



City Hall, Council Chambers  
401 S. Johnstone Avenue  
Bartlesville, OK 74003

**MINUTES OF THE  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BARTLESVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
Tuesday, September 6, 2022  
7 p.m.**

**Mayor Dale Copeland  
918-338-4282**

**MINUTES**

(The Notice of Meeting was posted December 15, 2021  
and the Agenda was posted September 1, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.)

Present were Mayor Dale Copeland, Vice Mayor Jim Curd, Jr., Councilmembers Trevor Dorsey, Paul Stuart, and Billie Roane.

City staff present were Mike Bailey, City Manager, Jason Muninger, City Clerk/CFO; Tommy Brown, Acting City Attorney; Terry Lauritsen, Director of Water Utilities; Keith Henry, Director of Public Works; Shellie McGill, Director of the Library; Kelli Williams, Chief Communications Officer; Mike Richardson, Director of the Municipal Airport; Greg Collins, Assistant Community Development Director; Shelley Charles, Engineering; Capt. Troy Newell; Deputy Chief Rocky Bevard; Capt. Jay Hastings, Security; and Elaine Banes, Executive Assistant.

- 1. The business meeting of the Bartlesville City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Copeland.**
- 2. Roll call was held and a quorum established.**
- 3. The invocation was provided by Mayor Copeland.**
- 4. Citizens to be heard.**

Mary McCormick spoke in favor of the Natural Landscape Ordinance and offered some insight into natural landscaping.

Shawn Barker thanked the City Council and staff for researching and developing a solution regarding natural landscape yards.

- 5. City Council Announcements and Proclamations.**
  - Councilmember Roane read the Constitution Week September 17-23, 2022 Proclamation.
  - Mayor Copeland read the Homeless Awareness Month September 2022 Proclamation.
- 6. Authorities, Boards, Commissions and Committee Openings**
  - One opening on the White Rose Cemetery Board.

Mayor Copeland read the openings and encouraged citizens to volunteer on City Committees. Applications can be found at [www.cityofbartlesville.org](http://www.cityofbartlesville.org) or at City Hall in the City Manager's Office.

## **7. Consent Docket**

### **a. Approval of Minutes**

- i. The Regular Meeting Minutes of August 1, 2022.
- ii. The Special Meeting Minutes of August 15, 2022.
- iii. The Special Meeting Minutes of August 24, 2022.

### **b. Approval or Ratification of Appointments to Authorities, Boards, Commissions, and Committees.**

- i. Appointment of Ms. Denise Parks to fill an unexpired term on the Bartlesville History Museum Trust authority at the recommendation of Councilmember Roane.
- ii. Appointment of Ms. Rosie Swindell to a three year term on the White Rose Cemetery Board at the recommendation of Mayor Copeland.
- iii. Reappointment of Mr. Jay Webster to an additional term of three years on the Community Center Trust Authority at the recommendation of Mayor Copeland.
- iv. Reappointment of Ms. Jessica Rovenstine to an additional term of three years on the Bartlesville History Museum Trust Authority at the recommendation of Councilmember Roane.

