

THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL MET IN REGULAR SESSION JULY 25, 2022, IN THE MIAMI CIVIC CENTER COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 5:30 PM WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bless Parker, Mayor  
Brian Estep, Councilmember Ward 1  
Kevin Dunkel, Councilmember Ward 2  
Dwain Sundberg, Councilmember Ward 3  
David Davis, 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 22, 2022, 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 5:31PM.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Parker led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Parker moved to agenda item number 4.

**4. Presentation From the Director of Workforce and Business Expansion With MOKAN Partnership**

Amy Kauffman, director of workforce and business expansion with MOKAN Partnership explained that they are a nonprofit organization that focuses primarily on economic development in the tri-state region. The MOKAN Partnership collaborates with local economic directors from the Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma region. The organization focuses on recruiting and retention of businesses in the region. The organization works with a variety of businesses to stay healthy and continue to grow. The organization sends out quarterly reports to the local economic development directors and also represents the region at national trade shows and conventions. Kauffman stated that there are sixteen (16) industrial parks in the region and their organization has identified the different attributes of each park and utilizes that information when reaching out to businesses and writing proposals. Kauffman would like to try to increase visibility by using drone footage of each industrial park and then provide the video to the city for promotional use. Kauffman would also like to do a rail freight analysis which will tell what commodities are coming in and out through the rail system, but she is still looking for funding for the analysis. Kauffman reported that the labor participation rate went up for our region which means that people are either rejoining or joining the workforce. Kauffman also reported that ten percent (10%) of people have an associate degree which is two percent (2%) above the national average.

No action taken.

Mayor Parker came back to agenda item number 3.

**3. Presentation From the Business Advisor for Oklahoma Small Business Development Centers**

Sandra Pierre, business advisor for Oklahoma Small Business Development Center (SBDC) provides confidential, no cost business advising to entrepreneurs and small businesses in the northeast of Oklahoma, primarily in Ottawa County. Pierre explained that a small business is considered to be less than five hundred (500) employees. The SBDC is funded by the US Small Business Administration, state funding, colleges and universities. Pierre explained that the SBDC serves all seventy-seven (77) counties in Oklahoma and is available in all fifty (50) states. The SBDC is measured on key performance indicators such as the number of clients served, jobs supported, and capital infusion. Their expertise is very vast due to their wide variety of employees

that they can call on throughout network. The SBDC offers a variety of workshops to clients that explain new laws and regulations that impact their businesses. Bo Reese explained that she has hit the ground running and participated in extensive training. She has been a great resource.

No action taken.

**5. \*Action Item\* Proclamation Declaration of Intent to Rename Goodrich Blvd. Admiral Trussler Boulevard**

Mayor Parker explained that Goodrich was great for the community before it left in the nineteen eighties (1980's). Now it is time to rename Goodrich Blvd to honor Admiral Trussler, who is a three (3) star admiral. Being a three (3) star admiral is something rare and should be honored. Ben Loring explained that the information he received about Admiral Trussler was in navy lingo and he did his best to translate. A navy communications officer reached out to Loring and Loring sent him the proclamation but did not hear back from him before this meeting. There may be some changes once Loring hears back from the officer. Loring also explained that this is the first step of the process. The Council will still need to approve an ordinance and complete the required process from the post office before the street will officially be changed.

Councilmember Dunkel moved to approve proclamation declaration of intent to rename Goodrich Blvd. Admiral Trussler Boulevard. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Estep. The Trust was polled with the following results:

Dunkel, Aye                      Estep, Aye                      Davis, Aye                      Sundberg, Aye                      Parker, Aye

Mayor Parker declared the motion carried.

**6. \*Action Item\* Ordinance 2022-09 Amending Section 35.1 (Definition of Extraordinary Circumstances) of Division I (Generally) of Article II (Rates and Charges) of Chapter 24 (Utilities) of the Code of Ordinances; Providing Severability; Providing for Conflicting Provisions; and Establishing an Effective Date; Allowing City Manager to Adjust the Utility Usage When it is the Fundamentally Fair Thing to do**

Callie Hilburn explained that the proposed ordinance will allow for the City Manager to adjust a bill fairly when there is a rare circumstance, and it cannot be determined the actual amount of the usage due to no fault of the customer. An example was given of a meter that was hit by lightning. Ben Loring explained that the statutes do not allow a municipality to forgive debt, which is why this ordinance is being proposed. Bo Reese explained that the application of basic logic in previous usage will be used to determine the debt owed.

