

**CITY OF KREBS
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
JANUARY 6, 2025**

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by Mayor Tommy Ray Walker

2. ROLL CALL by Cindy J. Cooper, City Clerk

Mayor Tommy Ray Walker – present,
Connie Poole- present

David Bailey- present
Dan Heathcock- present

3. DISCUSS THE APPOINTMENT OF A CITY ATTORNEY FOR THE CITY OF KREBS

David Bailey Well, okay Mayor, since you started with Mr. McGuire, why don't you explain a little bit about him? Tell us what maybe the goods and the bads might be.

Cindy Cooper, City Clerk Daniel McClure.

Mayor Walker Yeah, McClure.

David Bailey Yeah, McClure. I got it wrong.

Mayor Walker Okay. Well, I searched around all over McAlester and then I started searching toward Tulsa and Oklahoma City every place else. And this guy here, I mean he's been everything from the city attorneys to the prosecutors. There's 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 towns that he is a lawyer for. And also, all he does is municipalities. He doesn't do divorces and this is all he does. He's got a full time on that and he knows all the rules on all that. You don't have to call him and have him say, well I'll call you back later, because he knows all of it. Well, he says you read their services that he offers, it tells everything that we do the same thing. And actually, he's half the price of what Pat charged us, so save some money there. Plus, he's got something he does with the other town. Sometimes the lawyer can't make it or sometimes they are late or whatever else, but he likes to, whatever we're going to be talking about, it's on a deal. He likes to research it. So, when he gets here, he's done got figured out what needs to be done and all that to help you, whatever y'all want to do. But he, he's got a flat fee of \$675 and then it's just like all the other ones are \$200, \$225 I think his are what \$225?

Cindy Cooper, \$225,

David Bailey It's after the flat fee of \$ 675 for three hours, then \$225 an hour.

Cindy Cooper, and they don't charge for any of the secretarial services. So, if they do any copies or that kind of stuff, it's not charged to us

David Bailey \$675 for three hours. *(corrected from statement of an hour) Okay. I have a question on that. I don't know how lawyers work. I know they make more money than me. I don't know much. But what if the conversation is only 15 or 20 minutes? What's he going to charge us an hour or 15 minutes?

Connie Poole, he bills hourly. So, he's going to bill you for an hour.

Mayor Walker, well he's going to charge us for what he says he does. But like I said, he got that zoom call. We'll put it on both TVs out here. He can be up there down here. You can ask him any question you want. And I mean that long run it would help to me. Plus, he's, like I said, done the prosecuting deal too

Cindy Cooper and OML.

Mayor Walker, Yeah, he worked for OML for a long time.

David Bailey, There's no question about his qualifications. They're outstanding and everything. I got some questions. The distance to come, it's a two-hour drive from Oklahoma City two hour back up. He's three hours.

Mayor Walker Well that's what was zoomed for.

David Bailey Okay, but how many times are we going to be zoomed? I mean, I'm just asking questions.

Mayor Walker, it doesn't cost to do all of that to get it set up. My understanding.

Cindy Cooper, he would do 'them by Zoom. He'd come out if he had something special going on. But the meetings he would attend by Zoom.

David Bailey So we could see him on the screen.

Cindy Cooper Yeah,

Mayor Walker Yeah. See him and talk to him and if he decides to, he'll come down there and y'all can talk to him when we have a regular meeting, whatever.

Cindy Cooper, He said if there's questions ahead of time, he'd rather you call so that he knows ahead of time. So, by the time the meeting comes it goes smoother.

Mayor Walker, it helps the meeting go faster and better too because

David Bailey Like you say, there's no question about his qualifications. How about prosecuting?

Mayor Walker Yeah, he prosecuted too.

David Bailey, I know, but is he going to prosecute for us and come down here to do prosecutions for us?

Mayor Walker He's got more than him though. He is not the only one in there.

David Bailey Okay. But are the people going to come down and prosecute for us? So, who's going to be our prosecutor? Are we going to have to get another lawyer to prosecute?

Mayor Walker No, he's a prosecutor too. Where's that at? It said somewhere in here they were reading it. He worked for the district attorney in Seminole, McCloud.

David Bailey Oh yeah, he's done some prosecutors.

Mayor Walker Oh here it is. Prosecutor office, Midwest City precipitating various municipal dockets of city court. This includes misdemeanor trial, juvenile infraction, property, environmental dockets. Additionally prosecuted various trials primarily focusing on misdemeanor traffic cases in code enforcement. And that's basically what we're needing for.

