

**SPECIAL
MINUTES**

CITY OF WARR ACRES
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
4301 N ANN ARBOR AVE
WARR ACRES, OK 73122
MONDAY
JULY 8 2024
6:00 P.M.

1. The meeting was called to Order at 6:00 p.m. Declaration of a quorum present was given.

ROLL CALL

Present

Absent

Mayor Roger Godwin
Vice-Mayor Vickie Douglas
Councilman Jon Evans
Councilman Scott Tribbey
Councilman Jim Von Thaer
Councilwoman Judy Myers
Councilwoman Deborah Morris
Councilman Randy Prince

2. Discussion and possible action on Nominating Mayor Roger Godwin to serve on the OML Board District 8 seat. *Godwin* *****

The mayor stated that they required him to send in his information prior to the nomination resolution from the council being submitted. He stated that he is already doing everything the board members do, he attends all the meeting and goes to all the things they do so this would just be giving status to Warr Acres for him being the representative. He told the council what all areas are covered under Dist. 8, 5 counties included. The seat has been held by Mayor Nikki Lloyd of Bethany; her term is up. The OML board will vote on the nominations at the annual OML conference in September in Tulsa. Someone asked why her seat was up and the mayor stated he was not sure, then the question was asked about how long a term was and he stated 2-years. The question was asked if it had to be a mayor on the board, the mayor stated that it did. Attorney Love stated that it could be a Mayor, a City Manager, a City Administrator or a Councilmember. Anyone can attend the meeting but only the board members get to vote. Cities over 100,000 have an automatic seat with an alternate. The mayor stated that he is already on the MCO board, the Mayor's Council of Oklahoma. Councilwoman Douglas asked if it was only as long as you are the Mayor, OML as long as you are an elected official. Attorney Love stated that if the OML board member does not get re-elected to

the city position then they will no longer serve on the OML board. The mayor stated yes on the MCO would only be the mayor. Councilman Tribbey asked the mayor if it was the right time to run for a statewide seat since he just finished his first year as Mayor of Warr Acres. The mayor stated that it is just the district seat and he is already doing one of the main things they talk about that those that are active in the organization will be considered and he is already there and doing those things. He attends all the Native American Symposiums all over the state, he goes to legislative board meetings, already on the MCO board, he attends the OML board meeting so he knows what all is going on. He also attends and speaks at different OML events that he has done all over the state. Councilman Tribbey stated he felt there was a lot that needed to be done here in Warr Acres and was not sure this was a good time for the mayor to take on more duties outside the city. The mayor stated that the way the city government works is there is a constant go at things and if things don't happen, things are removed from dockets, we're constantly working on it. He gave an example of trash that was removed from the docket for more information it is still getting worked on in the background. There are many things that happen in the administration and Mike is working on things for next month. This month the council will be getting a report from the mayor showing them the things he does that they do not see. He stated that he attends the City Managers conference since the city is a strong mayor form of government. The administration part people that have degrees spend years and years in administration doing the job that the mayor does so any training he can get he goes to. He has built strong relationships with other Mayors from cities with Strong Mayor form of government and so when something is going on he can give them a call and they can give him advice. He said he is serving the city by being at those meetings. Councilwoman Morris asked the mayor to explain what the Strong Mayor form of government was. He stated he is the CEO of the city, Councilman Evans said and the city manager. Councilman Tribbey state that only a city manager has the hire and fire capabilities of all department heads. He continued by addressing the mayor saying we are halfway through the year and it does not look like non-contract have not gotten raises, we do not have the audit from your first year as mayor, you are about to have union negotiations with two unions, have taken out loans in eight figures worth of construction projects that will start in the next year or so, you want to change the way we handle sanitation to the tune of at least a half million dollars, so he asked if the mayor felt he should be taking care of these things before running for another office, namely an OML board seat. The mayor responded that it is not either or because of the fact that you cannot stop prospecting new businesses. Councilman Tribbey stated that this is not going to develop new business by connecting to other city leaders, it will not bring in any additional tax revenue what so ever, it is only to pad your resume and build you up, with all the issues of the city on the table he is concerned about the mayor's focus. The mayor responded to Councilman Tribbey by saying that the things that he does, he would know if he would meet with him, you do not know or understand what he does as mayor. Councilwoman Myers asked who else was being considered for this OML seat. The mayor stated that he did not know. Councilwoman Myers stated that by them voting yes is not a shoe in. The mayor stated that it is just to put his name in for the voting. Councilwoman Myers said her concern it that his time could be better spent working here on the City of Warr Acres, and she knows there are a lot of things at this time that take you away from your family and she fears that this board would interfere with that as well.

