real tech savvy.

Burk stated I'm not either and neither is Mary Ann. We are in the same boat on City Council, so we get it.

Symuleski stated do you have to have someone help you every time.

Burk stated we pretty much have to help each other. It would be like a Zoom meeting. It would be WebEx which basically sends you a login. You can get on your computer and hit login and then you would be invited to the meeting and you would pop up on the screen. You can do it where we see and hear you. You have a microphone you turn on and off when you want to speak. It is perfectly legal. The state has authorized these types of meeting during this time. We have that opportunity and it is not hard. We can have IT set it up and make sure it is right and then I will call you. IT can walk you through it if we need them too. It might be better to get a quorum instead of worrying about it. Especially if someone thinks they have been exposed like Barry. We can't do hybrid. We can't do some in person and some not. We must have everyone in person or by internet. We can't do a hybrid deal. That is state law. Is that something we might want to think about. Does that sound like something that would interest everyone?

Hankins stated I don't think any of us (can't hear) but is it the right thing to do. You can't see people (can't hear).

Burk stated no, it's not. I think we all have that issue. My biggest problem is making sure every month we have a quorum and it is becoming more and more difficult. We barely have one today. It is more and more difficult and now Barry thinks he has been exposed. All it takes is one thing to happen and we can't do our business month to month.

Morford asked can you hear on it.

Burk stated yes. It has gotten much better when we went to WebEx and we have gotten better at it. We as a Council got better as it went along. We may try it for the next meeting just to see how it goes. I'll get IT to get us hooked up. Talk to them and see who we need to talk with. All you must have is a cellphone, iPad or desktop. You don't have to have it where we can see you, but we have to be able to hear you. You have to remember, we will teach you, to turn your volume on and off. Otherwise it will echo.

Hankins stated it took me a long time to figure that out.

Burk stated it does. It took me a long time too. We don't want to be the Councilor from Span who took a shower and didn't realize his camera was still on. It showed him totally naked. It was something to see. He resigned but said he wasn't afraid of his body. I didn't know how to take that. The only good thing about mask is we never know if you are laughing or mad. You could be mad the whole time and we don't care. There is some good to this right. It makes a fat boy sweat and I almost passed out two (2) or three (3) times. If you see me take the mask off for a minute, I'm trying to get a little oxygen or as my friend would say I'm just trying to get some air.

Symuleski stated I see a lot of people wearing mask like this and to me that isn't the right way to wear it.

Burk stated I will tell you privately what my friends say about that.

Burk stated here she is. Don't suck too hard on that mask or it will look like you are eating it, your glasses will fog up and you're going to get hot.

1. Reports

A. Receive report from Dennis Totte and take action if necessary.

Totte stated we have a solar block that is down at 11th and Bishop. I called Keith and he stated he would let us know when he got approval. It controls one side of the road. The cost is \$1339 installed. I was hoping to get it approved.

Burk asked where it is at.

Totte stated 11th and Bishop.

Burk stated I will push that up the scale and make sure that Michael and his office knows we need to push those through.

Brown stated okay.

Burk stated otherwise we have stuff that dies.

Totte asked where are we on Sheridan Road. Has it been bored and are we ready to go?

Brown stated they are working on it today. When they were doing the taps, they ran into an issue and then they had to break off to do fix a water main. They are back out there today. I'll let you know when it is ready.

Burk stated hopefully it won't be long.

Brown stated it shouldn't take long.

Burk stated I saw quite a few people out there working today.

Brown stated we have been trying to push them.

Burk stated did you notice all the flags up and down Sheridan Road. It looked really good. They were still up yesterday and looked amazing. He had them in every bed all the way down Sheridan from Rogers Lane to Cache Road. I think it was great to get them up. He tried to make sure they were up by the 4th. I would see him out there even after he had COVID. He was out there turning those into the ground which I didn't think was an easy task.

Brown stated yea, he said he did it all himself.

Burk stated he did, and I watched him. He put little stakes out where he was going to put them. He would measure from the curb and knew the exact spacing. It looked good and it will look good down Cache Road as we make an attempt to do another 50 or 100. Eventually one day we will have them up and down every major thoroughfare where we have medians. In the bigger medians he put two (2) in and in the smaller ones he had one (1). It looked really good.

Brown stated it goes to Council next week to get approval for them to be placed along Cache Road, Sheridan Road and by the public safety facility.

Burk stated we hope to get a lot of them out soon. Are there any questions for Dennis? Thanks Dennis. I'll be in touch I hope today.

B. Receive report from Neighborhood Services.

Bowen stated for the month of June we processed 848 complaints and requested 206 work orders. We are up to 866 work orders for the year. We mailed out 695 correspondence and tore down four (4) houses. We have added one (1) new contractor to help with mowing. I will have ten (10) more properties going to Council on the 28th of July and are trying to get those tore down. The house on Shelter Creek that we talked about at the last meeting I have sent them a thirty (30) day notice to try and get voluntary compliance. If that doesn't work, we will go the demolition route. The same thing with the gas station on Cache Road. We are rolling pretty heavy right now.

Burk stated awesome. Do you want to tell them what are plans are with Council and having a special meetings for houses so we can do them all at one time?

Bowen stated that is still kind of.....

Burk stated that is going to happen. I'm telling you it is going to happen.

Bowen stated I hope so.

Burk stated that is going to happen. That will happen.

Bowen stated it is still in play. We are trying to come up with a plan.

Smith stated trailers and mobile homes. If you move them, they will fall apart.

Bowen stated those are being torn down. I have two (2) going to Council in July that are mobile homes.

Symuleski asked isn't there something special you have to do for a mobile home.

Bowen stated the process to demo them is different but the process the city does is the same.

Smith stated they have been sitting there for so long with no utilities or anything.

Burk stated our goal was to do ten (10) a month and then we asked for twenty (20). We wanted to try and get them to Council faster so we could get them done faster. We wanted to move the process along. I was talking with Richard and Michael Cleghorn, the City Manager, and we decided we were going to have a special Council meeting every few months to do a large number of them. We would end up with a group of thirty (30) or forty (40). He will have a list in the hopper and as soon as we get to tearing those down then we would do another ten (10). That way we are not held up and waiting on the process. We will have that all done so we can get ready to start moving faster. Our goal is to do a minimum of ten (10) a month but we would like to do twenty (20) or thirty (30) a month. Michael has agreed to make sure that happens because this is a priority for Council. We appreciate everything you are doing. They are working hard to get them down and we finally have money to tear them down. We are going to go after it hot and heavy.

Smith stated there have been several that have been taken down but then the grass grows. What happens to this property? Who is responsible the city or the state?