### **c. Approval of Agreements, Contracts, Engagement Letters and Change Orders**

- i. Amended Washington County SPCA contract with the City of Bartlesville including the adoption of the proposed ordinance amending Chapter 3, Section 3-25 of the Bartlesville Municipal Code.
- ii. Contract between the Bartlesville Pubic Library Literacy Services/City of Bartlesville and the Oklahoma Department of Libraries for grant funds that provides the annual salary of the Immigration & Citizenship Literacy Assistant.
- iii. Contract between the City of Bartlesville/Bartlesville Public Library Literacy Services and the Oklahoma Department of Libraries for grant funding for literacy technology in the amount of \$2,542.00.
- iv. Grant Agreement for Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Project No. 3-40-0007-017-2022 at the Bartlesville Municipal Airport.
- v. Airport Hangar Lease Agreement between the City of Bartlesville/Bartlesville Municipal Airport and Travis Reese for hangar space for one RV aircraft and one conference room in the NW corner of Hangar 8 in the amount of \$300.00 per month.
- vi. Statement of Work Agreement between the City of Bartlesville and NorthStar Utilities Solutions for database extracts as part of the transition to the new Utility Billing software purchased from Tyler Technologies in the amount of \$38,000.
- vii. Professional service agreement with Craig and Keithline, Inc. for engineering services to relocate water and sanitary sewer facilities required by ODOT's rehabilitation of US 60 between SH 123 and US 75.
- viii. Agreement between Truth Tabernacle of Bartlesville, Inc., and the City of Bartlesville, for the Completion of Required Site Development Improvements and Dedication of Right-of-Way along property addressed as 4011 NE Nebraska Street, legally described as a part of the West Half of the Southeast Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 4, Township 26 North, Range 13 East of the Indian Base and Meridian, Washington County, Oklahoma.
- ix. Agreement concerning deferment of platting and construction of public improvements, between John E. and Kimberly K. Thompson, and the City of Bartlesville, regarding property legally described as a part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southwest Quarter of Section 3, Township 26 North, Range 13 East of the Indian Base and Meridian, Washington County, Oklahoma.

**d. Receipt of Financials**

- i. Interim Financials for one month ending July 31, 2022.

**e. Receipt of Bids**

- i. Bid No. 2022-2023-008 for M.J. Lee Lake Area Parking & Soccer Field Additions

Mayor Copeland read the consent docket in its entirety. Ms. Roane pulled Items 7.b.i-iv. and Item 7.c.iv., and Mr. Stuart pulled Item 7.c.i. from the consent docket for further discussion.

Mr. Stuart moved to approve the consent docket with the exception of Item 7.b.i-iv., 7.c.iv. and 7.c.i., seconded by Ms. Roane.

Aye: Ms. Roane, Mr. Stuart, Mr. Dorsey, Vice Mayor Curd, Mayor Copeland

Nay: None

Motion: Passed

**7.b. Approval or Ratification of Appointments to Authorities, Boards, Commissions, and Committees.**

- i. Appointment of Ms. Denise Parks to fill an unexpired term on the Bartlesville History Museum Trust authority at the recommendation of Councilmember Roane.
- ii. Appointment of Ms. Rosie Swindell to a three year term on the White Rose Cemetery Board at the recommendation of Mayor Copeland.
- iii. Reappointment of Mr. Jay Webster to an additional term of three years on the Community Center Trust Authority at the recommendation of Mayor Copeland.
- iv. Reappointment of Ms. Jessica Rovenstine to an additional term of three years on the Bartlesville History Museum Trust Authority at the recommendation of Councilmember Roane.

Ms. Roane recognized and appreciated each volunteer who was appointed and reappointed.

**7.c. Approval of Agreements, Contracts, Engagement Letters and Change Orders**

- i. Amended Washington County SPCA contract with the City of Bartlesville including the adoption of the proposed ordinance amending Chapter 3, Section 3-25 of the Bartlesville Municipal Code.

Mr. Stuart pointed out that the first sentence in Sec. 3-25.D.1. may be confusing, so he suggested it be edited from "Pet owners may apply for and purchase license tags or microchips at the Washington County S.P.C.A." to "Pet owners may apply for microchips at the Washington County S.P.C.A." The confusion lying in the fact that license tags can only be purchased at the Bartlesville Police Department which is set out in the second sentence of Sec. 3-25.D.1.

**7.c. Approval of Agreements, Contracts, Engagement Letters and Change Orders**

- iv. Grant Agreement for Airport Improvement Program (AIP) Project No. 3-40-0007-017-2022 at the Bartlesville Municipal Airport.

Ms. Roane wanted to bring attention to the grant provided by the FAA in the amount of \$504,038 for airport development, and thank the FAA for their generous grant.

