

Oklahoma Borough Meeting
February 10th, 2025 – 7:00 pm
Oklahoma Borough Building

Meeting called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance by President Joe Cali.

Roll call taken: Present: President Joe Cali, Councilman Chuck Blair, Councilman Chris Glavan, Councilman John Knittel, Mayor Amy Blair, Solicitor Tim Miller, Zoning/Code Enforcement Officer Brenda Troup, Jessica Brett from L.S.S.E and Secretary Alecia Sherbondy.

Absent: Vice President Adam Lockhart

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF VISITORS: Todd Sherbondy is pleased to see Council moving forward with sewer maintenance and repairs.

John Walsh, owner of 1456 Hancock Avenue and Thomas Libengood representing CT Construction presented Council with plans to combine two parcels with intent to build a new home on the property.

Cedric Stopansky voiced additional concerns with Vista Drive sinking at the end of his driveway.

Joyce Spillers and Renee Lubik – observe

MINUTES: Motion made by Mr. Knittel to adopt the minutes from the January Council Meeting. Second by Mr. Blair. Motion carried.

SOLICITORS REPORT: The solicitor will readdress the issue with 2Krew. An updated letter will be sent.

The street opening application was reviewed, and the solicitor is comfortable with the Council to proceed.

The solicitor has not received a response after multiple attempts to contact the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry.

Motion made by Mr. Glavan to approve the solicitor's report. Second by Mr. Blair. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: A monthly report was provided to Council and the Mayor.

A meeting was held regarding the sanitary sewer repairs and CCTV project. LSSE provided an Opinion of Probable Cost and Sanitary Sewer Repair Exhibit to Council. The total for the entire project is \$286,350.00.

LSSE recommends testing of ponding water located near the park entrance of the basketball courts. LSSE recommends investigation of mine maps to evaluate if ponding is due to potential mine location.

Motion made by Mr. Knittel to approve the engineer's report. Second by Mr. Blair. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT: On Sunday, January 19th Mayor Blair and Councilman Blair attended a memorial service celebrating the life of Leonard Miller.

Mayor Blair met with Don Polka and Renee Lubik on January 21st to review and discuss various aspects of the Oklahoma Volunteer Fire Department including funding and the borough occasionally needing a larger meeting space.

The deadline for the REAL ID is May 7th. There is an information pamphlet on the counter if interested.

The Property Tax Rent Rebate Program is available online with a deadline of June 30th. Representative Cooper is willing to provide assistance if needed.

Information on several upcoming events being held by State Representative, Jill Cooper, was provided.

Motion made by Mr. Blair to approve the mayor's report. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

ZONING/ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: Copies of the report were provided to Council and Mayor.

Motion made by Mr. Glavan to approve the zoning/code enforcement report. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Council set the date for Spring Clean Up on Saturday, April 12th.

The borough's annual audit was started on Wednesday, January 29th.

The Liquid Fuels audit for 2023 and 2024 was held on Tuesday, February 4th. There were no findings.

The borough's Geek Squad subscription renewal will be due soon. The Secretary does not plan to renew as Mr. Glavan is able to help with issues that may arise.

Motion made by Mr. Blair to approve the Secretary's report. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The bank reconciliation for the period ending 1/31/2025 is as follows:

General Fund - \$182,058.78
Sewer Fund - \$365,726.43
Liquid Fuels - \$23,359.79
Special Road Fund - \$230,516.85

Motion made by Mr. Knittel to approve the Treasurer's report. Second by Mr. Blair. Motion carried.

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT: The amount of taxes deposited in the month of January:

Real Estate - \$927.78
Wage - \$3,563.75
Per Capita - \$33.00

Motion made by Mr. Glavan to approve the Tax Collector's report. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

READING OF THE BILLS: Copies of the check registers were provided to the Council and the Mayor.

Motion made by Mr. Blair to approve the bills. Second by Mr. Glavan. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS: \$592.14 was received from Washington Township for the 2024 transmission fees.

A letter from CNX was received to notify Council CNX Company LLC is applying for Permits to Drill and Operate Gas Wells located inside, adjacent to or within 3000' of Oklahoma Borough.

An email from Peoples Gas was received requesting a list of paving scheduled for 2025. The email was forwarded to the streets committee.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

STREETS/SEWERS/SOLID WASTE: None.

FINANCE: None.

PARKS AND RECREATION: The committee would like to host Movies in the Park again this year. If they act now the pricing will remain the same as 2024.

Mr. Blair is in the process of obtaining lawn service quotes and plans to present at the March meeting.

The DCNR grant is being considered.

Mr. Blair will contact Bankosh Sanitation regarding the issues with a resident filling the dumpster at the park.

PUBLIC SAFETY/STREET LIGHTS AND ORDINANCES: Two streetlights have been reported for repair.

A meeting has been scheduled to review the information regarding the recodification from American Legal.

HUMAN RESOURCES: Mr. Knittel did not contact Ed Mowers regarding the stop sign. He feels that the stop sign in question has been reinstalled.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR REPORT: None.

PRESIDENTS REPORT: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

OLD BUSINESS: Mr. Glavan researched chairs to be used for meetings in the borough office. He found a set of six standard folding chairs for \$99 on Amazon. He suggests purchasing three or four sets.

NEW BUSINESS: Motion made by Mr. Knittel to approve the proposed application and fees for the street opening application and permitting process. The application shall require a \$300 filing fee per opening plus actual costs incurred by the Borough, including third party inspections. Restoration inspection at the cost of \$80 per hour. The sum of \$1000 shall be required and be held in an escrow account. Second by Mr. Blair. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Blair to host Movies In the Park for the 2025 season. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Blair to approve the purchase of no more than \$1000 for office furniture. Second by Mr. Glavan. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Blair to have LSSE proceed with the bidding process to pave the parking lot at the park as soon as the funds are received. Second by Mr. Glavan. Motion carried.

Pursuant to Chapter 22 Section 201 the Walsh's submitted a preliminary plan and Council must take action which includes a public hearing. No timeline is indicated in the ordinance, so the solicitor advises to hold the meeting prior to the March 10th regular meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Knittel to hold a public hearing at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 10th to discuss and review the preliminary plans submitted by the Walsh family to consolidate two parcels. Second by Mr. Blair. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Blair to approve the Opinion of Probable Cost and Sanitary Sewer Repair in the amount of \$286,350.00 provided by LSSE. Second by Mr. Knittel. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

Motion made by Mr. Blair to adjourn the meeting. Second by Mr. Glavan. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Joseph Cali, President

Alecia Sherbondy, Secretary