Burk stated the property owner still owns the property. We are just demoing the house. Usually we have these properties on a list where we go out and mow them on a regular basis. We know they are a forever kind of thing. We will never get our money back that is a guarantee I promise. The property is not worth that. When they go to Sheriff sale the state comes before we do when getting money back. I have been fighting that at the state level for forever. With that said me and Michael have talked about buying weed killer and spraying those yards. Once we mow, we will spray it with weed killer. That is a cost we will have to incur but it might be cheaper than having to mow so often. I know he has probably got you looking into that. We are talking about spraying and killing the entire yard. You have to be careful in what neighborhoods you do that in. Certain neighborhoods that will look terrible in. Shelter Creek for example. If you spray those yards the neighbors would come unwound with a brown dead yard next to them. Roundup the whole yard. That is an idea. We are constantly mowing those, and we just keep racking up more and more charges that we will never get back. When they stop paying their taxes and it goes to Sheriff sale the taxes come first, then the state and then the city. We are the last one at the bottom of the rung. Very few times do we ever get any money back. It is hardly ever. I think they are doing a good job and we finally have some money. I know being short staff has not helped but I think they are doing a great job. Council has made this a priority and we are going to clean it up. We have enough to do how many houses?

Bowen asked out of the CIP. We can do roughly five (5) to seven (7).

Burk stated five (5) to seven (7) good houses. We think we might get a better deal if we can say here are ten (10) demolitions what will you charge us for ten (10) instead of one (1) or two (2). They will have a timeframe to get them done. We are changing how we have been doing things. Maybe we will get a better deal if we give them ten (10) at a time. Here is your ten (10) and here is your (10) and have different people tearing them down. Hopefully we will see a lot of movement. I know that we have already seen some come down. We have seen quite a few before us in the last two (2) months. We hate doing them during Council meetings because it takes forever. I would rather it be done at a special meeting so we could do twenty (20), thirty (30) or forty (40) at a time and have them in the hopper. That doesn't mean we will tear them down in a month, but all of these would be ready to go when you are ready. When a contractor has gone through their ten (10) then here is another ten (10). We finally have the money to do that. Seven hundred (700) to 800 houses. That is a lot of houses that can be torn down. We have never had that before. Anything thing else or any other good news.

Love stated I don't know. You have old business and then new business. The reason I want to stay around is I want to talk about sidewalks. You are going to talk about sidewalks at Council.

Burk stated it is on our agenda and we will allow you to talk when we get to that item.

Love stated okay, but I would like for him to stay. You are the first one that I have ever seen that has a badge.

Burk stated they all have a badge.

Love stated I didn't know that. How many are there.

Bowen stated right now there is me and three (3) others.

Rogalski stated I want to let everyone know that Cory is working on a proposal to get those thirty (30) going. We will get something going soon.

Burk stated okay, thank you.

Hankins stated (can't hear)

C. Receive a report from the Eye Candy Committee and take action if necessary.

Burk asked is there anything we need to talk about. It has been postponed until next year and we are just moving right along.

Sweeney stated I don't have an update at this time.

D. Receive a report from Children United and take action if necessary.

Burk stated we have postponed the event until next April 17th. We felt that September was still too big of a chance and we didn't want LETA's name on something that would be out in the public that we supported something and as a city we were cancelling everything. With the number of cases climbing we felt canceling was the best idea. They agreed with us. We met with Children United last Thursday or Friday and they agreed.

Vrska stated (Can't hear) we talked them into that part, and we are pretty excited about that.

Burk stated we are excited, and it is going to be exciting. It is always a fun event. They wanted to get this going faster. Obviously, they want to get us paid back but also, they wanted to make enough to get this project over that hump. They too are about health and welfare of the community. They have gotten a lot of smaller grants. Someone has donated concrete at cost and that will save around \$60,000 and the real estate folks have given all the dirt work. That is their donation. That is another \$60,000. There are a lot of people coming together to try and make this happen. It is pretty exciting,

E. Consider approving invoices, requisitions, and all other submitted materials for payment.

Schlecht stated there are no invoices to approve at this meeting. All of them occurred at the first of April and we approved that at the last meeting.

F. Receive Treasurer Report and take action if necessary.

Schlecht stated on the balance sheet our total cash in the bank is \$438,721.69 and of that LETA's portion is \$172,143.73. The custodial account is \$266,577.96. There wasn't a whole lot of activity on the balance sheet.

Burk stated just so everybody stays aware the 2nd Street project funds are dedicated to that source only. It can't be used anywhere else. There is \$82,000 in that fund. The ADA Playground has \$37,000, and they owe us \$46,000. We have committed funds and skatepark funds. The skatepark might happen sooner than we had thought. We believe it is going to be a very exciting thing. With some help from Richard, Michael and I believe we may be able to move forward with the skatepark in Elmer Thomas sooner than we had planned. We are working on that currently. We might be able to bring that to Council withing the next few meetings to try and see if we can get something going. I think there is some exciting stuff we will be able to do instead of waiting a long time to get those done. The medical marijuana sidewalk is about \$70,000 is that correct.

Schlecht stated that is correct. I did look at the next two (2) payments that we have not received yet and it will be approximately \$75,000 to \$80,000.

Burk asked more than what we have in there now?

Schlecht stated in addition. That will be the next check that we get.

Burk stated if Jay's math works, I believe the medical marijuana tax will end up being about \$250,000 a year. Again, that is for stuff along our main thoroughfares such as Sheridan, Cache, and Gore where we need to tie back in and make those ADA accessible. Our first contract will be on Sheridan Road from Rogers Lane to Cache Road. That will be our first section on the west side of the road. We hope to have that ready to go within the next few months. So, by late summer early fall we will be able to get a bid out and get the project started. You can figure the medical marijuana tax is estimated at \$250,000 a year. I think that is everything that I have. Does everybody understand where we are at with all that.

Schlecht stated okay, the next page is your income and expense tracker. There aren't many changes from last month. Our revenue went up by \$35.00 due to interest.

Burk stated starting July 1 the hotel/motel tax allocation will go to 7%. That is the new percentage.

Schlecht stated our hotel/motel tax for the remainder of the year is approximately \$6,000. I'm waiting for the tax dollars to come in before I make the last claim.

Burk stated that is awesome. Municipal fines are down quite a bit. We have noticed that in our Council monies. We were asking them to not give out fines at the beginning of COVID.

We will see that number bounce back when we start seeing citations from these guys with high grass and weeds. We get a percentage of all municipal fines. The landfill gate fee is another matter. We can probably take Trash-Off out of our budget. Did we remove it.

Brown stated no.

Burk stated we will not have Trash Off once we go to the new trash pickup with curbside bulk pickup every month.

Schlecht asked what about that LETA reserve deposit. I'm not familiar with that. Is that something that at the end of the year LETA transfers money into it.