David Bailey But what my question is, mayor, is we're hiring for this the city attorney, but is he going to prosecute cases? Is he willing to do that?

Mayor Walker Yeah, and what we talked to him, he said, well, like I said, it's three hours and after that, it's \$225. But like I said though, we can bring him down here and y'all talk to him, whatever else.

Cindy Cooper, He wants to set up a meeting,

Mayor Walker Like set up a meeting and talk. Y'all talk to him, whatever else, and maybe next week or whenever.

David Bailey What we've got to do is move fast on attorney and filling this.

Mayor Walker Well you only have prosecuting when you have the trials. Right? So, it only comes for one time a month when you have a trial.

David Bailey How often do y'all have the prosecution? Chief?

Dennis Cook, daily.

David Bailey, what?

Dennis Cook Daily.

David Bailey Daily?

Mayor Walker, you have Prosecution. Then you have trial daily?

Dennis Cook, No. If an attorney wants to talk to our prosecutor that he has the right to staff with him before anything is said or anything is done. If a citizen wants to talk to him, they have that right, it's due process. But yeah, we use them daily sometimes multiple times a day, but we meet twice a month at the court.

Mayor Walker, Okay. Well like I said it money wise on that is we saved 600 something dollars from what Pat charges. So, I mean it'd be about the same any way you go about it. But like I said though, I talked to a lot of people and got these other towns and they're all small towns, they're not big towns so they don't take up all of his time.

David Bailey Well like I say, you can't question his qualifications, his resume.

Mayor Walker, yeah. He's young, smart young guy. He's a sixth-generation lawyer, That's a lot. But other than that, that's the one I found that met everything we needed. And then the next one, I guess Ronnie May, is that the one?

Dan Heathcock Yeah, I've got a question on the one we were just talking about. Is this the one you have hired? Is this one we just got done talking about? Is he the one you have hired?

Mayor Walker Yeah, he's going to send down a contract. And if y'all say yes or no, whatever, but like I said, I'd hate to lose him. Sound like he'd be a good one.

Dan Heathcock So he's not already being paid by the city. He's not actually-

Mayor Walker No, he's not charging nothing right now until I sign it and I ain't signed it, but the deal says that I hire and fire. So, I hired him then I got to see if y'all want him or don't want him. So that's the same way that Pat Layden's daughter did when I talked to her. She said, well, I said I'm not going to do anything because at the state the attorney told her it has to go through me and I have to sign off on it. That's the reason she wouldn't do it. So, I left that up to her and she's the one that told me, said, well if you got me a check just go ahead and tear it up or bring it back. But I've only been doing these two years and I got so much stuff to take care of. So, I said, well that's up to you. So, she said, yeah, find another one if you need help, finding one or whatever. She's real nice about it. Okay. Is that good enough Danny?

Dan Heathcock Well unfortunately we won't be able to make a decision tonight on it.

David Bailey No, it's just a discussion tonight Danny that's all everything is tonight. It's just discussion, discussion

Mayor Walker And then like I say, if y'all want to call this guy or talk to him personally or whatever and like I said, maybe talk to Ronnie May and Mike Miller too. Same way. Ask questions.

Dan Heathcock, Okay. I interrupted you one those you were fixing to carry on and I interrupted so

Mayor Walker Well we're just here to talk about it.

Dan Heathcock Okay.

Mayor Walker, do you want to do that?

David Bailey, I'll do Ronnie talk about him. Okay. Got this from Ronnie May. He's had a lot of experience also court. his experience isn't as much as the other guy. No, he doesn't show that much, but Ronnie's been around a long time. I've had to go up against Ronnie in court more than once. He's a fantastic lawyer and from everything I've gathered that the towns that he's been at, he's done one heck of a job there and he's been a judge before. He's been prosecuting and he did the cities so you can read the resumes over and everything and you can call him for questions or anything like that. I hadn't met the other guy. I kind of know Ronnie, I don't know him really well.

Connie Poole, He's local and that's a plus.

Mayor Walker Yeah. Has he told you how much he's going to charge?

David Bailey, no, that's why we need to talk to him

Mayor Walker, also. He is been what, 41 years and have you ever looked him up on the internet?

David Bailey, No.

Mayor Walker Well, you look it up and he's got no reviews in 41 years. I don't know what that means, but if he's done something good, looks like somebody might have said something good about him and I don't know him personally. I know my dad was a friend with him, but...

David Bailey, Yeah, I only know he worked for the (?) law firm. That and the Stipe law firm. Now whether it's good or bad either way when he was younger and they don't take somebody in unless they're pretty good. Like I say, I've seen him work in the courtroom and I've seen him do some things and he was just good. I mean that's what we're here is to discuss it. I mean y'all think about it and everything.

