

**CITY OF PURCELL  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 4, 2021  
6:00 P.M.  
IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM  
OF THE POLICE SERVICE BUILDING  
1515 N GREEN AVENUE**

**MINUTES**

**Special Notice  
Applicable to the January 4, 2021 Purcell City Council Meeting**

*Because of the pandemic Coronavirus (“COVID-19”) properly wearing personal protective masks or face shields and personal distancing of at least six (6) feet will be required.*

**1. Call to order and declaration of a quorum present.**

Mayor Cox called the meeting to order and declared a quorum to be present at 6:00 p.m.

**2. Roll Call.**

Roll call was conducted by City Clerk, Dorothy Kennedy, with the following results:

Councilmen present: Danny Jacobs, Graham Fishburn, Theda Engert, Jay Tate, Ted Cox

Councilman absent: None

Staff present: Dale Bunn, Victor Lohn, Dorothy Kennedy, Bobby Elmore, James Bolling, Brooke Gaines, John Blue, Michael Minor, Brent Wilson, Jason McGrew

Counsel: Greg Dixon

**3. Pledge of Allegiance.**

Mayor Cox led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Bunn offered the invocation.

**4. Welcome.**

Mayor Cox extended a welcome to Council, Staff and Guests.

**5. Discussion of agenda items.**

Mayor Cox called for any discussion of agenda items.

**6. Approve the Consent Agenda.**

- a. **Approval of minutes for December 7, 2020, December 21, 2020 Meeting(s).**
- b. **Approval of payment of claims as presented in the Council Expense Report in the amount of \$609,380.93.**
- c. **Approval of payment of Street & Alley Claims in the amount of \$3,000.00.**
- d. **Approval of payment for Unemployment Insurance in the amount of \$0.00.**
- e. **Approval of payment of Capital Improvement Claims in the amount of \$31,748.91.**
- f. **Approval of payment of Rural Fire Claims in the amount of \$0.00**
- g. **Approval of payment of Cemetery Care \$0.00**
- h. **Approval of payment for Airport Authority in the amount of \$7,319.72**
- i. **Approval of estimated payroll in the amount of \$275,000.00.**
- j. **Approval of the Treasurer’s Financial Report.**

Councilman Jacobs made a motion second by Councilwoman Engert to remove agenda item 6(e) from the Consent Agenda and move it to agenda item 7 for discussion.

Yes: Jacobs, Engert, Fishburn, Tate, Cox                      No: None      Absent: None

Councilman Jacobs made a motion second by Councilman Fishburn to approve the balance of all other items of the consent agenda with the exception item (e).

Yes: Jacobs, Fishburn, Engert, Tate, Cox                      No: None      Absent: None

**7. Consideration and possible action on items removed from the Consent Agenda.**

Mayor Cox advised there is an expense sheet for Capital Improvement totaling \$54,848.91 to which there is a breakdown included with the Council Packet. Within the breakdown include two pickups.

Councilman Jacobs advised the City purchased two trucks, one 2016 and one 2014 both individually cost under \$25,000. These purchases are eligible to be authorized by the City Manager. Councilman Jacobs stated budget meetings were held in April in which we openly discussed equipment and manpower needs. We verbally agreed that we were not going to get any additional equipment other than what was agreed upon in the budget meeting. Councilman Jacobs stated that although there may be reasons he felt there should have been a discussion to let the Council know what was going on before purchasing.

Mr. Bunn requested Mr. Michael Minor to provide a report concerning a 2003 vehicle that was replaced. Mr. Minor explained repair cost was escalating to keep it operational and it had become unsafe. The gear shift would get stuck and would not go into park making it necessary leave it in neutral and access the emergency brake when parking. It was a dirt truck and could not carry the necessary weight, and the bed was corroded. The F150 was a replacement of that truck.

Mr. Minor advised when he was finally able to fill the crew the other truck replaced was a 1999 model, that also was experiencing extensive mechanical problems which included the transmission. The dash was no longer operational and could not be defrosted. The F250 replaced it.

Mr. Minor mentioned there was another 1998 truck that will need to be replaced. Councilman Jacobs stated that it is only four months until we begin to discuss next year budget. He asked if Mr. Minor could wait and present the need for next year's budget.

Councilman Jacobs made a motion second by Councilman Fishburn to approve Consent Agenda item 6(e) as written.

