

**CLEVELAND CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
Thursday, June 11, 2020 – 6:00 p.m.**

Members of the Cleveland City Council met in a regularly scheduled meeting at 6:02 p.m. on Thursday, June 11, 2020, in the Council Chambers of the Cleveland Municipal Building located at 201 North Broadway, Cleveland, Oklahoma with Mayor Scott Rusher presiding. The agenda for this meeting was posted on the front door of the Cleveland City Hall on June 10, 2020, at 5:10 p.m.

1. **Call to order.** This meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.
2. **Roll Call.** Clerk Michelle Lehnus called roll with the following members present:
Present: Scott Rusher, Brian Torres, Mike Carroll, Lee Merrifield
Absent: David Carter
3. **Flag Salute.** Flag Salute was led by Brian Torres before the public hearing began.
4. **Invocation.** Invocation was led by Brian Torres before the public hearing began.
5. **Discussion and action to approve or reject the minutes of the previous meeting(s).**
The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed by council. No discussion occurred. A motion was made by Brian Torres and seconded by Scott Rusher to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on May 14, 2020, and the special meeting held on June 8, 2020. This motion carried with the following roll call vote: (4-0)
Aye: Scott Rusher, Brian Torres, Mike Carroll, Lee Merrifield
Nay: None
6. **Discussion and action to approve or reject the Treasurer's Report.** The Treasurer's Report was reviewed by the council. Clerk Michelle Lehnus explained that the adjustment and correction listed on the Treasurer's Report showed the Payroll Service Fund zeroing out and reflects that money being shown in the Pool Fundraiser Fund and the General Fund. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Brian Torres and seconded by Scott Rusher. This motion carried with the following roll call vote: (4-0)
Aye: Scott Rusher, Brian Torres, Mike Carroll, Lee Merrifield
Nay: None
7. **Discussion concerning list of purchase orders paid.** Purchase orders were reviewed by the council members. No discussion occurred.
8. **Public Comments. All comments will be limited to agenda items only. Participants are required to sign in prior to the start of the meeting.** The following members of the public signed in to speak: Catherine Carter
9. **Discussion and action to approve or reject Resolution 2020-07: A resolution to approve the proposed 2019-2020 Budget Amendments.** City Manager Vicki Hagerman advised council that an amendment in the amount of \$8,000.00 needed to be

completed for the 2019-2020 fiscal years' budget. She advised council that this amendment is done with monies that had already been budgeted in the 2019-2020 budget, this just is a reassignment of funds from one department to another. A motion to approve Resolution 2020-07: A resolution to approve the proposed 2019-2020 Budget Amendments in the amount of \$8000.00 was made by Brian Torres and seconded by Mike Carroll. This motion carried with the following roll call vote: (4-0)
Aye: Scott Rusher, Brian Torres, Mike Carroll, Lee Merrifield
Nay: None

10. Discussion and action to approve or reject Resolution 2020-06: A resolution to approve the proposed 2020-2021 Budget. Public notification of the proposed budget and public hearing was published in the Cleveland American and posted on the front door of Cleveland City Hall as required by law. Mayor Scott Rusher reminded council that they had already been presented with the 2020-2021 budget and had time to study it and ask any questions to the city manager. No council discussion occurred. A motion was made by Brian Torres and seconded by Scott Rusher to approve Resolution 2020-06: A resolution to approve the proposed 2020-2021 Budget in the amount of \$2,600,200.00. This motion carried with the following roll call vote: (4-0)
Aye: Scott Rusher, Brian Torres, Mike Carroll, Lee Merrifield
Nay: None

11. Discussion and action to approve opening a new bank account titled: City of Cleveland – Technology Fees. Action will also approve the Council Members and City Treasurer as signatories on the account and will allow the City Clerk/Finance Director to transfer funds from one city account to another. This account will provide separate tracking for technology fees that are collected through municipal court and spending will be restricted as per Cleveland Code of Ordinances Part 6, Chapter 1, Section 6-137. City Manager Vicki Hagerman advised to council that this is a fee that is collected through court. She explained that this will set up the monies in a separate account and allow for easier tracking. She stated that set up of this account and its tracking would mirror the police operations account. A motion to approve opening a new bank account titled: City of Cleveland – Technology Fees, approve council members (Scott Rusher, Brian Torres, David Carter, Lee Merrifield, Mike Carroll) as signatories, and approve City Clerk/Finance Director (Michelle Lehnus) to transfer funds was made by Scott Rusher and seconded by Lee Merrifield. This motion carried with the following roll call vote: (4-0)
Aye: Scott Rusher, Brian Torres, Mike Carroll, Lee Merrifield
Nay: None

