

MINUTES
LAWTON ENHANCEMENT TRUST AUTHORITY
3rd FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM CITY HALL
212 SW 9th STREET
SEPTEMBER 10, 2014

Jay Burk, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in the 3rd Floor Conference Room. Notice of meeting and agenda were posted on the City Hall notice board as required by law.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Jay Burk; Bob Dismuke; Barry Ezerski (entered late); Jane Godlove; Mary Ann Hankins (entered late); Anika Safi (entered late); Addie Smith; Kerry Sweeney.

ABSENT: Jean Harbison; Maria Shahan; Kerry Sweeney.

OTHER PRESENT: Denise Ezell, City Clerk's Office; Kristin Duggins, Financial Services; Richard Rogalski, Planning Department; Anthony Griffith, Neighborhood Services; Kim Shahan & Keith Neitzke, Parks & Recreation Department.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Reports

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

Totte stated I've brought back the estimates after adjusting what the services the City will be providing. My estimate is for materials and installment. The City will be responsible for removal and watering. I have also brought estimates for color for the 50 pots on 2nd Street and the 59 tree rings on Lee Blvd. Those need to be planted by the first of October.

Burk stated the McMahon Ball Park estimate is \$10,185.

Dismuke stated the estimate calls for a bald cypress. Do we want to replace with another one since they take a lot of water?

Totte stated it doesn't necessarily have to have a lot of water but can handle a lot of water.

Neitzke stated where that is planted it holds water.

Burk asked when do you intend to plant.

Totte stated the end of October or the first of November.

Godlove stated watering concerns me.

Totte stated for any plantings you do in the fall twice a weeks is the recommended watering. During the summer you should water 3 times a week and twice in the fall. If we go to a Stage 4 we will be in trouble.

Burk stated I would suggest we wait until the next meeting so we have a better idea about the water situation. I would like the City to go ahead and remove the dead plantings.

Shahan asked is there a possibility that some of it may re-establish itself.

Totte stated it would be better to remove it now before it goes dormant or we will have to wait until spring.

Burk asked would you go by and mark all the ones that need to be removed.

Totte stated sure.

Burk stated next is an estimate for 36th & Gore.

Totte stated the City has received complaints about the sight triangle in this median.

Dismuke asked how many complaint have we received.

Shahan stated 3 but I get a call on this median every year. It may be the same person I don't know.

Morford stated I go that way and it is tuff.

Rogalski stated the site triangle starts at 2 ½ feet above ground.

Totte stated I have proposed gutting the one corner and replanting with Indian Hawthorne, barberries and things that are 2 feet or less.

Burk stated the estimate is \$1300.

Rogalski stated before redoing the median you need to get a determination from the Traffic Engineer. I'll contact Sagar and we will let him make the determination.

Burk stated would you ask him if it would be possible to make that a no left turn lane. Next is an estimate for annual color for the pots on 2nd Street. I would like to say those pots look better than they have every looked.

Rogalski stated I always thought the pots were a bad idea until now and I have to agree they look great.

Burk stated the estimate for the 75 pots is \$2,650.

Motion by Dismuke, Second by Safi, to authorize Bedrock to place color in the seventy-five (75) pots on 2nd Street at a cost of \$2,650.00. **Aye:** Dismuke; Godlove; Safi; Smith; Burk. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

Burk stated next are the 59 tree rings on Lee Blvd for \$2,828.00.

Motion by Safi, Second by Dismuke, to authorize Bedrock to place color in the fifty-nine (59) tree ring located on Lee Blvd. at a cost of \$2,828.00. **Aye:** Ezerski; Godlove; Safi; Smith; Burk; Dismuke. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

Burk stated I would like for everyone to know that Dr. Morford will be taking Dr. Bellino's place as the Council Representative. We are glad to have you aboard. The next estimate is for the replacements on 11th Street.

Totte stated that estimate will replace about half of what was originally planted.

Burk stated this estimate is for \$34,200.

Morford asked do we have water there.

Burk stated yes. If you remember we did both sides of the street so there are a lot of plantings.

Totte stated I called in a leak that had to be dug up and I did explain there were sprinklers there. I think the system is okay but I need to check.

Burk stated I would like to hold off until the next meeting on this estimate.

Ezerski asked is November the best time to plant trees.

Totte stated anytime from October to April or May. Fall is the best time so we like to do our planting in October or November.

Burk asked okay you have approval to plant the pots on 2nd Street and the tree rings on Lee Blvd.