Mr. Stuart moved to approve Items 7.b.i-iv, 7.c.i. and 7.c.iv., with the amendment to the animal ordinance included in Item 7.c.i., seconded by Vice Mayor Curd.

Aye: Mr. Stuart, Mr. Dorsey, Vice Mayor Curd, Ms. Roane, Mayor Copeland  
Nay: None  
Motion: Passed

**8. Discuss and take possible action to award Bid No. 2021-2022-005 for Concrete. Presented by Councilmember Dorsey.**

Mr. Dorsey reported there were no bids received from vendors for concrete. Concrete is available from local vendors at current market price as needed.

Mr. Dorsey moved to authorize staff to purchase concrete from local vendors as needed, seconded by Vice Mayor Curd.

Aye: Mr. Dorsey, Vice Mayor Curd, Ms. Roane, Mr. Stuart, Mayor Copeland  
Nay: None  
Motion: Passed

**9. Discuss and take possible action to award Bid No. 2022-2023-006 Part I for Asphaltic Concrete & Part II for Aggregate Base. Presented by Councilmember Dorsey.**

Mr. Dorsey moved to award Bid No. 2022-2023-006 Part 1 to APAC-Central, Inc., Tulsa, OK, in the amounts provided on the attached form, seconded by Mr. Stuart.

Aye: Vice Mayor Curd, Ms. Roane, Mr. Stuart, Mr. Dorsey, Mayor Copeland  
Nay: None  
Motion: Passed

Mr. Dorsey moved to award Bid No. 2022-2023-006 Part II to Bison Materials, LLC, Bartlesville, OK, in the amounts provided on the attached form, seconded by Vice Mayor Curd..

Aye: Ms. Roane, Mr. Stuart, Mr. Dorsey, Vice Mayor Curd, Mayor Copeland  
Nay: None  
Motion: Passed

**10. Discuss and take possible action to award Bid No. 2022-2023-008 for M.J. Lee Lake Area Parking and Soccer Field Additions. Presented by Councilmember Roane.**

Ms. Roane moved to award Bid No. 2022-2023-008 base bid with no alternates to Paragon Contractors, Tulsa, OK, in the amount of \$588,501, seconded by Mr. Stuart.

Aye: Mr. Stuart, Mr. Dorsey, Vice Mayor Curd, Ms. Roane, Mayor Copeland  
Nay: None  
Motion: Passed

**11. Discuss and take possible action on a recommendation from the Bartlesville Development Authority to allocate \$500,000 from the Economic Development Fund to expand the *Resident Recruitment Program* to include all primary industry employers within the City of Bartlesville for up to 18 months or until funds are depleted. Presented by David Wood, President, Bartlesville Development Authority.**

Mr. Wood reported that in 2020, the Bartlesville Development Authority (BDA) tentatively stepped out of their traditional box by redirecting employer incentives that were traditionally \$10,000 per net/new job, to the employee upon purchasing a home in Bartlesville. The Resident Recruitment Program (RRP) has been successful, thus far resulting in 17 new, well-employed residents contributing to our sales tax base. The 17<sup>th</sup> employee stated that the RRP was the deciding factor in establishing their residence in Bartlesville. With the acute labor shortage, staff proposes consideration of expanding the RRP to include all primary industry employers within the City of Bartlesville. Conversations with major employers suggests that this employee benefit would provide a competitive advantage for recruiting employees to Bartlesville industries, and each recipient would become a resident sales tax generator. Qualifications are largely the same as with Concho, PAA, Phoenix Rising, etc. with some initial proposed modifications relocating employees will be offered such as: 1) \$10,000 cash upon the purchase of a primary residence within the City of Bartlesville; 2) \$20,000 cash assistance for new custom construction of a primary residence within the City of Bartlesville; or 3) \$10,000 cash assistance for new custom construction of a primary residence outside the city limits but within the Bartlesville School District.