12. Discussion and action to approve or reject Special Ordinance No. 2020-634: A SPECIAL NON-EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF THE OLD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUILDING AND GIVING NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF ITS RIGHT TO CALL FOR AN ELECTION ON THIS PROPOSED SALE BY REFERENDUM PETITION. Vice-Mayor Brian Torres noted that the public had a right to know and call for a vote. A motion was made by Brian Torres and seconded by Mike Carroll to approve Ordinance No. 2020-634: A SPECIAL NON-EMERGENCY ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF THE OLD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUILDING AND GIVING NOTICE TO PUBLIC OF ITS RIGHT TO

CALL FOR AN ELECTION ON THIS PROPOSED SALE BY REFERENDUM PETITION. This motion carried with the following roll call vote: (4-0)

Aye: Scott Rusher, Brian Torres, Mike Carroll, Lee Merrifield

Nay: None

13. Proposed executive session to discuss the reappointment or removal of the City Treasurer, a salaried public officer, where the disclosure of information would violate confidentiality requirements of federal and state law as authorized by OKLA. STAT, Title 25, Section 307 (B)(1).

a. **Vote to convene in Executive Session.** A motion to convene in executive session was made by Scott Rusher and seconded by Brian Torres. The motion carried with the following roll call vote: (4-0)

Aye: Scott Rusher, Brian Torres, Mike Carroll, Lee Merrifield

Nay: None

b. **Vote to acknowledge return to open session.** A motion to return to open session was made by Brian Torres and seconded by Mike Carroll. This motion carried with the following roll call vote: (4-0)

Aye: Scott Rusher, Brian Torres, Mike Carroll, Lee Merrifield

Nay: None

c. **Statement of executive session minute.** City Attorney Bryan Drummond read the executive session minute.

14. Discussion and action to vote on reappointment or removal of the City Treasurer as discussed in executive session. A motion was made by Brian Torres and seconded by Scott Rusher to remove the existing City Treasurer, effective June 30, 2020. This motion carried with the following roll call votes: (4-0)

Aye: Scott Rusher, Brian Torres, Mike Carroll, Lee Merrifield

Nay: None

15. Consider and take action to approve or reject rsmeachum to act as City Treasurer and engage in a contract for Accounting Consulting Services for 2020-2021 fiscal year. Russ Meachum spoke to council. He advised that he owns his own practice and that they service about 50 municipalities. He advised that his practice has 6 other CPAs and an additional 18 members on staff; he noted that the City of Cleveland was actually gaining 25 employees. Mr. Meachum advised council that future financial documents would be compliant with GASB 34 and he reiterated the importance of full transparency reporting to the council and the public. He also advised that GASB 34 was required for bond indentures as well. A motion was made by Scott Rusher and seconded by Brian Torres to appoint rsmeachum as City Treasurer effective July 1, 2020, and approve a contract with rsmeachum for Accounting Consulting Services for 2020-2021 fiscal year. This motion carried with the following roll call vote: (4-0)

Aye: Scott Rusher, Brian Torres, Mike Carroll, Lee Merrifield

Nay: None

16. City Manager's Report which may include updates and/or announcements of events, projects, and general operations of the City of Cleveland. The following items were reported by City Manager Vicki Hagerman as part of her city manager report.

- Water Superintendent Gaylen Vaughn is retiring the end of August 2020. Ms. Hagerman noted that Mr. Vaughn has done a lot of great things for the City of Cleveland during his many years here. She advised that the job would be posted and that requirements for that job would be listed in the posting.
- Still waiting for the permit from DEQ for the water plant.
- Continuing to work on the 1/2 cent sales tax election. She advised that she is wanting to share information through social media, the newspaper, and talking to any groups that would be interested in meeting with her.
- Due to unforeseen circumstances surrounding COVID-19 the City of Cleveland will not have a fireworks display on the 4th of July. There is a possibility that a fireworks display could be done for Labor Day but that has not yet been determined or confirmed.
- The slide has been installed at the new pool; however, there is an issue with the pool retaining wall moving. At this time it is unknown if this was caused by a compaction issue or by heavy equipment. The City of Cleveland is currently waiting on compaction testing to be completed to determine the fault of this issue.
- The Cleveland Police Department has been awarded their grant. They are receiving about \$107,000.00. Ms. Hagerman advised the council that Officer Jeremiah Godfrey and Sergeant Mark Smith had done a lot of work in preparing and applying for this grant.
- Utility sales are up approximately \$12,000.00 from this time last year.
- Larry Brown with Overman Insurance is currently working on insurance changes and updates for the City of Cleveland.

17. Adjournment. A motion was made by Mike Carroll and seconded by Scott Rusher to adjourn the meeting. This motion carried with the following roll call vote: (4-0)

Aye: Scott Rusher, Brian Torres, Mike Carroll, Lee Merrifield

Nay: None

This meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Signature on File
Scott Rusher, Mayor

Signature on File
Michelle Lehnus, City Clerk