

MINUTES

TAHLEQUAH CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING

Date/Time of

City Council Meeting:

Tuesday, September 8, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

Place of Meeting:

The meeting was held by Videoconference and/or Teleconference. See 25 O.S. §307.1(C).

1. MEETING CONVENED

Meeting **called to order** by Mayor Catron at 7:00 p.m.

City Clerk DeAnna Hammons Called the **Roll call as follows:**

2. Roll call.

Present:

Councilor Ward I	Bree Long
Councilor Ward II	Dower Combs
Councilor Ward IV	Trae Ratliff
Councilor Ward III	Stephen Highers

Absent: None

Others Present:

Mayor Sue Catron, City Attorney Grant Lloyd, City Clerk DeAnna Hammons, Interim City Administrator Alan Chapman, City Treasurer Marty Hainzinger

3. Public Notice: A Public Notice of meeting was provided August 19, 2020 at 11:50 a.m.

4. PUBLIC INSTRUCTIONS:

Videoconference and/or Teleconference Access Instructions for Public Attendance at the Meeting: the Public may remotely attend this meeting by joining the Zoom meeting via the web or the Zoom app (www.zoom.us) **Access Code 851 8856 1101 Password 283771.** Materials presented electronically to Councilors that attend remotely will be made available to those Councilors via the Zoom meeting platform and/or or another digital platform. If you wish to receive a copy of any materials that are presented to the City Council via Zoom or otherwise, please submit your request to cityclerk@cityoftahlequah.com.

Videoconference and/or Teleconference Notice: This meeting will include communication by City Staff to the City Council, and those communications may be by auditory communication or by visual and auditory communication. Communication by and between the City Council and/or members of the Public may be limited to auditory only communication.

The Public may ask questions during the discussion of each agenda item by typing the word “question” along with his or her name in the chat bar and waiting to be called on. If communicating via the Zoom Videoconference and/or Teleconference, the Mayor will call upon you to unmute yourself so that you may speak. Only questions spoken out loud are allowed to be responded to. Please do not type out your questions in the chat bar.

Should there be any technical difficulties during the meeting please refer to the City of Tahlequah website and/or City of Tahlequah Facebook page as the City will address any issues and/or provide further instructions.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments made.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Long made a motion and Councilor Ratliff seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- a) To approve the minutes of the August 3, 2020, & August 17, 2020 City Council meetings.
- b) To acknowledge the monthly check register for August 2020.
- c) To acknowledge receipt of the monthly P-Card transaction statement.
- d) To approve the appointment of Ryan Cannonie to the City of Tahlequah Board of Adjustment.
- e) To accept the resignation from Denton Gourd, Maintenance Tech, in the Maintenance Department, effective August 31, 2020.
- f) To accept the resignation from Ronald Nodine, Crossing Guard, in the Police Department, effective August 4, 2020.
- g) To accept the resignation from Luke Green, Volunteer Fire Fighter, in the Fire Department, effective August 18, 2020.
- h) To accept the self-termination from Devin Fatherree, Part Time Laborer 999, in the Parks and Recreation Department, effective August 14, 2020.
- i) To lift the moratorium and hire Daniel Bell, Collector, T112 at \$14.00 per hour, in the Solid Waste Department, effective September 11, 2020.
- j) To lift the moratorium and hire Kortney Morris, Dispatcher, T112 at \$13.30 per hour, in the Police Department, September 11, 2020.
- k) To lift the moratorium and hire Bruce Gower, Dispatcher, T112 at \$13.30 per hour, in the Police Department, September 11, 2020.

Vote: Ayes: Long, Combs, Highers, Ratliff Nays: none Motion carried.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

Recognition of Years of Service for **September** Employees:

- **Shawn Presley – 10 years – Police Department**

Report form Library - **Written**

Report from Tour Tahlequah a Department of the Tahlequah Area Chamber of Commerce-
Written

Report from the Tahlequah Main Street Association – None

REGULAR SESSION

8. There were no items removed from consent.
9. Discussion and **update** from the **Crisis Task Force**.
10. Discussion and **update** from the **Recovery Task Force**.
11. Councilor Ratliff made a motion and Councilor Highers seconded to approve credit toward 2020/2021 City dues for the purchase of soccer goals for TRSC by the **Tahlequah Sports League in the amount of \$2,990.00**.
- Vote: Highers, Ratliff, Long, Combs Nays: none Motion carried
12. Councilor Long made a motion and Councilor Highers seconded to approve **Resolution No. 09-08-20** regarding funding pursuant to the Cares Act and the Corona virus relief fund.
- Vote: Ratliff, Long, Combs, Highers Nays: none Motion carried
13. Councilor Long made a motion and Councilor Ratliff seconded to **TABLE accepting the 2018-2019 Audit as presented by Arledge & Associates, P.C.**
- Vote: Long, Combs, Highers, Ratliff Nays: none Motion carried
14. **Councilor Highers made a motion and Councilor Long seconded to exit Regular Session and enter into Executive Session at 7:19 p.m.**
- Vote: Combs, Highers, Ratliff, Long Nays: none Motion carried

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- ❖ **Discussion regarding confidential communications related to *City of Tahlequah v. Springwater Properties, LLC, et al., Cherokee County District Court, State of Oklahoma, Case Nos. CV-2018-43 and CJ-2020-56*, as provided by 25 O.S. § 307 (B) (4) and/or (7).**
 - ❖ **Discussion regarding confidential communications related to *Edward G. Carr v. City of Tahlequah, et al., United States District Court for Eastern District of Oklahoma, Case No. 20-cv-223-JFH*, as provided by 25 O.S. § 307 (B) (4) and/or (7).**
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15. Councilor Ratliff made a motion and Councilor Long seconded to reconvene Regular Session at 8:25 p.m.

Vote: Ayes: Highers, Ratliff, Long, Combs Nays: none Motion carried.

16. **Councilor Long made a motion and Councilor Ratliff seconded to hire Kim Ellis Ritchie at \$225.00 per hour as Co-council in *City of Tahlequah v. Springwater Properties, LLC et al., State of Oklahoma*, Case Nos. CV-2018-43 and CJ-2020-56.**

Vote: Ayes: Ratliff, Long, Combs Abstained: Highers Nays: none other than abstention Motion carried.

17. **No action was taken** related to *Edward G. Carr v. City of Tahlequah, et al.*, United States District Court for Eastern District of Oklahoma, Case No. 20-cv-223-JFH.

18. **Councilor Ratliff made a motion and Councilor Highers seconded to adjourn meeting at 8:28 p.m.**

Vote: Ayes: Highers, Ratliff, Long, Combs Nays: none Motion carried.