Totte stated LETA was paying for the maintenance on 2nd Street from Gore to C Avenue until the end of June. Who do I need to bill now.

Ezell stated Parks and Requisition.

Burk stated thanks for all your hard work.

Totte stated thanks.

B. Receive Treasurer Report and take action if necessary.

Burk stated the balance as of August 31st for Fire Pac \$15.35, Fishing for Food \$1,402.45, LETA \$96,178.18, LETA YA \$9,854.04, Playground In The Park \$19,903.13 and Skate Park \$1,166.83, with a total checking account of \$128,519.98.

Safi stated this year the Skate Park gave \$1,440 and last year we raised \$1,000.

Duggins stated that deposit will show next month.

Burk stated our expenses were Max Sasseen for the billboard, Monkey Business for signs printed for the banquet and Website hosting.

Safi asked was Councilman Tanner's check deposited.

Duggins stated that is the \$166.

Burk stated total income was \$8,208.33, expenses were \$1,123.95 for a net income of \$7,095.06.

Motion by Ezerski, Second by Godlove, to accept the treasurer report. **Aye:** Godlove; Safi; Smith; Burk; Dismuke; Ezerski. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

C. Receive report from Kim Shahan, Parks and Recreation Director, and take action if necessary

Neitzke stated I understand there have been some complaints about the mowing.

Burk stated I've had complaints about both the City and the private contractor. I don't like it when they throw the grass in the street. They are not weedeating and at times the weeds are higher around the edges than where they mowed. When they do weedeat they don't get the area where it grows over the curb into the street. I don't understand. They are not picking up the trash so I don't know if we need to change their contracts or what. There was a mattress on Rogers Lane that has been there for a month or two. They just mow around it and they mow around hanging tree limbs. Why isn't Parks and Recreation being asked to come cut the limbs so they can mow and weedeat properly. This is happening all over the City.

Neitzke stated we talked with them about this.

Burk asked how can we ask the citizens to take care of their property if we are not willing to take care of our own. I also don't like it when the contractors are only mowing 3 foot off the road. East Rogers Lane is horrible and it is the same way at every bridge. The bridge on East Gore and Cache Creek the grass is 10 foot tall and is growing into the street. Do we have a machine that will go over the metal bar and mow?

Neitzke stated my department does not but Drainage Maintenance does. Drainage Maintenance and Parks and Recreation have different assignments. I spoke with the contractors

that does Rogers Lane and there are a lot of areas they cannot get their equipment to. Certain drainage areas require special equipment. Where you are talking about on Gore is a matter of interpretation in regards to the contract. Some of the contracts include line trimming and others do not. I'll go back and look at the contracts.

Burk stated I don't want to sign another contract that doesn't include picking up trash and debris.

Neitzke stated that is included in all contracts.

Burk stated the north side of Rogers Lane is mowed all the way to the wall while the south side is 20 foot tall.

Neitzke stated that is an easement issue. The residents own to a certain point and historically the contractor hasn't mowed that area.

Ezerski stated when the crews in Duncan mow their medians they have someone in the street to clean the grass out of the street.

Neitzke stated I'll review our contracts. Most of our contracts are with Teen Challenge and they have had a change in management.

Burk stated I would like for each member to look around your Ward and send me address so that I can forward those to the right person. Look especially at the bridges and highways.

Neitzke stated I assure you we will get this address.

Dismuke asked why does the City allow agricultural land to grow and not be maintained.

Rogalski stated code states they are responsible for maintaining 10 feet back from an intersection.

Ezerski asked what about 40th behind Home Depot. Those are commercial lots.

Rogalski stated those lots should be mowed.

Burk asked who do we contact.

Rogalski stated I'll talk to Griffith about that property.

Rogalski asked in terms of maintenance do you believe there needs to be 2 separate departments.

Neitzke stated there needs to be a mowing department. It is just too hard to keep on top of it all. We have 1 contract that has 54 medians within 9 subdivisions and either I or a

supervisor has to go out and verify what has been done. There have been times they have missed something. Uniformity in performance is what we really require.

Burk asked can we sit and talk about this. We need to give the contractors something that shows what is expected of them. I believe a mowing division is what we need.

Morford stated Griffith needs to be involved also.

Rogalski asked do we spray at all or do we just mow and cut.

Neitzke stated mow and cut. Drainage Maintenance does limited spraying.

