

# MINUTES

## TAHLEQUAH CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING

Date/Time of City Council Meeting: Monday, October 4, 2021, at 5:30 p.m.  
Place of Meeting: The meeting was held at 111 Cherokee Ave. Tahlequah, OK 74464 (voting members of the public body were present in person) and by Videoconference and/or Teleconference.

All voting members of the public body attended the meeting in person, any member of the public, nonvoting elected officials, and/or City staff was able to attend the meeting in person with appropriate distancing or remotely by Zoom Videoconference and/or Teleconference. Instructions for remote attendance are provided below.

---

### 1. MEETING CONVENED

---

Meeting **called to order** by Mayor Catron at 5:35 p.m.  
City Clerk DeAnna Hammons Called the **Roll call as follows:**

**Councilors Present:**

Councilor Ward I	Bree Long
Councilor Ward II	Keith Baker
Councilor Ward III	Stephen Highers
Councilor Ward IV	Trae Ratliff

**Others Present:**

Mayor Sue Catron, City Attorney Grant Lloyd, City Clerk DeAnna Hammons, City Administrator Alan Chapman, City Treasurer Marty Hainzinger

**Absent:** none

**Invocation – Pastor Austin Troyer – Nazarene Church of Tahlequah**

**Flag salute.**

**Public Notice:** A Public Notice of meeting was provided December 8, 2020 at 3:32 p.m. to the Secretary of State of Oklahoma and additional notice was provided September 30, 2021 at 4:22 p.m.

---

### 2. PUBLIC INSTRUCTIONS:

---

**Videoconference and/or Teleconference Access Instructions for Public Attendance at the Meeting:** the Public may remotely attend this meeting by joining the Zoom meeting via the web or the Zoom app ([www.zoom.us](http://www.zoom.us)) **Access Code 816 1728 7128 Password 037756.** Materials presented electronically to Councilors that attend remotely will be made available

to those Councilors via the Zoom meeting platform and/or or another digital platform. If you wish to receive a copy of any materials that are presented to the City Council via Zoom or otherwise, please submit your request to [cityclerk@cityoftahlequah.com](mailto:cityclerk@cityoftahlequah.com).

**Videoconference and/or Teleconference Notice:** This meeting will include communication by City Staff to the City Council, and those communications may be by auditory communication or by visual and auditory communication. Communication by and between the City Council and/or members of the Public may be limited to auditory only communication.

The Public may ask questions during the discussion of each agenda item by typing the word “question” along with his or her name in the chat bar and waiting to be called on. If communicating via the Zoom Videoconference and/or Teleconference, the Mayor will call upon you to unmute yourself so that you may speak. Only questions spoken out loud are allowed to be responded to. Please do not type out your questions in the chat bar.

Should there be any technical difficulties during the meeting please refer to the City of Tahlequah website and/or City of Tahlequah Facebook page as the City will address any issues and/or provide further instructions.

---

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

---

Donnie Hix spoke regarding concern about the newly paved Bliss Ave. and associated speeding traffic.

---

### 4. CONSENT AGENDA

---

Councilor Long made a motion and Councilor Ratliff seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- a) To approve the **minutes** of the September 7, 20, and 21, 2021 City Council meetings.
- b) To acknowledge receipt of the monthly **check register** for September 2021.
- c) To acknowledge receipt of **P-Card transactions** list.
- d) To accept the resignation from Lauren Terrapin, Lifeguard in the Parks and Recreation Department, effective August 10, 2021.
- e) To accept the resignation from Isaac Torrento, PT Laborer (552) in the Parks and Recreation Department, effective August 10, 2021.
- f) To accept the resignations from Kelton Whitekiller and Lane Gordon, PT Laborers (999) in the Parks and Recreation Department, effective September 9, 2021.
- g) To accept the resignation from Kenneth Bridges, PT Laborer (999) in the Managerial Department, effective September 17, 2021.
- h) To accept the resignation Kenneth Sanders, Collector in the Solid Waste Department, effective September 30, 2021.
- i) To accept the resignation from Bryan Bowin, Driver in the Solid Waste Department, effective September 15, 2021.

