

MINUTES  
LAWTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
MAY 9, 2023 – 2:00 P.M.  
LAWTON CITY HALL  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS/AUDITORIUM

Stan Booker, Mayor

Also Present:

John Ratliff, Acting City Manager

Tim Wilson, Acting City Attorney

Traci Hushbeck, City Clerk

Mayor Booker called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Notice of meeting and agenda were posted on the City Hall notice board as required by law. Invocation was given by Pastor Terry Marsh, Carriage Hills Christian Church, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Colors were presented by MacArthur JROTC Highlander Battalion.

**MacArthur JROTC Highlander Battalion**

Mayor Booker presented a Mayoral Citation of Excellence to members of the MacArthur JROTC Highlander Battalion.

**ADMINISTRATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY OATHS OF OFFICE –  
MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE NATHAN JOHNSON.**

Robert Weger, Ward Six received his Oaths of Office from Judge Johnson.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:**

Mary Ann Hankins, Ward One

Kelly Harris, Ward Two (arrived @ 3:16 p.m.)

Linda Chapman, Ward Three

George Gill, Ward Four

Allan Hampton, Ward Five

Bob Weger, Ward Six

Onreka Johnson, Ward Seven

Randy Warren, Ward Eight

**ABSENT:**

None

**PROCLAMATIONS:**

**Flood Awareness Month**

Mayor Booker proclaimed the month of May 2023 as Flood Awareness Month. He presented the proclamation to Cynthia Williams, Deputy Public Works Director.

**Mental Health Awareness Month**

Mayor Booker proclaimed the month of May 2023 as Mental Health Awareness Month. He

presented the proclamation to staff from Marie Detty and the Oklahoma Department of Human Services.

**National Police Week**

Mayor Booker proclaimed May 14-20, 2023, as National Police Week. He presented the proclamation to Lawton Police Chief James Smith.

**Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month**

Mayor Booker proclaimed May 2023 as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.

**REPORTS: MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL:**

Hampton congratulated newly appointed Ward 6 council member, Bob Weger. Chapman recognized the Lawton Police Department Special Operations Unit. Hankins reminded citizens of the upcoming Arts for All festival.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:** None

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Mayor Booker stated item #24 will be considered separately.

MOVED by Warren SECOND by Hampton to approve the consent agenda with the exception of item #24. AYE: Hankins, Chapman, Gill, Hampton, Weger, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

1. Consider the following damage claim recommended for approval: Sekou Diawara in the reduced amount of \$1,000.00 and approve the resolution authorizing payment. **(Resolution 23-70)**
2. Consider the following damage claim recommended for denial: James P. Jackson in the amount of \$1,600.00.
3. Consider adopting a resolution approving the joint petition settlement and making payments in the amount of \$22,680.00 in the workers' compensation claim of Charlie Martin. **(Resolution 23-71)**
4. Consider adopting a resolution approving the joint petition settlement and making payments in the amount of \$20,000.00 in the workers' compensation claim of Joshua Burkhalter. **(Resolution 23-72)**
5. Consider approving an agreement for professional services between the City of Lawton and The Love Law Firm for Margaret McMorrow-Love to represent the City in the pending grievance arbitration of IUPA Local 24 & Jerry Vallejo vs. City of Lawton, FMCS Case No. 220909-09142 and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the Agreement.

