

**CITY OF PURCELL  
REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 3, 2020  
6:00 P.M.  
IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM  
OF THE POLICE SERVICE BUILDING  
1515 N GREEN AVENUE**

**Special Notice  
Applicable to the August 3, 2020 Purcell City Council Meeting**

*All Council Members will be in attendance in person.*

*Because of the pandemic Coronavirus (“COVID-19”) personal distancing of at least six (6) feet will be adhered to. We also encourage wearing personal protective masks.*

**MINUTES**

**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 6:04 p.m.

**2. Roll Call.**

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

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

Councilman absent: Theda Engert was absent at roll call but joined the meeting already in progress at 6:06 p.m.

Staff present: Dale Bunn, Victor Lohn, Dorothy Kennedy, Bobby Elmore, John Blue, Josh Van Oort, Dakota Norman, Clent Kennedy, Greg Cypert, Rocky Claunch

Counsel: Ted Haxel, Chris Lind

**3. Pledge of Allegiance.**

Mayor Cox led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Bunn offered the invocation.

**4. Welcome.**

Mayor Cox welcomed Council, Staff and guests.

*Councilwoman Engert joined the meeting already in progress at 6:06 p.m..*

**5. Discussion of agenda items.**

Mayor Cox called for any discussion of agenda items. There was no discussion.

**6. Approve the Consent Agenda.**

- a. Approval of minutes for July 6, 2020 Meeting.
- b. Approval of payment of claims as presented in the Council Expense Report in the amount of \$728,587.92.
- c. Approval of payment of Street & Alley Claims in the amount of \$2,462.43.
- 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 \$99,121.74.
- f. Approval of payment of Rural Fire Claims in the amount of \$1,523.20.
- g. Approval of payment for Airport Authority in the amount of \$0.0
- h. Approval of estimated payroll in the amount of \$275,000.00.
- i. Approval of the Treasurer’s Financial Report.
- j. Approval of Change Order #1 for Hammer Construction to remove material from the New Purcell Municipal Hospital construction site that cannot be properly compacted, replacing with satisfactory dirt found on the site, at a cost of \$21,628.

Councilman Jacobs made a motion second by Councilman Fishburn to approve the Consent Agenda as written.

Yes: Jacobs, Fishburn, Engert, Tate, Cox

No: None Absent: None

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

There were no items removed from the Consent Agenda.

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

Treasurer Victor Lohn gave an oral report for June 2020. Revenues were outpaced by expenses for the current fiscal year thru June. Tax revenue overall is flat. The City revenue was higher than expenses in June 2020. Monthly profit for June 2020 was \$59,583.81. Year to Date loss thru June 2020 is \$508,606.37.

Mayor Cox stated that Sales Tax was up slightly for the year. He also noted Use Tax was up a little more and was probably due to online purchases.

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

Mr. Bunn reported on the following projects:

- Basketball Court status presents a bit of a dilemma. Mr. Bunn advised we have gone to the bonding company concerning the condition of the courts but haven't gotten very far. The bonding company for the contractor and the subcontractor is the same company and they are dragging their feet. Mr. Haxel advised he would look into it.
- We have had some employees who have checked positive for Coronavirus from the Electric, Water, Street, Police and Fire Departments.
- Lake Trails the Bathroom sewer system needs DEQ approval of the aeration system.
- Lake Trails Phase 2 has started. Surveys are complete and planning is being done by Guernsey Engineer.
- Hospital Projects: The Storm Sewer has been completed. The Rough Grading has started and there is a Rough Grading change order for \$21,000 in the Consent Agenda. The change order concerns when the contractor got to the west end of the water way, they discovered a canyon that had a lot of concrete in it. They could not fill over the concrete and it had to be removed. The Contractor was able to find all the dirt that was needed on site. The Sewer preconstruction meeting was held, and that contractor is moving in material now. The Water line will begin in late July early August.
- Water Well is complete and the casing has gone in. A twenty-four hour test pump revealed the new well pumped 150 gallons per minute. This exceeds the test well results and pumps about the same as other wells we have in the area.
- The sewer line between Pierce and Harrison pipe bursting has been completed and they are reconnecting the services. The sensitive area is complete.
- The Bureau of Indian Affairs is working through the Chickasaw Wellness Center.
- ESP is beginning on the plans for the Interchange.
- ODOT removed our Tourist Interest signs from I-35 due to their damaged condition. We paid for the repair and ODOT has put them back up for us.
- He reported that Jimmy New retired in July.

**10. Discussion and possible action concerning an address from the Heart of Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce concerning a lodging tax referendum for an upcoming election.**

Ms. Elizabeth Baker and Allen Eubank presented a power point proposal concerning a possible lodging tax for our community. Mr. Eubank stated the community has many economic develop needs but limited resources to meet the needs. The Chamber is proposing a lodging tax. He reported that it is an accepted practice and would bring in unrealized funds for economic development purposes. Mr. Eubank stated the Chamber contends if the revenue is spent on things that draw additional clientele, it would benefit the lodging industry as well as other merchants in Purcell. He said this would in turn bring in additional sales tax to the community.

