



TOWN OF WASHINGTON
204 N. MAIN ST.
WASHINGTON, OK. 73093
MINUTES

Type: Regular Meeting

Date: Tuesday, April 8, 2025

Place: Washington Town Hall

204 N. Main Street

Washington, OK. 73093

1. Call to Order Time: 6:03pm

2. Roll Call & Swearing in of New Trustee:

Mayor & Trustee Joel Siria: Here

Trustee James Andrews: Here

Trustee Tony Brennan: Here

Recessed after swearing in of Trustee Andrews to return to PWA Meeting

Meeting Resumed at 6:22pm

3. Pledge of Allegiance, Proclamations, & Presentations

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Public Comment (each speaker limited to three minutes)

None.

4. Consent Agenda (Items A-D)

A. Approve the Minutes from the Town of Washington Regular Meeting March 4, 2025.

B. Approve a retainer agreement with Lind Treadaway for legal services and authorize the Town Administrator to execute the agreement.

C. Approve a Resolution accepting a RIG Grant and Designating the Town Administrator as the Grant Administrator.

D. Approve a Resolution changing and designating authorized bank signatories for the Town of Washington bank accounts.

Motion: Tony Brennan

Second: James Andrews

Votes: Andrews yes; Brennan yes; Siria; yes.

5. Action Items



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- A. Consideration and possible approval, denial, postponement, or other action regarding the dates of the regular scheduled PWA & Town Council meetings of May and August 2025.

No action.

- B. Consideration and possible approval, denial, postponement, or other action regarding a resolution approving the Town Administrator to pay off a police vehicle loan.

Motion: To approve as written, Resolution 25-4.5, Tony Brennan

Second: Joel Siria

Votes: Andrews yes; Brennan yes; Siria; yes.

- C. Consideration and possible approval, denial, postponement, or other action regarding Town of Washington budget priorities for the coming fiscal year.

No action.

- D. Consideration and possible approval, denial, postponement, or other action regarding a joint resolution by the Town of Washington Public Works Authority to authorize the Town Administrator to apply for and execute a loan for a water storage tank as well as engineering agreement.

Motion: To approve as written, Tony Brennan

Second: James Andrews

Votes: Andrews yes; Brennan yes; Siria; yes.

- E. Consideration and possible approval, denial, postponement, or other action regarding a joint resolution by the Town Board of Trustees and the Washington Public Works Authority setting dd/even outdoor watering restrictions.

Motion: To approve as written, Tony Brennan

Second: James Andrews

Votes: Andrews yes; Brennan yes; Siria; yes.

- F. Consideration and possible approval, denial, postponement, or other action regarding the renewal of the Wadley's Ambulance Service Agreement.

Town Administrator, Mica Lunt: Findings from the survey of the residents came back with very strong opinions on both sides. With the clearest data that the residents would prefer that the Ambulance service be an individual decision to opt-in. Which did not seem feasible for Wadley's.

Jackie Wadley: What had prompted this survey in the first place. The survey was prompted by comments from several citizens' comments and concerns. Other ambulance services do have opt-in and opt-out options, but they are funded based off



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of a much higher population. Some of those only cover getting an ambulance and not waiving the co-pays and deductibles if insurance doesn't pay. The contract has already rolled over because Wadley's was not given 90 days' notice before the renewal date of April 2nd. Jackie stated that staff recommended staff terminate the contract. The fall out of this is that the citizens of Washington will not be guaranteed an ambulance. This utility assessment guarantees the citizens of Washington will get an ambulance from me (Wadley's EMS). That is the purpose of the utility assessment.

Brennan: What was being done in 2022?

Jackie Wadley: In 2022 I was covering it but, that doesn't say that I must cover it now.

Brennan: If you don't cover it, who will cover it?

Jackie Wadley: Not my problem. That's where it falls to. It would go to dispatch, and it would be their duty to find coverage. It will delay the response time. EMSTAT in Norman is one of the closest but the hospital is up for sale and that ambulance is run by the hospital so we do not know what will happen there, McClain Grady out of Blanchard/Newcastle, Lindsey and Wadley's are the closest.

Siria: An Ambulance will respond it just may not be Wadley's.

Jackie Wadley: It may be Chickasha.

Siria: An ambulance may respond.

Jackie Wadley: There is no guarantee for any of us.

Fire Chief Simpson: Since no one is around Washington during the day Blanchard EMS is 30-45 minutes away, EMSTAT and hour with all the construction, Lindsay 30 minutes. I can't be here all the time; my firemen can't be here all the time so our basic first aid isn't available. This and Wadley's does a lot of our medical training and I cant teach everything we need.

