

**MINUTES OF THE CLINTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
DECEMBER 19, 2023**

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Clinton City Council, City of Clinton, Oklahoma, Custer County, held in the City Council Room, City Hall on Tuesday, December 19, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. A notice of this meeting with agenda was posted on the bulletin board in the lobby of Clinton City Hall on December 16, 2023, at 3:00 P.M.

Mayor David Berrong called the meeting to order at 5:39 p.m. with the following present:

**MAYOR:** David Berrong

**COUNCIL:** Ernie Dowdell, Stormie Hill, Ernesto Villanueva, Arthur Lloyd

**MANAGER:** Robert Johnston

**CITY TREASURER:** Debra Blanchard

**CITY ATTORNEY:** Ryan Meacham

**CITY CLERK:** Amy Jones

**NEWS MEDIA:** Mike Smith, Nydia Campbell

**OTHERS:** Russ Meacham, Max McKinsey, Temple Diehl, Luis de la Torre, Shauna Hacker, Joshua McGuire, Bobby Stewart, Gene McCullough, Danny Tharp, Doug Greer, James Kuykendall, and others.

Temple Diehl, Pastor, First United Methodist Church, opened the meeting with prayer and Doug Greer, Service Officer, American Legion Post 41 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Minutes of the December 5, 2023, Regular Meeting
- B. Acknowledge Receipt of Financial Reports for the Month Ending November 30, 2023
- C. Memorandum of Understanding with District 2 District Attorney's Office Regarding the Seizure/Forfeiture of Property Pursuant to Title 63, OK Statutes

Motion was made by Councilmember Dowdell and seconded by Councilmember Villanueva that the Consent Agenda Items be approved.

Mayor David Berrong put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Dowdell, Hill, Lloyd, Villanueva, Berrong

Nay: None

Mayor declared the motion carried.

**AGENDA ITEMS 3. DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:**

**A. FYE 23 Financial Audit Presentation – Britton, Kuykendall, and Miller, CPAs.**

Mayor Berrong welcomed James Kuykendall, CPA with Britton, Kuykendall, and Miller to present the FYE 23 Financial Audit.

Mr. Kuykendall thanked the City Staff that helped prepare documents for review. Bound copies of the audit report were provided for the Council members. Kuykendall stated that it was a very good report. The continued increase in revenues and expenses was close to the same as the previous year. Investment income had increased as well. Special large items reviewed were the ARPA grants and the FAA/OAC grant funds for improvements at Clinton Regional Airport. He reported the City's procedures and internal controls are working as intended and that the City had followed all guidelines for Federal and State projects.

Motion was made by Councilman Dowdell and seconded by Councilman Villanueva to accept the FYE 23 Financial Audit prepared by Britton, Kuykendall, and Miller CPA's.

Mayor put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Dowdell, Hill, Lloyd, Villanueva, Berrong  
Nay: None

Mayor declared the motion carried.

**B. Resolution 970 – Declaring Certain City of Clinton Vehicles and/or Equipment to be Surplus and Authorizing Disposal**

City Manager Johnston stated that we had identified two police cars, miscellaneous computer/IT equipment, a tanning bed, and 3 stationary bicycles as items that were at end of life and/or ready for disposal.

Motion was made by Councilmember Dowdell and seconded by Councilmember Villanueva to approve the Resolution 970 – Declaring Certain City of Clinton Vehicles and/or Equipment to be Surplus and Authorizing Disposal.

Mayor put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Dowdell, Hill, Lloyd, Villanueva, Berrong  
Nay: None

Mayor declared the motion carried.

**C. Bids for Light Sandblasting and Painting of the Pool, Kiddie Pool and Plunge Pool, Tile, and other repairs.**

City Manager Johnston presented quotes/bids for light sandblasting and painting of the interiors of the main pool, kiddie pool and slide plunge pool, repairing/replacing tile, and other repairs. He reported that the bottom of the pool needs to be sandblasted/ repainted, as there are rough spots, and a need to repaint the slide tower as pointed out by the OK State Department of Health during their routine monitoring visits during the swim season. Three quotes were received from: Paddock Enterprises \$137,709.00, Cardinal Pools \$151,580.25, and Sunbelt \$187,502.00.

Councilmember Hill asked if the Cardinal quote was for the entire pool surface. Johnston reported that Cardinal had provided a quote to replaster the entire large pool without a site visit. Cardinal was invited to make a site visit with the understanding that a decision would be made tonight. A site visit was made but an updated quote has not yet been received. Paddock has made three site visits and identified about 100 sq. ft. to be repaired and the entire pool to be painted.