Yes: Jacobs, Fishburn, Tate, Engert, Cox                      No: None      Absent: None

**8. Presentation and discussion of the Treasurer's Financial Report.**

Mr. Lohn gave a brief financial report for the month of November 2020. Revenues outpaced expenses for the current fiscal year thru November. Tax revenue overall is up 12.10% versus last year. The City expenses were higher than revenues in November 2020. Monthly loss for November 2020 was \$24,279.75. Year to Date profit thru November is \$762,068.26.

Lights from the Heart finished the season with an increase of 68.93% in donations. Last year donations were \$25,948.44 and this year finished with \$43,834.94 a difference of \$17,886.53. We had 18 days with donations over \$1,000.00 and five of those days' donations were over \$2,000.00. This year there were two more days than that of last year.

Councilman Jacobs shared some good comments from individuals both living in Purcell and from several miles away. He stated that social media helped in bringing people in.

Councilman Fishburn stated that the Lights Display is good for the community.

Councilman Tate reported he had worked two nights and compared donation to persons attending. Both nights averaged approximately \$1 per person donated. Based on that information over 43,000 persons went through. He stated that is impressive.

**9. Presentation and discussion of the City Manager Report.**

- Mr. Bunn provided reports on the following:
- The Windstream agreement was approved last month. Valor is now trying to figure out how to verify our pole counts. Everything they requested has been provided to them.

Hospital Projects:

- Storm Sewer is completed
- The Rough Grading is completed
- The Sewer Upsizing is at 90% completion. Boring I-35 will begin next Monday.

- The Water is at 5% completion. Green Avenue has been bored and the section along Highway 74 is complete.
- The utilities are underground.
- We are dealing with delays due to rain fall.
- Erosion Control required a different way to control with rock check dams etc.
- Final Clearing and Grading and Detention Pond was awarded to D. Owen in a special meeting. This week they will begin stacking and clearing the site.
- The Chickasaw Wellness Center is progressing however the Nation discovered a fiberoptic line that we were not aware of and are working on how to proceed.
- ODOT is shorthanded and it is unclear how this might affect the Main StreetScape project regarding meeting scheduling this year.
- We lost some holiday wreaths due to wind damage and are working to improve the way they are secured.
- Mr. Bunn introduced Cassidy Desier an engineer with EST for the project. Ms. Desier gave a verbal report on the I-35 Overpass. She advised the project has begun the process of environmental and plan to have a vertical public meeting soon.

**10. Discussion and possible action concerning the purchase of “Watch Guard Body Worn Video Server, Equipment and Software”, for Police Department use.**

Chief Elmore stated he had originally brought this to the Council’s attention in a budget meeting in which he had requested \$6,500.00 to upgrade the server. He advised right before the Police Department was going to do the upgrade, he received an email from Watch Guard noting the body cameras we are currently using are obsolete. Watch Guard will no longer sell or service them. Although we have only had the product approximately six years, the software itself is approximately eleven years old.

Chief Elmore stated that we don’t want to upgrade the server, because we will not be able to run the new body cameras with the old software. He made a comparison to using an iPhone 6 when current technology is at an iPhone 12. If we continue to use this technology, we will need new cameras, server and software and software licensing. The cost for a turnkey project is \$57,660.00. The quotes began at closer to \$70,000.00 but Captain Bolling negotiated a better cost.

New vehicle equipment is also required due to the upgrade. The vehicle equipment will automatically turn on when the officer hits his lights. The estimated cost for install of the new equipment in vehicles as listed on page 6, is \$1,315.00. That cost could go down depending on how long it takes to install. Chief Elmore estimated in 10-15 years before software is obsolete and we will probably need go through this same process again.

Captain Bolling has filed for a grant with OMAG, in the amount of \$10,000 to assist in the cost. Chief Elmore stated he feels confident they will receive the grant.

Councilman Jacobs made a motion second by Councilwoman Engert to approve the Police Department to get a purchase order for the necessary purchase to upgrade.

Yes: Jacobs, Engert, Fishburn, Tate, Cox                      No: None      Absent: None

**11. Discussion and possible action concerning a recommendation from the Library Advisory Board to appoint the following:**

- a. Jason Midkiff for a first-year term**
- b. Katie Blue for the second term**

Councilman Jacobs made a motion second by Councilwoman Engert to approve the Library Advisory Board appointments as written.

Yes: Jacobs, Engert, Tate, Fishburn, Cox                      No: None      Absent: None

**12. Discussion and possible action concerning a recommendation from the Parks Board to appoint Tyler Norcom to fill a position vacated by Josh Huff.**

Councilman Fishburn made a motion second by Councilwoman Engert to appointment of Tyler Norcom to fill a vacant position.

