

**MINUTES**  
**TAHLEQUAH CITY COUNCIL - REGULAR MEETING**  
**MONDAY JANUARY 7, 2019 - 7:00 PM**  
**CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 111 S. CHEROKEE AVE.**

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**1. MEETING CONVENED**

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Meeting **called to order** by Mayor Nichols at 7:03 pm.  
City Clerk DeAnna Hammons Called the **Roll call as follows:**

<b>Present:</b>	Councilor Ward I	Bree Long
	Councilor Ward II	Dower Combs
	Councilor Ward III	Stephen Highers
	Councilor Ward IV	Joshua Bliss

**OTHERS PRESENT:** City Attorney Grant Lloyd, City Administrator Ed Carr, City Treasurer Lanny Williams, Street Commissioner Wayne Ryals, Finance Director Danya Curtis, Fire Chief Ray Hammons, Police Chief Nate King, Planning and Development Director Clinton Johnson, Human Resource Director M'Lynn Pape, Public Relations Jami Murphy, News Media Tesina Jackson.

**Invocation – Mitch Parnell – Grace Baptist Church**  
**Flag salute.**

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**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

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There were no comments from the public.

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**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

To approve the **minutes** of the December 3, 2018 City Council Meeting.

To accept the resignation from Jamie Hale, as Recreation Coordinator effective January 18, 2019.

*Vote:* Ayes: Bliss, Long, Combs, Highers Nays: none Motion carried.

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**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS**

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Recognition of Years of Service for January Employees:

**Casey Baker – 25 years – Fire Department**

**Steven Smith – 5 years – Police Department**

Report from Library- N/A

Report from Tahlequah Convention and Visitors Bureau – N/A

Report from Chamber of Commerce –N/A

Report from the Tahlequah Main Street Association – N/A

Reports from City Departments:

Street Department – written

Fire Department – verbal

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## REGULAR SESSION

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5. Councilor Highers made a motion and Councilor Combs seconded to approve budget amendment 01/07/2019-A and reallocation.

*Vote:* Ayes: Highers, Combs, Mayor Nays: Bliss, Long Motion carried

- No action as to the following removed from the consent agenda:  
To acknowledge receipt of the Financial Reports from December 2018.  
To approve budget amendment 01/07/2019-B and reallocation.

6. No action was taken regarding the **2019 Farmers Market Agreement** with the City of Tahlequah.

7. Councilor Long made a motion and Councilor Highers seconded to **hire Michael Green, CPA**, as the auditor for the City of Tahlequah for **Fiscal Year 2017-18 as proposed along with a completion deadline of May 31, 2019.**

*Vote:* Ayes: Highers, Bliss, Long, Combs Nays: none Motion carried

8. Councilor Bliss made a motion and Councilor Long seconded requiring the Mayor to provide the Councilors continued updates no less than every two months.

*Vote:* Ayes: Bliss, Long Nays: Combs, Highers, Mayor ***Motion denied***

- No further action was taken on this agenda item.

9. No action was taken. An update was provided regarding the **intersection of Bluff Ave. and Shawnee Street.**

10. No action was taken. An update was provided **regarding the Skate Park.**

11. No action was taken. An update was provided regarding the **status of East**

**4<sup>th</sup> Street.**

12. No action was taken. An update was provided regarding the **Comprehensive plan.**

13. Councilor Long made a motion and Councilor Highers seconded **to hire Dallas Huntley and Bailey Wright both at a T112 Step 1 as Dispatchers in the Police Department.**

*Vote:* Ayes: Long, Combs, Highers, Bliss Nays: none Motion carried

14. Councilor Highers made a motion and Councilor Long seconded **to table discussion and possible action to combine the Parks and Recreation departments** along with necessary structure of the two departments.

*Vote:* Ayes: Long, Combs, Highers, Bliss Nays: none Motion carried

15. Councilor Long made a motion and Councilor Highers seconded to **hire Chris Armstrong at a T118 Step 2 as a Solid Waste Superintendent.**

*Vote:* Ayes: Highers, Bliss, Long, Combs Nays: none Motion carried

16. Councilor Combs made a motion and Councilor Highers seconded to approve **Tahlequah Police Department Policies 404, 409-411, 417, 421, 424, and 426-432.**

*Vote:* Ayes: Bliss, Long, Combs, Highers Nays: none Motion carried

17. Discussion item only/no action taken. Discussion regarding **issues** with the **purchase of police vehicles.**

18. Councilor Bliss made a motion and Councilor Highers seconded to confirm the **City Abatement Board's decision** to abate by demolition the structure located **at 1219 E. Fuller Street.**

*Vote:* Ayes: Long, Combs, Highers, Bliss Nays: none Motion carried

19. Discussion item only/no action taken. Discussion to **adopt Ordinance No. 1274-2018**, rezoning the property located at **223 N. East Avenue, Tahlequah, OK 74464 more particularly described as Lot 2, Block 3, Less the North 18.5 feet for highway, Moore Heights Addition, Cherokee County, Oklahoma**, from Neighborhood Commercial District (C-1) to General Commercial District (C-2).

20. **Councilor Highers made a motion and Councilor Combs seconded to exit regular session and enter into executive session at 9:52 p.m.**

*Vote:* Ayes: Combs, Highers, Bliss, Long Nays: none Motion carried

*Councilor Long excused herself before entering into executive session.*