Mr. Eubank stated the tax would be for hotels, motels, Airbnb's, bed and breakfast, RV parks and other entities that collect daily fees for overnight stay. The proposed tax amount is 5%. He also said that this does not assess any new taxation to residents of our community. Mr. Eubank explained this is comparable to surrounding communities. If the revenue is spent right it can attract more people to our community.

To realize the goal Mr. Eubank stated the steps are to establish an election date, create both a resolution and an ordinance. He also suggested that a Vote YES Committee be created that would educate the community and get the word out. The proposal also recommends the creation of a Trust Authority Board which would dispense funds per guidelines established by the City.

Councilman Fishburn made a motion second by Councilwoman Engert to approve to proceed with creating resolution that would allow citizens to vote on a lodging tax.

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

Mayor Cox thanked the Chamber for their efforts in putting together this proposal.

**11. Discussion and possible action concerning Resolution No. 20-C12 a resolution of the City Council of the city of Purcell (Purcell) for the purpose of amending the speed limits on State Highway 74 (Grant Street) between Green Avenue and the corporate limits of the City of Purcell as specifically set forth in Resolution No. 20-C12.**

Mr. Bunn advised this resolution comes at the recommendation of ODOT. The purpose is to decrease the speed limits on Hwy 74 from Grant Street to the corporate limits of the City. It also includes a School Zone speed limit at 30 miles per hour.

Councilman Tate inquired if the speed limit was true of the same stretch of roadway coming back into the City Limits from the direction of Washington. Mr. Bunn affirmed, that it was.

Councilman Fishburn made a motion second by Councilman Tate to approve Resolution No. 20-C12 for the purpose of amending the speed limits on State Highway 74 (Grant Street) between Green Avenue and the corporate limits of the City of Purcell as specifically set forth in Resolution No. 20-C12.

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

**12. Discussion and possible action concerning an address from Roger Mayes proposing residents surfacing Deer Ridge Drive and request the City to maintain it.**

Mr. Bunn explained that he has had conversations with Mr. Mayes concerning Deer Ridge Drive. He stated according to Oklahoma State Statute, Title 11 and Title 94 the City is responsible to maintain section line roads located inside their corporate limits. The residents living on Deer Ridge Drive have made an agreement with the County to chip and seal the road. They will pay the City for the supplies and the City will pay in turn the County. At that point the City would maintain the road.

Mayor Cox stated if it is indeed a public road, the sign of private road would need to be removed.

**13. Discussion and possible action concerning the possible purchase a 2020 Ford F550 Extended Cab, From Bob Moore Ford LLC, from State Bid pricing in the amount of \$50,962 for Fire Department use.**

Rocky Claunch presented to the Council that this truck was what the Fire Department had requested in the budget.

Councilman Jacobs made a motion second by Councilwoman Engert to approve the purchase of a 2020 Ford F550 Extended Cab as written.

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

**14. Discussion and possible action concerning Budget Amendment No. GF-2021-1 increasing Sales Tax and Trsf In Revenue for a total revenue increase of \$132,581.60 and increasing appropriations Trsf Out – Cap Imp, Trsf Out – PMH and Purcell Municipal Hospital for a total appropriations increase in the amount of \$132,581.60, to distribute excess Sales Tax to Capital Improvement and PMH for the 2019-2020 fiscal year.**

Mr. Lohn stated this is end of the year housekeeping.

Councilman Jacobs made a motion second by Councilman Fishburn to approve Budget Amendment No. GF-2021-1 as written.

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

**15. Discussion and possible action concerning appointment of Carolyn Cummings to the Purcell Senior Citizen Board for a term as appointment by Mayor Cox expiring 06-30-2022.**

Councilman Jacobs made a motion second by Councilwoman Engert to approve the Mayor's appointment of Carolyn Cummings to the Senior Citizens Board as written.

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

*Mayor Cox declared the meeting to be in recess at 6:48 to enter into the Public Works Authority Meeting.*

*Mayor Cox declared the meeting to be in joint session at 7:09 p.m.*

**16. City Council Comments.**

Councilman Tate asked concerning the economic development high speed internet fiberoptic line to come to Purcell that was discussed last month. He asked if there is a possibility of the City offering high speed internet to residential customers on their utility bills. Mr. Bunn replied the first step to qualify as economic development being offered to businesses. He added that he had already asked them to build a system that could serve residential customers as well.

Councilman Fishburn stated that he was unable to stay until last month's meeting was over. He had wanted to say that he was thankful for being re-elected and is anxious to continue to serve the citizens of Purcell.

Mayor Cox stated he had been contacted by a citizen asking if the geese at the lake were a hazard to air travel. Mr. Bunn stated that we have not had any complaints.

Mayor Cox also mention the visual impairment caused by the Crepe Myrtle trees in the center median of Green Avenue. He stated Green Avenue needs to be considered island by island. He added that the worst intersection seems to be in the west bound turn lane of Jefferson and Green. Chief Elmore advised Lincoln and Green needs to be looked at for the same reason. Mr. Bunn informed the Council that John Blue is working on a plan.

**17. City Manager and staff comments.**

There were no comments from City Manager or staff.

**18. City Attorney comments.**

There were no comments from City Attorney.

**19. Adjourn.**

Mayor Cox declared the meeting to be adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

*Approved this 8th day of September, 2020*

**Attest:**

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**Ted Cox, Mayor**

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**Dorothy Kennedy, City Clerk**