Councilmember Davis moved to approve ordinance 2022-09 amending section 35.1 (definition of extraordinary circumstances) of division I (generally) of article II (rates and charges) of chapter 24 (utilities) of the code of ordinances; providing severability; providing for conflicting provisions; and establishing an effective date; allowing City Manager to adjust the utility usage when it is the fundamentally fair thing to do. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sundberg. The Trust was polled with the following results:

Davis, Aye                      Sundberg, Aye                      Dunkel, Aye                      Estep, Aye                      Parker, Aye

Mayor Parker declared the motion carried.

**7. \*Action Item\* Emergency Clause for Ordinance 2022-09 Amending Section 35.1 (Definition of Extraordinary Circumstances) of Division I (Generally) of Article II (Rates and Charges) of Chapter 24 (Utilities) of the Code of Ordinances; Providing Severability; Providing for Conflicting Provisions; And Establishing an Effective Date**

Councilmember Davis moved to approve emergency clause for ordinance 2022-09 amending section 35.1 (definition of extraordinary circumstances) of division I (generally) of article II (rates and charges) of chapter 24 (utilities) of the code of ordinances; providing severability; providing for conflicting provisions; and establishing

an effective date; allowing City Manager to adjust the utility usage when it is the fundamentally fair thing to do. The motion was seconded by Mayor Parker. The Trust was polled with the following results:

Davis, Aye

Parker, Aye

Sundberg, Aye

Dunkel, Aye

Estep, Aye

Mayor Parker declared the motion carried.

**8. Discussion of Ordinance Adding Section 6-100 (Utilization of Copper Conductors) to Article III (Electric) of Chapter 6 (Buildings and Building Regulations) of the Code of Ordinances; Providing Severability; Providing for Conflicting Provisions; Repealing All Conflicting Ordinances; and Establishing an Effective Date; Allowing Copper Wiring Within Buildings**

Travis Jones explained that he was approached by City Attorney Ben Loring who had been approached by a local electrician who wanted the City to allow aluminum wiring to be acceptable. This local electrician had spoken at a previous Council meeting making the same request. Jones explained that when the ordinance regarding the building code was rewritten a few years ago, the requirement of only using copper was inadvertently removed. Jones stated that the use of aluminum is dangerous and if not properly braided could lead to fire hazards. Staff is recommending that the addition of the requirement of the use of copper be added back into the code of ordinances. The ordinance will be brought back to a future meeting for a vote.

No action taken.

**9. Discussion on Rewrite Chapter 4, Animals, to the Code of Ordinances**

Maycee Wilkins explained that the ordinance will impose a mandatory sterilization program for animals who are picked up by the animal shelter staff. The ordinance will also impose a catch and release program for feral cats which has been proven in other cities to reduce the cat population. The catch and release program will be a sterilization program. Citizens will be able to apply for a certificate of exemption if they wish, they will just need to explain why they should have an exemption and agree to any guidelines set. All exemption decisions will be made by staff, and there will be an appeal process for citizens who do not agree with the decision. Loring explained that this ordinance is a work in progress. Kevin Browning explained that the staff has spent a lot of time working on this and want to make sure that the Council is okay with the direction the ordinance is going and allow Council to ask questions along the way. Loring explained that the citizens will be educated on the new ordinance once approved. It was clarified that if an animal is picked up and not spayed or neutered and an exemption is not filed and approved, the animal will have to be sterilized before picked up. Bo Reese explained that the costs of the animal shelter are increasing each year with the so many loose animals running around the city. Wilkins explained that the average hold on an animal that is not reclaimed is between thirty (30) and sixty (60) days, this is due to the partnership with the Animal Welfare and Adoption Agency transporting animals out of the area for rescue. The adoption rate through the shelter is low for a city our size. Wilkins stated that the shelter turned over five hundred thirty (530) animals last year and had a ninety-three percent (93%) live release rate. Wilkins stated that the shelter has a waiting list and runs at max capacity most days. Browning explained that they do not euthanize for space. Loring explained that the ordinance provides for two kinds of violations: criminal and regulatory. It was clarified that a determination of a vicious animal is determined solely by the action of the animal and not the breed. Regulatory and criminal violations will be handled by the court.