Burk stated yes, our goal was to get where we had \$50,000 to \$75,000 in there. We want to have some cushion because there have been times we had a project that we couldn't get to because we didn't have the funding. That just carries over. There wasn't anything set in stone on how much exactly. That is where the money would fall into if we had a large amount leftover.

Schlecht stated okay, I'll just wait for directions on that.

Burk stated I'm not sure we will have any leftover. We just play it by ear. We are not going to do Fresh Paint Days this year, right.

Rogalski stated definitely not. That one is real problematic. We left Trash Off in there because we might want to consider going back to the original idea of picking up trash. We left it there as a placeholder because we weren't certain on what you wanted to do.

Burk stated that isn't a bad idea. So everybody knows the original Trash Off we would go to certain areas and pick up trash, at like the lake shorelines, and then bring it all back to one (1) location or leave the bags where the city could go pick them up. We may go back to that. We had trees that we would get from the tree farm in Stillwater. We sold them to the citizens for cost. We had a certain timeframe you could purchase those, and the citizens loved it. That was an easy thing to do and we got our investment back. We never had any left so we had to limit the number you could buy. Fresh Paint Days is just too risky for us to be at someone's home. We did mostly elderly and handicapped homes and the last thing we want to do is be there is COVID. We have decide to forego Fresh Paint Days this year. Are there any questions on the revenues? You will see that 7% in hotel/motel go up even though the number is going down. There is not a lot of people staying in hotels right now, so we are seeing that tax going low. Our share of that revenue will go down even though our percentage has gone up. Is there anything that I'm not explaining correctly.

Schlecht stated no, I think you fulfilled it. The only thing on the expense side was repair, maintenance and replanting. That is an additional \$6,562 which includes the \$5,000. That puts us at \$10,000 remaining on the \$5,000 payments. If I understand we have ended that obligation.

Burk stated correct. There was a couple of months that we didn't have to pay him. You are talking about the Bedrock payment.

Brown stated yes.

Schlecht stated yes.

Burk stated we didn't have to make a couple of payments because we didn't have a contract with him yet. It took us a couple of months to finalize the contract. We are going to spend a little less than we thought. For repairs, maintenance and replanting we would see that number drop to zero. You heard him say he was going through the city. Richard, we have a problem with the sprinkler, and it hasn't been approved yet. You need to get on that.

Rogalski asked a sprinkler system.

Brown stated that is Billie's.

Whipp stated I texted Keith about it because I assumed Jason used him. (can't hear)

Burk stated we probably need to talk with Michael about doing some sort of speed push. When the sprinklers are out everything in there dies and in this heat it will be a matter of days or hours. We must have the sprinkler repairs. I always approved anything less than \$500. Isn't that correct Richard.

Rogalski stated I don't remember the amount but if it was a minor repair, they just did it and billed us.

Burk stated we might want to talk to Michael. What happened was out by the airport the sprinkler broke and we went almost a month not watering. We lost \$40,000 in plants for a \$800 repair.

Whipp stated Keith has relayed to me it was a controller and is coming from out of state. They had to order it.

Burk stated correct, it is a solar controller. We have some that are solar controls and they are more expensive. We don't have a ton of them anymore. We used to use them because they were supposed to be the best.

Whipp stated (can't hear) do we just automatically approve those.

Burk stated we really don't have a choice.

Whipp stated okay.

Burk stated he knows when they are out, how to put them and set the timers. Part of his contract with the city is to check and maintain all sprinkler systems in all the different areas. They have monitors so they can check. They check them on a weekly basis specifically now. We will have a bill coming from 2nd Street. We had one of the pots overflowing at 2nd and Gore. I called

him immediately. That won't be paid by Parks and Rec it will come from our 2nd Street project account. That should be the only one that we have to take care of. The rest will be the city's responsibility.

Whipp stated so when they call with an issue, we don't consider looking at it to see if we can repair it inhouse.

Burk stated we can't.

Whipp stated we just go ahead and approve it. They order and put it in, and we don't worry about anything.

Burk stated exactly.

Whipp stated got it.

Burk stated it is just much easier. They know where it is at and what parts they need. Most of the time they have the parts and they can just go fix it. These are kind of special.

Whipp stated okay, I didn't know that.

Burk stated if we don't do it then we will have to have a water truck and Michael will cry about that.

Brown stated they could do the work and Billie would have to fill out a discrepancy form if the work was done before the PO is issued.

Burk stated I don't care how it is done just do it.

Brown stated that is an option or do an open PO for repairs.

Burk stated I have always said it if was less than \$500 just fix it. When they are in the field and find a head that missing or shooting up water, they replace it and bill us. I don't want him to have to wait to get approval. We always had a freestanding deal that is if it was less than \$500 per incident to just fix it. If it was more, they had to call me, and Richard and I would make the decision. We just needed a dollar amount he would call and say I have a repair and it will cost \$850. Sometimes cars run up on the median and Mincie would go after the insurance companies. The city can do the same thing for repairs. You have to constantly stay on top of it. Mincie and Denise do a good job by making sure that all these things work together regarding accidents.

Whipp asked when they call about a higher expense do I give it to Richard to get the approval.

Burk stated I would say get with Michael. I'll talk to him and make sure he understands. This is a new change. It is kind of a switch in responsibility.

Rogalski stated the difference when LETA did it was they don't have the PO process that the city does. The city has an extra step. Just do an open PO for the sprinkler repairs and we can get it done faster. You are right when the sprinkler is broken you must fix it.

Burk stated there were time we thought we were spending a lot of money on repairs, but we didn't have a choice, or everything would be dead. Billie, if you have questions or would like me to walk you through it call me. I have been doing this for a while. You can call Richard or Charlotte also. Go ahead Susan.

Schlecht stated I think we are good. I just want to clarify on the \$10,000 for repairs, maintenance and replanting do you want me to remove that from the committed funds?

Burk stated yes, please. We don't owe them any more money. We are done.

Schlecht stated okay. On the last page I have a notation on the Butterfly Garden expansion. We received a refund from Bedrock in the amount of \$845.59. This brings that project contract amount to \$10,100.

Burk stated okay.

Schlecht stated that was the only change on that page.

Burk asked have we received a bill for the flags from Rotary.

Schlecht stated no.

Brown stated no, I'll call him.

Burk asked will you call him and ask for an invoice.

Brown stated he told me last week or the week before we should be receiving it, but I haven't gotten anything. I'll check with him.

Schlecht stated when you get that if you will have Richard sign stating to pay it.

Motion by Sweeney, Second by Symuleski, to accept the financial report for March April, May and June. **Aye:** Hankins; McConnell; Morford; Smith; Sweeney; Symuleski; Burk. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

G. Receive report from Cultural Preservation Committee and take action if necessary.

Brown stated Mr. Ross has withdrawn his request to put the mural in city hall.