6. Consider approving the settlement of an insurance claim against Oklahoma Municipal Assurance Group in the amount of \$10,870.00 for vehicle damage and authorize the Mayor to execute the Sworn Statement in Proof of Loss and Members Release.
7. Consider approving amendments to the two Agreements for Judicial Services for the Alternate Municipal Judges to reflect a pay increase.
8. Consider approving a resolution amending Appendix A, Schedule of Fees and Charges, Lawton City Code, 2015, as amended, pertaining to Chapter 19, Recreation, by amending Article A-19-7 Miscellaneous Provisions and pertaining to Chapter 7, Business, by amending Article A-7-23 Sound Truck/Sound Amplification Equipment Permit and Article A-7-31 Event and Assembly Permits to eliminate the fees associated with events for special needs individuals when using Miracle Field within Elmer Thomas Park. **(Resolution 23-73)**
9. Consider approving a request to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Waurika Police Department and the City of Lawton authorizing the utilization of the Lawton Police Department's Training Facility to train their new officers in the Council of Law Enforcement and Training's Basic Academy (CLEET) which has been authorized by formal board action.
10. Consider adopting a Resolution authorizing the installation and/or removal of traffic control measures at 1001 SW B Avenue, SW 63rd Street and SW Summit Avenue, SW Wolf Avenue and SW 24th Street, and NW Woodland Drive west of NW Woodland Court. **(Resolution 23-74)**
11. Consider approving a contract with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Oklahoma to provide health care coverage to eligible City of Lawton employees and eligible retiree's effective July 1, 2023, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the contracts.
12. Consider approving a contract with LegalShield to provide legal and identity protection to eligible City of Lawton employees effective July 1, 2023, and authorize the Mayor and City clerk to execute the contracts.
13. Consider approving a contract with PVCS Primary Vision Care Services, Inc. to provide vision insurance coverage to eligible City of Lawton employees effective July 1, 2023 and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the contract.
14. Consider approving an agreement with MASA, Medical Transport Solutions for Medical Transportation Coverage for eligible City of Lawton employees effective July 1, 2023, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the contracts.
15. Consider approving a contract with Nationwide for group voluntary pet insurance coverage to eligible City of Lawton employees effective July 1, 2023 and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the contract.

16. Consider approving an agreement with Aetna for Employee Assistance Program Services to eligible City of Lawton employees effective July 1, 2023 and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the contract.
17. Consider approving a contract with Zurich to provide Accidental Death and Dismemberment and Loss of Use coverage for City of Lawton employees effective July 1, 2023, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the contract.
18. Consider approving a contract with Colonial Life, to include any floor amendments that may be necessary, to provide the following coverages; Life Insurance, Term Life, Cancer and Confinement Indemnity Insurance effective July 1, 2023, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the contracts.
19. Consider awarding a professional services contract to Standard Testing & Engineering, LLC, for the purpose of providing full testing and engineering services for the City of Lawton and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the contract.
20. Consider and take action on entering a conditional contract with Garver, LLC, for Engineering and Design Services for a water main line extension to support the CCID 480 acres industrial site located at SW Bishop Road and SW 112th Street to support the Industrial project Blue Braveheart (Westwin Elements) Project. The approval is conditional on the Binding commitment by Westwin Elements for the Industrial Development or as amended by City Council.
21. Consider and take action on awarding contract (CL23-020) Sodium Hypochlorite , a Chemical used to treat water for potable use to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Brenntag Southwest, Inc. of Lancaster Texas.
22. Consider and take action on awarding contract (CL23-018), Liquid Aluminum Sulfate a Chemical used to treat water for potable use to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Chameleon Industries, Inc.
23. Consider and take action on awarding contract (CL23-021), Sulfuric Acid a Chemical used to treat water for potable use to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Univar Solutions of Dover, Florida.
24. Consider approving Operating and Professional Services Agreement, providing entertainment and fireworks for the 7th Annual Freedom Festival by LimeLight Productions and authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the contract.

Mayor Booker stated he is concerned about what inflation has done to the budget. He stated the budget has not changed.

Jason Poudrier, Arts and Humanities Administrator, stated as long as they receive the full allocation of \$100,000 from hotel/motel funding they should be alright. They also raised funds through LETA.

Mayor Booker questioned if there was some carry over money.

Poudrier stated yes, there is some funding rolling over from last year.

Hampton questioned if the cost of fireworks has increased.

Poudrier stated there have been increases to the price of the stage and the fireworks. They did shift some of the funding to cover those costs.

MOVED by Warren SECOND by Hampton to approve an Operating and Professional Services Agreement, providing entertainment and fireworks for the 7th Annual Freedom Festival by LimeLight Productions. AYE: Hankins, Chapman, Gill, Hampton, Weger, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

25. Consider rejecting all bids received for CL23-019 Precast Concrete Manholes Small and authorizing staff to rebid the contract due only one bid being received price was excessively high.