Mayor Walker, That's the best thing. I mean, well we need to find somebody that's well qualified, more than just knowing them.

Connie Poole, somebody local too, because this guy's already telling you it's challenging to him to come down here and he's going to charge \$675 per month for three hours, but then anything over that is going to, you don't know how much

Mayor Walker, Pat charged like over \$2000, over \$2,000 and he was hard to ever get, not say anything bad about him but just it was hard to get ahold of him. He wouldn't call you back or whatever else. Yep.

Dan Heathcock, did you say Mr. McClure, they would charge \$225 an hour after three hours?

Mayor Walker, that's what all of them did. They're all the same on that. Okay. And on top of that, this guy here, all he does is municipalities. I mean that's all he does and what I can see about Ronnie May, he does everything from lawsuits to divorces, traffic tickets. So, I mean this guy, this is all he does.

David Bailey, I talked with Ronnie a little bit. Like I say, not a whole lot. He is working the city more and more like this guy here. (phone rings) That's my fox.

Mayor Walker, what was that?

David Bailey That was a fox. That's the church Yeah. Anyway, where was I? He's wanting to get more in the line of doing this, and get more out of practicing, and so forth. He told me.

Mayor Walker, He's getting older too, ain't he?

David Bailey Yep. That's why a lot of them do it as they get older, they slow it down.

Mayor Walker That's it about this guy. He's young but everybody's got different deals about it. Something to think about.

David Bailey So that's why we're here, not just discuss it. Anybody got anything else to say on that?

Mayor Walker. Okay. Michael Miller. You want talk about him? David?

David Bailey, I don't know much about him. I know he was the prosecutor. I mean, just be honest, I don't hardly know much about Mike at all. I really don't.

Mayor Walker Yeah, but I, I've done quite a bit of checking and stuff on that.

Dan Heathcock He was instrumental in getting the toys for kids, wasn't he?

Mayor Walker Yeah, he does that every year.

Connie Poole, his grandson or his son does that.

Mayor Walker But one of the things that I run into on the deal that he was in part of that deal about drug court, about all that money disappeared and he was involved in it and I don't know exactly what happened to him, but nobody will talk about it. But I'm not saying he did anything wrong, but he really tried to help. Especially at Christmas time and all that.

David Bailey Yeah, he's a good person. He's got a pretty good resume

Mayor Walker And like I say, it would be nice to find out how much they're going to charge us. That's why I had him give us a price on this and maybe by next meeting.

David Bailey Chief, do you remember when he was a prosecuting attorney? Was Ellen Quentin there or she was more under, what's her name? The female, wasn't she Ellen Quentin. Huh?

Dennis Cook Kaylen Free was the district attorney.

David Bailey Yeah, Kaylen Free. Yeah. I see he's got her for reference. Ellen, and I knew Ellen really well. She was a good prosecutor, but she was with Kaylen. I just don't know much about Mike. I really don't.

Mayor Walker Yeah, well like I said, the only thing I question is, see how much they're going to charge. So, pick having apples to apples there.

David Bailey Right.

Mayor Walker, Money, council on everything.

David Bailey, I mean I don't know for sure. Couldn't say. You'd have to talk to Ronnie and them about it. We could have them here and talk to him about it, see what they are wanting and this and that. I kind of figured he might want about the same program Pat had and everything.

Mayor Walker, I guess we're going to have another meeting next week, wasn't it?

Cindy Cooper, next Monday. Dan said that's what works. We need to have one to do the resolution for the election. For the special election to get it on with the regular election. OML called me back today and said that's what we should do that we can do that. That has to be over there by the 17th of January. So that's cutting it close at that.

Mayor Walker, and it'd be just about two months. I don't know, but that's what they say we got to do. That's what we got to do.

Dan Heathcock Would that give us enough time, to next Monday, to go ahead and discuss and act on getting an attorney hired?

David Bailey Yep.

Mayor Walker, Yeah, we need to do something because as of right now there's two things that I need to sign that a lawyer needs to sign. So, and one of them is on the lake out there, and I think the other one was, oh, another deal. I found that I've been going through all the drawers around here. Somehow or another when they come up about the lake in 2023, they said it was in good shape and in 2025 they come back and said it wasn't in good shape so we got to do all this stuff.

Cindy Cooper, can't talk about it. Can't talk about it.

Mayor Walker, Oh, that's right. We can't talk about that. That'll be next time. Yeah. But anyway, I just saying about the lawyer wise. Need a lawyer

David Bailey Yeah.