Burk stated that is a good thing. Awesome.

H. Receive report from Parks and Recreation, and take action if necessary

Whipp stated the most exciting thing we have to report is our park masterplan. We have our top three (3) proposals. We received a total of seven (7) and have scheduled interviews for the top three (3) next Thursday. There are six (6) or seven (7) city personal and the Parks & Recreation chair that will be involved in the interviews. We are excited about moving forward with this. I have interacted with the top two (2) over the phone and I have was really impressed with one. He ended up being our highest bidder, but we are going to see how the presentations and interviews go. We are moving forward on that. They are working on the pavilion starting today. The roof is coming this evening around 6:00 and they are scheduled to be out there next week to get everything done. Max and Nicholas are on their final push trying to get their funding.

Burk stated Billie, you always remind me that I didn't do something I was supposed to. He actually contacted me.

Whipp asked about the lights.

Burk stated yes. Did he tell you the amounts? He asked me to bring that to LETA and I forgot.

Whipp stated he mentioned it to me in passing. The amount was \$6,161.96 and they are industrial lights. They are a heavy-duty industrial type. The price for the brick columns is \$14,800. He is also looking for money for that project.

Burk stated he has taken pains to have this built and it is going to be beautiful. I'm so proud that they are finally getting to a point to where they will basically will be working the entire month of July and a little bit in of August. He wanted to see if LETA would be willing to pay for the lights. I told him to find some that couldn't be torn up. The bollard lights we put around the playground were busted every single time we put new ones in. We finally took them down and capped them off. For a year they didn't touch them and then suddenly they started busting them on a weekly basis. We need lights around the pavilion because there isn't any light there. I believe there would be a total of four (4) lights with two (2) on the front and two (2) on the other side. Did he give you a picture?

Whipp stated yes.

Burk stated they don't look bad at all. I thought they looked really nice.

Whipp stated they are similar to what is on 2nd Street. It goes with that theme. The bricklayers were there today, and he showed me the brick. It is red like they have in the street going down 2nd Street. He is trying to stay with that theme.

Burk asked how much did you say for the brick?

Whipp stated \$14,600.

Burk stated thank you. I thought it looked nice. They are premier municipal lights made for municipalities. It is a street light type. Here is a picture. He researched it and found something good that will last and not be torn up. I promise they will be swing on them.

Hankins asked are the cameras still up.

Burk stated I know there are some in the cemetery. Richard, where are the cameras? Do we still have some at the cemetery and Elmer Thomas Park?

Rogalski stated yes.

Burk stated we haven't had a lot of vandalism except for those things before the cameras. We may want to move one down by the pavilion for a while. LETA bought six (6) or four (4) cameras. They go on a pole and yell that you are in a restricted area and to leave immediately. Your pictures has been taken and sent to the authorities. It flashes and takes a picture. We noticed it has helped in those area. Billie, if you come up with a place that needs those if you will let us know they can be easily moved to a different location. We have not had any, that I'm aware of, more problems at the cemetery since we put those in.

Rogalski stated yes, it took care of the cemetery and the playground. If you recall they were vandalizing the equipment. We have had some minor stuff but nothing like we had before. We have a couple of real cameras and a couple of fake ones. We might want to look into an additional system.

Burk stated I agree. Billie, do you have any hotspots we need to talk about that have issues.

Whipp stated not that I'm aware of or that has been brought to my attention. (Can't hear)

Burk stated okay, if you come up with something let me know. We don't mind moving them around. They love them being inside of the cemetery. We had so many headstones turned over and since the cameras we haven't had any turned over. We wanted a camera that would say this surveillance is in use. I think it detours people.

McConnell asked are they on a pole.

Burk stated yes.

Hankins stated we are trying to help our juveniles to become good citizens. If we help them get caught hopefully, we can help move that along.

Burk stated yes. They use these cameras in big cities specifically where people are doing illegal dumping. If you come across areas that have illegal dumping let us know.

Bowen stated the canal off Gore and 24th they are constantly dumping trash there.

Burk stated we will have to have the city move them over there to a pole and aim it towards the area and get a perfect shot. Then we take the laptop over and download the pictures that have been taken. They are as clear as a bell. In other communities they have used the photos to prosecute people because they had a clear picture. They were a long way away and you can zoom right onto their face. It shoots a huge bright light when it takes the picture. It is instant. They don't have time to run. Big cities are using them everywhere that they have graffiti and destruction issues like we did in the cemetery. We ordered them specifically for the cemetery and it stopped. We had the cemetery being vandalized every week for a couple of months. It has totally stopped. What do we want to do with the pavilion? The cost would be \$20,000 and we have \$10,000 left from committed funds for repairs, maintenance and replanting. We could take that \$10,000 and another \$10,000 out of our regular funds to pay for the bricks and the lights. I want them to be able to finish this project and I think you agree. When he is done, we want this to be a project that he can walk away from and say we are done and not oh gosh we still need bricks for the columns, but we don't have the money. The McMahon Foundation matched part of his goal. There was a lot more work involved by taking the dirt out and putting in new dirt and the slab. If you remember it was rock, uneven and not ADA accessible. He is making all that tie together and it looks nice. Remember underneath it you will be able to see all the different arm services. It looks cool. They didn't cut back on anything they were trying to do. It is a major project. It took them forever because they had to have an Oklahoma engineer do some drawings. Is that correct Richard.

Rogalski stated yes. They needed an engineer with an Oklahoma seal to approve the roof structure. Max mentioned to me that his son originally intended to raise a lot of money but COVID hit and he lost his ability to go to different groups to speak. That is one of the issues he has dealt with.

Burk stated our total investment would be \$20,761.96. Ten (10) thousand from the funds we didn't use on Bedrock and the other \$10,761.96 would come from our regular funds. I think it is a great project. I think there will be a ton of people that will use the pavilion. Do I have a motion or more thoughts.

Hankins stated I think it is a good idea.

Motion by Hankins, Second by Sweeney, to approve \$20,761.96 to be used toward the pavilion in Elmer Thomas Park. **Aye:** Hankins; McConnell; Morford; Sweeney; Symuleski; Burk. **Nay:** None.

Whipp stated I want to say thank you for helping with this project. We are so excited for the pavilion for all the different festivals. I have someone calling to rent the pavilion for a wedding in October. There is a lot of interest and this is exciting. Thank you for your support.

Burk stated I think it is going to be good. It is an outdoor venue and people will use those more than indoor venues at this point. I think it is good business. Everything we have done in the park we haven't done it halfway. When we finished the splash pad and playground that was done by LETA. We have been a big player in all that. Has somebody check the lights on the fountain?

Whipp stated Richard had indicated they were out, and I will follow up on that.

Burk stated the fountain looks wonderful except I have not been by to see the lights. Has anybody seen the lights?

