

Special Meeting Davis City Council

September 28, 2022, 7 :00 PM
Davis City Council Chambers
308 S 3rd St
Davis, OK 73030

Agenda Item #1: Call to order Davis City Council.

- Called to order by Mayor Brian Davis @ 7:00 PM

Agenda Item #2: Roll Call.

- Mayor Brian Davis – present; Vice Mayor Stan Jones – absent; Councilman Josh Oakley – present; Councilman Clint Grinstead – present; Councilman Jeremy Bumgarner - present

Agenda Item #3: Prayer.

- Prayer led by Ralph Coppenbarger, Jr.

Agenda Item #4: Pledge of Allegiance.

- Pledge of Allegiance led by Davis

Agenda Item #5: Presentation of proposal from ODOT regarding Occupied Crossing Mitigation Project which would mitigate excessive blockage of the Main Street railroad crossing and the Benton Ave railroad crossing and require closure of the Atlanta St and Hanover Rd railroad crossings.

- City Manager, Ricky Harness introduced the project and instructed that the vote is to close the Atlanta Avenue railroad crossing only, the crossing at Hanover Road crossing is under the authority of Murray County. He introduced Jay Earp with Oklahoma Department of Transportation and Tim Huya with BNSF Railway. Mayor Davis inquired about the initial meeting to discuss this project and there being other proposals. Mr. Huya stated that an overpass was not an option, moving the industry does not seem to be an option. The closing of Atlanta Avenue and the Hanover Road crossing is the option supported by both ODOT and BNSF, which would have no cost to the City of Davis and BNSF would be contributing \$3 million dollars to the project. Further discussion was had regarding length of trains and length of siding for the trains to pull onto for other trains to pass by. An audience member inquired about the Main Street crossing and the increase in the time it would be open with this closure. Mr. Huya stated that only one track would remain across Main Street and Benton Avenue so the only time they would be closed is when a train was moving on that track, there would no longer be trains stopped on the Main Street and Benton Avenue crossings. Further discussion was had regarding the crossing arms/gates, their operation, safety issues that have been known to occur, the switching operation was described in detail. Grinstead inquired about the length of the current siding and moving the siding operation North of Main Street. This option was not supported by BNSF. Oakley inquired about why Atlanta had to be closed, could it not be left with the understanding that it would continue to experience being blocked. Mr. Huya explained the safety issues with the distance requirements for stopping to perform switching operations, safety of train crews as well as vehicles and passengers. Grinstead inquired of Mr. Earp with ODOT why two crossings had to be closed. The response was that trains were only getting longer and if the Atlanta Ave crossing is not closed, it will be constantly blocked. Grinstead inquired about an overpass and Mr. Earp explained that it would take all of the property West of Main Street to Third Street to construct an overpass. He also discussed the difficulty of a bypass and the high cost of that solution. Representatives from MAC Trailers were present to voice their concerns regarding the closure of the Hanover Road crossing. Davis Public School Board Members were present to discuss their concerns with closing the Atlanta Avenue crossing. Discussion of the positive impact of a solution to Main Street businesses and sales tax revenue for City of Davis.

