

**AGENDA SUMMARY – SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
GEORGE FINA MUNICIPAL BUILDING - 314 EDMOND ROAD NORTHWEST  
Wednesday, January 10, 2018 6:30pm**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councilman John Brown, Councilman Albert Gliemann, Mayor Pro Tem Bobby Williamson, Mayor Valerie Thomerson, Councilwoman Melissa Ashford, and Councilman Kevan Blasdel.

**ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** City Attorney Mike Segler, City Manager Jason Orr, Police Chief Scott Singer, City Clerk/Treasurer Jennifer Smith and Fire Chief Andy Logan.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - Mayor Valerie Thomerson called the City Council meeting to order at 6:3 pm.
2. **ROLL CALL** - City Clerk Jennifer Smith called roll. A quorum was present.
3. **FLAG SALUTE** – Flag salute was led by Councilman John Brown.
4. **INVOCATION** – Invocation was led by Mayor Pro Tem Bobby Williamson
5. **CONSENT AGENDA** - All items on the consent agenda are non-controversial and may be approved by one motion for items.
  - a) Approval of Resolution No. 01-10-18A a general election for election of a Councilmember from Ward two (2), and Ward four (4), of the City of Piedmont, Oklahoma, to be held on April 3, 2018; providing for a filing period and requesting the Canadian County Election Board to conduct said election; and providing for notice of election.
  - b) Approval of Resolution No. 01-10-18B a general election for election of a Councilmember from Ward five (5) of the City of Piedmont, Oklahoma, to be held on April 3, 2018; providing for a filing period and requesting the Canadian County Election Board to conduct said election; and providing for notice of election.

Councilman Kevan Blasdel made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Motion was **seconded** by Mayor Pro Tem Bobby Williamson.

**The Vote was:**

**AYE:** Councilman John Brown, Councilman Albert Gliemann, Mayor Pro Tem Bobby Williamson, Councilwoman Melissa Ashford, and Councilman Kevan Blasdel.

**NAY:** None

6. **CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

None

7. **HEARING OF CITIZENS** - Topics to include those items *not listed in the agenda.*

None

## 8. BUSINESS ITEMS –

b) Discussion, consideration and possible action on City of Piedmont Fee Waiver Policy.

Councilman Kevan Blasdel addressed the Council

- community center being built on school property right next to City Hall
- Veterans have contracted with the School to lease property
- 5,000 square foot building with dining room, stage, and kitchen
- brick and steel building
- veterans will be in charge of reservations and cleaning
- City of Piedmont will receive around \$12,000 in sales tax from building supplies
- waive all fees concerning construction of this project
- does not believe the City Manager should waive construction fees for groups
- the policy shown tonight should be used for water, sewer, etc.

City Attorney Mike Segler addressed the Council

- tonight you are discussing a policy and not a single group
- working draft for proposed policy
- ask staff to prepare Council a list of fees that are waived or reduced for current organizations
- adopt a policy tonight to allow the City Manager to waive construction fees up to ½ of the projected sales tax on new construction projects for nonprofit organizations
- get a handle on this for the future

Councilman John Brown addressed the Council

- we are talking about this due to the group discussed above
- we will create a policy this evening to allow City Manager to sign off without coming to City Council every time
- don't like the limit given on the fees per individual organization and total limit
- we need to set qualifications on what would qualify for this
- first come first serve basis
- we have always waived building permit fees and tap fees for the School

Councilwoman Melissa Ashford addressed the Council

- they are building a facility that the community will use
- we need to implement a policy so we don't pick and choose who gets what

Mayor Valerie Thomerson addressed the Council

- could be an accounting nightmare
- how do we pick which organizations get this
- they are not asking us to contribute funds just waive fees
- must prove they are non-profit

Councilman Albert Gliemann addressed the Council

- thinks \$10,000 cap is too high
- we are a government and shouldn't give money away
- before we gave organizations a break on their bill every year
- don't want to say ½ of the projected sales tax on materials

City Manager Jason Orr addressed the Council

- personally I wouldn't do it at all
- if you decide to do this you need to have a policy in place
- this policy applies for all fee waivers not just construction but sewer, water, etc.

Mayor Pro Tem Bobby Williamson addressed the Council

- who is going to own this building
- everyone will be able to rent the building
- talk a lot about building and here is prime opportunity
- needs to be a limit per entity
- we need to stop discussing an item that is not on the agenda

Councilman John Brown made a motion to approve item b with the following change

- add paragraph for waiver of 1/2 of projected sales tax on new construction materials

Motion was **seconded** by Councilman Kevan Blasdel.

**The Vote was:**

**AYE:** Councilman John Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Bobby Williamson, Councilwoman Melissa Ashford, and Councilman Kevan Blasdel.

**NAY:** Councilman Albert Gleichmann

- a) Discussion and consideration on creation of an Olde Town Development District.

Councilman John Brown addressed the Council

- came up due to duplexes from last meeting
- need to do what other comprehensive districts and create a downtown environment
- establish a downtown

City Manager Jason Orr addressed the Council

- you are creating a downtown district
  - zoning for that specific district
  - typically, you have a City Planner and hold public meetings
    - build wants into ordinances
- help to bring in businesses to the district
- went to Norman to Institute for Quality Communities
  - interdisciplinary approach to City Planning
    - students come together and do projects
      - take it on as a semester project and help us create this
- a lot cheaper than hiring a firm to do this
  - grant money from OML available

Councilwoman Melissa Ashford addressed the Council

- helps to maintain feel of the area
- Guthrie was voted most touristy City in Oklahoma
- don't have a problem with businesses but I have a problem with duplexes

Councilman John Brown made a motion to direct the City Manager gather more information and bring back item a to a future meeting. Motion was **seconded** by Mayor Pro Tem Bobby Williamson.

**The Vote was:**

**AYE:** Councilman John Brown, Councilman Albert Gliemann, Mayor Pro Tem Bobby Williamson, Councilwoman Melissa Ashford, and Councilman Kevan Blasdel.

**NAY:** None

**10. NEW BUSINESS –**

- a) “New business,” as used herein, shall mean any matter not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting. (25 O.S. 311a(9))

None

**13. COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS-**

Councilwoman Melissa Ashford asked why we are not looking at the Piedmont Park Project Finances.

Mayor Valerie Thomerson informed her that they are a private entity and the City does not own it. She thanked everyone for putting up with her sunglasses and a hard couple of months.

Councilman John Brown addressed the Council

- we donated and have a right to ask
- at this point don't believe we need to ask yet
- once we are about to dedicate the park then we should probably take a look

**14. ADJOURN –**

Councilman John Brown made a motion to adjourn the City Council meeting at 7:2pm. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Bobby Williamson.

**The Vote was:**

**AYE:** Councilman John Brown, Councilman Albert Gliemann, Councilwoman Melissa Ashford, and Councilman Kevan Blasdel.

**NAY:** None

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Mayor, Valerie Thomerson

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Secretary, Valerie Cumming