Discussion ensued regarding the historic care of the pool and the needed repairs. Johnston stated that the several pool companies that he has talked with through the years about large municipal have provided divergent opinions regarding the cost/benefits of the annual draining of a pool such as ours, and/or the covering a pool of our size. During the use of our pool since 1989 several different strategies have been employed in maintaining it; some worked out better than others. Deferred maintenance requires us to find the best solution for the issues at hand, with time of the essence in getting this work started as most pool work is weather permitting in the winter months.

Motion was made by Councilmember Dowdell and seconded by Councilmember Villanueva to approve the quote/bid from Paddock Enterprises in the amount of \$137,709.00.

Mayor put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Dowdell, Hill, Lloyd, Villanueva, Berrong

Nay: None

Mayor declared the motion carried.

**D. Funding Request from the Clinton Economic Development Authority (CEDA) for Pay and Benefits of Economic Director Position from 10/1/23 to 12/31/23 and beyond.**

Russ Meacham, Trustee, Clinton Economic Development Authority, (CEDA) presented to the Council the funding request from the CEDA for pay and benefits for the Economic Director position from 10/1/23 to 12/31/23 and beyond. He stated that the CEDA requests funding for ED position as currently paid as an 'employee' through December 31, 2023, at which time Roland Mower is retiring from full time work, and to extend funding as a contract position through June 30, 2024.

Motion was made by Councilmember Dowdell and seconded by Villanueva to approve the funding request from the Clinton Economic Development Authority (CEDA) for Pay and Benefits of the Economic Director position from 10/1/23 to 12/31/23 as a full time position and to extend funding for the position through June 30, 2024 as a contract position.

Mayor put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Dowdell, Hill, Lloyd, Villanueva, Berrong  
Nay: None

Mayor declared the motion carried.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 NEW BUSINESS (If any, pursuant to Section 311.9 of the Oklahoma Meeting Act)**

None

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 5 COUNCIL COMMENTS**

None

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS**

City Manager Johnston reported on several ongoing items that will likely be presented at future meetings for action. Because of the dynamic nature of these and other grants, this report is not presented in writing at this time. Some of the grants that have been received, and/or are being considered, include, as follows:

- the Clinton Fire Department recently received a lesser grant award than requested, but will be able to replace their cascade system for filling air tanks & apply again next year for new air tanks,
- Ok Department of Transportations' (Transportation Alternatives Program) - TAP grants, in partnership(s) with other eligible entities in the community are being discussed,
- Route 66 Centennial Grants information was released on 12/15/23 and is being discussed by several local entities
- Our next CDBG grant application to address the 18<sup>th</sup> & Broadway ground storage tank, lead/copper water lines, or other projects with community wide benefit is

being considered

- Water Smart grants through the US Bureau of Reclamation for Automated Meter Infrastructure (AMI); this will require us to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for vendors in order to establish a project budget
- Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust (TSET) Grants for community wellness projects will require ordinances approved by the Council for participation and the formation of an employee-based wellness committee to assist on activities
- The historic architect was here yesterday confirming some measurements for improvements at the amphitheater. Since all of McLain Rogers Park is on the historic register, we are working to retain eligibility for all historic related grants
- The Southwest Playhouse (SWPH) board has submitted an ARPA grant to help fund improvements to the facility, which is owned by the City, and
- MODA Grant to begin for Joe Baker Park basketball goal improvements when the weather cooperates.

We are awaiting insurance information regarding the 18<sup>th</sup> and Broadway Water Tank project. He reported that at this time there have not been any grants identified for repair of playground equipment. Completion of the interior of the soccer concession/restroom building will also commence soon; input by soccer parents is being obtained. Maintenance is rarely a grant funded revenue source so creative solution are needed.

Johnston also stated that as we have taken back the golf course management, the membership process and collection of those fees will be moved back in-house so written notification will be sent to members early next year to let them know what the process will be moving forward. He stated that there are also capital improvement equipment needs for Riverside Golf Course that will most likely be addressed in January.

Mayor Berrong commended City Manager Johnston for his work with finding and applying for grants for the city.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (According to Audience participation Decorum Guidelines at Clinton City Council Public Meetings effective:2/14/2017)**

None

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councilmember Dowdell seconded by Councilmember Villanueva to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor put the motion to a roll call vote:

Aye: Dowdell, Hill, Villanueva, Berrong

Nay: None

Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 6:09 P.M.

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Date Approved

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David Berrong, Mayor