

**LAWTON ENHANCEMENT TRUST AUTHORITY
BANQUET HALL
212 SW 9th STREET
AUGUST 12, 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; Ezerski, Barry; Hankins, Mary Ann; McConnell, Lou; Smith, Addie; Sweeney, Kerry; Symuleski, Ted.

ABSENT: Morford, Robert.

OTHER PRESENT: Richard Rogalski, City Manager's Office; Charlotte Brown, Planning; Tiffani Vrska, City Manager's Office; Billie Whipp, Parks and Recreation; Corey Bowen, Neighborhood Services;

BUSINESS ITEMS:

Burk stated thank you everyone for being here. It is good to see everyone. Some of you I haven't seen in a while. Welcome back Barry. I hope that you are doing well.

1. Reports

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

Burk stated Totte isn't here today. I know they have been working on the medians on Sheridan and things are really moving quickly. If you haven't had a change to go by there you need to run by and check it out. They are putting in the water and sprinklers. They are working.

Brown stated yes.

Symuleski stated I saw some big holes the other day when I drove by. I mean major holes.

Burk stated yes, we are excited about that. Hopefully that project will move forward quickly. We took the item for the flags to go along all major thoroughfares, Cache Road, Sheridan Road and Gore, to Council. Isn't that right.

Rogalski stated yes.

Burk stated Council has approved putting flags on all those roads just like we did on Sheridan. So, our efforts worked.

Symuleski asked what kind of flags.

Burk stated American flags. It depends on the length as to how many per median there will be. He spaced them well on Sheridan. We went from Rogers Lane to Cache Road with the ones we bought. Did we ever get him a check?

Brown stated I called him and told him that we needed an invoice. He is supposed to be getting with his person. They haven't sent us an invoice.

Burk stated he asked me if we loved them. He called and left a message and I haven't called him back. He wanted to know if we loved them. I wanted to say yes we did. We got a lot of response from people saying they like them. This is something that we can add. We have Council approval now to do Cache Road and Gore Boulevard. We are free and clear to do what we want to do and how we want to do it. He puts PVC pipe in the ground. His job is to put the flags out on Flag Day, 4th of July, and Memorial Day. I think there are so many days that he puts them out.

Brown stated there are five (5) holidays.

Rogalski stated there are five (5) flag holidays.

Brown stated there are fourteen (14) holidays but he only does five (5). He was talking about doing it for the city's birthday as well.

Burk stated they put them out in the morning and then take them down.

McConnell stated (can't hear)

Brown stated they will be. He told me he didn't put them out the first round because he wanted to see how they did and to make sure none disappeared. He said from now on they will be lit like they are supposed to be.

Burk stated awesome.

Sweeney stated (can't hear) following the flag rules (can't hear).

Brown stated yes.

Sweeney stated that was nice (can't hear).

Burk stated yes. I want us to keep pushing this issue forward. I think it is great. Just image if they are down every major thoroughfare in Lawton especially with us being so tied to Fort Sill. I think it is a great thing and it did get approved so we can start moving forward with sections or areas. However we want to do it. He charged us nothing for Sheridan Road.

Brown stated it was a \$1,000 for twenty (20) flags.

Burk stated that was for the entire year. You pay this amount and they pick them up and put them in. We don't have to do anything. If the flags get torn up, they replace them. This is their fundraiser. He goes out and puts the PVC in the ground. It is below mowing level. They are never removed. They make sure they know exactly where they are putting them. It was gorgeous. I know some of the neighborhoods, like's Mary Ann's neighborhood, has them and they look amazing.

Hankins stated they look nice.

Burk stated they look very nice.

Vrska stated what is the timeline on so we can take photos.

Burk asked what is the date of the next flag day.

Brown stated I think Labor Day.

Burk stated I think he will put them out on Labor Day. They put them out and pick them up and we don't have to do anything. I think it is a great way for us to get started and I think once we really get it going that it might be something the City of Lawton will adopt, hopefully. We will be able to use that as a year-round thing. They will put them out for us. He has quite a few guys that help him. The hardest part is getting the PVC in the ground. I guess they have to wrench it into the ground.

Rogalski stated you have to do locates first.

Burk stated he did all that and spaced them out a certain way. He measured from the curb and they are exact. You can look down that road and see how perfect they are.

Hankins stated the holes must be plugged when the flags are taken up. (Can't hear)

Burk stated yes. They take good care of it and I think it is an awesome deal. They replace the flags at no cost to us. This is their fundraiser and he wants us to do more. We talked about doing Cache Road and Gore. Richard was going to help us get that on the agenda.

Brown stated they are going to donate the area in front of the public safety facility and the median in front of Walmart on Sheridan.

Burk stated you would have to do both sides on Gore with it being four (4) lanes and such a big median. Our downtown area would look amazing with those lining each side.

Rogalski stated that would be cool.

Burk stated it would be amazing. The Gore median would be amazing. I think I'm going to ask him to give us a price on doing Gore. Price it in sections so we can figure out how we can afford to do it. My goal is to go back to the city. This is something the city should be doing on an

annual basis. Set up a fund out of hotel/motel at some point. We can take it out of that fund. Our goal was to get it started and not own it forever. We will own it long enough to really get it going. Hopefully get it out there and placed. If we wait for the city to do it, they will take five (5) years before we see another flag.

Symuleski stated it sounds like Michael, the City Manager, you can give him an idea and talk to him about it and he figures it out.

Burk stated he is doing a good job.

Symuleski stated he isn't like some of the other managers we have had. They slid it off to side and lost it.

Burk stated it helps when you have somebody that has CIP money and the initiative to want to get things done. Having Richard there has really helped.

Symuleski stated I think the city manager takes pride in this town.

Burk stated he does. He really does. Other than that, I don't know of anything else for Dennis unless Parks and Recreation knows of something. I don't know of anything else that Dennis is involved in at this time. I did ask him to work on 2nd Street and we are going to wait until fall. We have three (3) or four (4) trees that need to be replaced. We have a dedicated fund for 2nd Street to pay for things like that. We also have some pot issues. Some have changed color and some of the sprinklers have gone bad. That is why you see a few pots that don't have anything in them. The flowers didn't get enough water because the sprinklers are going bad. Some of the pots need to be replaced. He also told me he was going to stop using the flowers that he has been using because they burn up so easily due to the heat. I told him that I went to Oklahoma City last weekend and ever pot you could find had sweet potato vine in it. If you give them water, they just don't die, they look amazing. They have different colored ones. I sent him a picture. I do that all the time and say we need this in Lawton.

Sweeney stated I have seen pots with tall grass and potato vine at the bottom. Those look good and you can't kill that stuff.

Burk stated yes, that is right. I think you are right.

Symuleski stated we don't need color there. We need tough.

Burk stated well the color is beautiful. You can get purple, bright green and different variation of sweet potato. The other stuff is hard to keep alive.

Brown stated yes.

Burk stated it is just very hard to keep alive and takes tons of water. If you have a pot go bad it dies. He has two (2) or three (3) pots that are dead. He is going to change those and then the trees that need to be replaced we will replace in the fall. It is too hot now and we don't want

them to burn up. A couple have gotten so big they are popping up the grates. I have asked him to take those grates and cut them bigger so they will sit down. Some of the trees are really getting big. They have taken off and got bigger and it is looking good. He changed some of the shrubs because they were dead. Some of the pots, even though they check them every month, are dead. It takes a month before they come back and check again. There are about ten (10) pots that are dead. Some of the pots have colored funny. I don't know if it is the heat or a different kind of pot. He was going to check into that. We have extra pots, so he is going to swap those out to make it look like the others. We want to keep unity. I have had them working on the lights down there. Do we know where we are with that.

Rogalski stated they had problems with the controllers. They replaced all the bulbs and then found there was a problem with the controller. I haven't heard if they are on it yet, but they are trying to get them done.

Burk stated okay. We had about twenty (20) lights that were out on 2nd Street. All of a sudden they were just out. It was unbelievable. I was like oh no. It is looking good. I know that Dennis is probably doing it, but Parks and Recreation needs to know that the entry way coming off I-44 to 2nd Street looks absolutely stunning compared to the way it used to look. It was full of weeds and ODOT mowed it once in a blue moon. Now with us taking care of it and having it on the Bedrock contract it looks absolutely stunning. The only thing I would say is we have some areas along the edge of the road that we probably need to get staff out there to weed eat. Then we need to get the street sweeper to clean up every so often. Michael has made an initiative with the street cracks that once they kill the grass, they will blow it out and put tar back in the cracks. Maybe we need to ask him to do that at the entry of 2nd and Ferris. That has changed the look of that entryway and it is just stunning. We took care of the trees by having them trimmed up, so it is really looking good. When you drive into it you think they do care. It is no longer overgrown and out of control. It looks really good. Dennis is doing a great job. I don't know how they do it in this kind of heat, but they were out mowing and weed eating a while ago on Gore. The grass is still growing and fast.