Mr. Wood continued by that additional considerations suggested by local employers are offering existing employees who currently do not reside in Bartlesville eligibility if they were to purchase or rent a primary residence and move to Bartlesville. While this is a departure from incentivizing new jobs, the cost/benefit remains the same for Bartlesville's sales tax collections. A significant number of new hires are young, single, and not in a position to purchase a home immediately upon job acceptance. With this in mind, BDA proposes scaling back the incentive commensurate with the commitment and extending a benefit of up to 25% (\$2,500) to new or existing primary industry employees that elect to move to Bartlesville and rent their primary residence, with a minimum six-month lease commitment. Further, to drive resident retention, staff recommends that \$7,500 in relocation incentive be carried forward should the renter wish to convert to a Bartlesville homeowner, or for renters which then contract for the construction a new, custom home, \$17,500 in carry forward incentive, provided the allocated funds and remain available.

BDA staff proposes a one-time allocation of \$500,000 from the Economic Development Fund to support the program, available on a first-come/first-served basis for an 18 month period, or until the funds are exhausted, whichever comes first. This would, minimally, represent 50 new homeowner households, or at maximum, 200 new residential tenants. For proforma purposes, BDA estimates 100 new residents at a cost of \$5,000 each vs. Bartlesville's historical job-creation incentive (with or without capturing a resident) of \$10,000 per job.

Continuing, Mr. Wood reported that unlike BDA's previous engagement in residential relocation involving individual companies with ten or more anticipated new hires, this proposed expansion will involve scores of Bartlesville primary industries with, potentially, hundreds of new-resident applicants. BDA is ill-equipped to administer this level of volume without substantially impairing performance of its primary mission of primary industry and retail recruitment. While BDA will facilitate the funding and provide operational oversight, the Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce has volunteered to handle the daily administration as a value-added service to their qualified membership. He added that contrary to rumor, the relationship between the BDA and Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce is one of cooperation and shared goals which focus on the success of Bartlesville. He stated his respect for and appreciation of Sherri Wilt, President of the Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce, and her staff.

Given the structure, expanding the Resident Recruitment Program appears to have very little financial risk as every recipient of RRP funds will become a contributing resident. In this regard, the redirection of our traditional \$10,000 incentive for new job creation reduces the risk of receiving little to no value from incentivizing a pool of non-resident employees.

Discussion covered the great opportunity this will provide; remote workers and if they would qualify, which could be a possibility at a later date; how the program is innovative in anchoring new hires; and how it may assist in building the City's committee's volunteer pool.

Vice Mayor Curd moved to approve allocating \$500,000 from the Economic Development fund to expand the Resident Recruitment Program for up to 18 months or until funds are depleted, seconded by Ms. Roane.

Aye: Mr. Dorsey, Vice Mayor Curd, Ms. Roane, Mr. Stuart, Mayor Copeland

Nay: None

Motion: Passed

**12. Discuss and take possible action to adopt an Ordinance amending Chapter 11 of the Bartlesville Municipal Code as it pertains to nuisances and property enhancement for the purposes of allowing and regulating managed natural landscape areas. Presented by Mike Bailey, City Manager.**

Mr. Bailey reported that over a year ago, the City Council heard a presentation by Councilmember Stuart on possible amendments to the municipal code that would permit and create rules for citizens wishing to convert all or most of their yard from turf grass to a managed natural landscape. During this presentation, Mr. Stuart discussed the many advantages of natural landscape including reduced irrigation and chemical needs, lower maintenance costs, soil improvement, increased runoff absorption, and various other benefits. The City Council and the City's Community Development Director, Lisa Beeman, discussed the existing rules for yards. Ms. Beeman explained that there were currently no rules prohibiting the replacement of turf grass with natural landscape, so the citizens of Bartlesville would be within their rights to convert their yards as proposed by Mr. Stuart without an amendment to the Code. The Council and Ms. Beeman agreed to utilize Mr. Stuart's yard as a pilot project to gather more information about these types of conversions and their impact on neighborhoods. During the intervening months, staff received input from our community on this pilot. As it had been in existence for over a year, the Council elected to meet on Monday, August 15 to hear the results of the pilot project and conduct a discussion about possible amendments to the municipal code that would best address the concerns of all parties. Despite significant input from the public prior to the meeting, only one citizen attended the meeting to speak on this issue. During the meeting, the Council, staff, and one citizen who spoke on the issue, identified a number of concerns with the existing municipal code and offered suggestions.