Morford stated they haven't been on the last few nights.

Burk stated it may need to be reprogrammed. The piece we put in may need to be redone. I think you have to reset the lighting program every so often.

Morford stated the flag looks good.

Burk stated everything looks better. It looks really good. One of the things I would like to do with the sidewalk project is finish Elmer Thomas Park. I want to be able to go out by the flag and tie back in. We have a bridge for the other side to tie in and the bridge on this side. We will be able to come along the east side of Elmer Thomas and connect to the bridge and go over and connect to the other side of the flag and all the way over as you go back in off 6th Street. We have a bridge purchased we need to set it. Tie it in there and come back up and tie back in at the top of the hill. That will truly be a 5k. Isn't that right Richard.

Rogalski stated yes. We can get a 5K if we can get around to that side of the lake.

Burk stated that is something cool that is coming our way. It is an exciting thing. We have to have a retainer wall in some parts, but I think it is going to be beautiful. Thank you and if you will let Max know, and I'll text him, that he can order the lights and the brick.

Whipp stated he will be really happy.

- I. Receive report from Public Relations, Website and Facebook Committees, and take action if necessary.

Vrska stated we are good. I was going to take a picture with everyone in their mask. I know it is hard for us to meet but we will post that and let everyone know that we are taking safety precautions and still attending to business.

Burk stated that is awesome.

- J. Receive Monthly Ward Update and take action if necessary.

Burk asked is there anything from your wards that we need to go over. Nothing.

- K. Receive a report from the Planning Division regarding ongoing LETA projects and take action if necessary.

Brown stated we did get the grant from the National Fitness Court and Richard wanted me to touch base to make sure you guys were still on board.

Burk stated we are on board, right? This is the fitness court that we asked them to apply for the grant. So, we did get it.

Brown stated we have four (4) locations but we are moving forward with just one (1).

Burk asked what is the location.

Brown stated probably Elmer Thomas Park.

Burk stated we are on it.

Brown stated Billie and I are trying to work on the AIC.

Burk stated there aren't any more in Oklahoma except for this one right.

Brown stated Oklahoma City has five (5).

Burk stated really. I looked around at their pins and I didn't see any in Oklahoma.

Brown stated Oklahoma City has five (5) and their goal is fifteen (15) to twenty (20).

Burk stated our goal should be to put them everywhere we can. I think they are cool.

Rogalski stated just so you know we are thinking that the park on 38th Street....

Brown stated Greer Park.

Rogalski stated yes, Greer Park. That would be a great location with the running trail and the Eastside Park. There was another one further west. We also wanted to put on at old city hall by the YMCA, but we will have to wait until the building is gone.

Burk stated yes. That may take a bit. We have to mow a few buildings down first.

Hankins stated (can't hear).

Burk stated they do.

Hankins stated and it is in Ward 1 so yes.

Burk stated that is good news. Anything else? I know we are ongoing with what we talked to Bedrock about. We will be doing the first three (3) or four (4) medians on Sheridan off of Rogers Lane.

Brown stated four (4).

Burk stated they will be landscaped. That is why we wanted to get sidewalks there so it would look good and be accessible for the handicapped. With the flag project that is going to make it look even more outstanding.

Brown stated I do want to schedule a meeting with you, Richard, Mike Jones and Rusty about sidewalk stuff.

Burk stated okay.

2. Unfinished Business

None

3. New Business

A. Approve the minutes of March 11, 2020

Motion by Morford, **Second** by Sweeney, to approve the minutes of March 11, 2020. **Aye:** McConnell; Morford; Sweeney; Symuleski; Burk. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

B. Approve 2020-2021 Budget

Brown stated I have updated copies.

Burk stated this is like the city budget it is just a placeholder budget. These number are probably not right because we don't know our hotel/motel money or anything else. We don't know the municipal fines, so we are guesstimating at this point, but we have to approve a budget. That is part of the law. We just need it approved by you and basically it is a half a million-dollar budget. It is \$285,000 and I thought it was \$250,000.

Brown stated no.

Burk stated the medical marijuana is earmarked and so are a lot of our funds. They are earmarked for specific projects. It sounds like we have a huge amount of money but that isn't the case. You see at the top the medical marijuana at \$285 and the medical marijuana sidewalks at \$285. We will spend that in a year and try to get those projects done annually. In repairs, maintenance and replanting I think we can work on that number when we get further down the road. We thought we would come back to you in October or November and do an updated budget when we see how things are going to pan out. God forbid we have any more closures.

Motion by Morford, **Second** by Sweeney, to approve the 2020-2021 budget. **Aye:** Morford; Sweeney; Symuleski; Burk; Hankins; McConnell. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

Hankins asked would now be a good time to mention the town hall virtual meeting tomorrow.

Burk stated yes.

Hankins stated it is tomorrow at 1:00 on Facebook. If people aren't on Facebook, they can't see that. I have had a lot of questions asking about (can't hear) you know getting a little stronger (can't hear) but if they don't have Facebook, they can't see it.

Burk stated I think they can still go to our website. That is the way I understand it.

Brown stated yes. I think there is a link.

Burk stated you know how they go to our regular meetings. They can still go to our website and click that link. They only thing they won't be able to do if they don't have Facebook, they won't be able to ask questions.

Hankins stated right.

Burk stated if they have Facebook and they can log in and ask questions. Tiffany is going to MC that. She will be able to monitor it and ask those questions to the committee.

Hankins stated okay, I think that is a good place (can't hear)

Burk stated yes. A lot of cities are doing stuff and coming out with different ideas. I won't tell you my personal opinion, but I keep getting an updated number of the hospital beds. I was showing this to her a while ago. I got an updated message from the state that says, "10 Oklahoma hospitals ICU's are at maximum capacity as of today".

Hankins stated and that is originally what we were trying to prevent.

Burk stated there are 5000 ICU beds in Oklahoma. We have over 480 of them full today with COVID patients. That is not counting people that have had strokes or anything else.

Hankins stated correct.

Burk stated 480 COVID alone. That number has just grown. It was 200 less than two (2) weeks ago. It has gone from 200 to almost 500 in less than two (2) weeks.

Symuleski asked does anyone have an idea of what brought this on.

Burk stated nobody is wearing a mask. That is Jay's opinion.

Hankins stated (can't hear) so people relaxed.

Burk stated not social distancing or doing what we should be doing. I don't think we have to kill the economy, but I think if we had a national response to where everyone had to wear a mask. If Texas says you must wear a mask every state ought to be able to do it.

Brown stated Mexico has said it too.

Burk stated they are gun toting and they will shoot you.

Symuleski stated I know they are talking about trying to organize the school (can't hear).

