

THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION JULY 24, 2023, IN THE MIAMI CIVIC CENTER COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 6:00 PM WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bless Parker, Mayor  
Brian Estep, Councilmember Ward 1  
Kevin Dunkel, Councilmember Ward 2  
Dwain Sundberg, Councilmember Ward 3 (Absent)  
Brad Williams, Councilmember Ward 4

Bo Reese, City Manager  
Ben Loring, City Attorney  
Melissa Moore, City Clerk

The agenda for the meeting was displayed in the main lobby of the Miami Civic Center and by posting on [www.miamiokla.net](http://www.miamiokla.net) starting at 3:45PM on July 21, 2023, pursuant to 25 O.S §311(9) (a) and (b).

**THE COUNCIL MAY TAKE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS: DISCUSS, CONSIDER AND VOTE FOR APPROVAL, ACCEPTANCE, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF ANY ITEM LISTED IN THIS AGENDA:**

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Parker called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

**2. Presentation From the L.E.A.D Agency**

Martin Lively showed a picture of the chat pile that he was talking about last week during the public speaking portion of the meeting. The chat pile in the picture is being removed and there is no separation between the creek and the chat pile. Lively asked the Council to think about what measures are in place and if they are effective.

Rebecca Jim brought to the Council's attention that some people are creating dams in Tar Creek which is backing up the water and blocking the heavy metals from flowing down the creek. Jim brought up the results of some water sampling that was completed in 2021. The studies found cadmium, lead and zinc in the water and the creek bed of Tar Creek. Jim will be taking a team on Friday morning to dislodge the dams and allow the water to flow freely. Jim updated the Council on the flood survey that the L.E.A.D Agency has been working on. They have three hundred thirty (330) completed surveys. The goal is to have one thousand (1,000) completed. They have been in contact with owners or residents of approximately five hundred (500) properties. The surveys can be completed online, over the phone or in person.

Lively announced the 25<sup>th</sup> Tar Creek Conference and the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Tar Creek being designated a superfund site. The conference will take place October 10, 11, and 12, 2023 at the NEO College. There will be a continuing learning education (CLE) session offered for local attorneys. There will be an off-Broadway Musical performed at the Coleman Theatre on October 10 & 11 at 7:00PM.

No action taken.

**3. Discussion of Citizen's Request for a Four-Way Stop Sign at the Intersection of 7<sup>th</sup> and H NW and A Citizen's Request for A Four-Way Stop Sign at the 1100 Block of M NW**

Bo Reese explained that this had been brought to the City's attention and shared with the Chief of Police. Staff will bring the discussion back to the Council when Chief Anderson is available.

No action taken.

**4. Discussion of American Heartland Theme Park**

Bo Reese explained that this agenda item is to give the Council the opportunity to discuss possibilities for the community with announcement of the American Heartland Theme Park project in Vinita. Reese is already seeing results from this announcement such as sale signs being placed on empty properties, developers calling, and

citizens cleaning up their properties. This is a Rt.66 theme park and Miami is on Rt. 66, which could mean that people will be traveling along Rt. 66 to attend this theme park. The project will offer a wide variety of job opportunities both during the construction phase and operation. Reese explained that it will be important for the Council to begin to plan for the impact that this could have on the City. The theme park plans to open in 2026. Area community leaders have been meeting and will continue to meet into the future to ensure that communities are working together to make this a success. Housing and restaurants are needed in our area, and this could be something that draws the businesses to the area. Reese explained that risks will need to be managed while moving forward, so that opportunities are not missed. Lively brought up a suggestion of creating the allowance of tiny houses. Lively also suggested working with the pecan companies to bring in visitors.

**5. \*Potential Action Item\* Other New Business, if any, Which has Arisen Since the Posting of the Agenda and Could not Have Been Anticipated Prior to the Time of Posting (25 O.S. § 311(9))**

None.

**6.\*Action Item\* Adjournment**

Councilmember Dunkel moved to adjourn. Councilmember Estep made the second. The Council was polled with the following results:

Dunkel, Aye                      Estep, Aye                      Williams, Aye                      Parker, Aye                      Sundberg, Absent

Mayor Parker declared the meeting adjourned at 7:10PM.


  
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Councilmember Williams

  
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Councilmember Sundberg

  
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Councilmember Dunkel

  
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Councilmember Estep

  
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Mayor Bless Parker

ATTEST:   
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Melissa Moore, City Clerk

