

## **MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD BY THE MOORE CITY COUNCIL JULY 7, 2025 – 5:15 P.M.**

The City Council of the City of Moore met in the Upstairs Conference Room, 301 North Broadway, Moore, Oklahoma on July 7, 2025 at 5:15 p.m. with Mayor Mark Hamm presiding.

*Adam Webb*  
*Councilman, Ward I*

*Kathy Griffith*  
*Councilwoman, Ward I*

*Melissa Hunt*  
*Councilwoman, Ward II*

*Rob Clark*  
*Councilman, Ward II*

*Sid Porter*  
*Councilman, Ward III*

*Louie Williams*  
*Councilman, Ward III*

PRESENT: Griffith, Porter, Hunt, Williams, Clark, Hamm  
ABSENT: Webb

### **Agenda Item Number 2 being:**

DISCUSS POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS TO THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AND STORMWATER DRAINAGE.

#### **IMPROVEMENTS TO WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT DISCUSSION:**

Jerry Ihler, Assistant City Manager, stated that Council previously approved a contract with Garver to address issues with the headworks and digester buildings at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Ihler introduced Michael Nguyen, Project Manager and Bryce Callies, Water Resources Team Leader with Garver who were in attendance to answer any questions.

#### **HEADWORKS BUILDING:**

Mr. Ihler indicated that the first project was on the headworks building which is where everything goes from the collection system. The hanging tubes for air exchange have been short circuiting, the building has heavy corrosion on the roof and roof supports, and the concrete in the basins have started to spall. He stated that the moisture and short circuiting are causing odorous air which in turn causes corrosion. Since the channels are open the corrosive gases are rising to the roof and within the building.

Mr. Ihler stated that Council approved engineering for the following proposed improvements to rectify the issues:

- A roof replacement.
- The open channels will be covered to contain the air from going outside.
- A new HVAC system to circulate the air.
- A coating would be applied to the concrete basins to prevent future erosion.

He advised that the estimated cost for engineering of the project is \$135,200. Garver has completed approximately 90% of the plans. The cost for construction of the proposed improvements is estimated to be \$2.5 million.

### **DIGESTER BUILDING:**

Mr. Ihler advised that the digester building roof purlins are heavily corroded and have failed in several places. The bridging members between the purlins are beginning to corrode causing lighting systems to fall from the roof. The moisture and odorous air is causing corrosion. Mr. Ihler stated that proposed improvements include:

- Removing the roof and replacing it with covers over the entire digester basins.
- Replacement of the entire odor control ducting.

The Council previously approved engineering for design of the improvements in the amount of \$199,800. Mr. Ihler stated that a rough estimate of the construction cost for this project is \$11 million.

### **SBR BUILDING:**

He stated that the SBR building is in a little better shape but with visible corrosion along the ridge vents. The proposed improvements include:

- Replacement of the corroded ridge vents.
- Improved odor control system for better air flow distribution to alleviate any short circuiting.

### **UV/EPS BUILDING:**

The UV/EPS building has steel trusses with visible spots of rust where the coating is missing and there is the start of corrosion on the equipment. He stated that the following improvements are proposed:

- Sandblast and paint the purlins
- Recoat the trusses
- Add additional louvers for ventilation in the building
- Replace the roof crane
- Cover effluent pump station influent junction box

Mr. Ihler noted that this project has not been approved by Council. He stated that the estimated engineering cost for the ABR and UV/EPS buildings is \$123,300 with a rough estimate of construction costs in the amount of \$2.2 million.

He stated that the total estimated construction cost for all of the projects previously discussed is \$15.7 million with engineering costs of \$458,000 for a total project cost of \$16.2 million.

### **NORTH STORM POND:**

Mr. Ihler advised that an additional project addresses no aeration or mixing in the north storm pond which, during heavy rains of 2" to 3" or more, causes an odor. Fixing the issue would require:

- New diffusers and air distribution piping
- Installation of equipment
- New electrical service and power distribution switchboard
- Air conditioning to cool the electrical gear
- Modified PLC and SCADA system to incorporate new blower controls

The estimated cost for engineering would be \$350,000. The rough estimate for construction costs is \$5.5 million. He stated that the odor occurs around 30 days out of the year. At the time the new facility was built the biggest concern was reducing odor. With neighborhoods being constructed around the plant

there are complaints from residents during periods of heavy rain. Mr. Ihler advised that if the City Council decided to add this additional project to those previously discussed, the total construction cost would be \$21.2 million with \$808,300 anticipated in engineering fees for a total in project costs around \$22 million. He indicated that a potential funding source would be an Oklahoma Water Resources Board ("OWRB") low interest loan.

## **DISCUSSION:**

Councilman Williams asked how the City would repay the OWRB loan. Brooks Mitchell, City Manager, advised that there are sewer surcharges on the water bill to repay the existing OWRB loans. The proposed projects would be paid in a similar way. Councilwoman Hunt asked if the loan would be added to the surcharge. Mr. Mitchell stated that it would add around \$4.00 each month to each utility bill for a period of 25 to 30 years.

Councilwoman Hunt stated that there is frustration because the citizens are still paying for the original building and now the City is asking them to pay for renovations. Councilwoman Hunt asked when the wastewater treatment plant was constructed. Mr. Mitchell indicated the plant was constructed around 2012-2013. Mayor Hamm asked when the first OWRB loan will be paid off. Mr. Mitchell advised that the OWRB loans will pay off in 2031 and 2032. Councilman Williams inquired how long it would take to complete the projects from start to finish. Mr. Ihler estimated that if Council approves the projects in August the engineering could be completed by November with a couple of months for ODEQ review of the plans. If the plans are approved the projects could be bid and awarded by the end of February 2026. Once awarded it would take approximately 18 to 20 months to complete construction.

