



SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Finance Committee Workshop
Tuesday, April 6, 2010 5:00 pm
City Hall – 3rd Floor Conference Room
101 N. 2nd Street, Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044

1. Roll Call.
2. Discussion and consideration if action regarding request by Jan Cook Hernandez to reduce EMS bill.
3. Discussion of Ambulance Subscription Fee and survey results.
4. Discussion of Utility Rates.
5. Adjournment.

Agenda posted on the bulletin board in the lobby of City Hall before 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 2, 2010. The City of Guthrie encourages participation from all its citizens. If participation at any public meeting is not possible due to a disability, notification to the City Clerk at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting is encouraged to make the necessary accommodations. The City may waive the 48-hour rule if signing is not the necessary accommodation.

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Agenda Item Cover Letter

Meeting: City Council, GPWA, Other: Finance Committee; Date of Meeting: April 6, 2010; Contact: Lester Branch

Agenda Item: Consider request by Jan Cook Hernandez to reduce EMS bill

Summary: I have received a request by Mrs. Hernandez to reduce her husbands ambulance bill

Funding Expected: Revenue, Expenditure; Budgeted: Yes, No; Account Number, Amount; Legal Review: N/A, Required, Completed Date; Mayor's Appt.: Yes, No

Supporting documents attached: Copy of correspondence between Mrs. Hernandez and Lester Branch

Recommendation: Committee's consideration and recommendation to City Council

Action Needed: Public Hearing, Motion, Emergency Clause

CITY OF
GUTHRIE
OKLAHOMA

City Hall

101 N. Second Street

PO Box 908

Guthrie, OK 73044

P: 405.282.2489

F: 405.282.0192

www.cityofguthrie.com

Police Department

306 West Oklahoma

405.282.3535

Guthrie Fire

Department

Central Station

209 East Springer

405.282.4433

Municipal Services

407 Commerce

405.282.8400

Guthrie Edmond

Regional Airport

520 Airport Road

405.282.2312

Guthrie

Public Library

201 North Division

405.282.0050

Animal Shelter

415 Commerce

405.282.1776

March 18, 2010

Jan Cook Hernandez
PO Box 143
Guthrie, OK 73044

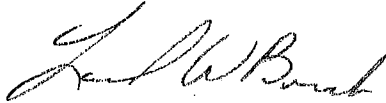
Dear Mrs. Hernandez,

I am in receipt of your letter dated March 16, 2010 in reference to your husband's transport from Logan Hospital to Baptist. First of all, I want to apologize for any lack of professional service you may have received. It is the goal of the Guthrie Fire Department to provide the most professional service possible to our customers.

The only way I can reduce your Emergency Medical Services bill is to present it to the City of Guthrie Finance Committee. The Finance Committee will make a determination and present their recommendation to the Guthrie City Council. The Guthrie City Council is the ultimate deciding authority. I will get your case on the next available Finance Committee that I can attend. I will also give you that date so you may also be present to answer any questions the committee may have of you.

I want to commend you for responsibly making payments to the best of your ability as you continue to resolve your other medical expense burdens. I will also call our third party billing agent to express my disappointment in the way you were treated by them, especially "Renee". My direct phone number is 405-282-4433 and my cell number is 405-626-2620, please feel free to call me if there is anything else I can do for you.

Sincerely,



Lester Branch
Guthrie Fire Chief

March 16, 2010

Guthrie Fire Department
111 South Second
Guthrie, Oklahoma 73044
Attn: Lester Branch

Re: Jose L. Hernandez
Account #028333245

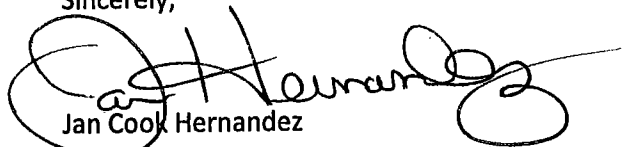
Dear Mr. Branch-

I'm writing this letter in regards to the statement received on 6/30/09 in the amount of \$1,598.00. When I received my first statement in the mail I mailed a letter directly to the department that handles your billing in Houston, Texas; to date I have never received any response back and have called at least five times each time being told they were sending my letter to your department. I just called them yesterday and the lady "Renee" was going to call me right back- never received a call back. I can only hope they are collecting fees for your department because they lack in "service". Plus it's a shame with the unemployment rate in Oklahoma that your department can't find a service locally or within Oklahoma.