Rogalski stated the air is full of water even though it is 1000 degrees.

Burk stated I mean it is just crazy.

B. Receive report from Neighborhood Services.

Burk stated this is the man of the hour. He came to City Council about two (2) weeks ago with how many houses.

Bowen stated nine (9).

Burk stated nine (9). That is a ton of houses. We are going to try to have a special Council meeting every so often to do twenty (20) or thirty (30) houses at a time and get a bunch of them on the list to be torn down. I know my dear friend in the corner will be ecstatic. We are trying to get more of them in the loop so they can be removed faster. Legal is not the problem but we have to get them through and then back to legal. If we have them in the loop and they have gone

through the process then all we have to do is give them to the contractor to tear them down. I'm hoping if we give the contractor five (5) instead of one (1) we will get a better price. We will give them five (5) with a time limit to have them all torn down and cleaned up. Congratulations on doing a good job. You are doing great. I think you are probably one (1) of the best we had had in that department.

Rogalski stated there are some that are tearing them down themselves and that is a good problem.

Burk stated that is awesome.

Rogalski stated the word is out. He is getting them torn down before he can take them to Council and gets to take credit for them.

Burk stated Council is very particular about keeping them on the D & D. No more giving you another six (6) months or a year. Just get on the D & D and get busy. I think that has helped us to get through some of these that we were having issues with. With Council strong on that it makes a big difference.

Bowen stated since we are talking about D & D, I'll continue down that path. We took nine (9) down last month and we had five (5) volunteer demos.

Burk stated wow.

Bowen stated that leaves us with four (4) to be torn down.

Burk stated that is awesome.

Bowen stated I have others that were on my radar and was getting ready to contact when the owners tore them down.

Burk stated awesome.

Bowen stated so those are off the list. We are getting a lot of voluntary compliance as far as D & D's go.

Burk asked can you keep track of that and when you come to Council give us an update.

Rogalski stated I'll have him to do that.

Burk stated I think the key is to say we have contacted this many and the owners of this many voluntarily tore them down.

Rogalski stated he has a spreadsheet and once you contact a property owner it is on our list and we get credit for the demolition.

Burk stated exactly.

Rogalski stated even if we didn't take it to Council.

Burk stated yes.

Rogalski stated he is working on a spreadsheet and every time we have a meeting, we will provide an update.

Burk stated that is awesome. I think we need to hear that.

Bowen stated I went by one yesterday that is set for the 25th and the house was gone.

Symuleski asked what does it cost the city to tear a house down versus the homeowner tearing it down.

Rogalski stated the cost is about the same but when we tear it down we put a lien on the property. On abandoned properties you will never recover the lien. It will sell at Sheriff Sale. The owner tearing it down is much more beneficial and we give them an incentive on tipping fees.

Burk stated tipping fees are where they dump at the landfill. I think they get half off the fees.

Bowen stated I don't believe it is half. It is more like 30%.

Burk stated they get something off.

Rogalski stated they get a discount if they do it themselves. There are a lot of people taking advantage of that.

Symuleski stated so, if the City tears the property down the only way you recoup your money is by putting a lien on the property.

Rogalski stated and hope that someone wants to buy it and pays off the lien. Again, our lien is subservient to the tax lien. When it goes to Sheriff Sale the County is paid first.

Burk stated we are lucky if we get anything.

Symuleski stated (can't hear) I know you guys are losing a lot of money on these.

Burk stated there is no way. The State won't change anything. I have been fighting for thirteen (13) years. The legislators won't change it because there are a lot of old farmers out there that don't want to see the change. It is not going to change. You can just get ready. We fought it. Me and Mayor Fitch fought it. We brought it before the Governor and Senate, and it didn't go anywhere. There was too much backlash from the farmers, and it is the rural people that are voting no. They have a big voice. There are a ton of them. It didn't even get out of committee. It is just

going to be what it is. We must make sure and realize that we have to have money every year for demolitions. There will always be some we have to tear down. Thank goodness for the CIP so we can get something done.

Bowen stated I have eight (8) more that will go to council on the 25th.

Burk stated eight (8) more.

Bowen stated as far as everything else for the month of July we sent out 792 correspondence and that brings us up to 5,850 for the year. As of the first of August, we had 1,001 workorders. So, the city (can't hear) and abate them. We are probably going to beat the numbers for last year. Last year we did 2,032 and we are on track to pass that. The grass has not stopped

Burk stated no.

Hankins stated no.

Brown stated no.

Bowen stated that's what I have for you.

Sweeney stated I have a house I would like for you to drive by and see if it qualifies. It is in the 500 block of NW 73rd. I think it is 417 NW73rd. To me it certainly qualifies. The grass is so high that I could barely see the house and it doesn't look like it is in good shape.

Ezerski asked have you talked to the people in Shelter Creek.

Bowen stated yes, we sent a thirty (30) day IBMC letter. We gave her thirty (30) days to start removing some of the problems. She has not responded so we are going to place it on the D & D list.

Ezerski stated (can't hear)

Burk stated the City Manager and I have had these discussions. At some point on some of those that are mowed we are going to spray them. They do this in a lot of cities. They spray to kill the grass. I hate it for the really nice neighborhoods but that is the only way we can save money. If we do that, we can forgo two (2) or three (3) mowing's. We can spray and not have our staff so bundled up with all these mowing's that they mow over and over. The thought is we would consider doing it by next summer. We are trying to figure out a way to spray and specifically the front yards. This would make sure we kept it knocked down. We would kind of let the backyards go for a little bit unless you can see them. Some of the backyards get up as high as the fence. It is terrible and you start having rodents and mosquitos. I had someone in Sullivan Village ask about spraying for mosquitos.

Rogalski stated yes, we do spray.

Burk stated he said they were out of control.

Rogalski stated we have two (2) levels of abatement.

Burk stated ask about Sullivan Village. I told him I would call him back.

Symuleski stated they are bad.

Brown stated yes.

Burk stated they are bad. Thank you so much you are doing a great job.

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

Schlecht stated we have invoices from Bedrock (can't hear), Albright Steel for rebar for the (can't hear) \$262, and the final bill from Bedrock Nursery for \$5,000. Last time we thought we had the final bill but didn't realize that all their bills say final bill. That was our misunderstanding. We had to figure out if it was in the rear or (can't hear). I forget when Maddie said it was, but it was correct, and we had to pay it. We didn't expect it because we thought we had the final bill. This was our error.

Rogalski stated we didn't pay them anymore than we were supposed to. We just thought we had already paid them.

Schlecht stated no. We still have \$5,000 under what was the original amount.

Rogalski stated okay.

Schlecht stated (can't hear) so that effects this \$5,000.

Burk asked when will we get the medical marijuana money put into the account.

Schlecht stated you see the revenues show on the balance sheet. I believe the checks were cashed in August and you will see the cash on the balance sheet.

Burk stated I see it. I didn't look all the way down. So, the medical marijuana revenue received was \$143. We are trying to get something started on Sheridan Road starting outside the gate at Sheridan and Rogers Lane. We will start on the westside of the road. We are trying to get that bid out as soon as we can to get that project started. We will do sidewalks all the way down to Cache Road. One hundred forty-three dollars won't take us to Cache Road, but we need to get started doing a block or two (2) at a time.

Rogalski stated City Council has hired a couple of engineers on retainer.

Burk stated yes.

Rogalski stated we are going to get one of those engineers started on this project.

Burk stated we are trying to push this forward quicker. The faster we get it engineered and ready then we can get a contractor hired and get them working. We should start to see this all come together.

Schlecht stated the balance is approximately \$213,000.

Burk stated right. The good thing is it is going strong. Hopefully it will grow every month.

Rogalski stated I don't think that one is going to slow down.

Burk stated we are doing well. If we get another stimulus, life will be good.

Rogalski stated half of our building permits have to do with some sort of dispensary or processing facility.

Burk stated they go out as fast as they come in. I'm not certain how that works.

Ezerski stated (can't hear)

Schlecht asked on the Children's United.

Ezerski stated at the last meeting they were saying that we (can't hear).

Schlecht state I have not seen that.

Burk stated Barry, can you ask about that and see if we can't get that.

Schlecht stated there was talk of more grants but I haven't seen any of those.

Ezerski stated yes, (can't hear) they were probably talking about getting them, but they haven't received them yet.

Burk asked any other questions. We did the treasurer's report at the same time. We need to approve the invoices.

Motion by Sweeney; **Second** by Symuleski, to approve all invoices, requisitions, and all other submitted materials for payment. **Aye:** Ezerski; Hankins; McConnell; Smith; Sweeney; Symuleski; Burk. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

D. Receive Treasurer Report and take action if necessary.

Schlecht stated on the balance sheet LETA funds are \$163,868.73 and the custodial account are \$269,277.96 for a total in the bank of \$433,096.69. We have talked about our receivables. We

have both the marijuana tax and municipal fines. You see the landfill is not there. We still haven't received a check for those.