Connie Poole, can we set up a meeting with these two lawyers. Are they going to come in so we can talk to them? How's that going to work?

Mayor Walker, I guess get all three of them together, see if they'll come over and talk to them. We'll probably have to go into executive session, which we can't do until we get a lawyer

Cindy Cooper, to meet with them?

Mayor Walker, just to meet with them.

Cindy Cooper, they can- just meet because that's what Mr. McClure wanted to meet and they were asking about when would that be.

Mayor Walker, Well I know it says executive session to hire or fire, something like that. I just want to make sure we're legal. Let's have everything together for the next meeting on a Monday. Going to have to be on that Monday.

David Bailey Why would we, I mean, excuse me, I may be wrong on that because we hire out here. Why would we have to go in executive session to hire?

Mayor Walker, you don't have to. I'm just saying that executive session is for hiring and firing and stuff.

Connie Poole, want to set up a meeting that we can meet with all of them then, and get with us?

Cindy Cooper, yes. Can you meet with them separately?

Connie Poole, Correct.

Cindy Cooper, Because I'm thinking that would be challenging to try to get them all together. Okay. Yes.

Connie Poole, well we want them to be separate.

Cindy Cooper, so between now and Monday, set up meetings so that y'all can meet with them and then Monday put on the agenda to hire.

Connie Poole, Correct.

Cindy Cooper, Okay.

Dan Heathcock, Thursday night possible, four to six inches of snow coming.

Mayor Walker, We're ready. I got more sand. We got salt.

Dan Heathcock, need to meet these guys,

Mayor Walker, The tracks on all the tractors so they're ready.

David Bailey, You can't. I thought we was going to meet them Monday.

Cindy Cooper, Y'all are going to have the meeting Monday. You're going to have to meet them ahead of time.

David Bailey Okay. Okay.

Mayor Walker, the stuff is what, Thursday and Friday, is when it's supposed to be hitting.

David Bailey, Yeah,

Mayor Walker, but after that, by Monday I think it's all going to be in good shape. If not, we will come around a four-wheel drive truck and pick you up.

Dan Heathcock, But I mean if we're going to meet with these attorneys separately though, then we need to do that before Thursday. Right?

Connie Poole, we can set one day to meet all of them.

Mayor Walker, Yeah, one day, and meet all of them. Yeah. I'll try to get it together where all of them are meeting in one day.

Dan Heathcock, Cindy, are you going to be the one to be calling them to set up this meeting?

Cindy Cooper, I'm sure that I will.

Mayor Walker, That's one of your many jobs. Yeah. Well, that'd be good then.

Cindy Cooper, I will call y'all as soon as I get that done.

Dan Heathcock, Okay. I've got a meeting Wednesday from 10 to noon, and I've got a doctor appointment tomorrow at one.

Mayor Walker, Yeah, I got one too. Boy, the doctors are getting rich.

David Bailey, Yeah, this ain't nothing I've seen about the golden years except what they take out of your pocketbook.

Dan Heathcock, are you going to do the agenda then for next Monday?

Cindy Cooper, yes.

Dan Heathcock, I don't need to worry about getting nothing done.

Cindy Cooper, Oh no. I'll take care of that.

Mayor Walker, Yeah, That's her job then. Okay, now

David Bailey, we got the other one there.

4. DISCUSS A TEMPORARY REPLACEMENT FOR THE VACATED WARD 3 COUNCIL SEAT AND ADDING THIS OPENING TO THE UPCOMING ELECTION IN APRIL IF POSSIBLE; AN APPOINTMENT FOR NOW

Mayor Walker, okay, number four, discuss a temporary replacement for the vacated Ward three council seat and adding this opening to the upcoming election in April if possible. An appointment for now. I think Cindy got a hold of -

Cindy Cooper, Christian, and he said that the remaining members on the council can appoint somebody and, should, and it'll be until the next election.

David Bailey, we can have a special meeting next week.

Cindy Cooper, yeah. If y'all had somebody then we can put it on there.

Dan Heathcock, it can be added to the agenda?

Cindy Cooper, it can be.

Dan Heathcock, Putting a lot on it.

Mayor Walker, we got a lot going on.

David Bailey, do we have any names out there of who wants to be appointed.

Mayor Walker, I've got one, possibly two.

Cindy Cooper, right there's one. Are you Jeanetta?

Jeanetta Hauck, I am,

Mayor Walker, What's your name again?

David Bailey, Who?

Jeanetta Hauck, Jeanetta Hauck, H-A-U-C-K

Mayor Walker, yeah. You live by Jason up there?