26. Consider awarding contract (CL23-016) Mowing and Litter Control to the lowest and most responsible bidders.

27. Consider approving appointments to boards and commissions.

**Lawton Enhancement Trust Authority (LETA)**

Dr. Charles Owens- Ward 6  
6709 NW Oakdale Drive  
Lawton, OK 73505  
UT 06/30/2025

**Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women**

Jennifer Stewart- Ward 2  
539 Batson Avenue  
Fort Sill, OK 73503  
05/09/2025

**City Planning Commission**

Joan Jester- Ward 2  
1125 NW Elm Avenue  
Lawton, OK 73507  
UT 01/26/2024

**BUSINESS ITEMS:**

28. Receive a presentation from Traffic Engineering Consultants, Inc. (TEC) regarding traffic signal operations on Gore Boulevard from 2nd Street to Lawrie Tatum Road (KCA Veterans Drive) and provide direction as deemed appropriate.

Steven Hofener, Traffic Engineering Consultants, presented information and recommendations on the signal timing study for this area. (Presentation is on file in the City Clerk's office)

Gill questioned what would happen with the flow if we change the two controllers.

Mr. Hofener stated they would also change the phasing.

Gill questioned the cost of the two new controllers.

Mr. Hofener stated they are \$3,000 for each intersection. He stated the clocks are in the \$900 range.

Gill stated this is a temporary light and was to be taken out when the light went in on Highway 7.

Larry Wolcott, Public Works Director, stated the original plan was to relocate that intersection further to the east. He stated there were land ownership issues.

Gill stated it sounds like installing new equipment will take care of the problem. He feels that this will be the best solution economically.

Warren stated he feels it would be worth the \$10,000 to \$15,000 for the short-term fix until they come up with a plan along with the tribes to move some roads.

MOVED by Gill SECOND by Chapman to move forward with buying new equipment. AYE: Hankins, Chapman, Gill, Hampton, Weger, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

29. Receive a progress update on the Clean City & Clean Culture- Destination Excellence Motion and Plan presented to the council on March 7th, including roadblocks encountered and the associated workarounds, taking any necessary action.

Cynthia Williams, Deputy Public Works Director, presented information on the implementation of the bulk program. (Presentation is on file in the City Clerk's office)

Mayor Booker questioned if staff thought there was a problem with people setting their stuff out on Sunday and it sits there until Wednesday.

Wolcott stated it is not an ideal situation.

Mayor Booker questioned if staff contacted outside vendors to see if we can get supplemental help to get this picked up.

Wolcott stated they are putting together an RFP to get bids for an on-call service.

Mayor Booker questioned if we could pick up on Mondays if we use an outside service.

Wolcott stated yes, if they receive a qualified proposal.

Mayor Booker stated he would like to see comparisons to our six peer cities as to what other municipalities are charging for commercial rates. He stated the community is frustrated with the bulk trash situation, but everyone has to do their part, including citizens. He questioned if move outs were a part of the problem.

Wolcott stated move outs are a problem because they just set everything out and are not motivated to do it right.

Mayor Booker questioned who is responsible for this, the property manager, the property owner?

Jon Jernigan, Neighborhood Services Supervisor, stated they notify and charge the property manager.

Mayor Booker questioned if we are headed towards success.

Wolcott stated yes, he has seen improvements. He stated when they receive those four new trucks next year it will make a big difference.

Warren stated that he feels things are improving with getting out the information to citizens regarding what they are supposed to be doing. He suggested that the management companies may want to increase their deposits. He feels it will not hurt to have outside vendors to help. We just need to ramp up the enforcement.

Johnson questioned what we are doing about things like mattresses that are in the middle of the road.

Wolcott stated the street division and solid waste will pick that up at the cost to the city.

Johnson questioned who would get charged for vacant lots that people dump on.

Jernigan stated it would be the property owner. We would charge for the abatement cost and file a lien.

Chapman stated if they change the bulk to Monday, does the trash pick up on Monday get changed.

Wolcott stated it would shift to Wednesday.

Chapman questioned if the refuse drivers could report bulk trash.

Wolcott stated they can radio those addresses in.

Harris questioned if they just need to go back to twice a year bulk pick up that you call in.