Burk stated they are going to talk about that tomorrow. Superintendent Hime is going to be here and talk about that. If you get a chance watch it. Me and the Mayor have met with him as well. There is a lot that is being talked about right now. We are trying to follow the governor's ideas. I know a lot of cities in Oklahoma have made decisions, Norman and some other places, that you will wear mask if you are in public. If you are not wearing one in Texas, you will get a fine.

Hankins stated their numbers are....

Burk stated if you say you are sick you can't go into a restaurant. If you don't have a mask you are not welcome. I went to pick up a vehicle with my daughter and we had to wear a mask to go in and eat. If someone came to the door and said I have so and so they were saying sorry you can't eat here. I believe that 99% of the people had mask on even walking up and down the street.

Brown stated I was in Oklahoma City and the two (2) store we went into you had to wear a mask.

Burk stated they put it on the door.

Brown stated there were a ton of people up there wearing mask. I hardly saw anyone that didn't have one on.

Burk stated you don't see that here. You don't see anybody wearing them.

Hankins stated (can't hear) that we went into the other day. It was like I was in another world. Nobody was doing anything (can't hear). Nothing.

Burk stated it is crazy. If you get a chance to watch tomorrow it ought to be good and helpful. I know the Mayor, and everyone has worked hard on it.

(can't hear)

Burk stated I think it is at 1:00 p.m. tomorrow. Is that correct?

- C. Discuss and make recommendations regarding maintenance of sidewalks in commercial and residential areas within the City of Lawton, and take action if necessary.

Burk asked how are you Mr. Gibson. If you haven't met him this is one of our new city attorneys. He's been here for a few months, so he isn't new. We appreciate him. He has been working hard to help with stuff. Kind of go over the background for this.

Gibson stated (can't hear) who can pay and who is forced to pay. I looked at the whole (can't hear). I went over and looked at the general law that surrounds it and our decision has been based off that. First, I want to go back chronically with the Supreme Court decision dating back to the 60's, 70's and even the 20's. When you look at these the city airs the responsibility or liability for injury caused by sidewalk problems as long as they are not a trivial problem. The city can be liable. It is a neglect action. That is interesting. The court said very specifically if it is not trivial it will be treated like any other tort. If someone falls on the sidewalk and breaks their arm, we treat it like we would any other tort claim. Once we investigate, we apply those rules. I throw this out because it almost seems to conflict at time with one's personal lost. There is a state statute in Title 11 36- (can't hear) emergency sidewalk repairs. This gives municipalities the specific authority to do emergency sidewalk repairs and charge the owner. You give the owner or whoever is residing at the property notice and they have three (3) days to repair it otherwise you can do it and charge them (can't hear) other things. That comes directly from the state. Our code in 20-1-103 gives us the duties to keep sidewalks accessible. It also charges the owners/occupants for maintenance. Funny thing is we put a sentence at the end that says the owner is primarily liable for any injury or damage. There is a conflict if it goes to court and they would probably go by the Supreme Court.

Burk asked we have to give notice.

Gibson stated yes, we must give notice.

Burk stated I'm thinking trivial is a little crack or something coming loose.

Gibson stated exactly.

Burk stated to me that is trivial. When a sidewalk goes plop and there is a big popup in the middle you have a major issue when somebody is riding a bike that will go flying or fall down in the night when jogging. We have that around the VA Center. What we usually do is go out there and block them off. We put up cones, but we have to be given notice because we will not know every sidewalk in town that has issues and we aren't able to look at them every month. We don't have the manpower or the money. I have always felt that in the residential areas the owner is responsible. Even in front of my house if the sidewalk breaks it is up to me to fix it. When I built my home, I had to put in the driveway and the sidewalks, and it had to tie into my neighbor's sidewalk. I had a different take on commercial. With what you are telling me I don't know if I have that take. My take on commercial is the city had some liability if someone got hurt. I think we have some duty on commercial sidewalks. I feel these are the people that could probably afford to pay for it before a homeowner could. I'm kind of torn between how that becomes your issue. I have had commercial property owners ask that I look at their sidewalk that they've had for twenty (20) years. It is torn to pieces because they have been driving a big truck over it. I don't think that is the city's responsibility and I told him that. The reason I brought this back is because we are the sidewalk gurus even though you didn't want to, I put us in that situation. I wanted to have

control over where we were fixing sidewalks, putting in new sidewalks and doing repairs. Medical marijuana money is a whole different story. Take that out of our minds and don't worry about that. That money is set aside for a specific purpose. We do have \$8,000,000 in sidewalk money that was \$3,000,000 and then I moved it to \$5,000,000 and we passed \$8,000,000 in the CIP. I knew the number of places that did not have sidewalks in residential areas near a bus stop that we needed ADA accessibility that needed to be done. We need to be able to get those accessible. How far do we want to go? I think we will have to go back to Council with our recommendation I had it in my head how I wanted it but now I'm not 100% sure.

Gibson stated this is something I pulled off Edmonds website. They do a partnership program and I think Oklahoma City does also.

Brown stated this is Oklahoma City's cost share.

Burk stated I looked online at what other cities were doing. It appeared to me that most big cities were doing a cost sharing. That would make our monies go further. We have area that are very old and are really slanted. The one around the school we are doing we have spent \$100,000 and it has been a mess. Is this the way we want to go. Do we want to recommend to Council we do a cost share? There are a lot of the neighborhoods that have talked to me that don't have sidewalks. A lot of them are wanting to do the Improvement District where you put it on the tax roll. If a neighborhood doesn't have sidewalks, they can do the Improvement District if 51% of the neighborhood approves it. If 51% of the homeowners approve it sidewalks are put in and it goes against the tax roll. It isn't instant. You pay for your piece. That is an option in areas that want sidewalks. That is another tool we can use/offer. I think it is a good thing to be able to use. We have never really used it before that I'm aware of have we Richard.

Rogalski stated not in recent memories. We may have 30 years ago or so but not recent.

Morford stated we have used it before.

Burk stated Rex Givens brought this to us years ago. He really pushed for this to happen in certain neighborhoods. He lived in a part of Old Town North and he wanted his neighborhood to have sidewalks for safety. He wanted the kids to have a place to ride that wasn't the streets. I like the idea of a sponsorship. A partnership with the community and then the \$8,000,000 doubles. Suddenly you have \$16,000,000 to be able to use because the citizens have to help. I agree with the 1" buckle. If you are in a wheelchair 1" may mean you flipping the chair. I have a blind niece and I don't want her to hit a 1" incline.

Hankins asked have you seen the Arvest ATM across from Lawton High School.

Burk stated no I haven't.

Hankins stated (can't hear)

Burk asked do you mean the one that is 5%.

Hankins stated I don't know but there is a portion there that is wiped out. (can't hear)

Burk asked are you talking about on the new project.

Hankins stated (can't hear).....