Councilwoman Morris stated that as a very busy person herself that busy people get stuff done, you just learn how to juggle your schedule and delegate and get things done and mayor I appreciate a lot of stuff you have gotten done since I have known you. She continued that he always works hard and half of it you don't even tell them about because it is just something to get done, thank you. Councilwoman Douglas said she had a comment, OML is involved with the legislative process and looks to see what bills are important to us and what is not and that ties into getting grants for the city from the federal government so that does it improve our chances of getting them if you are on the board. The mayor stated that is a benefit, it makes a difference if you show up in a room and are a part of the conversation, if not you miss out. A comment was made that he had dinner with Langford and he stated yes and we got \$1.2 million dollars forgiven loan. The question was then asked if they got the loan due to what was written on paper or because he was present. The mayor stated that he met with Mullin, Langford and having those relationships gets letter sent on your behalf. Due to the rooms, he has been in has allowed him to get the city the help. So, showing up to a room allows things to happen, that is the way the world works, relationships make it all work. Being able to hand letters to our federal delegation he got to have conversations with the reps at different level than most people because he sits on boards and are a part of the legislative process, because being a part of being in the rooms you need to be in to get letters of support to get things done for the City of Warr Acres. Councilman Tribbey said the city needs money, where is nominating you to be on the OML board, where is the benefit to the city. The mayor said, Well always doing economic development, that every single one of us is responsible for. Councilman Tribbey would you be the one that would engage in direct negotiations with businesses, the mayor stated not necessarily. Attorney Love gave a lengthy explanation as to power and authority of the council in such circumstances, in short it takes the entire council take the action. Individually you can direct an interested business to the proper person, but you can not speak on behalf of the city or make offers or promises. Councilman Evans asked the mayor if he was planning on running again as mayor since this board seat is a two-year term and he only has one year left as mayor. The mayor stated yes, he was.

Motion by Morris, second by Prince to approve the Resolution nominating Mayor to serve Dist. 8 on the OML board. Poll vote: Von Thayer, abstain, Myers, nay; Tribbey, nay; Evans, yea; Morris, yea; Douglas, yea; Prince, yea; and Godwin, yea.

Motion Passed.

3. Discussion and possible action on a Resolution applying for a CERI grant from ACOG for Town Center Revitalization Plan in the amount of \$2,500. *Godwin* ****

This grant from ACOG would be for \$22,500 and the city match of \$2,500 for a total of \$25,000 for a plan to revitalize the Town Center area.

Motion by Godwin, second by Myers to approve the Resolution to apply for the CERI grant. Poll vote: Von Thayer, yea, Myers, yea; Tribbey, yea; Evans, nay; Morris, yea; Douglas, yea; Prince, yea; and Godwin, yea.

Motion Passed.

4. Adjournment.

Motion by Von Thaer, second by Morris to adjourn. Poll vote: Von Thaer, yea; Myers, yea; Tribbey, yea; Evans, yea; Morris, yea; Douglas, yea; Prince, yea; and Godwin, yea.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela McDowell-Ramirez
City Clerk/Treasurer

**SPECIAL
CITY OF WARR ACRES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MEETING
MINUTES
JULY 8, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

(Immediately following the Special Council Meeting.)

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present

Absent

Chairman Roger Godwin
Vice-Chair Vickie Douglas
Trustee Jon Evans
Trustee Scott Tribbey
Trustee Jim Von Thaer
Trustee Judy Myers
Trustee Deborah Morris
Trustee Randy Prince

1. Discussion and possible action on submitting an application for a Route 66 Association Centennial Project proposal requiring matching funds. *Godwin*

The application is due at the end of the month and the matching amount would be probably \$60,000. The Mayor would like to put something on 39th at the corner of Ann Arbor with one side representing the city and the other Putnam City. The Mayor showed the board pictures of a windmill blade that was in Weatherford and a Route 66 sign in El Reno. They want things along Route 66 that people can stop and take pictures of. This will be back on the July 16th agenda.

2. Discussion and possible action on a Resolution applying for a CERI grant from ACOG for Town Center Revitalization Plan in the amount of \$2,500. *Godwin* *****

This turned out to be an item for the City Council and not the Economic Development.

3. Adjournment.

Motion by Von Thaer, second by Morris to adjourn. Poll vote: Von Thaer, yea; Myers, yea; Tribbey, yea; Evans, yea; Morris, yea; Douglas, yea; Prince, yea; and Godwin, yea.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela McDowell-Ramirez
City Clerk/Treasurer