Wolcott stated that is an option. Each community does it differently.

Hankins questioned if it was helpful for council members to call in when they see bulk trash.

Ratliff stated it is helpful and he requested they continue to call in.

30. Hold a public hearing to consider a change of zoning from the R-4 High-Density Apartment District to C-1 Local Commercial District zoning classification and a change to the 2030 Land Use Plan from Residential/Low-Density to Commercial for the property located at 1212 NW Arlington Avenue, Lawton, OK 73507, and if desired approve: (1) an ordinance changing the zoning and (2) a resolution changing the 2030 Land Use Plan.

Kameron Good, Senior Planner, presented information on the item.

Mayor Booker questioned if there was opposition from neighbors at the City Planning Commission.

Good stated no.

Mayor Booker questioned why the CPC recommended denial. The minutes were not attached to the agenda item.

Good stated the CPC recommended denial because a rezoning is not necessary to accomplish the parking lot, you can do it as a use permitted on review.

Hampton stated there is not much residential on this block. When that clinic is busy it can get congested and it is crucial they get more parking.

Harris questioned why they would not just rezone it.

Good stated it would require an opaque screening and tree buffer to the west due to residential use.

Warren questioned if council could go ahead and approve this as a use permitted on review or does it have to go back through CPC.

MOVED by Warren SECOND by Harris to approve as a use permitted on review.

Ratliff recommended they table this item, it is not ready for council review, it is an incomplete record because it does not have all the exhibits attached.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED. No one appeared to speak and the public hearing was closed.

MOVED by Warren SECOND by Hankins to table to May 23, 2023. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Gill, Hampton, Weger, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.



31. Hold a public hearing to consider a request for a Use Permitted on Review to allow an Autism & Behavior Services Medical Facility to be located in a Residential (R-4) zone for the property located at 502 NW Fort Sill Boulevard, Lawton, OK 73501, and take action as necessary.

Good presented information on the item.

**PUBLIC HEARING OPENED.**

Suzanna Hunter, 502 NW Fort Sill Boulevard, stated this is an historic neighborhood and they need to keep this residential. She stated there are at least 42 office buildings in Lawton that are currently for rent.

Daphine Carrasco, 412 NW Fort Sill Boulevard, stated this is a bad place for this office. She stated she is worried about the traffic and the safety of the children.

Randy Carrasco, 412 NW Fort Sill Boulevard, stated there are no sidewalks and it is not a safe area.

Sheila Jarvis, 1108 NW Euclid, stated she would fear for her safety.

**PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED.**

Hampton stated he has received several calls on this property and there are just residential houses in this area. He has received complaints that this is just a bad choice of area. He would like to take the staff's recommendation that this be denied.

Warren stated this is a perfect example of being involved. He feels they should honor the request of those that attended to speak and those that signed the petition.

Johnson stated that she also feels this is a dangerous location and she hopes the owner of the business continues to look for another location because this is a service we desperately need in our community.

MOVED by Hampton SECOND by Warren to deny. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Gill, Hampton, Weger, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

32. Hold a public hearing to receive any citizen recommendations or concerns for the upcoming FFY 2023 Annual Action Plan (AAP) and approve a draft version of the FFY 2023 AAP that includes Public Service Organization (PSO) Funding recommendations and Policy Manual changes.

Gary Brooks, Housing and Community Development Administrator, presented information on this item.

Chapman questioned why some funds were not used related to the community centers.

Dewayne Burk, Deputy City Manager, stated they struggled with inflationary factors and trying to get contractors to take on this project, so they needed to carry the money over.

Johnson requested a list of what projects will be done at the community centers in the future.

Harris stated the sidewalk projects will need to be done in low-income areas.

Brooks stated they increased the funding at the HC King center from \$40,000 to \$70,000 this year.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED. No one appeared to speak and the public hearing was closed.

MOVED by Warren SECOND by Johnson to approve the FFY 2023 Annual Action Plan with recommended changes and approve amendment to the FFY 2021-2025 CON Plan updating the recommended changes in the FFY 2023 Action Plan. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Gill, Hampton, Weger, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

Council recessed from 4:10 p.m. to 4:33 p.m.