Brown stated it was inspected. I have been told it meets the 5% cross slope.

Burk stated there is a 5% rule. ODOT did the one on 45th and I had it check to make sure it met the criteria. Was it a 5% incline Richard?

Rogalski stated yes. You can parallel a road at any grade but if you are going up you can't go up 5% without landings. You must have handrails and landings.

Brown stated I noticed they have part of that torn back out.

Hankins stated oh okay. (Can't hear)

Burk stated it is getting inspected. On the eastside where it goes around the Veterans Center, they go up so much and then there is a landing. That is for someone in a wheelchair. They will be able to stop and rest and then go to the next landing. I didn't know that existed until we started messing with the ADA stuff. It is really important. We also have roughly a million in the ADA account for sidewalks accessibility. That is money we put back years ago. I don't think we have used much of it. We need to implement a plan. We have to many places in town that have ADA accessibility issues that we haven't addressed. I'm going to meet with that committee to see if we can't get something moving. We need to try and get some projects going. They have done a few but LETA has done as many as the ADA committee has done. We did a bus stop on Smith. We have done a lot of those that didn't have accessibility. With the one on Smith you had someone right there that was handicapped that needed to be able to get to the bus stop and couldn't do it without jumping a curb to get into the grass. It is not acceptable. Does anyone have any questions or anything that the committee needs to talk about?

Rogalski stated the purpose for today was to put information in your hands. We are not looking for a decision or much guidance. We wanted to get the information in your hands and then at the next meeting we will get some direction from you so we can write a code.

Burk stated go ahead sir. Your name is?

Love stated Thomas Love and I live on the westside of town. There isn't a sidewalk that is ADA qualifying. My wife is a double amputee and is in a wheelchair. She has prosthetic legs but couldn't walk on the sidewalks because they are not level and within ADA standards. You are trying to implement these things with no power behind it. You have no way to enforce it either way.

Burk asked to enforce what.

Love stated my second concern is it took me four (4) weeks to finally get in touch with the Neighborhood Services people for them to come out and remove a bush that was hazardous when driving or walking. It had outgrown the yard. I was told that it would be four (4) weeks before anything could be done. They have to notify the owner and give them three (3) or four (4) weeks. This was like trying to get a trash can. It takes six (6) weeks to do that. There is no enforcement. Nobody to do anything. Young man, you are the first one that I have seen that is out doing anything. I have been here 36 to 40 years and trying to get things enforced is questionable. You are talking about getting sidewalks on the main streets. I'm sorry but people that live in Lawton can't get to those main streets. They can't get off the curb unless they find a neighbor's yard or driveway to go through to get on the streets where they can be hit. (Can't hear). I walk a mile to mile and a half every day and everyday I fight trying to walk on the sidewalks. I walk by cars, trucks and all sorts of stuff. Who do I call? I can't call the police because it is not (can't hear). There is no enforcing somebody from parking on the sidewalk and blocking it. We are stuck in a means of how are we going to get this done. Is it the owner's responsibility for their sidewalk or the city's? If I move to a house and the sidewalk is in such disrepair (can't hear) supported by this angle going different directions who do you call. Was it there before or after the house was built? I don't know. There are no city laws that says who is responsible. If you look back at the laws from the city and state and it shows the responsibility is on the city as I understand it. If someone falls on the sidewalk it is the city's responsibility. I have been told if they fall in an easement that is the city's responsibility. I'm wondering about enforcement of this policy. Let me tell you there are a lot of sidewalks that need to be enforced. This committee is a secret committee. I had to go through four (4) people and my Councilman to find out who to talk with.

Burk stated we are not secret I can tell you that much.

Love stated well.

Burk stated I'll (can't understand) if you believe that. We meet once a month with people and staff for about two (2) hours.

Love stated I see that you do but I had to hunt to find you and I'm glad I did. I'm really pleased. The sidewalk issues (can't hear) the city. I know they were out there with the homes and everything else. This is excellent. I'm all for improving. As a matter of fact, I will take my mower and edger and cleanup along the sidewalks to make it look better in my neighborhood. In neighborhood myself and four (4) others get out every trash day and collect trash. This is to let people know that people are living there and watching. In my neighborhood all the sidewalks are trimmed. If you aren't home your neighbors will take care of the lawn and keep it looking nice. The house next to me was vacant for over eight (8) months. The front lawn was excellent. The neighbors and I kept it up. The back yard was another issue. We go back to responsibility and it goes back to the city of Lawton. I care about Lawton and I'm all for this. I would like to see some kind of enforcement. I don't feel there is any type of enforcement going on. I can make a complaint and I don't know if anything gets done or not.

Burk asked have you used the new portal on the city website for complaints.

Love stated I have not.

Burk stated if you use it will tell you at what step the complaint is in.

Love stated okay.

Burk stated it is awesome. You don't have to call anyone. Just go online and make the complaint. I believe we have all used it. Each one of us represents a certain Ward and we use this for our Ward. We are not going to walk every sidewalk, but this is why we have citizens. They can help inform us where there are problems. A lot of the neighborhoods will not have sidewalks. There was a time when Council didn't believe in sidewalks. I think that is crazy, but they didn't. For those parking across the sidewalk that would be a Neighborhood Services issue. An officer will come take pictures and they have to abate the situation. If they don't a citation will be issued. Trust me Neighborhood Services is not new. I have been here for twelve (12) years as a Councilman and they were here before that. They work hard. Like he said they had 848 complaints in a month.

Hankins stated Jay, wouldn't you say that the CIP has help to give them a shot in the arm.

Burk stated absolutely. We have never had the money to tear down houses and build sidewalks. Because of the CIP, that the citizens passed, we do.

Hankins stated they were out of money when (can't hear). That was before you were in charge. They were out of money and couldn't respond (can't hear) from my Ward.

Love stated I have tried to report and have reported issues, but I don't see any results. Now you have given me another means. I'll be glad to go look at that.

Burk stated also understand we have to do what state law requires us to do. As a city we only have the ability to do so much. State law proceeds everything. They come first and whatever they say you have to go by. We have to give notice and give them a month to abate the situation.

Love stated back up just a second. (Can't hear) if you do not follow city guidelines but you follow state guidelines the city can get you. If you follow the state guidelines, then the city can't hurt you. That is not what I understood. If you are following the city, then the state can't bother you and if you were following the state guidelines the city can't bother you. I understand....

