

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL
April 1, 2025

The meeting of the sixty-seventh City Council of Guthrie, Oklahoma was posted on Friday, March 28, 2025 before 5:00 p.m. and held Tuesday, April 1, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council Member Tracy Williams.

Opening prayer was provided by Rev. Katrina Richardson, First United Presbyterian Church.

Mayor Steven J. Gentling called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and declared a quorum with all Councilmembers in attendance.

Members Present:	Steven J. Gentling	Grant Aguirre	Jeff Taylor
	Brian Bothroyd	Tracy Williams	Adam Ropp
	Kaley Mills		

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:	Eddie Faulkner	William Wheeler	Kim Biggs
	Dan Kassik	Justin Fortney	Dane Lausen
	Tenny Maker	Steve Mize	

Public Comments, Community Announcements and Recognition.

Presentation by Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) T. Kyle Brede

Lieutenant Colonel T. Kyle Brede presented on behalf of the Oklahoma Military Heritage Foundation. He explained that the foundation was established in 1999 to share and appreciate Oklahoma's military history through inductions into the Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame. In 2023, they established the Hall of Honor to expand their impact. The First Capital Chapter of the Oklahoma Military Hall of Honor was established in Guthrie in January, covering 12 counties and an estimated 50,000 veterans.

Brede then proceeded with the inaugural inductions:

- Oscar J. Upham: A Marine private who served in the Spanish-American War and Boxer Rebellion. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for erecting barricades under heavy fire in Peking, China. The Hall of Honor certificate and medallion were presented to his family members.
- Michael Manning: An Army sergeant who served from 2007 to 2015. He was awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and Combat Infantryman Badge for his actions during an

ambush in Afghanistan. Manning is an active member of the Guthrie community. He received the Hall of Honor certificate and medallion.

- Steve Gentling: A colonel who served in both the Army and Air Force for nearly three decades. He also had a successful civilian career supporting veterans at the VA Administration. Gentling served as mayor of Guthrie for five consecutive terms and declared Guthrie a Purple Heart City in 2016. He received the Hall of Honor certificate and medallion.

Mayor Gentling left the Council Chamber at 6:39 p.m.

National Animal Control Officer Week Proclamation

Vice Mayor Grant Aguirre read a proclamation declaring the week of April 13-19, 2025, as National Animal Control Officer Appreciation Week in Guthrie. The proclamation recognized the dedication and professionalism of animal control officers in maintaining one of the highest animal adoption rates in Oklahoma.

National Telecommunicator Week Proclamation

Vice Mayor Aguirre read a proclamation declaring the week of April 13-19, 2025, as National Telecommunicators Week in Guthrie. The proclamation acknowledged the critical role of public safety telecommunicators in emergency services.

Crime Victims' Rights Week Proclamation

Vice Mayor Aguirre read a proclamation declaring the week of April 16-22, 2025, as Crime Victims' Rights Week in Guthrie. The proclamation reaffirmed the city's commitment to creating a victim service and criminal justice response that assists all victims of crime.

Mayor Gentling returned to the Council Chamber at 6:47 p.m.

'89er Days Proclamation

Mayor Gentling read a proclamation from Governor Kevin Stitt declaring April 19, 2025, as Guthrie '89ers Celebration Day in Oklahoma. The proclamation recognized Guthrie as the official city of festivities for the '89ers celebration week.

Arbor Day Proclamation

Mayor Gentling read a proclamation acknowledging Arbor Day in Guthrie on April 25, 2025. The proclamation highlighted the importance of trees in reducing erosion, lowering heating and cooling costs, cleaning the air, and creating wildlife habitats.

Consent Agenda. Motion by Council Member Bothroyd, seconded by Council Member Ropp, moved approval of the Consent Agenda as follows:

- A. Approve the City Council Minutes for March 18, 2025.
- B. Approve Change Order No. 7 increasing the contract by \$20,700 with G & L Tank Sandblasting and Coating, LLC for the East & West Water Storage Tank Painting Project.

- C. Approve paying Invoice No. 221169-19 in the amount of \$1,623.75 to Myers Engineering for services provided on the Owen Field Softball Facility Upgrade.
- D. Approve paying Invoice No. 224065-7 in the amount of \$2,460 to Myers Engineering for services provided on the East & West Side Water Storage Tanks Project.
- E. Approve paying Invoice No. 224066-7 in the amount of \$1,226.40 to Myers Engineering for services provided on the West Side Booster Pump Station Replacement Project.
- F. Approve paying Invoice No. 224067-8 in the amount of \$7,967.10 to Myers Engineering for services provided on the ADA Accessible Intersections & Sidewalk Project.
- G. Approve the lease agreement between the City of Guthrie and Oklahoma International Bluegrass Festival, Inc. through October 2028.
Cancellation of the Tuesday, April 15, 2025 City Council Meeting due to the Oklahoma '89er Days Celebration Chuck Wagon Dinner.

Council Members entered their votes and the votes were displayed with the following results:

Aye: Gentling, Aguirre, Taylor, Bothroyd, Williams, Ropp, Mills
Nay: None

Mayor Gentling declared the motion carried unanimously.

Items Removed from Consent Agenda. None.

Highland Park Pool Presentation

City Manager Faulkner introduced Daniel Smith from GH2 Architects and Aaron Stoops from Crossland Construction to present the Highland Park pool reconstruction project.