The draft ordinance that Council considered on August 15 has been amended to address the concerns that were raised at and subsequent to that meeting. The changes are summarized as follows: 1) clarified that the amendment dealing with "managed natural landscaping area" only applies to yards if all or most of the yard is being converted to this turf grass alternative; 2) this does not impact traditional yards, landscape beds, gardens, flower beds, trees, shrubs, or bushes; 3) expanded the list of plants that may be used in a managed natural landscape area to include all plants that are identified by the OSU extension as appropriate for Oklahoma as well as adding a section that allows the Community Development Director to make exceptions to the authorized plant list; 4) granted Community Development Director discretion to deal with unique circumstances not contemplated in the ordinance such as working with property owners on time allowed for yards to be brought into compliance,

grandfather existing managed natural landscape areas that do not meet regulations if the yards do not have a history of code complaints, make exceptions to transition areas for unusual sidewalk locations, or other unique features of the yard not contemplated herein; and 5) clarified existing language relating to agricultural exemptions and the measurement of the required buffer area.

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Bailey illustrated the current rules allowing for landscaping, as well as the proposed rules, including a recap of the significant features included in the proposed ordinance as follows:

- Added definition of managed natural landscaping area-made clear that this was only intended to regulate an area that occupied most or all of a yard.
- Added various other definitions for clarity but did not change regulations on any of the defined terms
- Provided that a managed natural landscape area is exempt from the section of the code that defines “unmanaged vegetation growth” thus allowing them to be grown greater than twelve inches (similar to other landscaping, gardens, shrubs, bushes, and trees)
- Required any part of a managed natural landscaping area that is visible from the street, sidewalk, or alley to meet the following requirements: eliminate all turf grass; clearly define the boundaries of the area with growth greater than 12” to be defined by a durable border of some sort that could include edging, rock, brick, fence, etc.; maintain a transition area that is at least 10’ from the street or 5’ from the sidewalk, whichever is greater, that cannot contain plantings taller than 12” ; maintain a transition area that is at least 5’ from the side and rear lot lines that cannot contain plantings taller than 12” (some exceptions to this rule are allowed); the managed natural landscape area that contains plantings taller than 12” cannot occupy more than 50% of the visible yard; Plantings taller than 4’ must be planted within 15’ of a building or house; must be cut at least once annually to a height no greater than 12”; and contains only approved plants

Mr. Bailey concluded that after lengthy discussions between City Staff, City Council, and the public, Staff feels that the proposed ordinance provides a balance that preserves the interests of all property owners. It is important to remember that conversion of turf grass yards to a managed natural landscape area is permitted under our current code. However, our existing rules do not provide guidance on the items that the public has expressed an interest in seeing addressed. The ordinance maintains the freedom of residents to convert their yards to managed natural landscape areas, and it also provides rules for these areas that attempt to preserve the aesthetic integrity of our neighborhoods. If passed, the Community Development Director will begin addressing yards to ensure they are compliant and whether or not grandfather status can be granted (no code violations reported prior to date). He also added that Ms. McCormick has offered to consolidate the plant list on the OSU extension into a Bartlesville plan. Her assistance is appreciated as is input from anyone who has an interest in this program.