Siria: Would Wadley's no longer provide this training?

Jackie Wadley: Not without a charge.

Fire Chief Simpson: They do all our medical training for free.

Siria: Since Washington has this contract, you provide the training for free.

Jackie Wadley: The other issue we run into is that the school would no longer be provided with an ambulance by Wadley's EMS for their football games or events that they have because I would not be obligated to the Town of Washington.

Siria: How many school events have you been to?



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Wadley's: We try to show up to every football game and any other event the school lets us know about.

Siria: I ask because according to your log you were there at 3.

Jackie Wadley: That is what I had in our system. The school events aren't trackable. The Riley Boatwright Act says the school must have a plan, but it doesn't say they have to have an ambulance there. I have 5 different towns that I supply ambulances to.

Chief Simpson: The school staff does not meet the requirements for the Act.

Jackie: That's correct.

Siria: Before this agreement between Wadley's and the Town of Washington was the school contracting with Wadley's?

Jackie Wadley: No, I would hear from the school and provide one if I had one available. The patient would receive a bill for any services rendered but not the school.

Brennan: So, to make sure I understand, there is no option to opt in or opt out.

Jackie Wadley: No, because I serve 5 other towns that do the utility assessment and if I let Washington do it then the other towns will want that option too. The utility assessment for us with the Towns that we cover makes up a lot of the difference between what we collect from the private insurance companies and our budget. We were at the capital today because there is a law that they are trying to cut our reimbursement from the private insurance companies. If that passes you could see EMS services that close which puts the burden on the other EMS services. The closest ambulance rule went away in 2012. Which gave us the right to say that since we are not funded there then we don't have to cover it.

Brennan: To answer your first question, this is why the survey came about from customers asking do we have to pay for this and why are we paying this.

Jackie Wadley: One of the things when I was working with Goldsby is because half of Goldsby pays the utility assessment I cover everything south of Ladd rd. All those people pay the mandatory utility assessment. Goldsby is looking at stationing an ambulance there. I am all for stationing an ambulance up here.

Siria: Would that be a private investment on your side, property and construction?

Jackie Wadley: Yes, and the utility assessment to fund the things I have to put in place.



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Siria: I think this would provide peace of mind for the citizens. It would give them a feeling of value.

Jackie Wadley: When we started doing this, the question was why can't we have an ambulance stationed in Washington. The Town of Stratford pays \$19,000 a month and they have two sales taxes earmarked for EMS, which is how they fund it and a sales tax in Gavin County that funds the EMS. Wynnewood has it on their property tax and they pay \$64,000 every 3 months. Stationing an Ambulance somewhere is more expensive than the Town of Washington could collect from the utility assessment.

Siria: So, would you be willing to do it if the Town was committed to paying for that additional service?

If Washington could come up with the difference between what they pay me now and the 19,000 I would have an ambulance over here. If I can cut the response time down from 15 minutes to 7 minutes.

Siria: Some people think the 15 minutes is basically the same as McClain/Grady making it here in 20 minutes.

Jackie Wadley: They can't contract with other towns. An ambulance call is about \$2,000 if you paid the \$10 a month utility assessment it would take you 16.6 years to pay for one ambulance ride.

Siria: Lastly from me, the opt out plan and how other municipalities do things, they have a time frame where they are able to assess this individually while they make decisions on what their plan is for next year.

Jackie Wadley: I do have a membership plan for people outside of city limits. So, a few years ago we were running 200-300 people doing that and now I have about 50 and that's because the younger generation just feels that an ambulance will show up. To this day I have never mutual-aided another ambulance here in Washington. I feel like it would be a bad move on the citizen's part to not renew the contract. Even if someone outside of the city limits joins the membership plan it is a one time a year charge of \$120.00 so, it would be the same price as them paying the utility assessment of \$10.00 a month.

No action.

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- G. Consideration and possible approval, denial, postponement, or other action regarding the selection of a Mayor and an Acting Mayor.

Motion: To have Joel Siria continue acting as Mayor for the Board of Trustees, Tony Brennan



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Second: James Andrews

Votes: Andrews yes; Brennan yes; Siria; yes.

Motion: To have Tony Brennan act as Acting Mayor, Joel Siria

Second: James Andrews

Votes: Andrews yes; Brennan yes; Siria; yes.

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- H. Consideration and possible approval, denial, postponement, or other action regarding an ordinance changing the reporting structure and title of the Town Clerk-Treasurer/Town Clerk position.

Motion: To approve as written, Ordinance 25-4.1, Tony Brennan

Second: Joel Siria

Votes: Andrews yes; Brennan yes; Siria; yes.

