

MINUTES

CITY OF PURCELL  
REGULAR MEETING

MAY 1, 2023

6:00 P.M.

IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM OF  
THE PURCELL POLICE SERVICE BUILDING  
1515 N. GREEN AVENUE

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

Mayor Fishburn called the meeting to order and declared a quorum to be present at 6:01 p.m.

**2. Roll Call.**

Roll call was conducted by City Clerk, Andrea Millsap, with the following results:

Councilmembers present: Graham Fishburn, Theda Engert, Jay Tate, Allen Eubanks.

Councilmembers absent: Ted Cox

Staff present: Dale Bunn, Victor Lohn, Andrea Millsap, Serena Melton, John Blue, Josh VanOort, Bobby Elmore, Matt Martinez, Michael Minor, Daniel Ashbridge

Counsel: Greg Dixon

**3. Pledge of Allegiance.**

Mayor Fishburn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Susan Whitley offered the invocation.

**4. Welcome.**

Mayor Fishburn welcomed guests, staff, and council members.

**5. Discussion of Agenda Items.**

Mayor Fishburn called for any discussion of agenda items.

Mayor Fishburn noted Agenda Item No.'s 6 & 7 will be passed until 7:30 p.m.

*Mayor Fishburn called the City Council Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.*

**6. Consideration and possible to elect a Mayor (According to the City of Purcell City Charter, Effective April 1, 1999, the Council shall elect from among its own members a Mayor at 7:30 p.m. for a term of one year).**

Vice-Mayor Cox made a motion seconded by Councilwoman Engert to elect Graham "Rocky" Fishburn for one more year as Mayor.

Yes: Cox, Engert, Tate, Eubanks, Fishburn

No: None

Absent: None

**7. Consideration and possible action to elect a Vice-Mayor (according to the City of Purcell City Charter, Effective April 1, 1999, the Council shall elect from among its own members a Vice-Mayor at 7:30 p.m. for a term of one year.)**

Councilwoman Engert made a motion seconded by Councilman Eubanks to elect Ted Cox as Vice-Mayor for one more year.

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

*Mayor Fishburn recessed the City Council Meeting at 7:32 p.m.  
to go to PPWA Meeting for Chairman & Vice-Chairman nominations.*

**8. Approve the Consent Agenda:**

All items listed under the Consent Agenda are deemed to be non-controversial and routine in nature by the governing body. They will be approved by one motion of the governing body. The items on the Consent Agenda WILL NOT be discussed. Any member of the governing body desiring to discuss an item on the Consent Agenda may request it be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed in its proper order on the regular agenda for consideration.

- a. Approval of payment of claims as presented in the Council Expense Report in the amount of \$637,384.12.
- b. Approval of payment of Street & Alley Claims in the amount of \$1,277.75.
- c. Approval of payment for Unemployment Insurance in the amount of \$0.00.
- d. Approval of payment of Capital Improvement Claims in the amount of \$180,168.48.
- e. Approval of payment of Rural Fire Claims in the amount of \$0.00.
- f. Approval of payment of Cemetery Care in the amount of \$20,000.00.
- g. Approval of payment for Airport Authority Claims in the amount of \$298.80.
- h. Approval of payment for Drug Enforcement Claims in the amount of \$0.00.
- i. Approval of estimated payroll in the amount of \$295,000.00.
- j. Approval of the Treasurer's Financial Report.
- k. Approval of April 3, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes.
- l. Approval of April 25, 2023 Budget Meeting Minutes.
- m. Approval of April 26, 2023 Budget Meeting Minutes.

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

Councilman Tate made a motion seconded by Councilman Eubanks to remove Consent Agenda Items 8l and 8m.

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

Councilman Eubanks made a motion second by Councilman Tate to approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

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

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

- Sales Tax thru March 2023 is up 7.78% over last year or \$421,273.00; up 11.17% over budget or \$586,586.00.

- Use Tax thru March 2023 is up 22.14% over last year or \$138,121.00; up 33.09% over budget or \$173,711.00.
- Tobacco Tax thru March 2023 is down 9.64% over last year or \$4,288.00; down 13.53% over budget or \$6,294.00.
- Electricity in March 2023 had a negative variance of \$161,942.00 vs last year; YTD the variance is positive \$656,462.00.
- Water in March 2023 had a negative variance of \$7,475.00 vs last year; YTD variance is positive \$311,070.00.
- General Fund in March 2023 the expenses were below revenues by \$20,273.00; YTD expenses were below revenues by \$40,739.00.
- Public Works in March 2023 the expenses were above revenues by \$165,135.00; YTD expenses are below revenues by \$68,920.00.
- The April utility billing was sent to the outsourcing company on Wednesday afternoon April 26, 2023, too late to be processed and mailed. They were to be mailed Thursday, April 27, 2023. The utility bills started showing up Monday May 1, 2023.
- The fifth of six \$100,000.00 monthly payments made to the hospital in April 2023.

