

**MINUTES
LAWTON URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY**

Minutes of the Lawton Urban Renewal Authority meeting held May 18, 2021 in the 2nd floor conference room of City Hall, 212 SW 9th Street, Lawton, Oklahoma.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chairman Ernest Sheppard.

Notice of the meeting and agenda were posted on the City Hall bulletin board as required by State law.

1. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ernest Sheppard
Jacob Brox
Jesse Cross
Joe Abshire

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Purcell, Jr.

OTHERS PRESENT: Richard Rogalski, Deputy City Manager*
Greg Gibson, Assistant City Attorney
Susan Schlecht, Financial Services
Tammy Anderson, Recording Secretary

*attending meeting via phone

CONSIDER A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXPENDITURES AND ACCEPTING THE FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT OF THE LAWTON URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2021.

The balance in the bank as of January 1, 2021 was \$27,517.49. After deposits of interest, and disbursements, the bank balance as of January 31, 2021 was \$23,714.84.

Schlecht said the only expense in the month of January was for professional fees associated with the audited financial reports in the amount of \$3,800.

Sheppard noted that this expense is not listed on the profit and loss sheet for the month of January.

Schlecht said this is because the invoice was received before January, but the check was cut in January.

CONSIDER A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXPENDITURES AND ACCEPTING THE FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT OF THE LAWTON URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2021.

The balance in the bank as of February 1, 2021 was \$23,714.84. After deposits of interest, and disbursements, the bank balance as of February 28, 2021 was \$23,183.84.

CONSIDER A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXPENDITURES AND ACCEPTING THE FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT OF THE LAWTON URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2021.

The balance in the bank as of March 1, 2021 was \$23,183.84. After deposits of interest, and disbursements, the bank balance as of March 31, 2021 was \$23,181.66.

CONSIDER A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXPENDITURES AND ACCEPTING THE FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT OF THE LAWTON URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2021.

The balance in the bank as of April 1, 2021 was \$23,181.66. After deposits of interest, and disbursements, the bank balance as of April 30, 2021 was \$23,179.56.

Schlecht said the last mowing invoice she received was in December. She asked if Lawn Wizards has submitted any invoices after December.

Anderson said she recently sent a Lawn Wizards invoice to Finance. She said she will resend the invoice.

MOTION by Cross, SECOND by Brox, to adopt Resolutions 21-02, 21-03, 21-04, and 21-05 approving the expenditures and accepting the financial status report for the months of January, February, March, and April 2021.

VOTE ON MOTION: AYES: Sheppard, Brox, Cross, Abshire. NAYS: None. MOTION CARRIED 4 - 0.

CONSIDER RATIFYING ACTIONS OF THE CHAIRMAN BY AUTHORIZING THE ANNUAL POLICY PREMIUM PAYMENT FOR THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BOND POLICY WITH SMITH & SONS INSURANCE AGENCY.

The Public Employee Bond Policy had an annual policy premium due on February 1, 2021. Smith & Sons Insurance Agency, Inc. submitted an invoice for the annual policy premium of \$529.00. LURA paid this invoice on February 26, 2021 with Check No. 1981 in the amount of \$529.00.

MOTION by Brox, SECOND by Cross, to ratify the actions of the Chairman by authorizing the annual policy premium payment for the Public Employee Bond Policy.

VOTE ON MOTION: AYES: Sheppard, Brox, Cross, Abshire. NAYS: None. MOTION CARRIED 4 - 0.

CONSIDER AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR MOWING AND DEBRIS REMOVAL FOR PROPERTIES OWNED BY LURA WITHIN THE LAWTON VIEW ADDITION AND THE ORIGINAL TOWNSITE LOCATED IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA.

The existing contract for mowing LURA owned properties expires May 18, 2021. On May 11th at 1:00 PM, bids were opened in the 2nd floor conference room of City Hall and will be presented to LURA on May 18th at 1:00 PM at the regularly scheduled meeting.

For convenience, the RFP also included mowing and debris removal for properties owned by LEDA. The successful bidder will enter into an agreement(s) with LURA and LEDA for the term of this contract.

Cross said he thought LURA sold several of the Lawton View lots that are listed on the contract.

Rogalski said the lots that were approved to be sold to Joey Jones were never actually sold. Staff has never received a check for these properties.

Cross said he received a call regarding the old Dunbar school. Cross said he redirected this call to Rogalski.

Rogalski said staff is working on a residential property incentive program. He said with this program incentives could be placed on developing LURA lots in the Lawton View area. Rogalski said this program would create residential TIF Districts.

Rogalski said he spoke to a manufacturer of mobile homes who is interested in developing modular homes in the area.

Cross said he thought City Code would not allow for this.

Rogalski said staff would have to make Code changes for this sort of development to occur.

Chairman Sheppard asked Rogalski if he's aware of the status of the Lawton Housing Authority's development.

Rogalski said he hasn't followed up on this lately, but once building costs go down he suspects this project will pickup again.

Brox asked how many bids were turned in.

Anderson said there were two bids.

MOTION by Brox, SECOND by Abshire, to award a contract for mowing and debris removal on properties owned by LURA within the Lawton View Addition and Original Townsite to Lawn Wizards and authorize the Chairman and Secretary to execute the contract.

VOTE ON MOTION: AYES: Sheppard, Brox, Cross, Abshire. NAYS: None. MOTION CARRIED 4 - 0.

REPORTS AND COMMENTS

Chairman Sheppard said he had a conversation with Fred Fitch and Mayor Booker about a month ago regarding LURA funding and how LURA will soon be out of money at the rate things are going. Chairman Sheppard said this conversation was held with the notion that multiple lots in Lawton View would be sold to Joey Jones, thus relieving a large portion of mowing costs. Chairman Sheppard said another meeting needs to be held regarding LURA's financial future.

Rogalski said the Mayor has mentioned converting the TIF 2 note to a municipal bond, which provides a much better rate. Rogalski said if this is done, it would take some of the pressure off LEDA's income. LEDA could then use the TIF 1 income to repay LURA over time to cover mowing expenses.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Abshire, SECOND by Cross, to adjourn.

VOTE ON MOTION: AYES: UNANIMOUS. NAYS: None.
MOTION CARRIED

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:22 p.m.

Ernest Sheppard, Chairman

Jacob Brox, Secretary