

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
TONKAWA, OKLAHOMA
April 21, 2026**

Pursuant to notice as required by law, the City Council of Tonkawa met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Room, 115 S. 7th Street, with Mayor Stacy Burns presiding.

Present: Stacy Burns, Mayor
 Keith Denton, Councilman
 Charles Conaghan, Councilman
 Kenneth Smith, Councilman
 Reece Simpson, Councilman
 Nicholas Payne, City Manager
 Brenda Wooderson, City Clerk
 Lee Stout, City Attorney

Absent:

1. CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND FLAG SALUTE.

****CONSENT AGENDA****

All items listed under the Consent agenda are deemed to be non-controversial and routine in nature by the governing body. They will be approved by one motion of the governing body.

The items on the Consent Agenda will not be discussed. Any member of the governing body desiring to discuss an item on the Consent Agenda may request that it be removed from the Consent Agenda and be placed in its proper place on the Regular Agenda. It will then be considered at that time.

The City Council found items #2 through #4 non-controversial and routine in nature.

Motion Made By: Conaghan to approve the consent agenda.
 Motion Seconded By: Simpson.

	Ayes	Nays	Abstain
Councilman Denton	X		
Councilman Conaghan	X		
Mayor Burns	X		
Councilman Simpson	X		
Councilman Smith	X		

2. Consider and vote upon the minutes of March 17, 2026, City Council Meeting and March 27, 2026, Special Meeting.
3. Consider and vote upon the March Payment of Claims.

****ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA****

4. None.

****REPORTS****

5. Monthly Financial Report From RS Meacham CPA's

Meredith Meacham Wilson addressed the Council and was able to provide a draft of the financial report. She stated that the firm was still working on details, but she felt comfortable with the numbers that had been prepared so far.

6. City Mayor's Report - None

7. City Attorney's Report - None

8. City Manager's Report

City Manager Nick Payne spoke to the Council and audience and provided updates from the different departments within the City. His full report is attached.

9. Code Enforcement/Inspector Report - None

****NEW BUSINESS****

10. Presentation by City Enforcement Official to discuss and consider voting on proposed Tonkawa Municipal Ordinance regarding Prohibition on the feeding of feral animals, fees associated and possible Emergency Clause.

City Manager Nick Payne spoke about the proposed ordinance and discussed the growing population of feral animals in the community.

Motion Made By: Conaghan to approve the ordinance in proper format.
Motion Seconded By: Simpson.

	Ayes	Nays	Abstain
Councilman Denton	X		
Councilman Conaghan	X		
Mayor Burns	X		
Councilman Simpson	X		
Councilman Smith	X		

11. Presentation by City Enforcement Official to discuss and consider voting on proposed Tonkawa Municipal Ordinance regarding Conduct Near Schools, fees associated and possible Emergency Clause.

City Manager Nick Payne presented the item and stated that it needed to be tailored to specific schools and ages.

Motion Made By: Burns to table the item until next meeting.
 Motion Seconded By: Conaghan.

	Ayes	Nays	Abstain
Councilman Denton	X		
Councilman Conaghan	X		
Mayor Burns	X		
Councilman Simpson	X		
Councilman Smith	X		

12. Consider and vote to approve a request from Tonkawa Pride and Beautification of up to \$5700.00 to aid in the repair of damaged section of Heart in the Park Labyrinth.

Audrey Schmitz, Tonkawa Pride and Beautification Chair, spoke to the Council and advised that the Committee had gotten estimates for the repair and was raising funds to help with the cost as well.

Motion Made By: Conaghan to fund up to \$5700.00 to repair labyrinth.
 Motion Seconded By: Smith.

	Ayes	Nays	Abstain
Councilman Denton	X		
Councilman Conaghan	X		
Mayor Burns	X		
Councilman Simpson	X		
Councilman Smith	X		

13. Consider and vote upon an Ordinance of the City of Tonkawa, Oklahoma, authorizing the pass-through of inspection fees incurred during construction projects; providing for definitions, fee structure, administration, severability, and an effective date. Amending the Tonkawa Municipal Code to add Section 5-114, Chapter 5, Article 1, repealing ordinances in conflict; providing for severability and declaring an emergency.

Danny Grimes, Code Enforcement Official, presented the item and stated that a standard list of required inspections is on each permit and the fee would be determined by the amount of hours it took to complete the inspection.

City Attorney Lee Stout said the cost would be passed on to the home or business owner.

Motion Made By: Conaghan to approve the pass-through ordinance.
 Motion Seconded By: Simpson.

	Ayes	Nays	Abstain
Councilman Denton	X		
Councilman Conaghan	X		
Mayor Burns	X		
Councilman Simpson	X		
Councilman Smith	X		

14. Consider and vote to approve the installation of a Yield sign on the Northwest corner of N Barnes and E Allen Ave.

City Manager Nick Payne said typically there should be one there already but for some reason there wasn't one currently at this location.

Motion Made By: Conaghan to approve installation.
 Motion Seconded By: Simpson.

	Ayes	Nays	Abstain
Councilman Denton	X		
Councilman Conaghan	X		
Mayor Burns	X		
Councilman Simpson	X		
Councilman Smith	X		

15. Consider and vote to approve an advertisement for sealed bid of surplus furniture from the Tonkawa Fire Department.

Fire Chief Robert Fehring presented the item and the Councilmen were provided photos of the different items being surplused.