I know it costs each time you take the vehicle out but my husband was transported from Guthrie Hospital to Baptist – no lights on –just riding in the back not to mention almost falling out of the bed when the driver drove over a curb. But the costs for the service are ridiculous –we don't have insurance and all providers of service for that day gave us at least a 20% discount on their service, when I asked your billing company for the same they wouldn't even talk about it. I have been making payments to two hospitals' each at \$100.00 a month and will pay them off eventually and have already paid off the doctors, etc.

As you can see with the attached bill I have been making \$10.00 payments because I can't get any response from anybody- poor customer service! My main question in the letter I had sent almost a year ago was – can you offer us a discount since we don't have insurance, so we can get you paid off quickly.

Sincerely,



Jan Cook Hernandez
P.O. Box 143
Guthrie, Ok 73044

Cc: Guthrie Fire Department
P.O. Box 941608
Houston, Texas 77094-8608

Jan Hernandez
PO Box 143
Guthrie, OK 73044

TULSA OK 741

16 MAR 2010 PM 7 E



Mr Lester Branch
Guthrie Fire Department
111 South Second
Guthrie, OK 73044

73044+4715

Finance Committee Meeting 4/6/2010



Guthrie Fire Department

Toll Free Main 866-398-8999

Jose L. Hernandez
PO BOX 143
GUTHRIE, OK 73044-0143

Emergency Medical Services Bill

Date of Service: 06/30/2009
Account: 02833245

Guthrie Fire Department provided you emergency medical services on the above mentioned service date. At this time, we have not yet obtained insurance information. If you have insurance or participate in any program which will pay for these services, please complete and sign the reverse side of this bill and return in the enclosed envelope.

If you do not have insurance, please call 866-398-8999 to set up a payment plan. The amount due is your responsibility.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

06/30/2009	BLS Emergency Base Rate	787.00
06/30/2009	BLS Emergency Mileage	465.00
06/30/2009	Emergency Rate	94.00
06/30/2009	BLS Supplies - Routine Disposable	52.50
06/30/2009	Disposable Linen Kit	25.00
06/30/2009	Pulse Oximeter	94.50
09/03/2009	Payment to EMS - Check / Money Order	10.00
10/08/2009	Payment to EMS - Check / Money Order	10.00
11/04/2009	Payment to EMS - Check / Money Order	10.00
12/04/2009	Payment to EMS - Check / Money Order	10.00
01/22/2010	Payment to EMS - Check / Money Order	10.00
02/04/2010	Payment to EMS - Check / Money Order	10.00
02/04/2010	Payment to EMS - Check / Money Order	10.00
02/27/2010	Payment to EMS - Check / Money Order	10.00

AMOUNT DUE \$1438.00

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Agenda Item Cover Letter

Meeting <input type="checkbox"/> City Council <input type="checkbox"/> GPWA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>Finance Committee</u>	Date of Meeting April 6, 2010	Contact Lester Branch
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Agenda Item

Discussion of Ambulance Subscription Fee and survey results.

Summary

- The Finance Committee met November 3, 2009 regarding discussion and consideration of recommendation to City Council on establishing an Ambulance Subscription Fee. After discussion and a presentation by Lester Branch, a request was made by the Finance Committee for further information which specifically included a survey to better estimate the likely opt out rate to be expected if this subscription fee was offered by the City of Guthrie. Fire Chief Lester Branch reported that the opt out rate in Oklahoma City was 27% and the opt out rate in Edmond was 16%.

Funding Expected	<input type="checkbox"/> Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> Expenditure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
Budgeted	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
Account Number	_____ Amount _____		
Legal Review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> Required	Completed Date: _____
Mayor's Appt.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

Supporting documents attached

- Minutes from the November 3, 2009 Finance Committee Meeting

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Finance Committee

November 3, 2009

The special meeting of the sixtieth City Council of Guthrie, Oklahoma, was posted on Friday, October 30, 2009 and held November 3, 2009 in the Guthrie City Hall Council Chambers.

Finance Committee Chairman Trey Ayers called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Finance Members Present: Trey Ayers Mary Coffin

Finance Members Absent: Ellen Gomes

Councilmembers Present: Chuck Burtcher John Wood Gaylord Z. Thomas
 Patty Hazlewood

Staff Present: Wanda Calvert Rene Spineto Lester Branch
 Jim Ahlgren

Finance Committee Chairman Ayers declared a quorum with two (2) Finance Committee Members in attendance.