Burk stated that is not what I'm saying. We have limited ability of what we can do. If it is a visual site issue where you can't turn a corner, we can get on that a little faster. They take those things very serious. Property rights, sidewalks and easements are different. If you want to see the process move faster on a dilapidated house the only ones that can do that is the state. We can't. If they say thirty (30) days, they mean thirty (30) days. It doesn't matter if you want twenty-five (25). You must give them thirty (30). Once we give them notice sometimes they mow it. By the time we notice they have mowed it it is time to start mowing again. There is a house in Shelter Creek that people have complained about since it flooded. The lady waits until it gets yea high and we have to go mow it. Six (6) weeks later we have to do the process again and again. We have certain ways we have to handle it. If you have questions on how long it is going to take to

get something done this guy has an answer. He will be able to help you. He knows all the laws. That is why he has a badge. He works with legal and they all work together.

Love stated as I said the citizen don't see any enforcement (can't hear). There is no push to get these repaired or fixed. If they give him a citation it is not enforced or binding.

Burk stated they have to pay it.

Love stated well they have to pay or what.

Burk stated we give them so many days or we will cite them again.

Bowen stated once we start citing somebody, we can cite them every 24 hours.

Burk stated trust me we have been after them. The one that are habitually doing things we get after them. Any questions that you might have he can help you. Regarding the sidewalks I think we really need to mull this over and look to see what other communities are doing. I like the idea of a partnership. I think this takes the heat off the city and the homeowners. These partnerships are done for a reason. They will apply with an applications and the application will be online. We can send someone out to look at the sidewalk. It is no different than the school systems and what we are doing in Mary Ann's Ward. They are going to draw one at every meeting. This is not just a City of Lawton issue. You can go to almost any city and they have sidewalks issues. They are everywhere. We finally have a little bit of money that we can help with some of this stuff that has been a habitual problem. This isn't about going into a neighborhood to put in sidewalks. That is more of getting it on the tax roll and let them pay for it over thirty (30) years. It is a small amount yearly for them to have new sidewalks in their neighborhood. Rex thought is was a great idea because it didn't burn the family that couldn't afford it. Only a few dollars on their property tax.

Hankins stated (can't hear) I could have done that.

Burk stated I think you are going to get a lot of sidewalk people say this is something I want to do. If they have a bad sidewalk in front of their home or business, they can apply for this grant to and see what we can do. I think it is something we all need to look at. Everyone research it and if you come up with other places that you think is better bring it back to us. I have researched it because I want to be able to talk about it. We finally have a mechanism where we could put something into place and with Council approval something where we can get sidewalks repaired. I have asked the City Manager to come up with an amount. I would like to have a million or so in the first set of money to start some of these projects. It is going to take time. We are not going to spend \$8,000,000 in a couple of years.

Hankins stated nothing moves as fast as we want it to. Believe me we have tried pushing things and we can't for a lot of reasons that are valid but frustrating.

Burk stated look how long it took at the school and all because of right-of-way.

Hankins stated yes.

Burk stated it took forever even though the sidewalk had been there. Superintendent Him didn't know we were doing the sidewalk. He was so happy. It saved him \$100,000. This is the first school they are going to start working on. I don't know how they pick the school, but they picked this one to redo the outside. I thought it was wonderful. They will pick one (1) school at every school board meeting. They give them a week to come up with a plan. They implement it whether it is painting or landscaping. I told him how aggravated we were because we had put \$100,000 into the high schools and middle school and when the principal leaves it dies. His commitment to us was it would never happen again. The Superintendent knows it is not just inside the school, but it is the exterior and the landscaping and if the principals don't get it, they will not be a principal with Lawton Public Schools. He stated that was the way it was going to be. I think it helped that he told them their school would be drawn at some point and they have started making their plans. They are doing the walk throughs to say these are our biggest issues and this is what we need to do. Richard and I are on the committee and our first walk through is July 15th. We will walk through the second school that is chosen. We will look at sidewalks so we can bring that back to see what the city can do to help. Council made sidewalks around schools a priority.

Hankins stated maybe we are getting the hardest one over.

Burk stated we hope so. A lot of them just have broken areas that need to be repaired And not total replacement.

Hankins stated there was a (can't hear) and this one was third on the list. The first two (2) already had (can't hear). So that is how we are going to be first and then I said okay.

Burk stated we are doing a lot of good things. I believe it is important to come up with ideas, being creative and doubling our money. If we could double our money from \$8,000,000 to \$16,000,000 that will go a lot further. We won't have to worry about how to stretch the \$8,000,000. Are there any questions about sidewalks?

Sweeney stated I would like to say to Mr. Love that I represent Ward 6 and that is your Ward. If you would like my contact information, then you can call me. I probably don't have all the answers, but I don't mind helping you find where you need to go.

Love stated okay, thank you.

Sweeney stated my name is Kerry Sweeney. Did you find out about us through Sean Fortenbaugh?

Love stated yes.

Sweeney stated he is our Councilman. My phone number is 591-1614. Again, I don't have all your answer. And I do know (can't hear) you know it's hard to know where to get the word out. We are on Facebook and we have a committee that is trying to let people know what LETA does. (Can't hear)

Love stated don't worry I'm a person that likes to speak up.

Burk stated we don't mind that at all.

Sweeney stated there is nothing wrong with that.

Hankins stated (can't hear)

Burk stated we always ask for citizens input. We want to know your thoughts because we don't know it all and we have never acted like we did. I have been here 55 years next week so trust me I know, but things are changing for the better. We are doing a lot of really good stuff. We have to keep pushing forward and this committee is a get something done committee. We are not a committee that is going to sit here and talk about it for six (6) to eight (8) months. We are going to get it completed.

D. Choose Yard of the Month for April, May and June.

Burk stated I know that all of you brought yards, right.

Brown stated those are the only two (2) that I have received.

Burk asked we only have two (2).

Brown stated yes, and they are both Ward 8.

Hankins stated I promise I will have one (1) next time.

Burk stated how about we wait until next month and do all the months together. We will do April, May, June and July. Please take some pictures. There has to be something good.

McConnell stated it was hard because of the heat.

Burk stated and the grass is high. People aren't doing their beds liked they did before COVID. And even if they use a yard guy, he doesn't come half the time.

Morford stated our yards look great.

Hankins stated they are still very green.

Burk stated yes. The yards do look very green. Thank God for the rain we had the other day.

Morford stated I get embarrassed to turn them in because all mine win. They are just right down the street.

Brown stated you guys need to go driving.

Burk stated please turn them in. Get them to Charlotte. Just having the two (2) isn't going to work. I appreciate the two (2) that was turned in. Seriously, if you will research sidewalks in other communities and I don't care if it isn't Oklahoma. I don't care where it is just go look at their ideas. At the next meeting we hope to put that together and make a recommendation to Council the next month. We don't have CIP money allocated yet so we can't start to work tomorrow. We are trying to work through that right now. Anything else we need to go over or that we have forgotten.

4. Announcements

5. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Motion by Morford, **Second** by Hankins, to adjourn. **Aye:** Sweeney; Symuleski; Burk; Hankins; McConnell; Morford. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**