Burk stated I'll check into it.

Schlecht stated on the Income and Expense Tracker because it is a (can't hear) there will be lots of zeros. Some of our projects are rolling over into the new fiscal year. We know we have flags but haven't received an invoice. We also have the pavilion brick and lights, the C Avenue lighting project and Sheridan Road irrigation. Did you say we would be invoiced on the irrigation?

Brown stated we should be. They are still working on tapping into the median and then once Bedrock starts we should see stuff from them. I'll call the Rotary about the flags.

Burk stated when you call ask about doing Gore from Railroad to 2nd Street. See what it will cost for both sides. You won't be at Railroad you will be at 1st Street for the first median. Is the second median from 2nd to 3rd. If he can give us an idea maybe, we can do two (2) blocks. We have to come up with a plan. We will start down Gore and add to it as we go.

Rogalski stated get quotes for the whole thing but separate it into blocks.

Brown stated yes, in blocks.

Burk stated break it up so we can see what we can afford.

Brown stated okay.

Schlecht stated that is it other than a few (can't hear) around this time. (Can't hear).

Ezerski asked (can't hear) income in July.

Schlecht stated this sheet it is not a typical income statement. It is hard to do that when you are starting a new fiscal year. (Can't hear).

Symuleski stated (Can't hear)

Schlecht stated yes, let me explain that. We do have income, but this sheet doesn't keep track of the ADA playground or Elmer Thomas Park pavilion. I put the medical marijuana on there but as far as the custodial accounts those are not on the sheet. We did receive \$25,000 for the pavilion and \$650 for the ADA playground.

Rogalski stated some of the money is monthly but comes in a couple of months late. It is a monthly accrual, and some is a reimbursement after you spend it. We do not get hotel/motel up front. It is a reimbursement.

Schlecht stated yes.

Rogalski stated you won't see the income until you spend it.

Schlecht stated all lot of those were finalized in June.

Burk stated I'm kind of confused. So why wouldn't the \$143 in medical marijuana show up on the income/expense tracker.

Ezerski stated (can't hear)

Schlecht stated it is a receivable which means we are aware of the amount and know it is coming so you book it in your books.

Burk stated so we have not actually received it yet.

Schlecht stated we will not receive the actual cash until August. You will see the cash in August. Your revenues are going to keep track regardless whether you have cash or not.

Burk stated it is so confusing because you are so many months behind. It says you are getting it in July but it's really from May. It is May's money not July's. We book it but we have not received it yet. It is just confusing. You are always thinking where are we. Any other questions.

Motion by Ezerski, Second by Sweeney, to accept the treasurer's report. **Aye:** Hankins; McConnell; Smith; Sweeney; Symuleski; Burk; Ezerski. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

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

Brown stated I'm sad to announce that I'm no longer the chair of the Cultural Preservation Committee. We met on Monday and Page and Councilman Hampton wanted someone that had the experience and knowledge to handle the chair position for the committee. I had no idea what I was doing. Janet Terry and Jim Whitely are going to co-chair with Phyllis Young as a backup.

Burk stated that is awesome. It's good you got out of one job so we can give you another one.

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

Whipp stated we have sprinkler repairs from Bedrock that were about \$1,200 that was processed through the city budget. They were not processed through the maintenance contact but through our repair and maintenance account. On behalf of Parks and Receptions and Nicholas and Max Sasseen the pavilion it is looking great. If you haven't seen it you need to drive by. The roof structure ended up being a little bigger than they had anticipated.

Rogalski stated it did. It makes the Holiday House look like a tiny little thing.

Whipp stated it is a wonderful facility.

Rogalski stated it is.

Whipp stated we are working with Susan and Mike Leal on ordering the lamps. Max is excited that LETA approved those. It goes with the lights on 2nd Street. They have bricks but there was two (2) different sizes delivered. They have to go back and make sure everything is correct. The concrete work is done on both sides, topsoil has been spread, the underground electrical work is complete, and the roof kit was installed and ready for shingles. They are trying to do some reinforcement in the pillars because we want it to be able to withstand the winds and last for a long time. It is going to be a wonderful addition to Elmer Thomas Park for us to use with our festivals. We have had one (1) person to request to use the facility in October for a wedding. I don't know if it will be done by then. He is on his last push for final fundraising. Also, the Holiday in the Park committee met for the first time today. Their funds from the hotel/motel is \$29,400. They will put together a proposal on the 29th to bring back for approval at the September meeting. They did vote not to do the parade this year. (Can't hear).

Burks stated I'm sorry I was discussing a number. How much more does Max need to finish the project. I talked with Max and he went to the Fire Union and asked if they would put the shingles on. Justin Drippy owns a roofing company and he said he would donate the labor. Justin also found someone that would give him \$5,000 for shingles. When I built the Holiday House, I used presidential shingles. He said he could not be outdone by me, so he decided to use presidential shingles. This is the truth. I used the high dollar shingles because I wanted it to last for years. I wanted 30-year shingles and something that would take a beating during a hailstorm. So, he is trying to find the money to finish getting the right shingles. He has a few other things left. One of the things we talked about was landscaping in that area. Trying to do something spectacular like we did at the splash pad. One of the things we have done well, and not to go back and beat our own drum, but we have roughly \$400,000 in our account. We have been very frugal because we don't know what the next year will hold. Other than the hotel/motel tax and we might as well just scratch that off, everything else is coming in well. The numbers are pretty strong. Our sales tax numbers are strong, and our use tax numbers are really strong. Use tax is from people ordering online. With that being said, I wish we could help him. I don't know the number because he didn't give me one. He didn't have a total. I would like for us to help him finish the project. What they have run up against is COVID has stopped them from fundraising. They hit a brick wall and have had a tough time. The biggest problem is they can't get out in front of anybody. They can't go before these groups that usually give \$5,000 to \$10,000. They can't get in front of them because nobody is having meetings. It is all being done virtually, and it is difficult to get people to donate at this time. His son can't go out like they did on the project over here at the church. This is the third or fourth project that Max has helped me with for the City. I shouldn't say helped me I have tried to help him. He takes these jobs and runs with them. I can't find a better friend or guy. He gets out there and tries to bring people on to help do these construction things. I know that we have enough money to be able to help him. I know that we have helped him some with the bricks and the lights are going to set things off. This could be another splash pad success. If you will remember the splash pad had no grass and a fence that wasn't right with no landscaping. There was no bronze statue out front. They didn't have any of that. LETA did all that. We sodded it and did it all. I'll never forget standing there with Kim Shahan asking if we were done and him saying they would be done tomorrow. I asked where the grass was. If we

don't have grass it will be a mud hole. These kids are going to play and splash water everywhere. I told him to get in touch with Bedrock and we made a quick decision. We got together as a group to make sure we had enough to say yes and then went out and got sod and landscaping. Every time you hear someone talk about the splash pad they say it is stunning. That is what I want this to be and I know that is what Max wants. I think we can help him get to that point and then some landscaping next spring. It is too late to plant and keep it alive. Is that something that we would be interested in. I don't think it is a large number.

Ezerski asked \$5000.

Burk stated I know it is less than \$15,000 unless something else has come up. Max is not going to do anything halfway. If he finds something he needs he is going to do it the right way. That is the way I like to do it. Let's make it substantial and do it right and then we can all stand back and say we did the right thing. I think there will be thousands of people that want to use this facility. People are walking through the park wanting to know what it is going to be. I walk there and hear people talk. They ask what is that. They stand and look and point. That was just a disaster over there and they have made it look so nice. If there is somewhat of a consensus that we want to help them I would tell Max to bill us at the next meeting for whatever that number might be. Otherwise they are going to wait another month trying to figure out how to finish.

Symuleski asked what does he have left to do. He's got the brick.

Burk stated the shingles messed him up. They told him he didn't want to use a substandard shingle with the presidential shingles next door. It is like your neighborhoods where everybody uses the same shingle. So instead of being \$5,000 he was \$15,000 over. They had the money up until they got to this point. They went ahead and got presidential shingles ordered.

Rogalski stated they are on, I think.

Brown stated they have posted pictures that they are on.

Burk stated they may be. He said he couldn't use a substandard shingle and we didn't want him to use a substandard shingle in the park.

Ezerski stated (can't hear) they are about to have a huge price increase.

Burk stated that is what he was telling me. Anyway, he spent the money and I think if we could give him \$15,000 or no more than \$15,000, I think that would get him to the point he needs to be to finish. That is without landscaping. That is not going in with landscaping. I told him LETA would bring that back in the fall or spring whenever Dennis wanted to do it. Dennis would love to do it in the fall so that it will have time to take hold. That is if we are going to plant trees and I think we should. We need some big trees like we did along the walkway down by the playground.