Burk stated anyone finding issues in your Ward email the address to Ezell and she will get it to the appropriate division. Let's get started helping where we can.

D. Receive report from Public Relations Committee and take action if necessary.

Burk stated the billboard looks really good.

Morford stated Yard of the Month is a great idea. I believe this will help the whole community.

E. Receive Monthly Ward Update and take action if necessary

Nothing discussed.

F. Receive report from Website Committee and take action if necessary

Burk stated nothing has changed since last month. Can you email everything to me and let's talk about this after the meeting.

G. Receive report on Eye Candy Awards Banquet and take action if necessary.

Godlove stated the committee has met and set a date of February 20, 2014. The event will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn and there will be a new format this year. We will give you more details at the next meeting.

2. New Business

A. Consider Approving minutes of August 13, 2014.

Motion by Ezerski, Second by Godlove, to approve the minutes of August 13, 2014 as written. **Aye:** Hankins; Safi; Smith; Burk; Dismuke; Ezerski; Godlove. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

B. Consider Approving Invoices, Requisitions, And All Other Submitted Materials For Payment.

Burk stated we have an invoice to Great Plains Technology Center for our annual membership to the EDC in the amount of \$100, another to the Hilton Garden Inn for our deposit for the banquet in the amount of \$500, and one for Bedrock Nursery for the sprinkler repair that we approved last month in the amount of \$2,888.

Motion by Ezerski, **Second** by Dismuke, to approve Invoices, Requisitions, And All Other Submitted Materials For Payment. **Aye:** Safi; Smith; Burk; Dismuke; Ezerski; Godlove; Hankins. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

C. Discuss 12 month contract with Max Sasseen for electronic message center advertisement and take action if necessary.

Ezell stated you are on a 9 month contract and you need to decide if you wish to go to a 12 month contract.

Ezerski stated I thought we had it for twelve (12) months.

Ezell stated it was never approved.

Motion by Ezerski, **Second** by Safi, to approve a 12 month contract with Max Sasseen for the electronic message center sign. **Aye:** Safi; Smith; Burk; Dismuke; Ezerski; Godlove; Hankins. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

3. Old Business

A. Maintenance and Repairs and take action if necessary.

Nothing

B. Consider grant proposal request from LETA YA for project at MacArthur High School and take action if necessary.

Burk stated Ms Oates will be going before the School Board for approval of her project. LETA YA has met and approved a dollar amount.

Dismuke stated last October LETA YA was suppose to get with the PTA at Eisenhower and I haven't heard anything since then. Where are they on that project?

Burk stated the holdup was a watering system.

Dismuke stated I believe that has been repaired. I'll check and see.

Burk stated I have asked the 3 principals from each high school to be the LETA YA sponsors.

Smith asked if LETA YA disbands where does their funding go.

Burk stated it would come back to LETA. This project is on hold at this time.

C. Consider grant proposal request from YMCA for project at YMCA and take action if necessary.

Burk stated I've not heard anything more from them.

Ezerski stated they are working on their plan.

Burk stated we need to check with legal to see if we can donate to the YMCA. It is my understanding LETA money can only be used on public land. I'm afraid they don't qualify.

Rogalski stated their front corner is actually a piece of Shepler Park and along the side of the building is City right-of-way.

Burk stated I'll speak with the City Attorney.

4. Announcements

Burk stated Bill Davis the chair of Holiday In The Park is with us today.

Davis stated I am the chair of the committee. This year we will be changing the parade route. We will start at Central Mall and go down 2nd Street to Ferris then west on Ferris to 3rd Street and north into the park. We will end at McMahon Auditorium. I want to get the merchants on 2nd Street involved in lighting up that street. We are looking at 100 entries this year and we will be adding 20 new displays. There will be a children's oasis to walk through and also have their picture taken with Santa Claus. At this time we are working to build funds. We would like to light up all the trees in the park so those driving on I-44 will see the glow.

Burk stated thank you we appreciate all that you do.

Burk stated we also have Kyle Rogers with Fit Kids with us today concerning the park at 2nd & C.

Rogers stated we had a community meeting so everyone could tell us what they would like to see at 2nd & C. I have handed out a synopsis of the meeting. There were 26 who attended and based on their comments we developed a survey we could send out to allow others to provide input. From the information received they would like to see this be a hub where you could get information/maps and also to be aesthetically pleasing. They wanted a kiosk with maps/information, trees and a water feature. Instead of restroom they suggested maps of where the nearest public facilities were located. They want something to showcase showing pride in

the community. They even talked about stamping the concrete. There were some very good comments and this gave people the opportunity to provide input. All the information has been turned over to Rogalski and now LETA.