Daniel Smith presented the following key points:

- The current municipal pool, built in the early 1930s, has not been used in recent years due to maintenance issues.
- The proposed plan includes demolishing the existing pool deck and a portion of the pool shell, replacing it with a smaller, more modern pool.
- The new pool will be approximately 1,500 square feet, compared to the original 7,000 square feet, and will include features such as a zero-entry area, a vortex slide, and a toddler slide.
- The project will address accessibility issues, reuse existing shade structures, and update the bathhouse and equipment building.
- The estimated budget for the project is \$2 million, with construction documents expected to be issued in May.

Council members raised questions about the pool's capacity, expansion possibilities, and construction costs. Aaron Stoops addressed concerns about potential cost increases and the possibility of phasing the project.

Martha Turner, vice chair of the Urban Forestry and Park Board, expressed concern about the significant reduction in pool size.

The council acknowledged the presentation and noted that no action was required at this time. A formal vote on the project will take place at a future meeting.

Vice Mayor Aguirre briefly left the Council Chamber at 7:00 p.m. and returned at 7:02 p.m.

Guthrie Zoning Code Update

Planning Director Kassik presented a comprehensive update on the Guthrie Zoning Code.

He highlighted the following key points:

- The update process involved 11 meetings of a Zoning Code Oversight Committee from August 2024 to February 2025.
- New zoning districts were added, including Residential Estates, Mixed Use, and Public Facilities.
- Provisions for livestock and fowl were introduced in certain districts.
- Changes were made to allow more flexibility in housing options, including accessory dwelling units and cottage courts.
- Commercial and industrial zoning changes were implemented to accommodate mixed-use developments and simplify manufacturing categories.
- Updates were made to parking requirements, sign regulations, and special use permit processes.

Council members discussed the timeline for reviewing and approving the new zoning code. Concerns were raised about giving new council members adequate time to review the document. The council agreed to aim for a vote on April 22, 2025, but remained open to extending the timeline if necessary.

Request for a Special Use Permit – 1424 W. Warner Avenue. Motion by Council Member Taylor, seconded by Council Member Bothroyd, moved approval of a Special Use Permit to allow for a 12' x 20' (240 sq. ft.) carport in the front of an existing home located at 1424 W. Warner Ave. – per PC Application 25-001. Council Members entered their votes and the votes were displayed with the following results:

Aye: Gentling, Aguirre, Taylor, Bothroyd, Williams, Ropp, Mills

Nay: None

Mayor Gentling declared the motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 3421 a Request for Rezone in the 500 Block of South Academy Road. Motion by Council Member Bothroyd, seconded by Council Member Taylor, moved to adopt Ordinance No. 3421 for a request to rezone a 4.4-acre property from A-2 (Suburban District) to R-2 (General Residential District) located in the 500 block of S. Academy Rd. (Located in the SW1/4 of Section 7, Township 16 North, Range 2 West adjacent to 530 S. Academy Rd.) – per PC Application 25-002. Council Members entered their votes and the votes were displayed with the following results:

Aye: Gentling, Aguirre, Taylor, Bothroyd, Williams, Ropp, Mills

Nay: None

Mayor Gentling declared the motion carried unanimously.

City Manager's Report. City Manager Faulkner stated that he had no report for the evening but would distribute one by the end of the week.

Requests/Comments from City Council Members. Vice Mayor Aguirre congratulated Mayor Gentling on his recent recognition and extended appreciation to all city council candidates for their willingness to serve the community. He also congratulated Menecca Gibbs on her election victory.

Council Member Bothroyd expressed appreciation to city staff, specifically recognizing Dan Kassik and his team for their efforts.

Council Member Ropp echoed congratulations to Mayor Gentling and thanked all candidates for their dedication to public service. He also praised the success of the Renaissance Festival, which drew approximately 10,000 attendees, and extended thanks to John Pagonis and his team for their work on the event.

Council Member Mills expressed enthusiasm for the upcoming '89ers celebration and acknowledged the significant efforts behind its planning. She also encouraged participation in Guthrie Day at the Capitol, scheduled for April 10.

Council Member Taylor reflected on the long-term nature of city projects, particularly zoning code revisions, and also highlighted the upcoming '89ers celebration and Guthrie Day at the Capitol.

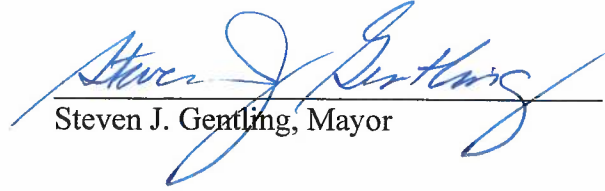
Mayor Gentling addressed the recent wildfires impacting the community, commending first responders for their commitment to protecting lives and property. He also recognized Vietnam Veterans Day (March 29), honoring local veterans. Additionally, he announced the Murrah Bombing Memorial dedication to be held at Mineral Wells Park on April 17 at noon, which will honor six Guthrie citizens who lost their lives and the 24 Guthrie firefighters who responded.

Congresswoman Stephanie Bice will serve as keynote speaker, with former Guthrie Fire Chief Kenny Webb also participating.

Adjournment. There being no further business for the Guthrie City Council, Mayor Gentling declared the meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.



Kim Biggs, City Clerk



Steven J. Gentling, Mayor