Motion by Ezerski, **Second** by Symuleski, to approve donating not more than \$15,000 to the pavilion project to help complete the project. **Aye:** McConnell; Smith; Sweeney; Symuleski; Burk; Ezerski; Hankins. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

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

Vrska stated Kayla went out and took photos of the work you were talking about on Sheridan. We have shared that and had some really good reaction.

Burk asked does he have some of that in.

Vrska stated they were doing the initial work. I think it was the waterline. There was no landscaping, but they were out there working so we shared some photos. Then we shared information about yard of the month and I'm waiting on you to choose a yard so we can share that. Those are always our most popular photos.

Burk stated that is awesome. I did notice that post and it looked good. I know we got a lot of hits on that post. Is there anything we need to be doing that we are not doing?

Vrska stated you hadn't met in quite some time so when you finally did we posted about that. I feel COVID has thrown a wrench in so many commission and boards. There wasn't a whole lot to post about. When we took photos of the median on Sheridan, we also took some of the completed ones on Lee so people could have something to compare it to. We will get some photos of the pavilion. Do you guys have any additional idea or things we can post or promote. Kayla is doing a great job and we would be happy to do that.

Burk stated awesome. With everything changing in public relations I wonder how people find us. They want to know who we are and what we do. To me it is important to figure out how to get people to come to our site and figure out what we do. Did we have anybody submit a Yard of the Month application. Does anyone know.

Vrska stated I think that was probably up like a week.

Brown stated I never received anything, and Denise never said anything about it.

Burk stated we have to figure out a way to get people to help us within the community.

Hankins stated I thought maybe I could post on my personal page to anyone in Ward 1 if they wanted to suggest a Yard of the Month. I wonder what that would do.

Burk stated we need an application for them to fill out. They don't have to know the person just the house number. We may get some uglies but if they just said here is a house and we could go out and take pictures. We must have a way for people to get back with us. Kerry and I talked about maybe Yard of the Month being something we didn't want to do any more. Duncan has

started doing what we have been doing. They have a sign that looks really cool. It is like a for sale sign and it says something about crape myrtle yard of the month.

Rogalski stated they are the crape myrtle capital.

Burk stated crape myrtle capital yard of the month. It is a big enough sign that people can see, and they get to keep it in their yard. I think maybe we need to rethink. I don't think we have a sign anymore.

Sweeney stated I don't know what happened to it.

Burk stated I don't either.

McConnell stated we need a sign.

Burk stated we need something to let people know.

Vrska stated (can't hear) I feel like this group moves traditionally faster than a lot of the other boards or commissions. I can talk with the radio and KSWO to see if we could have a standing "this is what LETA is doing" where they could plug in Yard of the Month and other things that you are doing if you like.

Burk stated that would be awesome.

Ezerski asked do they still do PSA's.

Vrska stated yes.

Ezerski stated just have (can't hear)

Vrska stated you will be happy to know that IT finally installed adobe acrobat so we can make PDF's and that will be very (can't hear) for people versus (can't hear) so that will make a difference in the yard of the month and other stuff online for the city.

Sweeney stated Mr. Love, the gentleman that came last month, said "you are a very hidden group" or "you are a hard group to find". I think we are not know in the community and social media is the way to get us out there. If we are not getting people to respond and to send in houses we need to come up with something. Fresh ideas are always good.

Burk stated yes.

Sweeney stated I think that (can't hear) wherever they came up with it. How many years have we been doing this? We have done this for a lot of years, and no one is turning in houses anymore. I'm not saying I don't like it, but I think we need to do something new to replace it and I don't have that.

Rogalski stated a new version of it.

Sweeney stated I think we need to look at things. I think we don't want to get stale.

Burk stated no, I agree.

Vrska stated I agree but we hadn't really started this back up. Traditionally we go from April to October and we just started back for this year because of COVID.

Burk stated right.

Brown stated yes.

Vrska stated we could dig harder, but I think this is just a strange year.

Hankins stated I think the sign gave us a connection. If someone from this entity, in their Ward, is able to deliver the sign and visit with them that is another real plus.

Burk stated it was huge. One of the things we use to do is we would ask the City Councilmember of the Ward to meet a LETA member at the house and they would take a picture with the homeowner and the sign. We hired a photographer and he would take the picture and it was posted on Facebook or whatever. We made a big deal of it. We have let that slide down to where we are giving them a \$100 gift certificate and thank you. We don't put up a sign and there is no big deal. If we don't make a big deal of it, they are not going to. If we had some signs made, and Barry probably knows the best place to do this, stating this is the yard of the month and then we would pick them back up at the end of the month.

Rogalski stated a really cool sign and maybe give them a plaque they could put on their house.

Hankins stated we might even do a t-shirt that says I won yard of the month.

Burk stated yes, something cool and neat. Wouldn't it be cool to have a LETA shirt that says I won yard of the month. We could have different sizes made and give those out throughout the year. We have to think outside the box and become creative. Kerry, I think we just need to reinvent and make it better than it has been or was. Sometimes we forget where we've been. Some of those things we were doing was really good. I think we have just forgotten. For a Councilmember to go out is an exciting for them because that is their Ward. They like it.

Vrska asked do you think some of the home improvement store might partner with us and put up signage for those shopping for garden stuff so they would know. A LETA sign that says submit your yard for yard of the month.

Burk stated that is a great idea.

Vrska stated (can't hear)

Burk stated they have a new manager at Lowe's that has helped us a lot with COVID. I think he is from Tulsa. He would love this idea.

Vrska stated maybe Lowe's, Home Depot, and Bedrock.

Brown stated Sutherlands.

Burk stated Comanche Home Center and those places would do it. Phil would love to do something like that.

Hankins stated that will cover more than just the flowers.

Burk stated maybe do some gift cards from Lowe's and Home Depot. Split it up instead of doing all Bedrock. A lot of the yards are already amazing, and they are thinking that's all I need is another flower. What if they could go buy something from Comanche Home Center. I would love to use our local businesses. That is a great idea. Coming up with something new.

Hankins stated if you don't have a lot of money sometimes yard equipment (can't hear)

Ezerski asked do we have enough houses for each months this year or do we want to do a yard of the year.

Brown stated I have five (5) submittals right now and we have five (5) months.

Burk asked are they from different Wards or all the same Ward.

Brown stated Ward 8 has two (2), Ward 1 has two (2) and Ward 6 has one (1).

Hankins stated I found time to do that. I about got killed.

Burk stated with five (5), if they are really good, I would say that is the five (5) we use this year to be able to have some. We aren't going to be able to have a banquet so maybe this is our only time to give out anything as an award. Thank you for doing your yard. So many people are struggling right now. Just a pat on the back. It would be nice if we had some signs.

Rogalski asked what if you did a yard of the month or yard of the year or COVID yard for every Ward. That way you could do them all at once. Here are the yards for this year. That way every Ward will get one.

McConnell stated we get signs printed really quick. With Arrow Signs we usually get them in three (3) days.

Burk stated maybe we can do that. We already have the logo. We will have to design how we want it and we have the perfect person for that.

Rogalski stated you could get the ones with the wire and you don't have to take them down. You could just leave it with the person.

Burk stated I do the signs that are so big. We put them in the yard that says One Hour Heat and Air, or do you want to do one that is planted in the yard and you come back and pick it up. The thing about that is picking it back up.

Rogalski stated if you get the inexpensive kind you can just give it to them. They will keep forever.

Burk stated you can get those from anywhere. I buy the ones for my business by the thousands and we get them within a few days. They are printed with stakes and the whole bit. They are ready to go into the ground and you use them when you are ready.

McConnell stated I think that would be great. I think they need that recognition so other in the neighborhood can see if they didn't see it on Facebook.

Burk stated they may keep it in their yard forever. The last until a big wind comes and blows them away.

Hankins stated I think it encourages competition.

Burk stated it does and I think it is a great idea. I think we ought to do some signs. The name of the company I use is Signs on the Cheek.

McConnell stated you can have them ready for (can't hear).

Rogalski stated we use Fast Signs for the Tour of the Wichita.

Burk stated they do them quickly and they are that corrugated.

Brown stated yes, the corrugated board.

Rogalski stated with wire.

Burk stated yes, you stick it right in and they are ready to go. They go through rain or whatever. They are not supposed to fade for months. They are pretty nice. They may remove them and put it in their back yard to keep.

McConnell stated we need to decide what they will say.

Burk stated I think we need the logo and spell out Lawton Enhancement and Yard of the Month or Yard of the Month 2020 or COVID Yard of the Month 2020.

Hankins stated I think there has been some home improvement with people having to stay in.

Burk stated if we are going to have signs made, what fund do we use. The regular operating fund.

Rogalski asked is it an award.

Burk stated yes.

Sweeney asked how about the banquet money.

Burk stated what about the LETA grant award.

Rogalski stated that was what I was thinking. You have a big pot there. You have a \$1,000 in yard of the month. We would transfer money into that yard of the month.