Rogalski stated next is where do we go from here. We have enough input to do a schematic design but this park has no funding. Is this something LETA would consider taking on? If so we will put it on the agenda next month to take the next stop in getting someone to draw the design.

Burk stated this is a perfect project for LETA.

Ezerski asked how big is the lot.

Rogalski stated 100 x 150. The idea is to have a soft focal point downtown.

Burk stated I found a bronze bike statute that is 30 feet tall and 25 feet long that I would love to see there with a water feature. The cost was \$60,000 but it was stunning. We need to come up with a plan, then a funding source and then send the design out for bids.

Dismuke asked are there any grants we could apply for.

Rogers stated yes the Healthy Community Incentive grant. Two years ago we received \$15,000 from this grant and Shahan used it for the ballard lighting in Elmer Thomas Park. This is an additional \$160,000 if we meet the gold level. To meet gold the City has to become tobacco free and that includes the vapors. We have talked about this for years.

Rogalski stated if the City goes smoke free you have a bicycle but if you go tobacco free you have a park.

Burk stated I want an agenda item for the next council meeting for the City of Lawton to go tobacco free.

Rogers stated we have until December 31st to apply for 2014 and then we can reapply in 2015.

Rogalski stated legal will have to write the ordinance.

Burk stated I'll talk with Long and I'll make this happen.

Morford stated I'll talk with Wells.

Rogers stated Fit Kids has a little bit of funding that they can help supplement the cost of the design.

(Assistant City Manager entered the room)

Morford stated we want the City to become a tobacco free city.

Burk stated we would like to have an agenda item on the next meeting.

Russell asked have you spoke with Jensen.

Burk stated no.

Russell stated legal has been the holdup for the last 2 years. They don't want to do anything that will go anywhere close to being against state law.

Rogalski stated the state requirements have gone forward since then. There are several Oklahoma communities that have become tobacco free.

Russell stated there are other communities that have done so but I have never been able to convince Jensen or Wilson to go beyond what we are doing now. I have wanted to do this for the past 2 years. Not only does this help the community but it will help our health insurance. I want to tag a smokers surcharge to the insurance and I can't do that if we allow smoking.

Morford asked what about the vapors.

Russell stated they are considered a tobacco product so it would be included.

Burk stated please get this moving. Does anybody else have anything?

Rogalski stated with the Stage 3 water restriction you do not have to do your landscaping until the stage is lifted. So if you see developments going in without landscaping this is the reason why. Once the stage is lifted they will be required to do the landscaping.

Burk stated we need to go back and tweak this ordinance. We are to light in some areas. This ordinance has changed the appearance of our city.

Morford stated landscaping makes you an individual.

Burk stated we have to make certain we are diligent in enforcing this code even after they have landscaped.

Rogalski stated we are working on a violation letter.

Burk stated the City needs to replace their dead planting such as the trees on 2nd Street.

Rogalski stated this will be a long term project but I would like for you to think about this. Councilman Jackson has an agenda item to direct staff to clean up Ft. Sill Boulevard between Cache Road and Rogers Lane. There will probably be a 2017 BRAC and our lobbyist stated what matters for the community is what happens on the outside of the fence. He is referring to education, public safety and that sort of thing but if you look right outside the fence

it is barren and nothing but old buildings. We will be looking at tearing down the buildings if they are dilapidated as well as putting an overlay zone similar to downtown. This is the only way to improve the area.

Burk stated if we don't do anything else we need to force the issue on those buildings that are boarded up to either fix them or tear them down. We also need to do this on Sheridan Road.

Rogalski stated there is a U shape that needs to be addressed.

Morford stated I thought there was an ordinance if it was boarded for over nine (9) months it becomes dilapidated.

Griffith stated fifteen (15) months.

Morford stated the buildings they are talking about could all be on the dilapidated list.

Burk stated that would be an instance change.

Rogalski stated and that is something people would notice. From Bessie all the way north to Rogers Lanes is asphalt. The city needs to reclaim their right-of-way and start putting in planters. This is something I'm throwing out there for you to think about.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Motion by Godlove, Second by Safi, to adjourn. **Nay:** Smith; Burk; Godlove; Hankins.
Nay: None. **Motion Passed.**