No action taken.

**10. Discussion on Street Construction Oversight**

John Snider with Anderson Engineering provided a checklist that will be utilized during the street construction oversight. Tyler Cline explained that the concrete labor was bid out and as the projects get started then they will contact the lowest bidder and move on through the bidders to locate the next available company for the next project. Engineering will be utilized to oversee the waterlines and the street construction. Councilmember Estep requested that the completed checklists be provided to Council monthly at a meeting and to be included in the

packet to provide transparency for citizens. Councilmember Sundberg explained that he liked the checklist and expressed his agreement that documentation on the street construction project will be important to insure accountability. Snider explained that most street projects do not require performance bonds because the contractors want to stay in good standing. Snider explained that the risk is lessened if there is someone providing oversight of the project. Whether the City requires a performance bond is a business decision. Snider explained that right now it is valuable to do the streets in concrete versus asphalt due to the increase cost of oil. Bo Reese explained that the streets are a significant cost and there is a great need. Reese explained that the City is trying to find the balance of quality and quantity. Reese recommended starting a subcommittee where the meetings could be during the day and their input could be provided to the Council. This would provide more access to staff and more oversight. Cline brought up that supply chain issues may hinder progress.

No action taken.

**11. \*Action Item\* Award Bid C22-33 for Concrete Labor to Hugo, Scott Construction, Collins Construction and Neece Concrete Construction; Approve Contract Contingent Upon the Submission of Required Contract Documents, and Approve City Manager or his Designee to Sign Notice to Proceed**

Councilmember Davis moved to approve award bid C22-33 for concrete labor to Hugo, Scott Construction, Collins Construction and Neece Concrete Construction; approve contract contingent upon the submission of required contract documents and approve City Manager or his designee to sign notice to proceed. The motion was seconded by Mayor Parker. The Trust was polled with the following results:

Davis, Aye                      Parker, Aye                      Sundberg, Abstain                      Dunkel, Aye                      Estep, Aye

Mayor Parker declared the motion carried.

**12. The Meeting Will be Continued From Council Chambers and Reconvened in the Staff Room for Purposes of the Executive Session**

The council continued the meeting from the Council Chambers and reconvened in the staff room at 7:09PM.

**13. Executive Session Pursuant to 25 O.S.307(b)(3) and (4) for Discussing Potential Economic Development Through Purchase of Real Property or Enhancement of Real Property to be Provided by the City and/or one of its Trust Authorities as Part of an Economic Development Project**

Mayor Parker asked Ben Loring, Tyler Cline, Bo Reese, John Snider, and Melissa Moore to remain for the executive session.

Councilmember Dunkel moved to go into executive session for the reason stated in the agenda with the people listed above. Councilmember Estep made the second. The Council was polled with the following results:

Dunkel, Aye                      Estep, Aye                      Sundberg, Aye                      Davis, Aye                      Parker, Aye

Mayor Parker declared the Council in executive session at 7:28PM.

Mayor Parker declared the Council out of executive session at 8:23PM.

The Council reconvened the regular meeting at 8:23PM.

**14. Adjournment**

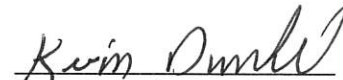
Councilmember Dunkel moved to adjourn. Councilmember Davis made the second. The Council was polled with the following results:

Dunkel, Aye                      Davis, Aye                      Estep, Aye                      Sundberg, Aye                      Parker, Aye

Mayor Parker declared the meeting adjourned at 8:24PM.


  
Councilmember Davis

  
Councilmember Sundberg

  
Councilmember Dunkel

  
Councilmember Estep

  
Mayor Bless Parker

ATTEST:   
Melissa Moore, City Clerk