33. Receive public comments on the usage and allocation of unallocated sales tax revenue, which has been or is expected to be received for the July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023 time frame, these funds are estimated to be \$5,472,607.00 at June 30, 2023, and take action as necessary, to include if desired, the allocation of said unallocated funds.

Joe Don Dunham, Finance Director, stated this is the third time this has been on the agenda for public comments. There are approximately \$5.4 million unallocated funds from the CIP sales tax. He stated he needs direction on the allocation of these funds.

Mayor Booker opened the floor for public comment. No one appeared for comments.

MOVED by Warren SECOND by Hankins that contingent upon the passing of an appropriate resolution of intent, move to allocate the excess funds to any of the subcategories in section C3, improvements to city buildings and facilities, as identified in the current Resolution 22-59.

Mayor Booker stated this item only deals with the excess CIP funds for one year. There will be opportunities to reallocate other funds.

Chapman stated the renovations for city hall are \$7.56 million. We have \$6 million allocated in the CIP, so we are short \$1.56 million. She questioned if they are voting on using some of this money for this project.

Mayor Booker stated yes. He stated the project at the auditorium can also be drawn from this money.

Chapman clarified that the council will be voting on moving the money to any other project.

Mayor Booker stated yes.

Harris requested they add C4 which are projects for Parks & Recreational Facilities and Arts & Humanities.

Warren stated he feels they need to finish the city facilities and then they can come back and reallocate any excess funds.

Mayor Booker stated there are going to be more excess funds to allocate and each year there will be excess funds that have to be allocated.

Dunham stated the \$7.5 million is for the construction of city hall alone, it does not cover the parking lot or the construction of the utility services building, and that is what they are trying to cover.

Gill stated they have a commitment to the people who voted for this and we have already committed to spending \$6 million and we have gone too far to stop and we must continue.

Harris stated he does not disagree, but he feels they need to keep their options open.

Chapman stated they have an obligation to the employees to have a decent workplace.

Hampton stated we need to finish the consolidation process of all the city departments into one building.

VOTE ON MOTION: AYE: Hankins, Chapman, Gill, Hampton, Weger, Johnson, Warren.  
NAY: Harris. MOTION CARRIED.

34. Consider approving a Resolution, including any floor amendments that may be made thereto, repealing and replacing Resolution No. 2022-59 specifying the revised intent of the Mayor and Council of the City of Lawton, Oklahoma with regard to the replacement of the existing seven-eighths of one percent (7/8%) Capital Improvement/Operational Expenditure Sales Tax and the one and one-quarter percent (1.25%) Capital Improvement Sales Tax with a new sales tax to be levied of two and one-eighth percent (2.125%) as approved by the registered voters of the City of Lawton, Oklahoma at an election held for such purpose on February 11, 2020.

Wilson presented information on the agenda item. He stated this is a resolution repealing the original resolution of intent to specify where we are going to put these excess funds. He stated there will need to be a floor amendment.

MOVED by Warren SECOND by Hankins to approve **Resolution 23-75** with the following floor amendments: 1) allocate all of the additional estimated \$5,472,607 to the categories in Section C3 titled “Improvements to City Buildings/Facilities”, 2) continue with the clarification that the purpose of Section C3c 1) includes the expansion of the parking lot immediately west of

City Hall and 2) includes the construction of a standalone building for utility bill paying at or near said parking lot and 3) correct a typo in the effective date/repeal section of the proposed resolution by replacing the reference to resolution 2021-64 to reference to resolution 2022-59 and direct staff to modify the language accordingly. AYE: Hankins, Chapman, Gill, Hampton, Weger, Johnson, Warren. NAY: Harris. MOTION CARRIED.

35. Consider: (1) waiving paragraph (A)(4)(a) of City Code Section 10-1-108 for the time to accept bids and instead apply the requirements set forth in Section 111 of the Public Competitive Bidding Act of 1974, and (2) for good cause shown [to include having to hold two public input sessions and allocate additional funding from the CIP] and in accordance with Section 111, extend by mutual written agreement through May 9, 2023, the time to award the proposed Amendment No. 2 Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) to the contract with Construction Manager At-Risk CMS Willowbrook, Inc. for Project EN2004A City Hall Renovation Main Building Package.