Discussion ensued covering how there are existing natural landscape yards that are in compliance; the ordinance can be amended if needed as the project proceeds; Ms. Roane had received several (41) emails, calls and conversations regarding the project where all 41 were not in favor of passing the ordinance; Ms. Roane made her statement that there are many natural landscape yards in Bartlesville but they do not look like Mr. Stuart’s pilot project yard; Vice Mayor Curd suggested a more clearly defined bordering material in Section 3.b. with the Mayor suggesting adding verbiage “impermeable border”; Vice Mayor Curd also recommended changing Section 3.e. to 40% from 50%; changing the coverage from 40% to 50% is not very equitable according to Mr. Stuart; the Home Owners Association is silent on the coverage issue in his neighborhood per Mr. Stuart; Home Owners Association rules are

to be followed; and that the proposed ordinance does not affect Home Owners Associations rules.

Vice Mayor Curd moved to adopt the ordinance amending Chapter 11 as presented with the edit on 3.e. "Any natural landscape area exceeding twelve inches (12%) in height may occupy no more than forty percent (40%) ~~forty percent (40%)~~ ~~fifty percent (50%)~~ of the existing yard area visible from the public right-of-way", seconded by Mr. Dorsey.

□

Aye: Vice Mayor Curd, Mr. Dorsey,  
Nay: Ms. Roane, Mr. Stuart, Mayor Copeland  
Motion: Failed

Vice Mayor Curd moved to adopt the ordinance amending Chapter 11 as presented with an edit to include the underlined verbiage to 3.b. as follows: "Is clearly defined by a solid, impermeable barrier such as landscape border, edging, rock, brick, fence or similar material", seconded by Mr. Dorsey.

Ms. Roane stated her appreciation of Mr. Stuart for doing the pilot program with his yard.

Aye: Mr. Stuart, Mr. Dorsey, Vice Mayor Curd, Mayor Copeland  
Nay: Ms. Roane  
Motion: Passed

### **13. Presentation and discussion on the Conference Center Feasibility Study. Presented by Vice Mayor Curd.**

Vice Mayor Curd reported In December 2021, the City Council executed a non-binding letter of intent between the City of Bartlesville and the First Christian Church (FCC). The intent of this letter was to set the terms of a possible, future agreement between the City and FCC. In short, FCC wished to donate their facility to the City of Bartlesville, but it was their desire that the building be converted into a conference center that would maintain the architectural integrity of the building. This donation by their Church board is respected and greatly appreciated. In June 2022, the City Council executed a lease agreement with FCC and as part of this lease, the City took over operations and maintenance of the facility. The City Council also executed an agreement with Hunden Partners to perform a feasibility study for a possible conference center in Bartlesville with the FCC site to be considered as a possible location.

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Vice Mayor Curd provided Hunden's findings. A summary of the significant findings of the report are: 1) there is an unmet demand for a small to medium sized conference center in Bartlesville with a total function space of 17,000 SF, support space of 17,000 SF and a total gross space of 34,000; 2) The FCC site is preferred based on its location and accessibility to other walkable amenities; 3) a partial demolition that preserves the sanctuary combined with new construction was deemed to be the most cost-effective way to meet all objectives; 4) the cost to convert the FCC building is high at an estimated \$17,000,000 and 5) The new conference center is estimated to run at about a \$200,000 deficit per year that would need to be offset by some other funding source such as lodging tax, general revenues, etc.

Vice Mayor Curd recognized the ad hoc committee comprised of Vice Mayor Curd, City Manager Mike Bailey, Community Development Director Lisa Beeman, Engineering Director Micah Siemers, CFO Jason Muninger, Community Center Director Val Callaghan, Visit Bartlesville Director Maria Swindell-Gus, and former Councilmember Alan Gentges who



reviewed the report and met to discuss recommendations to the Council. The ad hoc committee believes that tax increases for both ad valorem and lodging tax would be necessary to build and operate the facility, and we do not believe that now is the best time to pursue this project. As such, the committee does not recommend building a conference center at this time. However, recognizing the importance of the building to the Community Center, Price Tower, Tower Center campus, and the potential for a future conference center/hotel development, they do believe that there are many possibilities for the FCC site that will contribute to and enhance the Tower Center Arts District at this time.