## **11. Presentation and discussion of the City Manager Report.**

### **I-35 Interchange**

- Smith-Roberts Land Services continues working on land acquisition.
- Construction to start in 2025.

### **South Canadian Lift Station**

- New lift station is on-line and operating. One small glitch today that was addressed and is covered under the 2 year warranty.
- Generator tested and complete.
- Decommissioning old lift station in progress.
- Waiting on pump to replace one damaged during testing.
- Final grading in progress.
- Micro-Comm System coordination by Sewer Department is underway.

### **Green Avenue & Hallmark**

- EST, Inc. grant administrator researching funding with material from
- Glenn Sullivan & Associates. Seeking funding.
- Traffic Engineering Consultants (BJ)
- ODOT City Records of I-35 off-load
- Parents and Purcell Public School concerns
- signalization, construction of northbound and southbound left turn lanes, sidewalks, and infrastructure.

### **South Green Avenue Lighting**

- Project is underway from Washington to Walnut Creek. Boring should be completed by the end of May.
- Completion of project expected by July 4, 2023.

### **Hospital Site Plan**

- **Retention Pond and Trees**
  - Dam, Drain Pipe and Spillway Construction underway.
  - Trees have been removed in accordance with the Agreement with Sunray Baptist to clear trees in hospital line-of-sight on church property.
- **Paving Hospital Road**
  - All Roads Paving completed base and curbing.
  - Returned last Friday to repair erosion by rains.
  - Asphalt crew returns this week if dry.
  - Removal of temporary roads is pending.
  - Remaining projects are irrigation, landscaping and signage.

### **Main StreetScape**

- Bid awarded to Rudy Construction on April 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Construction to be complete by November.
- Sent Message to Rudy for Weekly Meetings Invitation

### **Trails**

- **Work Completed in March**
  - Trailhead signage installed.
  - Trash cans and benches installed.
  - Concrete connection of trail to pavilion.
- **Work to Complete in May**
  - Remaining post and cable fencing.
  - Drainage improvements.
  - Trail use signage.
- Lights to be completed in July.
- Ribbon cutting scheduled for Wednesday May 24, at 2:00 p.m.

### **McCurdy Park**

- 7:00 will be the Park Board's regular meeting but will have all the survey results up to that point. We currently have almost 700 responses.
- Third Annual Walk the Trail Day is June 3, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and will have free food and snow cones.
- Rotary playground grand opening will also be on June 3, 2023. The ribbon cutting is at noon.

### **Green Avenue GreenScape**

- Feather grass has washed out in some areas and appears to be from vehicles driving by in heavy rains so buffer material and mesh is going to be installed in the area and Marcums Nursery has been contracted to do that work for us and work on this should start tomorrow and be done by Wednesday on planting the grass. Waiting on arrival of feather grass that has been ordered.
- A 2-block area we're going to experiment in that has had the most difficulty in holding the feather grass. Marcums should start April 10<sup>th</sup> on the project.

**PD Activity**

- In April PD was attempting to correct a lot of bad driving behavior around school zones and the officers had close to 800 traffic stops, mostly warning, just trying to educate the public how to improve.
- Detectives: 12 cases were opened and 19 were closed. One was a string of auto burglaries in a residential neighborhood near the lake and Detective Stevens and Assistant Chief Bolling reached out to the public on line and within 2 hours a suspect was identified and turned themselves in.

**Water Projects/Chickasaw Nation**

- Visited with the Chickasaws about water projects and they are creating a questionnaire for rural areas to determine the presence of Native Americans in particular areas. Depending on percentages in areas the BIA might be able to participate in funding.

**Giving Time**

- John Blue received the Gateway Guardian Award.
- Charlie Sherman received the Spirit Guardian Award.
- First United Bank received the Cornerstone Guardian Award.
- Krista Matthews received the Vision Guardian Award.

**12. Discussion and possible action to approve Budget Amendment Cap Imp-2023-3 in the sum of \$500,000.00 to record transfer from the ICS reserve fund on April 5, 2023.**

Councilman Eubanks made a motion second by Councilman Tate to approve Agenda Item No. 12 as written.

