

CITY OF WILBURTON  
SPECIAL MEETING

June 13, 2023: 5:30pm

Public Hearing Notice posted May 31, 2023, 12:30pm.

Public Notice posted June 12, 2023, 3:00pm, for City Council Meeting.

Front Entrance Door, Wilburton City Hall

The Wilburton City Council convened in a **Special Meeting** held on the **13<sup>th</sup> day of June 2023 at 5:30pm** with Mayor Loran Mayes presiding: Mayor Mayes led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance after which Roll Call was conducted by the City Clerk.

ROLL CALL:

City Clerk Cindee Blankenship conducted the Roll Call with members responding:

LITTLEJOHN	PRESENT	GOAD	PRESENT
HAYNE	PRESENT	KENDALL	PRESENT
COCKE	PRESENT		

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Mayes declared the Public Hearing open at 5:30pm to discuss the FY23-24 Budget which includes both the City and Public Works Authority (PWA) budgets.

Councilman Haynes stated he understood the currently much needed vacant positions of Animal Control Officer and Park & Rec/Community Development were to be filled. Mayor Mayes said costs of both positions were inserted in the new budget.

Councilman Littlejohn stated the Animal Control Officer is under purview of WPD; does that mean the new officer would be CLEET certified? A discussion followed with the points made that the best control of stray animals is to spay and neuter to control the population. It's critical that residents take responsibility for their own animals. There are grants available for every aspect of animal control from operations to buildings to house animals. Current conditions definitely need correcting as currently walkers and postal workers all have safety issues due to loose animals.

Councilwoman Cocke discussed the need for City to have a fee schedule for adopting dogs to include the requirement to spay/neuter before adoption. Mayor Mayes stated that will need to be developed.

Councilman Littlejohn asked if there is a vehicle dedicated for Animal Control to which Dir Elder stated there is an extra one in Street Department which can be used by Animal Control.

Mayor Mayes discussed the Park & Rec/Community Development position and the anticipated broadening of Park & Rec programs to include all Wilburton residents from very young to seniors. She stated the director would include programs for all residents, not just sports programs. The sports portion has been lacking in recent years resulting in many of our youth joining leagues in neighboring cities like PotEAU, McAlester and Stigler. A discussion followed concerning ensuring the salaried position has equitable hours for the directors since so many programs and events are on weekends and evenings. Mayor Mayes stated the hours should be flexible to accommodate the evenings and weekends required for the salaried position of \$35,000 annually.

Councilman Littlejohn commented he was glad to see the City Clerk now has a trained assistant to step up in her absence. Mayor Mayes stated her salary was paid from Community Development funds, but with this budget's approval, will be paid from City Clerk's department funds.

Councilman Haynes discussed the current taxes received for City Sales and Use taxes paid.

Councilman Littlejohn commented there were no provisions for new vehicles. CH Bias stated WPD is set for now with no immediate need.

Councilman Haynes commented the group's appreciation for this year's budget presentation. Care had obviously been taken to improve ease in accessing departments. He especially appreciated getting the budget with enough time to review. Councilwoman Cocke stated a good job was done in prioritizing.

Mayor Mayes asked if there were any further questions or comments. There being none, the Public Hearing was closed at 5:50pm.

City Clerk Cindee Blankenship conducted the Roll Call a second time with members responding:

LITTLEJOHN	PRESENT	GOAD	PRESENT
HAYNE	PRESENT	KENDALL	PRESENT
COCKE	PRESENT		

1. DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE FY 2023-2024 CITY OF WILBURTON /PWA BUDGET.

MOTION BY LITTLEJOHN, SECOND BY GOAD, TO APPROVE FY 2023-2024 BUDGET.

Upon roll call, members voted as follows:			
LITTLEJOHN	Yes	GOAD	Yes
HAYNES	Yes	KENDALL	Yes
COCKE	Yes		

2. DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE FREEDOM FORD INVOICE FOR \$8,137.16 (\$161.83 MORE THAN QUOTE FOR \$7,979.33 APPROVED NOVEMBER 10, 2022). Mayor Mayes stated the \$161.83 overage was the cost of a new battery that was later determined to be needed.

MOTION BY HAYNES, SECOND BY COCKE, TO APPROVE FREEDOM FORD INVOICE FOR \$8,137.16.

Upon roll call, members voted as follows:			
LITTLEJOHN	Yes	GOAD	Yes
HAYNES	Yes	KENDALL	Yes
COCKE	Yes		

3. DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE MAYOR LORAN MAYES AS MEMBER OF THE KIAMICHI ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA (KEDDO) BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPLACING PWA DIRECTOR MIKE ELDER. Mayor Mayes stated this appointment must be approved by the City Council. Dir Elder stated he gladly passed the baton to the Mayor to be the City Representative.

MOTION BY LITTLEJOHN, SECOND BY GOAD, TO APPROVE MAYOR LORAN MAYES APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER OF THE KEDDO BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPLACING PWA DIRECTOR MIKE ELDER.

Upon roll call, members voted as follows:			
LITTLEJOHN	Yes	GOAD	Yes
HAYNES	Yes	KENDALL	Yes
COCKE	Yes		

4. DISCUSS AND TAKE ACTION TO APPROVE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN STATEWIDE COMMUNICATION AND WILBURTON FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR \$275 PER MONTH FOR ONE (1) YEAR FOR SPACE ON LATIMER COUNTY TOWER.

TABLED JUNE 8, 2023

Mayor Mayes stated they are moving to Talihina, so will be closer. City Clerk Blankenship asked when lease becomes effective to which Dir Elder stated as soon as approved as is already in use.

MOTION BY LITTLEJOHN, SECOND BY KENDALL, TO APPROVE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN STATEWIDE COMMUNICATION AND WFD FOR \$275 PER MONTH FOR ONE (1) YEAR FOR SPACE ON LATIMER COUNTY TOWER.

Upon roll call, members voted as follows:			
LITTLEJOHN	Yes	GOAD	Yes
HAYNES	Yes	KENDALL	Yes
COCKE	Yes		

5. ADJOURN.

MOTION BY GOAD, SECOND BY KENDALL, TO ADJOURN AT 5:53 pm.

Upon roll call, members voted as follows:			
LITTLEJOHN	Yes	GOAD	Yes
HAYNES	Yes	KENDALL	Yes
COCKE	Yes		

CINDEE BLANKENSHIP, City Clerk

LORAN MAYES, Mayor

ALLEN LITTLEJOHN, Ward 1

TERRY HAYNES, Ward 2

SARA JANE COCKE, Ward 3

JAYME GOAD, Ward 4

JULIA KENDALL, Ward 5