Wilson presented information on the agenda item. He stated this is asking council to waive the language in city code and to approve the written mutual agreement.

Gill clarified that this was just for this one project.

Wilson stated yes.

Harris questioned what will happen if we do not approve this item.

Wilson stated we cannot approve item #36 which would mean staff would have to rebid this project.

MOVED by Warren SECOND by Chapman to waive paragraph (A)(4)(a) of City Code Section 10-1-108 for the time to accept bids and instead apply the requirements set forth in Section 111 of the Public Competitive Bidding Act of 1974, and (2) for good cause shown [to include having to hold two public input sessions and allocate additional funding from the CIP] and in accordance with Section 111, extend by mutual written agreement through May 9, 2023, the time to award the proposed Amendment No. 2 Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) to the contract with Construction Manager At-Risk CMS Willowbrook, Inc. for Project EN2004A City Hall Renovation Main Building Package. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Gill, Hampton, Weger, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

36. Subject to the approval of Item 23-432 and Item 23-433 on this agenda, consider approving Amendment No. 2 Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) to the contract with Construction Manager At-Risk CMS Willowbrook, Inc. for Project EN2004A City Hall Renovation Main Building Package, including any floor amendments related thereto.

Joe Painter, Engineering Director, presented information on this agenda item.

MOVED by Warren SECOND by Gill to approve staff recommendation. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Gill, Hampton, Weger, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

37. Discussion and action on the approval of the use the State contract according to City Ordinance 19-35, 10-1-113 E on Project EN2301 Demolition of Nursing Home and approval of the proposal/quote from Environmental Action Inc. for the demolition of said nursing home in the amount of \$261,800.00.

Painter presented information on this agenda item.

Wilson stated this has a different funding source from the original item.

Warren questioned where the funding is coming from.

Dunham stated they are transferring money out of City At Large contingency account.

Warren stated he wants citizens to know that they are forced to spend taxpayer dollars because a professional individual in town that owns this building won't pay what they should pay to take care of this problem.

Mayor Booker questioned if we are going to try to recover these funds. He questioned if we are better off to sue now and force the owner to perform or are we better off to go ahead and tear it down and seek relief later.

Wilson stated if the property is a public nuisance it would be best to tear it down and put a lien on the property. They could look at foreclosing our lien and then try to recoup some or all of our money.

Ratliff stated from a life/health safety perspective, this is a concern. There is asbestos on the property and the longer it sits there the longer the danger remains and the citizens are at risk.

Charlotte Brown, Community Services Director, stated that it is staff's recommendation that they move forward with the demolition and then they will place a lien on the property.

Chapman questioned how we are going to be reimbursed by the property owner. She stated this is a safety issue.

Ratliff stated we will sue the property owner.

Gill questioned if asbestos abatement was included in the demo package.

Brown stated yes.

Johnson questioned the length of this process.

Painter stated approximately 90 days.

MOVED by Warren SECOND by Hampton to approve the use the State contract according to City Ordinance 19-35, 10-1-113 E on Project EN2301 Demolition of Nursing Home and approve

the proposal/quote from Environmental Action Inc. for the demolition of said nursing home in the amount of \$261,800.00 out of general fund contingency. AYE: Hankins, Chapman, Gill, Hampton, Weger, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: Harris. MOTION CARRIED.

Ratliff stated that Councilmember Harris will need to explain his conflict of interest.

Harris stated he may have had a business relationship with some of the owners.

38. Discuss the Communications & Marketing Department's options to gather research through a community survey to tailor a Communications and Marketing Strategy that will benefit citizens and the City of Lawton.

Caitlin Gatlin, Communications and Marketing Manager, presented information on the Lawton Outreach Community survey. She stated if the council would like to add anything to the survey, please let her know.

No action was taken.

39. Discuss the possibility of adopting an ordinance requiring microchipping of all dogs and cats in the City of Lawton.

Roy Rodrick, Animal Welfare Superintendent, presented information on the subject of mandatory microchipping. (Presentation is on file in the City Clerk's office)

Mayor Booker questioned what this would cost the citizen and where do they get this done.

