MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL AND
HARRAH PUBLIC WORKS AUTHORITY
CITY OF HARRAH
19625 NE 23RD STREET
HARRAH, OKLAHOMA
REGULAR JOINT WORKSHOP MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 20TH, 2026

Call to Order Mayor Wiegert called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Roll Call Roll was called by Tina Rodriguez

Present: Paul Wiegert, Mayor
Jennifer Glenn, Ward 1
John Cochran, Ward 2
Bill Lisby, Ward 3
Jeremy Sellers, Ward 4
Also Present: Jacob Wood, City Manager
Robert Thompson, City Attorney

1. Discuss Council Handbook and Best Practices, discussion only, no action will be taken.

Council discussed the Council Handbook, discussed having a conflict of interest form, which is in the appendix of the handbook as presented. Suggested amending page 12 regarding Executive Sessions for purchasing property to include sale of property as well (per statute sale of property must be discussed in open session), including a method to monitor results, correct the section on informal gatherings to define a meeting as being 3 or more members instead of 4, add that 2 council members may request to add an item to the agenda. Discussed considering how to appoint someone as representative for the City at meetings with different organizations. Amending wording under Vice Mayor and Council member so that "makes motions and votes" is under all Council members, not just Vice Mayor. Suggested any further changes be submitted in the next two weeks and the item be placed on the September Agenda.

2. Discuss Considerations and Options regarding refurbishing and reusing Vintage Fire Truck submitted for surplus, discussion only, no action will be taken.

Discussed options regarding the cost to repair and refurbish the Vintage Fire Truck to be used as a decorative piece at Jorski Chevy Park. Have discussed the project with Mr. Draybeck at Francis Tuttle about having their students work on the project. He has to take it to his board for approval. If approved it would be the cost of supplies and the cost of student labor, he will get a final estimate after his board makes a decision. Will revisit the issue once further information is available.

3. Discuss Calling for an Election for a Charter Amendment requiring council members to reside within their elected ward for 75% of their term or surrender their seat, discussion only, no action will be taken.

Discussed purpose for this change and whether there was a compelling reason to address this again after people voted on it just two years ago. Determined this issue could be discussed at a later date closer to the 2030 election time.

4. Discuss Joint Community Planning Commission and consider organizations and boards to pull participants from and work out purpose and suggested meeting schedule (School District Map), discussion only, no action will be taken.

Discussed desire to have a commission to facilitate the school and the city working together on community planning. Discussed having two members of the school board and two members of council and then discussed adding members from Kiwanis, the Chamber, the Planning Commission and Parks Board. Discussed the fact that there are three school districts within City limits including Choctaw Nicoma Park and Mcloud. Discussed starting with Harrah schools and potentially adding the others later on if there is interest. Discussed meeting once a quarter starting in January. Settled on starting members being two from Harrah School Board, two from City Council, one from Parks Board, one from Planning Commission and one from the Chamber Board.

5. Discuss Special Event Guideline changes, discussion only, no action will be taken.

Discussed the Special Event Guidelines and proposed changes or clarifications of the EMT requirements, permit revocation and appeals process, road closures, open flame cooking, advertising, police requirements, costs for city staff and applicable fees for special events. Discussed defining what would cause a permit to be denied or revoked and what the process to appeal that decision would be. City Manager will go over the guidelines and send out to Council to be considered at a future meeting.

6. Discuss Process for submittals from Non-profit and Non-government entities requesting support and city assistance, discussion only, no action will be taken.

Discussed the need to have a process for vetting non-profit and non-government entities requesting support or city assistance and the need for transparency to ensure the requests are lawful. Discussed concerns about the level of documentation suggested being invasive or potentially discriminatory and burdensome for the requester to supply. Discussed requiring the corporation and bylaw documents, a list of the board of directors, and 990 forms. Discussed whether this would be for businesses wanting economic incentives to open a location here or partnering with a community group for an event. Discussed the need to set parameters to address the level of support and what documents would be required for different levels of support. The City Attorney informed Council they can only give money to organizations to do what the City could do itself if it wanted to or had the resources to do. Decided to discuss further and readdress at a later workshop.

7. Discuss updates and additions to Part 5 of the City Code of Ordinances regarding Building Regulations and Codes (Staff Report), discussion only, no action will be taken.

Mike Hutchens informed council that the City's Building Code had been updated since 2009 and that many of our codes still reference BOCA which was combined with the ICC back in 2000. The state is also updating their codes to the 2024 ICC codes next month. The process to adopt these updated codes would be to adopt an Ordinance amending the code to update it to the 2024 ICC codes. Discussed that now would be a good time to do this as we are currently codifying our code and it would be updated in the new code when it's complete. Will present an ordinance to the Council in a future meeting.

8. Discuss Updates to the City Fee Schedule, discussion only, no action will be taken.

Jacob gave a comparison to other local fees. The City Attorney explained the importance of keeping your fees appropriate and current. Jacob mentioned tying fees to CPI increases and adding additional park fees to cover staff expenses for events. He will prepare a fee analysis to send out to Council for review. Discussed whether fee increases would allow for additional staff. Will discuss further at a future meeting.

The Mayor then introduced the new Council Member for Ward 2, John Cochran.

With no further business the meeting **adjourned at 7:16 pm.**

Paul W Wiegert

Paul Wiegert, Mayor

Attest:

TR

Tina Rodriguez, City Clerk

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HARRAH PUBLIC WORKS AUTHORITY SEAL