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

**13. Discussion and possible action to approve Budget Amendment GF-2023-15 in the sum of \$5,701.91 to increase grant expense-SLA Grant covered by funds in reserve.**

Councilman Eubanks made a motion second by Councilman Tate to approve Agenda Item No. 13 as written.

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

**14. Discussion and possible action to approve Budget Amendment GF-2023-16 in the sum of \$1,075.74 to increase animal shelter donation expense covered by funds in reserve.**

Councilman Tate made a motion second by Vice-Mayor Cox to approve Agenda Item No. 14 as written.

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

**15. Discussion and possible action to approve Budget Amendment RF-2023-3 in the sum of \$10,088.36 to increase expense for new equipment purchases.**

Councilman Tate made a motion second by Councilwoman Engert to approve Agenda Item No. 15 as written.

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



*Mayor Fishburn declared the City Council Meeting and the Purcell Public Works Authority in joint session in order to enter joint Executive Session at 7:34 p.m.*

**20. EXECUTIVE SESSION: DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION RE: AN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO BE HELD IN ACCORDANCE WITH 25 O.S. 307 § (B) (3).**

- a. Discussion and consideration concerning the purchase or appraisal of real property in accordance with 25 O.S. 307 § (B) (3).
- b. Discussion and consideration of labor contract for fiscal year 2023-2024 between the City of Purcell and the FOP #194 in accordance with 25 O.S. § 307 (B) (2).
- c. Discussion and consideration of labor contract for fiscal year 2023-2024 between the City of Purcell and the IAFF Local 3596 in accordance with 25 O.S. § 307 (B) (2).
- d. Discussion and consideration of possible action concerning the employment, hiring, appointment, promotion, demotion, disciplining or resignation of City Manager Dale Bunn and City Treasurer Victor Lohn in accordance with O.S. 307 § (B) (1).

Vice-Mayor Cox made a motion second by Councilman Eubanks to enter joint Executive Session at 7:34 p.m. with the following persons entering: Councilmembers who are present, City Attorney, and City Manager Dale Bunn and Treasurer Victor Lohn, when called.

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

**21. EXECUTIVE SESSION: DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING ITEMS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH 25 O.S. 307 § (B) (3).**

- a. Discussion and consideration concerning the purchase or appraisal of real property in accordance with 25 O.S. 307 § (B) (3).
- b. Discussion and consideration of labor contract for fiscal year 2023-2024 between the City of Purcell and the FOP #194 in accordance with 25 O.S. § 307 (B) (2).
- c. Discussion and consideration of labor contract for fiscal year 2023-2024 between the City of Purcell and the IAFF Local 3596 in accordance with 25 O.S. § 307 (B) (2).
- d. Discussion and consideration of possible action concerning the employment, hiring, appointment, promotion, demotion, disciplining or resignation of City Manager Dale Bunn and City Treasurer Victor Lohn in accordance with O.S. 307 § (B) (1).

*Mayor/Chairman Fishburn declared the Council has returned from Executive Session at 9:47 p.m.*

No action taken.

**22. City Council Comments.**

**Vice-Mayor Cox:**

None.

**Councilwoman Engert:**

None.

**Councilman Tate:**

Reminder that the Memorial Celebration is May 29<sup>th</sup> and Jeff Page, who served 4 years in the Navy, would be speaking. Asked Dale for access to the KQTR radio station and/or the City FaceBook page for broadcast.

Also asked to be informed of the outcome of the meeting concerning Southbrook.

**Councilman Eubanks:**

Asked for the procedure of budget meetings. Requested that a date be set for the next budget meeting/workshop. Next meeting/workshop was then scheduled for May 23, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall Community Room.

**Mayor Fishburn:**

Apologized for the length of the meeting and thanked council members and city staff for their commitment to the City.

**23. City Manager and staff comments.**

None.

**24. City Attorney comments.**

Mr. Dixon addressed council members noting that if approached by someone about a city situation it should be taken to Mr. Bunn so he can address it with the department head. Do not address it with city employees directly.

**25. Adjourn.**

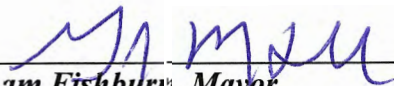
Mayor Fishburn declared the meeting to be adjourned at 9:53 p.m.



Attest:

  
Andrea Millsap, City Clerk

Approved this 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2023

  
Graham Fishburn, Mayor