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- I. Consideration and possible approval, denial, postponement, or other action regarding an ordinance changing the reporting structure of the Police Chief position.

Motion: To approve as written, Ordinance 25-4.2, Tony Brennan

Second: James Andrews

Votes: Andrews yes; Brennan yes; Siria; yes.

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- J. New Business (if any)

None.

6. Financial Reports

The regular monthly financial reports for all funds are provided to the Trustees for their review and information. (Presented by: Mica A. Lunt, Town Administrator).

This item is for informational purposes only.

7. Town Administrator, Staff, and Trustee Reports

Fire Department Report presented by Chief Billy Simpson

WVFD had 41 calls for the month of March. That brings their total calls to 75 for 2025. Trustee Brennan asked how many of those calls were outside of Washington and how many of those calls medical calls were to repeat individuals. Chief Simpson did not have that statistic at that time. Trustee Joel Siria asked for any details on traffic accidents so that if any notice needed to be sent out to the public that they were made aware. March 14th was a very serious day for fires due to high winds. On this day one of the former Trustees informed the fire department of a potential fire and they were able to respond quickly and prevent a larger fire. Next week you may hear the sirens sounds as we have someone out to review the sirens. Chief Simpson informed the board and Town Administrator that the State of Oklahoma requires all employees to be NIMS compliant



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for Numbers: 1,2,3,4,7 and 8. Trustee Siria also thanked the Fire Department for their quick response when assistance was needed.

Police & Code Enforcement Report presented by Chief Ruben Ruiz

Chief Ruiz presented his report on traffic and municipal code enforcement. Disturbance calls have been higher earlier this year than last year at this time. New uniforms and vests were received. Police Truck marked and Durango to be marked by the end of the week. Code enforcement Phase 4 to begin including the areas of Morehead, Lyla Glen and Cedar Hills. Tasers and Camera's have not been received. Trustee Brennan asked about a new radar gun, the radar gun has not been reviewed for purchase yet. Town Administrator Mica Lunt asked how many weeks of Vacation had been observed during the time of this productivity report? Two weeks of vacation observed during that time, one week for Chief Ruiz and one week for Officer Larry Watts.

Town Clerk's Report presented by Town Clerk Kasey Leshner

Continued Jayhawk training, it is currently set up to be a 2-phase conversion and I am 53% completed with phase 1. Corrected 911/Town street address error on Sharp Street. Applied for a scholarship to the OMCCA Conference. Attended additional Court Clerk Training in Noble. Continued research and made numerous phone calls to gather necessary information and resources to begin the Pollinator Habitat Project. Signage ordered that was installed by the PWA. Streetlight outage at Kerby and Clearview that was reported in December has been readdressed with OG&E and is roughly 6 weeks out from being repaired.

Administrators Report presented by Town Administrator Mica Lunt

I would like to start by expressing my appreciation to Billy and the Fire Department on the staffing for that high danger day. My appreciation to the staff, they are working hard and getting a lot done.

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- Water tower updates

 - Researched a state program, a federal program, and three private bank offerings to find the best funding option for the Town
 - Applied for and received a grant to offset \$100,000 in engineering service fees for the project
 - Worked with Engineer to begin the process of drilling a new well next to Well 4. Requests for location variances have been submitted to DEQ. Working to secure a strong public-private partnership to fund the drilling of a new well 4 with B&H Construction.



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- Worked with the City of Purcell and Cedar Hills developers to install fire hydrants in Cedar Hills subdivision. We have received all necessary approvals, and the installation should be occurring soon.
- The Help To Others Program is fully set up, but unfortunately, we have received no donations to date to allow for people to submit applications.
- Established three reserve funds (e.g. PWA Capital Improvements & Reserve Fund, Cemetery Capital Improvements & Reserve Fund; Street Repairs) to better comply with GFOA recommendations and have money on hand for emergencies.
- Budget season -- continuously refining how we are finishing up this Fiscal Year and looking at what to project for next FY. The most concerning element for us is declining Sales Tax revenues as compared to the previous few years.

8. Executive Session

A. Board of Trustees may consider retiring into Executive Session for the purpose of: Consideration and discussion of personnel matters including the employment, hiring, appointment, promotion, demotion, disciplining, or resignation of the Town Administrator, in accordance with 25 O.S. Section 307(B)(1).

B. The council may consider and take any action deemed appropriate as a result of the Executive Session.

No action was taken.

9. Adjournment Time: 7:17pm

Trustee, Joel Siria

Clerk, Kasey Leshner