Burk stated let's do that. If you would makes some pretty cool ones that are bright so you can see them.

Vrska stated (can't hear)

Burk stated you tell him I said forget him. I don't care what he says.

Rogalski stated the signs we had made for the Tours of the Wichita our logo was very colorful and exact. It was a perfect logo on every sign.

Burk stated I'll work with them on putting a sign together and send it out to everybody. If anyone has a problem, let me know. It will say Yard of the Month. It won't have a date just Yard of the Month. We can get those bought within a couple of days. Does that sound good.

McConnell stated I think that would be neat.

Burk stated I do too. See these good ideas we are discussing trying to recreate our programs. Instead of purchasing from Bedrock we will purchase from different companies throughout town. You might get one from Comanche Home Center or wherever. We will rotate it. We will buy two (2) from here and two (2) from there and rotate them.

Symuleski stated that spreads the money all around.

Burk stated we still want a couple from Bedrock. I'm just saying maybe a couple from where they have yard services. You want to go where you can get something you need and buy what you want. That sounds great.

Rogalski stated I will say there is a tasteful size for signs. We don't want to get to big.

Burk stated no, I think mine are only this by this and double sided so you can see them no matter which way you come down the road.

McConnell stated I'm thinking wider and shorter.

Burk stated okay.

Hankins stated kind of like the campaign signs.

Burk stated yes.

Rogalski stated more or less.

Burk stated campaign signs will be everywhere in the next few months.

McConnell stated where they don't tear up your shrubs and things.

Burk stated maybe she is right. Do a little longer and not quite as wide. It would be lower for the shrubs and they could put it in their flowerbed if they wanted. Good idea.

H. Receive Monthly Ward Update and take action if necessary.

Sweeney stated the good thing about driving around looking for yard of the month is you see things in your Ward you might not have seen. The old furniture and appliance store that went out of business on the corner of 68th and Cache behind Walgreen's on 68th.

Brown stated the Aarons.

Burk stated yea, Dr. Bhargava just bought that.

Ezerski stated he did.

Burk stated yes.

Sweeney stated the weeds are horrible.

Burk stated Dr. Bhargava just bought it. I was told that last week.

Symuleski asked what is he going to do with it.

Burk stated I don't know. I was just told he bought the building. I heard they were behind on closing.

Rogalski stated I'll let Corey know. We can still address the weeds no matter who owns it.

Burk stated I know it is Bhargava. If he just bought it and it may be between closings and whatever.

Sweeney stated right. That may take care of itself then.

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

Brown stated I have been in contact with ODOT and Johnson Seed. We are looking at just under \$12,000 to reseed. It is higher because the milkweed is more expensive right now. She said she could refigure it without milkweed.

Burk stated I think you need milkweed in this part of the country. You must have it. That is what we are.

McConnell stated milkweed is coming back.

Burk stated that is what we have here. I texted her the other day and said that I hated the wildflower bed being just weeds. They are a mile high and look like crap and they won't mow until October.

Brown stated I sent Traci an email asking when their next mowing was because we would like to have that mowed now. I haven't gotten a response, so I'll resend the text.

Burk asked I was thinking about Rogers Lane where we have them. Can we mow them down ourselves? There is nothing there but weeds.

Rogalski stated if they are areas that we mow we can.

Burk stated they are areas we mow. Down Rogers Lane right outside the Fort Sill gate. I'm thinking we are putting up flags and all this beautiful stuff and then you have weeds that high. There are some wildflowers in there, but the weeds are over taking them.

Rogalski stated they will mow them down at the end of October anyway.

Burk stated that is why I thought if we just mowed then when we do our regular mowing and get them out of there. Get it cleaned up. There isn't that many more. If we could at least have them look at them when they mow Rogers Lane and go ahead and mow it. They are paid to mow it anyway and we blocked it out.

Whipp asked what area is that.

Burk stated it is all the way down Rogers Lane. There are different areas.

Rogalski stated they are in the intersections. There are some large areas like Sheridan and Fort Sill Boulevard. There are signs that say wildflowers.

Whipp stated okay. Where they have mowed a couple of rounds and the rest is growing.

Rogalski stated yes.

Brown stated yes.

Whipp said so, go ahead and mow all that.

Burk said mow it all down.

Rogalski stated we were telling them not to mow the wildflower areas and now we are saying it is time to mow them down so we can get ready to reseed.

Burk stated we are going to replant. I talked with the Mayor and he was adamant that we do it again. I agree it is stunning if you get it right. We just had bad luck.

Brown stated yes, it was a bad time of the year when we planted.

Burk stated we had the drought and then it froze. The cost is \$11,760.

Brown stated that is what I came up with. It is fifteen (15) pounds per acre and it is around \$525 per acre. We have 22.4 acres.

Burk stated we need a motion to get this approved. We want them to do this in October.

Brown stated she said it would probably be the beginning of November. They will do a final mowing around October 31st and then get us on the list to reseed.

Burk stated ODOT comes in and sprigs it for us. They will put it in and then we hope we have another go at it.

Brown stated we won't order until three (3) weeks out. She will give me a date of about when and I will get with Johnson's to push the order through. The seed will be shipped straight to ODOT in Duncan and they handle the rest.

Rogalski stated I would ask you approve a little extra in case the final number is more.

Brown stated right.

Burk asked will \$15,000 cover it.

Brown stated yes, I think so.

Motion by Sweeney, **Second** by Ezerski, to approve up to \$15,000 for the spending of wildflower seed. **Aye:** Smith; Sweeney; Symuleski; Burk; Ezerski; Hankins; McConnell. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

Brown stated one of the guys from Branch Out Tree Service called and they think the trees we trimmed in the ODOT right-of-way need trimmed again.

Burk stated it does need to be done again. I looked at them the other day.

Brown stated I told him I would have to bring it back to LETA. They were twice as expensive as the others, but he felt like the company we hired didn't do a good job. That is what I got from him.

Burk asked did we get any other bids.

Rogalski stated of course he is going to say that.

Brown stated we had bids from three (3) companies.

Rogalski stated we are not asking you to approve this at this time. We are just asking if you want to do it again. If so, we will get quotes.

Burk stated I think we need to. I think it really cleaned up that area and they can mow better. ODOT couldn't get near the trees.

Brown stated Lee and I-44, Gore and 44, Cache and 44 and then Cache and 2nd Street. All the trees in that area we cleaned them up from the bottom.

Rogalski stated ODOT doesn't trim the trees at all.

Burk stated they just circle around as close as they can get and call it good.

Rogalski stated we trimmed them two (2) years ago. It did look a lot better for a little while. They are starting to sprig out a little. It shouldn't be as expensive as it was the last time. It hadn't been done since Lawton's founding. We will get quotes and bring them back to you.

Burk stated that sounds good. I think we need to do it. There are some areas we need to add. We need to add Lee and I-44. There are a couple of trees on the far side and then we have to figure out how to clean up that one area. We need to hire someone with a weed eater and shovels to go along the edge of the street and clean that up. We need it at Gore and 44. Those areas are dirty.

Brown stated yes.

Burk stated when you drive into town and you pull off to go on Lee Boulevard the sides of that little run off area is full of debris and it is terrible. We need to weed eat because I know that ODOT isn't going to do it. We will have to do it. We will have to hire somebody to weed eat and mow through there and along the edges just to clean it up. ODOT has been spraying around their signs and stuff. Have you see how big their circles are where they sprayed. It is like a saucer. I

mean it is huge for one (1) little bitty pole. They are not wanting to get close to it. Maybe they are knocking them down.

McConnell stated somebody is doing a great job at Lee and Sheridan. They mowed today and sprayed something green on all the cracks.

Burk stated that is the city.

Rogalski stated yes.

McConnell stated it looked really nice.

Burk stated that is what Michael has implemented. They go through and spray along the cracks and when they have killed them out, they go back and put tar in the cracks. It won't be long before tar goes in where they sprayed. Hopefully that will keep grass from growing in the cracks and plus it will help to save some of our street. I noticed going out on east Gore in the middle there is a crack about yea wide that is full of grass. That is the middle lane. Would you let Michael know that?

Rogalski stated yes, Gore and where.

Burk stated just say east Gore. East of I-44 all the way down those middle cracks are bad. I mean they are an inch and a half maybe two (2) inches wide.

Brown stated oh wow.

Burk stated it is a huge crack that has development and grass is growing in it. It's green.

Rogalski stated yes, it is a concrete street.

Symuleski stated oh yea.

Burk stated but it looks horrible.

Ezerski stated from 18th Street just north of Cache it looks like it has more grass than concrete.

Burk stated I know. I think we better write that down too. He is wanting to know the hot beds.

Rogalski asked which one.

Ezerski stated 18th just north of Cache Road.

Burk asked okay, what is next.