Motion Made By: Conaghan to declare the property surplus and advertise for sealed bid.
 Motion Seconded By: Simpson.

	Ayes	Nays	Abstain
Councilman Denton	X		
Councilman Conaghan	X		
Mayor Burns	X		
Councilman Simpson	X		
Councilman Smith	X		

16. Consider and vote to approve the reappointment of Municipal Court Judge Drew Ewbank for a 4-year term expiring May of 2030.

Motion Made By: Conaghan to reappoint Judge Ewbank for another term.
 Motion Seconded By: Simpson.

	Ayes	Nays	Abstain
Councilman Denton	X		
Councilman Conaghan	X		
Mayor Burns	X		
Councilman Simpson	X		
Councilman Smith	X		

17. Consider and vote to approve the reappointment of Darrell Barns to the Parks and Recreation Committee for a 3-year term expiring January of 2029.

Motion Made By: Simpson to reappoint Darrell Barns to the Park and Rec Committee.
 Motion Seconded By: Burns.

	Ayes	Nays	Abstain
Councilman Denton	X		
Councilman Conaghan	X		
Mayor Burns	X		
Councilman Simpson	X		
Councilman Smith	X		

18. ADJOURN

Mayor Burns adjourned the Tonkawa City Council meeting at 6:23 p.m.

PASSED IN SESSION AND APPROVED THIS 19th DAY OF MAY 2026.

ATTEST:



Quenda K Wooderson

CITY CLERK

Stacy B.
 MAYOR



CITY MANAGER / TRUST MANAGER REPORT

Nicholas Payne, City Manager / TMA Trust Manager
Tuesday, April 21, 2026
City Council Meeting

Fire/EMS Department

- The department is currently awaiting scheduling from the State of Oklahoma to complete certification of the new ambulance.
 - A temporary cot is in place to allow certification to proceed while awaiting delivery of the permanent power cot.
 - The City is coordinating with Kay County to obtain quotes for ladder truck repairs, estimated to exceed \$50,000. Efforts are ongoing to move this project forward.
-

Police Department

- The City has secured five (5) new police vehicles through Enterprise Fleet Management.
 - Vehicles are currently being coordinated for upfitting and equipment installation.
 - Estimated deployment is by the end of May, contingent on no delays.
 - Payment obligations will not begin until vehicles are fully delivered and operational.
-

Public Works Department

Fleet & Equipment

- Received two (2) vehicles from the Enterprise Fleet Management Lease Purchase Agreement:
 - Ram 1500 (Street Department)
 - Ram 2500 (Water Department)
- Completed a bed/toolbox transfer from an older vehicle, resulting in an estimated savings of \$20,000–\$30,000.

Operations

- Seasonal operations underway:
 - Park spraying
 - Mowing activities
 - Continued emphasis on in-house maintenance to reduce costs and extend equipment life.
-

Aquatic Center

- Pool is approximately 75% filled in preparation for opening.
- Diving board replacement preparations are underway.
- Restroom facilities have been repaired for the current season.
- Long-term plan: replace copper plumbing with PEX to eliminate recurring annual repair costs (\$3,000–\$5,000 annually).

Programming & Revenue

- Pool party registrations launched April 17:
 - 25 bookings on first day!
 - Only 7 private party slots remaining
- Over 100 season passes sold to date
- Modest pricing adjustments were made to the Private Parties (50+ Persons) implemented with no negative feedback

Tonkawa Aquatic Center: Aqua Pass App [System]

- New digital platform that we have invented, developed, and launched offering:
 - Digital passes and account management
 - Wristband-based entry system
 - Cashless payment capability
 - Parental spending controls
 - Online booking, scheduling, and policy access
 - Expected to improve operational efficiency and customer experience
-

Water Department

- Preparing to repair/replace a section of failing 2" water line on South 11th Street near new tribal developments.
 - Investigated sinkhole near 100 block of South 1st/2nd Street:
 - Cause likely due to heavy rainfall and private sewer installation
 - Camera inspection completed
 - Area cleared for repair and restoration
-

Street Department

- Preparing multiple locations for concrete work:
 - Previously patched water leak sites
 - Curb repair near Post Office
 - Sidewalk repairs along 6th Street
-

Electric Department

- Coordinating with residents for a planned outage affecting five homes
 - Work includes:
 - Tree limb clearance
 - Transformer connection repairs
-

Administration

- Implementation of Tyler Technologies has been paused, indefinitely
 - Evaluating upgrades to:
 - QuickBooks
 - Asyst systems
 - Determination made that prior system was not cost-effective and exceeded operational needs
-

Planning & GIS

- Ongoing stop sign study and GIS tagging initiative
 - Current inventory: 184 stop signs
 - Project will support asset tracking and future infrastructure planning
-

Community Events

- Tonkawa Film Festival scheduled for this weekend:
 - Begins Friday
 - Parade Saturday at 11:00 a.m. (starting at 9th Street, traveling eastbound)
 - Event expected to bring regional and international participation
-

Recognition

The following individuals are recognized for completing the Leadership Tonkawa program:

- Koby Mora – Electric Superintendent
- Clint Ross – Water Superintendent
- Kristen Havens – Park & Recreation Committee Chair

Their participation reflects strong leadership and commitment to the City and community.