

MINUTES

TAHLEQUAH CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING

Date/Time of
City Council Meeting: Monday, February 1, 2021, at 5:30 p.m.
Place of Meeting: 111 Cherokee Ave. Tahlequah, OK

The Public was able to attend the meeting in person with appropriate distancing or remotely by Zoom Videoconference and/or Teleconference. Instructions for remote attendance by the Public were provided below.

1. MEETING CONVENED

Meeting **called to order** by Mayor Catron at 5:30 p.m.
City Clerk DeAnna Hammons Called the **Roll call as follows:**

Councilors Present:

Councilor Ward II	Dower Combs
Councilor Ward IV	Trae Ratliff
Councilor Ward III	Stephen Highers

Councilors Absent:

Councilor Ward I Bree Long (arrived at 5:55 p.m.)

Others Present:

Mayor Sue Catron, City Attorney Grant Lloyd, City Clerk DeAnna Hammons, City Administrator Alan Chapman, and City Treasurer Marty Hainzinger

Invocation – Pastor Tammy Schmidt – First Presbyterian Church

Flag salute.

Public Notice: A Public Notice of meeting was provided December 8, 2020 at 3:32 p.m. to The Secretary of State of Oklahoma and additional notice was provided January 7, 2021 at 11:26 a.m.

2. PUBLIC INSTRUCTIONS:

Videoconference and/or Teleconference Access Instructions for Public Attendance at the Meeting: the Public and City Staff may remotely attend this meeting by joining the Zoom meeting via the web or the Zoom app (www.zoom.us) **Access Code 832 0763 8765 Password 607362.** If you wish to receive a copy of any materials that are presented to the City Council, please submit your request to cityclerk@cityoftahlequah.com.

Videoconference and/or Teleconference Notice: This meeting will include communication by members of the Public and/or City Staff to the City Council, and those communications may be by auditory communication or by visual and auditory communication.

The Public may ask questions during the discussion of each agenda item by typing the word “question” along with his or her name in the chat bar and waiting to be called on. If communicating via the Zoom Videoconference and/or Teleconference, the Mayor will call upon you to unmute yourself so that you may speak. Only questions spoken out loud are allowed to be responded to. Please do not type out your questions in the chat bar.

Should there be any technical difficulties during the meeting please refer to the City of Tahlequah website and/or City of Tahlequah Facebook page as the City will address any issues and/or provide further instructions.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. John Uzzo – spoke on political signage issues.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Highers made a motion and Councilor Ratliff seconded to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- a) To approve the **minutes** of the January 4, 2021, & January 19, 2021 City Council meetings.
- b) To approve the monthly **check register** for January 2021.
- c) To accept the **termination** of Daniel Bell, Collector, in the Solid Waste Department, effective January 4, 2021.

Vote: Ayes: Combs, Ratliff, Highers

Nays: none Motion carried.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS, PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

Recognition of Years of Service for **January** Employees: **NONE**

Recognition of Larry Dallis and Arlie Wolf in the Sanitation Department as the City of Tahlequah’s **Employees of the Month** for February 2021.

Presentation of Life Saving Awards to Officer Bryan Swim, Thomas Donnell, Chris Smith, and Steven Smith.

Presentation Tahlequah Police Department 2020 Year-in-Review

(Councilor Long arrives at 5:55 p.m.)

Report from Library – No report given

Report from Chamber of Commerce – Verbal

Report from Tour Tahlequah a Department of the Tahlequah Area Chamber of Commerce – Written and Verbal

Report from the Tahlequah Main Street Association – No report given

REGULAR SESSION

6. There were no items removed from the **consent** agenda.
7. Discussion and **update** from the **Crisis Task Force**.
8. Discussion and **update** from the **Recovery Task Force**.
9. Presentation and discussion on **street improvement projects**.
10. Presentation was given regarding the Tahlequah Farmers Market. Councilor Highers made a motion and Councilor Ratliff seconded to approve the **Agreement Between the City of Tahlequah and Tahlequah Farmers Market for 2021 and 2022 Market Seasons** with the amendment to allow utilization of the smaller pavilion.

Vote: Ayes: Ratliff, Highers, Long Nays: Combs Motion carried.

11. Councilor Long made a motion and Councilor Ratliff seconded to **lift the moratorium and hire Micah Moles as Code Compliance Officer** in the Managerial Department at a T113.

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

12. Councilor Combs made a motion to **update the policy regarding sick leave** related to **employee promotion and transfers** and/or Personnel Policy 602 – Promotion effective July 1, 2021. The motion died due to lack of a second, and ultimately there was no action taken on this item.

13. **“No action was taken” to lift the moratorium** to allow for advertising and recruiting for **Lifeguards** in the Parks and Recreation Department.

14. There will be a mid-month Special meeting held February 16, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

15. **Councilor Highers made a motion and Councilor Ratliff seconded to adjourn meeting at 6:57 p.m.**

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