

MINUTES
TAHLEQUAH CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 5TH, 2017 - 7:00 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 111 S. CHEROKEE AVE.

1. MEETING CONVENED

Meeting **called to order** by Mayor Nichols at 7:00 pm.
City Clerk DeAnna Hammons Called the **Roll call as follows:**

Present:	Councilor Ward I	Bree Long
	Councilor Ward II	Dower Combs
	Councilor Ward III	Stephen Highers
	Councilor Ward IV	Joshua Bliss

OTHERS PRESENT: : City Attorney Grant Lloyd, City Administrator Ed Carr, Street Commissioner Wayne Ryals, Fire Chief Ray Hammons, Police Chief Nate King, Emergency Director Mike Underwood, Planning and Development Director Clinton Johnson, Personnel Director Jessica Petty, News Media Tesina Jackson.

Invocation – Interim Adult Minister – Dalton Bigby – First Baptist Church
Flag salute.

Mayor Nichols gave **recognition** to the **Tahlequah Firefighters** who were a part of the rescue efforts of **Hurricane Harvey** in Houston Texas.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Combs made a motion and Councilor Highers seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Approve the **minutes** of the August 7th 2017 City Council Meeting.

To promote Casey Baker, from a Captain in the Fire Department, to the Assistant Fire Chief in the Fire Department.

To accept the resignation of Austin Yates, as a Patrolman in the Police Department, effective September 17, 2017.

To promote, Randy Tanner, from a School Resource Officer in the Police Department (Cops in School), to a Training and Development Lieutenant in the Police Department.

To accept the self-demotion of Brad Robertson, from a Sergeant in the Police Department, to a School Resource Officer in the Police Department (Cops in Schools).

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

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

Recognition of Years of Service for September_Employees: Darryl Cypert – Solid Waste Department

Tahlequah Police Department - None

Report from Library- None

Report from Tahlequah Convention and Visitors Bureau – None

Report from Chamber of Commerce – None

Report from the Tahlequah Main Street Association – None

Reports from City Departments:

Parks Department – Verbal

Solid Waste – Written

Street Department – Written

Fire Department – Verbal

911 Department – Verbal

Planning and Development – Verbal

REGULAR SESSION

5. The approval of the minutes from the August 21st City Council Meeting was removed from the Consent Agenda for further review and verification of Councilor Bliss's vote pertaining to Agenda item number 21.

6. There was no action taken regarding the **Special Needs Park at Kaufman, Felts and Lena Ave.**

7. Councilor Highers made a motion and Councilor Combs seconded to **accept a bid with Hunger Skateparks** in the amount of \$255,000 for the **Construction** of a new **skate park**.

Vote: Ayes: Combs, Highers, Mayor Nays: Bliss, Long Motion carried

8. **Report** was given from Fire Chief Ray Hammons, Tahlequah Fire Department, regarding the Tahlequah **Fire Department Response Team to Hurricane Harvey**.

Discussion item only.

9. Councilor Highers made a motion and Councilor Long seconded to enter into a **lease purchase Agreement** with Bancfirst for the amount of \$159,650 at a fixed interest rate of 2.125% over thirty-six (36) months for six **(6) vehicles** in the **Police Department** contingent upon verification of the legality of terms.

Vote: Ayes: Highers, Long, Mayor Nays: Bliss, Combs Motion carried

10. Councilor Long made a motion and Councilor Highers seconded to approve the **hire of Matthew Fritts, as a patrolman** in the Police Department, as a patrolman 1.

Vote: Ayes: Bliss, Long, Combs, Highers Nays: None Motion carried

11. Councilor Long made a motion and Councilor Highers seconded to **promote Dexter Scott to a Sergeant** in the Police Department.

Vote: Ayes: Long, Combs, Highers, Bliss Nays: None Motion carried

12. Councilor Highers made a motion and Councilor Long seconded to **hire Stephanie Aryan**, as the **Purchasing Agent** in the Managerial Department, at a grade T114, step 2.

Vote: Ayes: Combs, Highers, Bliss, Long Nays: None Motion carried

13. Councilor Highers made a motion and Councilor Long seconded to **hire Della Combs**, as a **Dispatcher in the Police Department**, at a grade T112, step 2.

Vote: Ayes: Highers, Bliss, Long Abstain: Combs Nays: None Motion carried

14. Councilor Long made a motion and Councilor Combs seconded to table the request to **amend Section 605-Performance Evaluation**, of the **Employee Handbook** of the Personnel Policies.

Vote: Ayes: Bliss, Long, Combs, Highers Nays: None Motion carried

15. Councilor Combs made a motion and Councilor Highers seconded to **change** the status of the **Finance Director, Human Resource Director, Building Inspector, and Storm Water Manager from non-exempt status to exempt status**.

Vote: Ayes: Long, Combs, Highers, Bliss Nays: None Motion carried

16. The **mid-month** special meeting will be held September 18th, 2017 at 7:00pm.

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17. **PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION** - Councilor Combs made a motion and Councilor Highers seconded to exit Regular session and enter into Executive Session at 9:23pm.

Vote: Ayes: Combs, Highers, Bliss, Long Nays: None Motion carried

Councilor Bliss exited the meeting AT 9:25pm and did not attend the EXECUTIVE SESSION.

❖ **Discussion regarding the City's future employment contract with the City Administrator Ed Carr, as provided in O.S. Title 25 Section 307 (B) (1).**

18. Mayor Nichols **Reconvened** Regular Meeting at 10:54 pm.

19. There was no action taken on a **contract with the City Administrator Ed Carr.**

20. Councilor Long made the motion and Councilor Highers seconded to **Adjourn** at 10:56 pm.

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