Rogalski stated I have an update on the skatepark. You have money we are looking to spend soon. We are trying to work out a contracting issue and we are trying to get it worked out with legal. Spohn Ranch, the company that did our conceptional design, is on a purchasing contract. We are working with legal to see if we can do this. Spohn Ranch did them in Stillwater and Enid. It is like buying a bunch of pieces and it becomes a skatepark.

Burk stated that is awesome.

Rogalski stated it is still in legal and hasn't been approved.

Burk stated let us explain where the money comes from. We have a couple of idea. We thought we were going to get a grant, so we put aside \$1,000,000.

Rogalski stated from the 2015 or 2016 CIP.

Brown stated 2015.

Burk stated this was a matching grant. The grant fell apart and we didn't get it. We had a meeting the other day and I said we have been working on this skatepark for 119 years. I asked if we could get the skatepark put in Elmer Thomas Park that we had been working on. We have had several community meetings.

Rogalski stated we had a committee that was going to do fundraising and then COVID hit and there goes the fundraising.

Burk stated CIP's are very specific in what you must use it for. We thought we could do the skatepark and maybe two (2) splash pads. Maybe one (1) at the playground on 38th Street. It will not be the splash pad that we have in Elmer Thomas. It will be much smaller version but a great version. We would do one (1) at 38th and maybe one (1) on the eastside. That is the basic plan on how we would use the \$1,000,000. We have the money in the bank, so we need to get some of these projects going. We are going to work to get staff to bring it forward for Council to approve. With the skatepark we have some money set aside.

Rogalski stated we have \$30,000.

Burk stated and we have someone that has said they will give \$50,000. The less we spend on the skatepark will give us more for the splash pads. Right now, we have a splash pad at Elmer Thomas Park and one (1) on the south side. I forgot the name of that Park.

Whipp stated it is located on Washington.

Brown stated yes, the one in Ranch Oak.

Burk stated they just refurbished it.

Whipp stated yes, they did the fencing around it and one (1) shade structure. Now the (can't hear).

Rogalski stated you were also talking about the fitness courts. I don't know if we want to do those. What is the priority between fitness court and splash pads?

Burk stated we talked about the fitness courts. If you remember they brought that to us. They had them at different universities.

Rogalski stated it wasn't really a grant. It was mostly just buying it from a company.

Burk stated it is a grant thanking you for buying from us.

Brown stated we are going to give you \$30,000 off.

Burk stated yes. We are going to give you \$30,000 off but you must buy from us. I think it is a really cool idea. I know that Cameron and the technology center wants one (1). There were two (2) or three (3) others that wanted them.

Rogalski stated we were going to start with putting one (1) in Elmer Thomas Park and see where we go from there. There were other parks we thought would be a good fit. We thought it would be a great fit by the jogging trail that gets used so much. I was looking at another purchasing site. With the one they want you to sole source because they give the grant. They want a sole source contract. There are other companies that makes the same stuff and I want to poke around a little to make sure we are not actually overpaying just because they are giving us a grant.

Burk stated part of me thinks that the splash pads would be a huge hit. The one in Elmer Thomas Park is busy especially with us restricting the number of people that can go in at one time. We have had a ton of kids. I drove by the other day and there were several people that was trying to get in to play. It is safe and free. That is the key. Free and safe with no lifeguards needed. I think they are really important. If we had two (2) more in two (2) different parks that would give us a total of four (4). One on the west, east, central and south. That would give us some real push. I think with LETA's support we could probably get those two (2) splash pad and the skatepark done with \$1,000,000.

Ezerski asked how much is the skatepark.

Rogalski stated \$405,000. The great thing about this purchasing contract it is an exact number. It is not like some bids where you worry about the numbers coming in. It is going to be this exact number because it is all unit prices. It is fixed. It is all competitively bid unit prices. Here is what you get and here is the bottom line.

Burk stated we need to make sure we are still on board with the skatepark first, splash pads second and then the fitness court. The fitness courts I believe we could probably fund ourselves especially with everything being on hold with COVID. We might be able to fund that ourselves and maybe get some community support. Fit Kids has a little bit of money.

Rogalski stated it might not be as big.

Burk stated right.

Rogalski stated I started to get an odd feeling about the fitness court.

Whipp stated Keith talked to Oklahoma City because they have done several of them. By the time you get everything from concrete to the shade structure the individual courts run about \$210,000. It was a little bit more than (can't hear).

Burk stated that is pricey.

Rogalski stated it is very nice.

Burk stated that may be a future project.

Rogalski stated I looked at some today that were probably \$20,000. It was some workout equipment and probably the size of these four (4) (can't hear). That might be the scale we want to look at.

Burk stated maybe start with something smaller and work bigger. I want the skatepark to be what we wanted. The nice skatepark. Something we could be proud of and something the kids can be proud of. Then we can landscape the heck out of it and make it look really cool.

Rogalski stated if we go this route it will be the exact skatepark you approved. That is the nice thing about it. We can design and build or find another engineer to design a different skatepark.

Burk stated we don't want that.

Rogalski stated if we go with this it will be the exact park and amount.

Burk asked once we say yes and it is approved how long before they start.

Rogalski stated four (4) weeks.

Burk stated four (4) weeks before they would start.

Rogalski stated yes.

Burk stated wow.

Brown stated that is quick.

Rogalski stated I talked with them and he said they probably could be going in about four (4) weeks.

Burk stated we are going to have some happy kids before it gets to cold.

Rogalski stated they are finishing up on a park in Kansas.

Burk stated wow. Is everyone in agreement that we want to move forward with the skatepark. If we move forward with the skatepark and two (2) splash pads we will need pricing on the splash pads. The splash pads would be a cut down version of Elmer Thomas Park. I would love to have, and I think this board will want, some shade structures. You don't want everyone to cook. As a parent I hated to go set in the sun the whole time.

Ezerski stated (can't hear)

Burk stated yes, there are waterlines. We know there are bathrooms and water up the hill. I think there are ways we could make it really cool. Less and less people are using the playground at the eastside park. I drive by there all the time and you hardly ever see a car up there. It is hotter than blazes right now. I don't think it is used as much as it used to be. Putting a splash pad there would increase the usage of the park.

Sweeney stated (can't hear).

Brown stated no, it is the eastside.

Burk stated eastside park.

Ezerski asked where is it located.

Burk stated right next to MacArthur High School.

Brown stated it is back up off Gore.

Burk stated there by the kid's baseball fields.

Ezerski stated (can't hear).

Burk stated we have to focus on clearing up that pond and some other stuff out there.

Rogalski stated it could be a really cool park. I took my kids there when we lived in MacArthur Park. It is not a becoming park.

Burk stated where you park you get right out on the playground. There is not a tree in sight. We were talking about doing a dog park there. Keagan Ledford was going to help fund it. He was willing to give \$25,000. That would be something we could add as we go. We need to do some stuff to the eastside. We don't have anything out there to speak of and it is growing. That

is something to think about. We can start with the skatepark. If you can really put the pressure on.

Rogalski stated I sent them an email and I bolded some of the text.

Sweeney ask Jay, have you heard any talk about pickleball courts.

Burk stated no.

Sweeney stated there has been a lot in the press recently about it. It is like tennis, but it is (can't hear).

Rogalski stated I have heard of pickleball and have seen a little bit of it.

Ezerski stated (can't hear)

Sweeney stated did they. It is easier than tennis and seniors can play because it is not as hard. Anyone can play from a child to an adult senior. I'm just reading a lot about pickleball in the Wall Street Journal and the Oklahoma City paper all of a sudden. This is something that is on my radar and I didn't know if you had heard of it.

Rogalski stated I wonder if we can convert a tennis court.

Sweeney stated I don't know. I don't know if it is the same size.

Ezerski stated we had it in PE in high school.

Sweeney stated did you really. I have never heard of it.

Ezerski stated (can't hear).

Brown asked aren't they bigger balls than a tennis court.

Ezerski stated yes.

Sweeney stated anyway I just thought it might be something we might want to look into.

Burk stated that might be something to think about. Something cool where you can go play. Everybody is use to doing the same stuff. Who would have thought that frisbee golf would be a thing.

Sweeney stated I know.

Burk stated not Jay Burk. There are so many people out there playing frisbee golf. I can't believe it. Some of them aren't good like me and they slice the ball and it comes my way. They are having a blast.

Sweeney stated and it gets them outside for a physical activity.

Burk stated you are talking about a lot of military guys and gals. When I have been walking out there you would see fifteen (15) or twenty (20) people playing.

Sweeney stated wow.

Brown stated they play at Cameron too.

Burk stated I was really shocked. They are serious. They are not joking.

Rogalski stated we have made some recent investments in Elmer Thomas Park but when you see others doing it that makes you want to put more in there to make it better.

Burk stated maybe a little pickleball. Something different.

Rogalski stated more like the golf course.

Hankins stated pickleball like p-i-c-k-l-e.

Sweeney stated I think so.

Burk stated pickle like a pickle.