Discussion and consider recommendation to City Council on establishing an Ambulance Subscription Fee. Fire Chief Lester Branch presented the Finance Committee his research on establishing an Ambulance Subscription Fee. Staff presented different fees ranging from \$3.65 to \$5.50 for projected revenue from \$144,540 to \$217,800 at full participation and projected revenue with 75% participation ranging from \$108,405 to \$163,350. The potential yearly ambulance subscription fee per family at the different proposed fee ranges from \$43.80 to \$66.00. Staff proposed the fee be established at \$4.50 per month or an annual fee of \$54. The proposed Ambulance Subscription Fee would be included with the Utility Bills with option to opt-out of the program. Finance Committee Member suggested a survey be completed to better determine the opt-out rate.

Finance Committee Member Gomes present at 6:30 p.m.

Discussion and consider recommendation to City Council on waiving the Highland Hall Rental Fee for the Highland Park Neighborhood Association. The Highland Park community organized the Highland Park Neighborhood Association on September 31, 2009. The boundaries are: north to College Street, south to Noble Avenue, east to Pine Street, west to Walnut Street and includes 135 homes. The Highland Park Neighborhood Association has adopted Highland Park as their project and is working with Verdell Smith, Superintendent of Parks & Public Grounds, to improve and beautify the park. They have raised funds and are

currently painting and landscaping the front entrance to Highland Park. They hope to raise funds for improvements to the pavilions and other structures including restoration of the 89'er wagon. They have requested a fee waiver for Highland Hall to hold their quarterly neighborhood meetings at Highland Hall. Association Board meetings are held in the board members homes; however, the general membership meetings require a larger facility. The Highland Hall Rental Fee for the hours requested is \$45 for each meeting or \$180 per year. Motion by Finance Committee Member Coffin, seconded by Finance Committee Member Gomes, moved approval to recommend to City Council to waive the Highland Hall Rental Fee for the Highland Park Neighborhood Association quarterly meetings in lieu of \$200 of park improvements, receipts showing said expenditures. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ayers, Coffin, Gomes

Nay: None

Finance Committee Chairman declared the motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and consider recommendation to City Council on amending the Highland Hall and Mineral Wells Park Pavilion Fees. Highland Hall Rental Fees were revised on August 5, 1997 and the rental fees range from \$30 to \$75 (depending on the number of hours), along with an inspection fee of \$15 and a refundable cleaning/key deposit of \$100. The last two fiscal years Highland Hall Rental Fees have averaged approximately \$3,200. Mineral Wells Pavilion Rental Fees were established on June 3, 2003 and the rental fees are \$35 up to six hours and \$70 six hour and over. The last two fiscal years Mineral Wells Pavilion Rental Fees have averaged approximately \$550, but the pavilion was damaged in the 2008 flood. Mineral Wells Pavilion is requiring additional staff time in the preparation for the events being held (moving tables, cleaning between events, etc.). Finance Committee requested additional information from staff to provide services to both facilities, costs verses revenue. No action was taken.

Discussion and consider recommendation to City Council on amending the Lease of Facility for Logan County Aging Services (SODEXO) regarding the utility and rental. Logan County Aging Services is losing approximately \$60,000 in revenue the remainder of this fiscal year due to budget cuts. This translates into 8,500 plus meals and services to the most vulnerable citizens of Logan County. The nutrition program serves 250 meals to these citizens daily and in many cases, the meal and human contact is the only interaction the seniors receive for the entire day. As it stands now, many of the elderly are going to go hungry and risk health and lose their independence. Logan County Aging Service/Sodexo is requesting the City of Guthrie's assistance in helping to alleviate this situation by providing a reduced rent and/or utilities. The Logan County Aging Services/Sodexo pays to the City the sum of \$400 per month rent and \$350 per month in utilities. Staff has completed an analysis on the utilities and Logan County Aging/Sodexo is paying approximately half of the utilities. Motion by Finance Committee Member Coffin, seconded by Finance Committee Gomes, moved approval to recommend to City Council to continue the Lease for half of the utility bills but reducing the monthly rental rate from \$400 to \$1 through the Lease period (June 30, 2010) or until funding is restored. A roll call vote was taken.

Aye: Ayers, Coffin, Gomes

Nay: None

Finance Committee Chairman Ayers declared the motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment. There being no further business, Finance Committee Chairman Ayers declared the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Wanda Calvert, City Clerk

Trey Ayers, Chairman