Rodrick stated it would be \$17.25 if they did it at Animal Welfare.

Mayor Booker questioned if we would continue to take in animals from other communities that were not microchipped. He questioned what percentage of animals that we impound are from our community.

Rodrick stated maybe five or ten a month.

Harris questioned our cost for the microchip.

Rodrick stated the cost for the microchip is \$8. He stated currently our adoptables go out with a microchip, he stated they are mainly targeting an impound that is reclaimed by the owner.

Harris stated in many cases the officer can scan the pet without even bringing it to the shelter.

Rodrick stated they do have scanners in their trucks.

Harris suggested they have events where citizens could get microchipping for a reduced fee. He questioned if the vet had to do the microchipping.

Rodrick stated any staff member can do the microchipping. He feels an event might be a mistake because they would have an influx of a lot of people coming in.

Harris stated that is what we want them to do. We should do something to encourage people to do this.

Warren suggested that these communities where we have an outside contract should have to follow these guidelines.

Ratliff stated they could also increase the cost to include the microchipping.

Hampton clarified that staff would like to have an ordinance which says that every pet in the city should be microchipped.

Rodrick stated yes, for dogs and cats. He stated they could start with impounds and provide that service to the public. They could provide a microchipping clinic at some point. He stated they would not start enforcement until January 2024.

Hampton questioned how this would be enforced.

Rodrick stated if they got a call on a dog they would come to the door to verify and if you were not in compliance you could be cited.

Ratliff stated as we respond to service calls and we find individuals who are not in compliance, that is when we cite them. This is not a house to house knock on the door thing.

Hampton stated the implementation of this would be mostly animals that come through the shelter. This should make it easier for staff.

Gill questioned what will happen to those citizens who already have a microchip, but we cannot read it. Are they going to have to get a second chip?

Ratliff stated you would be in compliance if you already have a chip in your dog. We would be able to detect that, whether it is our brand or not.

Harris stated this will be an additional service to the citizens so they don't have to worry about their pets.

Mayor Booker stated this is not an action item, but the council has expressed interest in bringing back a proposed ordinance.

40. Consider an ordinance pertaining to vehicles and traffic, amending Section 23-19-1909, Article 23-19, Chapter 23, Lawton City Code, 2015; revising language to adhere to current judicial rulings regarding standing, sitting, or staying on any street, highway, or median, providing for severability, and declaring an effective date.

Wilson presented information on this ordinance. He stated the removal of the language is at the recommendation of the City Prosecutor.

Harris questioned what we are trying to avoid.

Wilson stated similar language from Oklahoma City was challenged and found to be unconstitutional.

MOVED by Warren SECOND by Gill to adopt **Ordinance 23-18**, waive the reading of the ordinance, read the title only and establishing an effective date of thirty days after passage AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Gill, Hampton, Weger, Johnson, Warren. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

(Title read by City Attorney)

Ordinance 23-18

AN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, AMENDING SECTION 23-19-1909, ARTICLE 23-19, CHAPTER 23, LAWTON CITY CODE, 2015, REVISING LANGUAGE TO ADHERE TO CURRENT JUDICIAL RULINGS REGARDING STANDING, SITTING, OR STAYING ON ANY STREET, HIGHWAY, OR MEDIAN, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

#### STAFF REPORTS:

##### **Status Report for Granicus Short Term Rentals portal**

Judy Franco, ITS Director, updated the council on the short term rentals portal.

The Mayor and Council convened in executive session at 6:00 p.m. and reconvened in regular, open session at 7:44 p.m. Roll call reflected all members present excluding Johnson.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

41. Pursuant to Section 307B.4, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session to discuss a pending claim of School House Slough Inc., and, if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.

Wilson read the title of item #41. No action was taken.

42. Pursuant to Section 307B.1, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session to review the employment of John Ratliff as Acting City Manager, and in open session take other action as necessary.



Wilson read the title of item #42. No action was taken.

There being no further business to consider, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. upon motion,  
Second and roll call vote.

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STAN BOOKER, MAYOR PRO TEM

ATTEST:

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TRACI HUSHBECK, CITY CLERK