Whipp stated when we were interviewing for the park masterplan (can't hear) that he mentioned that a part to look at is the trends. They mentioned instead of having tennis courts to have pickleball for your community. That is what he called it because it caught my attention since we were going to resurface the tennis courts. Maybe some of those could go towards a different type of activity that would have more interest.

Sweeney stated (can't hear).

Burk stated that is awesome.

Whip stated especially if you were targeting an older population that could get out and participate.

Burk asked so who is going to check all this out.

Sweeney stated (can't hear).

Burk stated we have an expert in this.

Ezerski stated (can't hear).

Hankins stated (can't hear).

Burk stated if we could look into this it might be something we could do for our community.

Ezerski stated Frank Walker is trying to convert one of the racquetball courts at the YMCA into a pickleball court.

Rogalski stated we are retaining a high-powered consultant to do our masterplan who could help us with that part of the masterplan.

Ezerski stated I can get you the dimensions of what we need.

Burk stated that would be cool. Get some ideas and then we could get some cost together.

McConnell stated it looks like you play it on a tennis court with wooden paddle.

Sweeney asked are the lines different.

Ezerski stated it is smaller. It might be two thirds of a tennis court.

Burk asked do you have anything else.

Rogalski stated no, that is it.

2. Unfinished Business

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 stated if you remember we brought this up at the last meeting. This is something that I felt like LETA wanted to be involved in. As you know at the last meeting we had a gentleman here with concerns. After looking at what other cities are doing, we are crazy not to emulate what some of them are doing. It will make our money double. If we split the expense with the home or business owner our money will double.

Rogalski stated the responsible person for maintenance/repairs, and it is in our code even though we don't enforce it, is the adjacent property owner. That is just how it is. If you fall on the sidewalk you could basically sue both the property owner and the city and probably win. Generally speaking, it is the responsibility of the property owner. This creates an incentive for the property owner. It is like a grant program to do repair/replace the sidewalk. If we notice or the property owner notices the sidewalk needs repair/replacement they would come in and apply for the grant. One of the cities we looked at did 30% and the other two (2) were 50/50. The city will pay half and the property owner pays half. The property owner is responsible for all the contracting and work.

Burk stated it would have to pass city inspection and they would have to get a permit.

Rogalski stated yes.

Burk stated either Norman or Edmond was a 50/50 split.

Brown stated it was Oklahoma City that was the 50/50 split.

Burk stated I thought it was one of the smaller ones. They have 50/50 cost sharing that helps with settling and buckling. A lot of our sidewalks on our major thoroughfares we need to fix, and the city will do that. If they have one (1) inch horizontal cracks or separations greater than one (1) and a half (1/2) inch or a previously existing or missing material, they do a cost share. Some of our sidewalks have gone down to the gravel. Those are the things that would work. There is a \$175 application fee and 50% of the repair/replacement cost. In Edmond they give you a notice and you have three (3) days to repair/replace. They are not playing around. Stillwater, Yukon and Moore all have the what we have. Now that we have sidewalk money this would double the repairs. It just makes good sense that we say to the adjacent owner if you apply, qualify and pay the application fee we will come take a look. As long as funds are available you can apply for the grant. If it cost the homeowner \$1,000, we would pay \$500. They will pay the expenses up front and then we would reimburse them once they bring us the receipts. It will have to pass city inspection. That just doubles our money. What we need to do today is decide what we want to go with. If we use the Oklahoma City's all we have to do it put in our name.

Brown stated yes.

Burk stated they have an application page that you fill out.

Rogalski stated the detail that we really want is the amount. What level of share.

Burk stated I think 50/50 would be perfect. We could take that to Council for their approval and get the process going.

Rogalski stated source of funding.

Burk stated source of funding is going to be CIP.

Rogalski stated we will have to change the resolution.

Burk stated okay. CIP would be the funding source and we need to cap it at a certain amount.

Rogalski stated yes.

Burk stated we need to cap it at a \$1,000,000 for now. I don't know we may have \$500,000 in applications instantly. I don't know but I think we need to set aside \$1,000,000.

Ezerski stated some was set aside for the city sidewalks. (Can't hear).

Burk stated one of the things that helps us is the medical marijuana money is there to do sidewalks along main thoroughfares and connector streets. I was willing to work with them on major repairs on major thoroughfares because going down Flower Mound there is huge amount of grass growing in some huge cracks. Those need to be fixed before somebody trips and breaks something. Then they will break us. We need to get those fixed. Those are things we should have already looked at.

Ezerski stated they have fixed some of them.

Burk stated yes, but as soon as we fix one (1) there are ten (10) more. It is never ending. There was one (1) that buckled up. I believe it is now fixed.

Rogalski stated yes, we have it fixed.

Burk stated the city should not have to eat all of that. We have a contractor under contract who charges us per foot to fix the sidewalks.

Ezerski stated the sidewalk on Flower Mound is not somebody's yard. On that sidewalk do you make the homeowner responsible.

Burk stated my answer is no on major thoroughfares.

Rogalski stated we have to address that in code. On east 45th Street those houses back up to the main road. There is sidewalk along 45th Street and technically it is in their backyard. That seems unreasonable to say a homeowner must fix that sidewalk. We will have to address that part of the code. We will have to look at arterials in residential and commercial areas. Most of the sidewalks on our older arterials was built by the property owners and it is a part of our code. You build it you maintain it. There shouldn't be any doubt about that. On 38th Street we built the sidewalk and it makes sense the city should maintain it.

Burk stated yes. They are too big. Could you image having to fix that as a homeowner.

Rogalski stated that sidewalk is an eight (8) footer.

Burk stated that would be expensive.

Rogalski stated that is something we will have to tackle as we tear down the code. The general idea of code is it is not the city's responsibility. It is the property owner's responsibility.

Burk stated I would like to get a motion to move forward with a 50/50 split and to use the Oklahoma City model and to send this back to Council.

Motion by Ezerski, Second by Symuleski, to approve making a recommendation to Council to use Oklahoma City as a model regarding maintenance of sidewalks in commercial and residential areas within the City of Lawton to include a 50/50 cost share with the property owner

and the City of Lawton and that the funding source be CIP monies with a cap on the amount placed in the funding account. **Aye:** Smith; Sweeney; Symuleski; Burk; Ezerski; Hankins; McConnell. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

3. New Business

A. Approve the minutes of July 8, 2020.

Motion by Sweeney, **Second** by McConnell, to approve the minutes of July 8, 2020. **Aye:** Sweeney; Symuleski; Burk; Hankins; McConnell; Smith. **Abstained:** Ezerski. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

B. Discuss the proposal for an Arts for All Mural to be located on the east side of the underpass at NW Cache Road and NW Fort Sill Boulevard and take action as necessary.

Rogalski asked do you have the picture.

Brown stated yes.

Rogalski stated I haven't seen it yet.

Burk stated oh wow.

Hankins stated (can't hear)

Brown stated I don't know why the fence came down.

Rogalski stated I know why the fence came down.

Burk stated do we want to pass this around. She called me about this today.

Brown stated she sent this yesterday via email. Shayla Redelk donated a mural at the Arts For All gala that is to be located underneath the overpass at Fort Sill Boulevard and Cache Road on the eastside. It is the one that goes down on the eastside. It would be donated to the city.

Burk stated that is awesome.

Rogalski stated this underpass gives us a couple of different templates and spots we could use. This is the first one and maybe next year we can get another one done.

Burk stated it is beautiful.

Brown stated it really is gorgeous.

Burk stated do we have a motion to approve that. This would be a no brainer.

C. **Motion by Sweeney, Second by McConnell**, to approve the proposal for an Arts for All Mural to be located on the east side of the underpass at NW Cache Road and NW Fort Sill Boulevard. **Aye:** Symuleski; Burk; Ezerski; Hankins; McConnell; Smith; Sweeney. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

Rogalski stated if you remember on the last mural we talked about there was an MOU with LETA that if it ever goes into disrepair LETA would paint over it or make the repairs. That is why this came to you. Not only is it a piece of art but there is some responsible to ensure it is take care of.

Burk stated do you remember we had to painted something over the one on Cache Road after they painted graffiti on it. I did a mural on the side of my building and Terry and Gary were telling me the new paint they use has this stuff in it. He said all you do is use water and Windex and wipe it off.

Symuleski stated a couple of people have made comments to me about the one on Cache Road.

Burk stated it is just cool. We need to revisit the crosswalks in our city. You go to Oklahoma City, Dallas or anywhere and they have crosswalks that are painted. It is a stunning way to say you care about your community and it looks better than a stupid crosswalk.

Sweeney stated I liked it.

Burk stated we need to find people to do it. There are so many in Oklahoma City. I was there over the weekend and I'm telling you I couldn't go anywhere in Bricktown and not see painted crosswalks. They weren't specific they just did different ones.

Sweeney asked was there a legal reason we didn't follow up with the lady that brought it before us. We were all interested.