Councilman Williams asked if aerating the open-air ponds would cause the odor to increase. Robert Pistole, Project Manager with Veolia Water, stated that it is an overflow pond during heavy rain events. There are three stages of overflow control. The first two are aerated. During a heavy rain event the plant goes from processing an average of 6-8 MGD to double that since the stormwater seepage mixes with the sewage and must be processed.

Councilman Porter felt that something had to be done since the situation will only get worse. Councilman Clark stated that by the time the proposed improvements are made there would only be two to three years left on repayment of the original OWRP loan. Mr. Mitchell commented that staff wanted to bring the situation to Council's attention to allow time for further discussion. Mayor Hamm noted that stormwater projects in the east side of town must be funded too.

## **STORMWATER DRAINAGE**

Mr. Ihler stated that four major flooding events occurred this year causing staff to begin looking at prioritizing drainage projects. Staff comprised a list of five areas that are the most critical and can help the greatest number of people with flooding conditions.

### **PRIORITY ONE – NE 20<sup>TH</sup> AND N. LINCOLN (WARD 2):**

Mr. Ihler indicated that this project will be divided into three parts. A part of this project will be included with the Eastern Avenue roadway project from NE 12<sup>th</sup> to NE 27<sup>th</sup> Street. In the 2023 bond issue the design work was approved. After the design was 60% complete the City submitted the project for ACOG funding and was awarded around \$6.5 million. He advised that the project was not placed on a ballot for approval of a bond issue for the overall construction costs for the project. A detention pond located at Eastern Avenue between NE 18<sup>th</sup> and NE 19<sup>th</sup> has a capacity of approximately 21.5 acre-feet of storage which can reduce the 100-year storm peak discharge reaching downstream residents by approximately 30%. The area is in a floodplain and is undevelopable. The second part of the project would be tied in with the Eastern Avenue project to prevent the residents from having to be inconvenienced twice by

construction occurring six months apart, once for the stormwater box under Eastern Avenue and once for the Eastern Avenue roadway construction. He advised that the third part is fixing an undersized storm drainage system at NE 20<sup>th</sup> and Lincoln Avenue.

PROJECT COST: \$7 MILLION

**PRIORITY TWO – RAMBLIN OAKS BEGINNING AT N. MORGAN (WARD 1):**

Mr. Ihler advised that this project is in Ward 1 and involved two parts. Part 1 involves upsizing the existing storm pipe to 72" from N. Morgan to Main Street. Part 2 consists of constructing an 8' x 5' Reinforced Concrete Box ("RCB") south of Main and construction of a 14' x 6' RCB parallel to Main and south to the tributary stream south of Main.

PROJECT COST: \$8.25 MILLION

**PRIORITY THREE – SOUTHMOORE HIGH SCHOOL (WARD 3):**

The current detention pond would be extended to Santa Fe and a 42" pipe will be installed. Council approved this project and design is complete. There was a grant award for this project; however, the new federal administration revoked the grant as part of the federal budget cuts. Staff applied for a similar grant at the state level and are waiting to hear if the City will be awarded grant funds for this project in the future.

PROJECT COST: \$1.5 MILLION

**PRIORITY FOUR – NE 12<sup>TH</sup> AND OLD MILL ROAD (WARD 2):**

Part 1 will involve replacing the box structure under NE 12<sup>th</sup> Street with three 16' x 8' boxes that would address a 50-year storm. A small roadway repair to prevent the water from 12<sup>th</sup> Street backing down into an area that already has flooding, and an apron with higher elevation to keep the water from overflowing. Part 2 will not be included with this project. Part 3 would install a 40" pipe from Sequoyah to Old Mill Road as well as 30" pipe from Old Mill Road to North Fork Little River.

PROJECT COST: \$5.6 MILLION

**PRIORITY FIVE – WOODBINE CIRCLE IN THE EASTHILLS ADDITION (WARD 2):**

Council approved design of this project which is recommended due to five or six properties that are losing their lots through erosion. The project includes repair of the channel liner where the concrete has failed.

PROJECT COST: \$951,000

Mayor Hamm asked if two homes which he pointed out on a map that he had received flooding complaints about would benefit from the repairs. Mr. Ihler didn't feel the improvements would benefit the homes since they are located downstream. He advised that he was previously unaware of any flooding issues at this location but stated that he would look into the situation. Mayor Hamm was concerned that the improvements could speed up the water flow downstream making the flooding worse. Mr. Ihler indicated that the proposed installation includes energy dissipators which should slow the water down some.

Mr. Ihler stated that since design had already started on the Southmoore and Woodbine projects it was possible that by the third quarter of 2026 the City could bid out those projects and begin construction. He estimated that the NE 20<sup>th</sup> and Lincoln and Ramlin Oaks projects could be ready for construction by the

fourth quarter of 2027. He estimated that if the projects are approved and a funding source identified they could be completed by 2029, although that schedule is flexible. Brooks Mitchell, City Manager, noted that bond issues are the traditional funding source; however, he would like to discuss other funding sources with the City Council.

Mr. Ihler noted that Harris Wilson and Cassidy Henagar with WSB, formerly Meshek, were in attendance and available to help answer any questions.

**Agenda Item Number 3 being:**

ADJOURNMENT

**Councilwoman Hunt moved to adjourn the special meeting, second by Councilwoman Griffith.**

Ayes: Griffith, Porter, Hunt, Williams, Clark, Hamm  
Nays: None  
Absent: Webb

**The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m.**

TRANSCRIBED BY:

---

RHONDA BAXTER, Executive Assistant

FOR:

---

ADAM WEBB, MPWA Secretary

These minutes passed and approved as noted this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

ATTEST:

---

VANESSA KEMP, City Clerk