Discussion was had regarding the condition of Hanover Road and the impact of the additional truck traffic from MAC Trailers. Mr. Earp discussed some funding opportunities that may be available to assist with Hanover Road construction and improvements. Funding would also be available from ODOT to Murray County for the portion South to Primrose that was outside Davis city limits. Discussion of a traffic signal light at Hanover Rd and Hwy 7 for safety and flow of traffic. Also discussion of a traffic signal light at the intersection of Hwy 7 and Hwy 77 to assist with congestion on the West side of the railroad tracks. Discussion of the ability to create a dedicated turn lane from Northbound 3rd Street, West onto Main Street to assist with the flow of the increased school bus and student traffic. Discussion of Atlanta Avenue having 600 crossings per day and Bell Crossing which is further South down Hanover and near Knapp Road only has 30 crossing per day. All parties with the exception of ODOT and BNSF were seeking another option to allow both Atlanta and Hanover Road to remain open for the school traffic as well as the MAC Trailer traffic. Discussion and questions regarding the actual requirements of the grant and the points awarded for multiple crossings or the number of crossings per day that were made at the crossing being closed, Mr. Earp was not familiar with the requirements or the point system. Discussion of this being the first year for the grant and the possibility that other solutions could be explored and an application be submitted the next time it was offered, current grant submission deadline is October 11, 2022. Darrel Hudson, Murray County Commissioner voiced concerns over closing the Hanover Rd crossing because of the impact to MAC Trailers but stated he would support the decision made by the council and offer assistance to improve infrastructure in other areas, such as Hanover Road if needed. Discussion turned to other options, including closing Bell Crossing. Mr. Huya agreed to consider this option, review for feasibility and present another option for the council to vote. Discussion of a special meeting to be held the week of October 3rd to be able to vote on an option and allow the submission of the application by the deadline on October 11th.

Agenda Item #6: Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution #617 Seeking Funding from US Department of Transportation Federal Railroad Administration through the Railroad Crossing Elimination discretionary grant program and Oklahoma Department of Transportation.

- No action taken.

Agenda Item #7: Consideration and possible action to approve Resolution #618 Authorizing Application for Financial Assistance from Oklahoma Transportation Alternatives Program to engineer, design and reconstruct street and road projects.

- Motion to approve Resolution #618 made by Grinstead. Second by Oakley. Vote: Bumgarner – yes; Grinstead – yes; Oakley – yes; Jones – absent; Davis – yes. Presentation by Susan Suther, City Clerk/Treasurer, of the need to submit additional street/road projects to the Oklahoma Transportation Alternatives Program for funding consideration.

Agenda Item #8: Consideration and possible action to purchase a vehicle for the police department.

- Motion to approve the purchase of a police vehicle up to \$26,300 made by Davis. Second by Grinstead. Vote: Bumgarner – yes; Grinstead – yes; Oakley – yes; Jones – absent; Davis yes. Presentation by Danny Cooper, Police Chief, on the condition and status of the current units as well as the need to purchase another vehicle using the funds left from a Chickasaw Nation donation and insurance proceeds from the damage to the 2013 Dodge Charger VIN 643712. A 2019 Dodge Durango with only 37,000 miles has been found at Emergency Vehicle Resources in Claremore, OK. This unit is a good fit for the department and since no monies were budgeted for police auto purchase in FY 2022-2023 it fits into the available money for use by the department. Grinstead inquired about the condition of the units we have, voiced concerns over purchasing used and asked for cost estimates on new, which is above \$50,000 after the accessories are added. Oakley inquired about the lead time to receive this vehicle, which was 30-45 days.

Agenda Item #9: Consideration and possible action to surplus and sell a 2013 Dodge Charger VIN 643712.

- Motion made by Davis to approve the surplus and sale of 2013 Dodge Charger VIN 643712. Second by Grinstead. Vote: Bumgarner – yes; Grinstead – yes; Oakley – yes; Jones – absent;

Davis – yes. Discussion of the age and condition of the police vehicle. It is currently not in use due to the hood latch failure causing the hood to blow back breaking the windshield and damaging the top of the vehicle. The insurance paid just over \$5,300 for repairs and the vehicle is not worth investing that much more into it. Selling it now will gain us the most revenue to apply toward other fleet expenses.

Agenda Item #10: Adjourn.

- Motion made to adjourn by Grinstead. Second by Davis. Vote: Bumgarner – yes; Grinstead – yes; Oakley – yes; Jones – absent; Davis – yes. Time: 9:18 PM

ATTEST:

/s/Susan Suther

Susan Suther
City Clerk/Treasurer

/s/Brian Davis

Brian Davis
Mayor