- j) To accept the resignation (Retirement, 20 years of service) from Chris Boals, Detective in the Police Department, effective September 2, 2021.
- k) To lift the moratorium and hire Sean Downey, Part Time Laborer (552) in the Parks and Recreation Department at \$9.50 hour.
- l) To lift the moratorium and hire Micheal Scheffer as a Full Time Collector at \$32,671.00, in the Solid Waste Department effective October 12, 2021.
- m) To lift the moratorium and hire Paul Johnson as Full Time Labor/Operator at \$28,989.00, in the Street Department effective October 12, 2021.
- n) To lift the moratorium and hire Ryan Young as a Full Time Code Enforcement Officer at \$31,000.00, in the Managerial Department effective October 12, 2021.
- o) To promote Kristen Jones from Collector to Driver at \$33,989.00, in the Solid Waste Department effective September 26, 2021.
- p) To promote Arlie Wolf from Collector to Driver at \$33,989.00, in the Solid Waste Department effective September 26, 2021.
- q) To promote Nathaniel Brown from Collector to Driver at \$34,120.00, in the Solid Waste Department effective September 26, 2021.

*Vote:* Ayes: Long, Baker, Highers, Ratliff      Nays: none      Motion carried.

---

5.      **ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS**

---

Recognition of Years of Service for **October** Employees:

- **Carla Keele – Police Department - 5 years**
- **Michael Boydston – Waste Management – 5 years**
- **Blake Perdue - Waste Management – 5 years**
- **Gary Thompson – Street Department – 15 years**

Recognition of **Jeannie Secratt** as the City of Tahlequah’s **Employee of the Month** for October 2021.

Report from Library – Written report provided

Report from Chamber of Commerce – Verbal report provided

Report from Tour Tahlequah a Department of the Tahlequah Area Chamber of Commerce – Verbal and written report provided

Report from the Tahlequah Main Street Association – Verbal report provided

---

**REGULAR SESSION**

---

6.      There were no items removed from consent.

7.      Discussion related to **Covid-19 Pandemic.**

- Mayor moved agenda item #15 to be heard at this time.
15. Mayor removed item and no action was taken to adopt in part, amend and adopt, defer, and/or accept **Resolution No. 10-04-2021**, a resolution rescinding Resolution #10-04-2010(B) of the City Council of the City of Tahlequah, which provided for a second amendment to the trust indenture of the Tahlequah Hospital Authority, and rejecting the Trustor’s ratification of said amendment.
8. Discussion and update on **General Code Editorial and Legal Analysis**.
9. Councilor Long made a motion and Councilor Highers seconded to **add Juneteenth to the holiday calendar for 2022** and future calendar years.
- Vote:* Ayes: Baker, Highers, Ratliff, Long Nays: none Motion carried.
10. After discussion, Councilor Long made a motion and Councilor Ratliff seconded to TABLE discussion and possible action to approve the **2022 Holiday Calendar Exhibit A** including Juneteenth, or 2022 Holiday Calendar Exhibit B, or another modified 2022 Holiday Calendar as directed by City Council.
- Vote:* Ayes: Baker, Highers, Ratliff, Long Nays: none Motion carried.
11. Councilor Ratliff made a motion and Councilor Highers seconded to approve a **hangar lease site #18 transfer from Nick Hand to Kenneth Crofut**.
- Vote:* Ayes: Ratliff, Long, Baker, Highers Nays: none Motion carried.
12. After discussion, no action was taken to allow the Mayor to waive all City annual license fees for fiscal year **2021/2022** associated with **Annual Medical Marijuana Dispensary, Processing and Marijuana Grow License’s** as expressed on the **Fee Schedule. Ordinance No. 1320-2021**.
13. Councilor Long made a motion and Councilor Highers seconded to **terminate the October 3, 2019 hiring moratorium**.
- Vote:* Ayes: Baker, Highers, Ratliff, Long Nays: none Motion carried.
14. Councilor Long made a motion and Councilor Highers seconded to approve **Essential Service Pay** in the amount of up to \$1,500.00 for each full-time employee and up to \$750.00 for each non-seasonal part-time employee, as listed in the schedule referencing a total amount of \$195,750.00 plus associated benefits, all effective October 29, 2021. This Essential Service Pay excludes seasonal part-time, elected officials, and contract employees.
- Vote:* Ayes: Highers, Ratliff, Long, Baker Nays: none Motion carried.
15. Mayor Catron moved agenda item to be heard before agenda item #8.

16. No mid-month special meeting was scheduled at this time.

17. Councilor Highers made a motion and Councilor Long seconded to **adjourn meeting** at 7:01 p.m.

*Vote:* Ayes: Long, Baker, Highers, Ratliff      Nays: none      Motion carried.