Rogalski stated at one point we fought through the legal reason and it was approved for some Cameron students, but it never happened. You will never get a traffic engineer to say this is okay.

Burk stated I honestly don't care what they say. We need to do things like this to show beautification within our city. To show the art culture. There are certain ways we can do it. LETA probably needs to do the first intersection somewhere. We could do it downtown. We could hire whoever to do it for us. When we get one done and it looks amazing then others will do it. They will follow the lead.

Sweeney stated there were some very creative ones. I remember the piano keys, but I don't remember all of them.

Burk stated if we did one over by the art gallery you could do something artistic. We could do something cool over by the museum. It is just stunning. They are doing them everywhere. We

are behind and are missing out on this. This is something that would get us where we need to be. Can we put this on the next agenda? We are going to bring it back and get it done.

McConnell stated (can't hear) I mean you could get several of them done.

Burk stated we could get a whole country block done before you say go. They do such a good job and are very reasonable. They love to show off their art just like Shayla. She just wants to give back to her community. I think it is amazing. So, we will take the responsibility for this. Hopefully we will never have to paint over it. With the new colors they use it should last fifteen (15) to twenty (20) years. That is the quality of the paint now that they use for murals.

D. Accept a \$5,000.00 grant from Arvest Bank to be applied to the pavilion project and take action if necessary.

Burk asked is this something we can do.

Rogalski stated yes. It comes to LETA for you to accept and once you accept it the grant will go to the pavilion.

Motion by Ezerski, Second by Sweeney, to accept a \$5,000 grant from Arvest Bank to be applied to the pavilion projects. **Aye;** Burk; Ezerski; Hankins; McConnell; Smith; Sweeney; Symuleski. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

E. Approve the Limited Services Agreement between the City of Lawton and the Lawton Enhancement Trust Authority.

Rogalski stated this is your annual agreement for your funding. It is much different this year. You have already approved your budget and it is the last page of the agreement. This is a \$500,000 budget. You have hotel/motel tax and that amount has increased to 7% from 5%. This funding remains in you budget. It is not a use or lose. Once it goes to LETA it will roll over to the next year. The LETA Beautification fund is the court fees. You receive two thirds of the landfill gate fees. Now those fees are \$3.00 so LETA gets \$2.00 of the \$3.00. The amount budgeted for hotel/motel is \$42,000, Beautification Fund is \$70,000 and the landfill gate fee is \$76,000.

Burk stated we have done really well coming up with other funding sources. We have done amazing.

Sweeney stated you get credit for that Jay.

Burk stated no you guys do. We started out with just \$5,000. That was our yearly budget.

Brown stated wow.

Rogalski stated keep in mind hotel/motel tax is only \$42,000 because of the terrible year.

Burk stated otherwise we would have \$600,000.

Brown stated yes.

Rogalski stated you are the pass through for Holiday In the Park. Rather than having another agreement we felt it was prudent to have LETA oversee this account. They will tell LETA what they are doing and LETA will disburse the funds.

Burk stated if they wanted to buy an inappropriate statue, they would have to bring it to the Authority. They are just a committee so they would have to come to an Authority where we could oversee their funds and make sure they are buying lights as we planned.

Rogalski stated you have medical marijuana in the amount of \$285,000. The rest of the agreement is the same. It allows you to use city staff and the legal department. I think we added two (2) additional pages for funding sources.

Burk stated I think it is amazing that every time a funding source comes available not only do I jump on it, but Council jumps on it. I think each one of them are saying the same thing. Give that money to LETA and let's do something fun. Let's do something that we all can see as citizens. Let's do something good with the money. Let's not just put it in a city fund that just goes away. Not that it goes away it just isn't being used.

Hankins stated it moves quicker in LETA than it does in city fund.

Burk stated yes. You know the wheel of government. It is the slowest thing in the world. Do we have a motion to approve the agreement?

Motion by Smith, **second** by Sweeney, to approve the Limited Services Agreement between the City of Lawton and the Lawton Enhancement Trust Authority. **Aye:** Burk; Ezerski; Hankins; McConnell; Smith; Sweeney; Symuleski. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

F. Choose Yard of the Month for April, May, June, July and August.

Burk stated are we going to approve all of these so we have enough.

Brown stated I assume so.

Burk stated we have 7633 NW Andrews. Oh, wow that is beautiful. Who took these pictures?

Sweeney asked is that mine.

Brown stated yes.

Burk asked did you take these pictures.

Sweeney stated I did. I had four (4) or five (5) houses I was looking at and I thought this house is (can't hear) the yard. The woman was in the yard and I stopped to explain why I was taking pictures. She and her husband work on the yard. It is not on a fancy street or neighborhood. It stands out like a little jewel.

Burk stated awesome.

Sweeney stated I told them if they win, we will take a picture and put it in the paper. She said they didn't get the paper. Going back to social media I think we (can't hear).

Burk stated absolutely. Only twelve (12) people take the paper and only eight (8) of those read it. Next is 2133 NW Lindy in Ward 1.

Hankins stated that is in my Ward and it is right across from the impact zone by Jackson school. We are trying to encourage that area.

Burk stated we have 2202 NW Ozmun in Ward 1 as well.

Hankins stated that is in a really bad area. I went to the door and a lady answered. I tried at the other house, but nobody answered. This was a little German lady and there was a bicycle out front with a basket filled with flowers.

Rogalski stated that gets ten (10) points right there.

Hankins stated (can't hear) in his bathtub. The lady stated that she took her daughter riding on the bicycle in Germany and that was why was it out front.

Rogalski stated that is cool.

Hankins stated (can't hear) and the houses down from that.

Ezerski stated (can't year)

Burk stated I have a quick question. We have a situation here. All we have is submissions for three (3) Wards. We need pictures for Ward 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7. Wards 2, 4, and 5 do not have representation at this time. I think it is important to have representation from each Ward. Then a sign would go all across town. We need Wards 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7. If anyone know of someone in Ward 4 please let me know. I cannot tell you how many people I have asked.

Sweeney asked okay, what area is that Jay.

Burk stated eastside.

Sweeney stated Mary Ann and I suggested Joann Boyer.

Burk stated I talked to her and she didn't act interested. She didn't say no she just didn't act interested.

Sweeney asked what about Diana Mullins.

Burk stated she is still in my Ward.

Ezerski asked do you need somebody to go drive through these Wards.

Burk stated if somebody would just take some pictures. It doesn't have to come back to the group. I would say just pick a good house that looks really nice.

Smith stated I'll send you a picture for Ward 7.

Burk stated okay, then we need Ward 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7. I can get Tiffany to go to some of these Wards to try and find something. We need to find something.

McConnell stated I'll do 2 and 5.

Ezerski stated my wife would love to do that.

Brown stated 5 is downtown.

Symuleski asked is that Allen's area.

Brown stated yes.

Burk stated if it is okay with everyone Barry's wife would love to do this. We can give her the Wards and area so she can find a house for us. I'm cool with that.

Sweeney stated me too. Are you sure you aren't volunteering her for something she is not going to want to do?

Ezerski stated she (can't hear). She goes out and puts up door knockers for me.

Burk stated if she will do that, we will give her the areas, so she knows the exact locations. Can you get him a Ward map?

Brown stated I'll get him a Ward map.

Rogalski stated we could also have Neighborhood Services look as well.

Brown stated yes, we could.

Burk stated if we could find some good houses then we have one (1) per Ward. I'll get the signs ordered. I'll get a design and email it to you. If you have issues let me know and we will

make the changes. We will get the gift cards bought from the different businesses. We have \$1,000 sitting in our budget for that. We will spend that money for the \$100 gift cards. We know we will use \$800 right away.

Brown stated we already have the gift cards from Bedrock.

Burk stated from last year.

Brown stated yes.

Burk stated we have \$1000 in this year's budget.

Brown stated right and we haven't used any of it.

Burk stated we can use it for signage. That will work. So, 7633 NW Andrews is Ward 6. Ward 8 has two (2) different houses. One is new and the other is not. They are both nice. Which one (1) do you want. This is on 58th Street and this is on Nottingham Road.

McConnell stated personally I like Nottingham Road.

Burk stated that is your Ward.

Sweeney stated let's go with that one.

Burk stated Ward 1 has Lindy Avenue and Ozmun.

Sweeney asked Mary Ann, which one do you prefer.

Hankins stated (can't hear).

Burk asked the one with the hood. This one.

Hankins stated (can't hear).

Burk stated the bicycle one. Those are the three (3) Wards. Somebody make the motion.

Motion by **Smith**, **Second** by **Sweeney**, to approve Nottingham Road from Ward 8 for Yard of the Month, Lindy Avenue for Ward 1 and 7633 NW Andrews for Ward 6. **Aye:** Ezerski; Hankins; McConnell; Smith; Sweeney; Symuleski; Burk. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

4. Announcements

5. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

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