Continuing, Vice Mayor Curd reported that Staff and the committee members recommend that the City maintain possession of the building and issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for interested parties who would like to lease the building from the City. Proposals should demonstrate that they meet a community need and that the proposed use of the facility would not hamper or damage the development of Tower Center Arts District. In addition to the previous conditions, the City should include the following conditions in the RFP: 1) City will agree to contribute \$2M to the renovation of the facility pending passage of the next G.O. Bond; 2) Tenant will agree to a triple net lease that covers utilities, operations, insurance, and maintenance of the facility and 3) Tenant will agree to a lease term that matches the repayment term of the G.O. bonds that will be used to renovate the building. It was agreed that this approach will allow the City to explore options for the facility that preserve it for current and future uses while offsetting the City's financial obligation to maintain the facility. If no acceptable proposals are received, then Staff will return to the Council to reexamine all options for the building.

Discussion covered the extensive and thorough study; that study it is posted on the City's website; and appreciation of the ad hoc committee on their diligence as well as their excellent, objective, input for use of the facility.

Mr. Stuart moved to receive the Hunden Partners conference center study, seconded by Mr. Dorsey.

Aye: Mr. Stuart, Mr. Dorsey, Vice Mayor Curd, Ms. Roane, Mayor Copeland  
Nay: None  
Motion: Passed

Mr. Stuart commented that allowing others to utilize the property that meet a community need will be good for the upkeep of the property.

Vice Mayor Curd moved to authorize staff to prepare and issue RFP's for potential use of the First Christian Church as presented, seconded by Ms. Roane.

Aye: Mr. Dorsey, Vice Mayor Curd, Ms. Roane, Mr. Stuart, Mayor Copeland  
Nay: None  
Motion: Passed

#### **14. New Business.**

There was no new business to address.

#### **15. City Manager and Staff Reports.**

Mr. Bailey thanked the City Council for meeting on August 24 to award the bid on the Fire Truck. It was important, and he appreciated everyone's attendance.

Mr. Bailey also reported that:

The Johnstone Park entrance from Cherokee will be closed by ODOT to facilitate the bridge construction. Entrance into Johnstone Park during this time can be made using the Johnstone Avenue entrance. The contractor has done a great job of keep the roads open as much as possible;

Fiber installation on Frank Phillips Blvd started today so the outside east side lane of the bridge will be closed temporarily;

He urges citizens to be watchful of school zones and bus stops. Bartlesville Police are watching these areas carefully; and

City Directors met recently to further discuss and develop the goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan. The Plan will bring forward to the City Council later in the year.

#### **16. City Council Comments and Inquiries.**

Mr. Stuart reported that Monday's trash routes will run tomorrow, Wednesday, September 7. He also added that Bartlesville is the first city in Oklahoma to adopt a Natural Landscape Ordinance. Mr. Stuart added that it appears that there were citizens who thought he may have been given preferential treatment while he developed his natural landscaped yard as the pilot project. He stated that he worked with staff and met with the City's Code Enforcement officers to ensure his yard remained compliant.


Vice Mayor Curd stated his appreciation to citizens who support the City's economic development efforts. Mr. Bailey added his appreciation Mr. Wood for his flexibility over time to create ways to keep Bartlesville moving forward and economically successful.

Mayor Copeland pointed out that Bartlesville is the first city in Oklahoma to develop the water reuse program. G.T. Bynum, Tulsa Mayor, recently commented that if a community does not have a good water system, then it cannot grow. He stated his appreciation of Bartlesville being proactive in many areas.

The Mayor also reported that the majority of calls, emails, etc. is about traffic issues such as speeding, speed traps and the need for more traffic control. He added his comments to be especially watchful of speed through the school zones.

Ms. Roane reminded citizens of Constitution Week, encouraging them to read it and respect the freedoms that the Constitution provides.

#### **17. There being no further business to address, Mayor Copeland adjourned the meeting at 9:06 p.m.**

  
Jason Muninger, CFO/City Clerk



  
Dale W. Copeland, Mayor