Yes: Fishburn, Engert, Tate, Jacobs, Cox                      No: None      Absent: None

**13. Discussion and possible action concerning RESOLUTION No. 21-C01 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PURCELL FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESERVING AND DESIGNATING CEMETERY LOTS FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING BURIAL SPACES FOR VETERANS USE AND AMEND RESOLUTION NO. 86-279.**

Councilman Fishburn made a motion second by Councilman Tate to approve Resolution No. 21-C01 as written.

Yes: Fishburn, Tate, Jacobs, Engert, Cox                      No: None    Absent: None

**14. Discussion and possible action concerning RESOLUTION No. 21-C02 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PURCELL ESTABLISHING DESIGNATING AND SETTING ASIDE CEMETERY LOTS AS A POTTER'S FIELD TO PROVIDE BURIAL SPACES FOR INDIGENT CITIZENS, AND AMENDING RESOLUTIONS NO. 87-280 AND 96-C04 BY ADDING ADDITIONAL LOTS TO THOSE ALRERADY DESIGNATED FOR INDIGENT BURIAL.**

Councilman Fishburn made a motion second by Councilman Tate to approve Resolution No. 21-C02 as written.

Yes: Fishburn, Tate, Engert, Jacobs, Cox                      No: None    Absent: None

**15. Discussion and possible action concerning RESOLUTION No. 21-C03 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PURCELL ESTABLISHING DESIGNATING CEMETERY LOTS AS BABY LAND, AND AMEND ANY AND ALL OTHER RESOLUTIONS IN CONFLICT TO THIS RESOLUTION;**

Mayor Cox stated lots 329, 328 and 403 are designated on the Cemetery Map, but are not listed on the resolution.

Mayor Cox made a motion second by Councilman Jacobs to adopt Resolution No. 21-C03 with an amendment of adding lots 328, 329 and 403.

Yes: Cox, Jacobs, Fishburn, Engert, Tate                      No: None    Absent: None

*Mayor Cox declared the meeting to be recessed in order to enter the Purcell Public Works Authority Meeting at 7:07 p.m.*

*Mayor Cox declared the City Meeting back in session at 7:29 p.m.*

**16. Receive Governing Body Training from Oklahoma Municipal Assurance Group concerning Best Practices.**

Mr. Bill Tacket, David Weatherford and Aubrey Weatherford. Presented training on Best Practices for Municipalities to the Council Members.

Mr. Weatherford presented the Best Practice and went over a Stability Test. The goal is to determine the stability of the City.

**17. Discussion and possible action concerning Resolution No. C-04 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE OMAG RECOGNITION PROGRAM.**

Councilman Jacobs made a motion second by Councilwoman Engert to approve Resolution No. C-04 as written.

Yes: Jacobs, Engert, Fishburn, Tate, Cox                      No: None    Absent: None

**18. City Council Comments.**

Councilman Tate thanked the City, and all involved with the Christmas Lights. He felt the Lights are a great benefit for our City. He passed along two citizen suggestions. The first was to pass out bigger mints. The second is to install some sort of reflector strips to assist in driving through. Mr. Bunn advised this is something that the City is working on.

Councilwoman Engert asked about the popcorn at the Lights Display. Mr. Blue explained there was some consistency issues and advertisement complications.

Councilman Fishburn Happy New Year. He stated 2020 was a rough year and asked if there was an update on when vaccines would be available. Chief Elmore advised they are being done in phases. Phase 1 is Nursing homes, phase 2 Public Safety employees.

Councilman Jacobs shared concerns about having the same auditor for a number of years. Discussion to place request for professional services proposal on the agenda.

Mayor Cox thanked the City for sending flowers after his dad passed away. He stated that PPP2 just came out. The hospital could potentially qualify for loan money. He also stated that he would like discussion on February agenda concerning Council thoughts or concerns regarding budget items. One suggestion Mayor Cox made was to make the Christmas Lights its own department rather than generically in economic development.

**19. City Manager and staff comments.**

No comments were made by the City Manager or staff.

**20. City Attorney comments.**

Mr. Dixon had no comments.

**21. Adjourn.**

Mayor Cox declared the meeting to be adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

*Approved this 1st day of February 2021*

**Attest:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Ted Cox, Mayor**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Dorothy Kennedy, City Clerk**