Jeanetta Hauck I still live right behind Jason.

Connie Poole And I've got one person interested. Chuck Nelms

Mayor Walker, Chuck Nelms. Well, I'm kind of checking on that, see if that's a conflict of interest.

Cindy Cooper, they're going to send the dual office Requirements.

Mayor Walker, He works for State for the government. Right. I'm just trying to be legal on that.

David Bailey, I know.

Mayor Walker, and then I got one other guy that wants to

Dan Heathcock, do you know his name?

Mayor Walker, Yeah, I know his name, but I ain't got a hundred percent from him yet until he tells me for sure. That's the reason we got now until... we can't act on this anyway.

Dan Heathcock, If I knew anything I'd do a little checking on him.

Mayor Walker, so it doesn't make no difference to me on the deal, but I don't want to put his name out until he is a hundred percent sure. Everybody would be calling him.

David Bailey, that's no problem. I guess we got a plan. You got the names of the two there. Right now, you better put David Chuck Nelms or however he goes, that's his real name.

Cindy Cooper, put what?

David Bailey, what's his real name? David? Yeah, David is his real name.

Cindy Cooper, Okay.

David Bailey, can I ask Jeanetta a question?

Mayor Walker, it's a discussion. Jeanetta, would you come up here to the...

Jeanetta Hauck, Sure. What would you like to know?

David Bailey, Oh, I'm David Bailey. That's what my sign says. I'm not sure sometimes. How long have you lived in Krebs?

Jeanetta Hauck, I have lived in Krebs, where I live right now for 24 years. It'd be 25 in July.

David Bailey, Okay.

Jeanetta Hauck, I lived over on Choctaw in Krebs from 1995 or 1994, till I bought that house.

David Bailey So you're kind of a (?)

Jeanetta Hauck, I didn't grow up here? No, I'm from Arkansas.

David Bailey, So you're not full blood Krebian?

Jeanetta Hauck, well, I would say I am, 47 years!

David Bailey, I'm joking with you.

Mayor Walker, you've lived where you live now for at least six months?

Jeanetta Hauck, Yeah, 25 years.

Mayor Walker, yeah. Okay. I just want to clarify that and make sure

David Bailey, you like our little town?

Jeanetta Hauck, I love Krebs. I'm for Krebs

Mayor Walker, I've been here 75 years.

Jeanetta Hauck, I know you've been around a long time.

Mayor Walker, A long time. One, I first met her when we had the girl working for the police department up here at school, and they'd have them ball games up there right in front of her house. And when they come, everybody goes out, watch the ballgame and they'd park the cars right in front of her driveway. She couldn't get in; she couldn't get out. I kept telling that girl you need to do something about it. Give a ticket to somebody or something. Well, finally had to get some cones I think it was, and put some orange cones out around there.

Jeanetta Hauck They still can't read.

Mayor Walker, Yeah, they still can't read. You're right there. Yeah.

David Bailey Are you still working or are you retired?

Jeanetta Hauck I'm retired at the moment, yes.

David Bailey okay. Where did you used to work at?

Jeanetta Hauck, I worked at Bank of Oklahoma in my younger years. My last job was 16 years as office manager for Yates Pest Control in McAlester

Mayor Walker, Yates Pest Control. That's one done mine.

David Bailey, What's the other one? The name of that other pest control.

Mayor Walker Mike's out here.

David Bailey Mikes Yates

Jeanetta Hauck And Pro Kill.

David Bailey, Pro kill two or three of them. Yeah. Okay. Well, I just, I've seen you around, but I didn't know your name. Jeanetta. It's nice to meet you.

Jeanetta Hauck Nice to meet you.

Cindy Cooper, why do you want to be on the council?

Jeanetta Hauck, because I just think you need some new blood in here, and I know Jason was a yes man. I mean, I'm just honest. There're no holds barred with me.

Mayor Walker, You Love Krebs or you wouldn't be still here.

Jeanetta Hauck That's right.

Mayor Walker, yeah. That's what we need here. Thank you.

David Bailey, okay, well we've got everything lined up, which way we're headed.

Mayor Walker, Like I said, we have the meeting at about six o'clock. Again. Six o'clock on Monday.

David Bailey, you're going to vote...

Mayor Walker in between now and then I'll try to get it set up so I can get all three of them. Or you can call Mike and you can call.

Cindy Cooper, Yeah, I'll call and set it up.

Mayor Walker you'll call all three of them.

Cindy Cooper Yeah. I'll get that set up and then I'll call y'all.

David Bailey Okay. Okay. And then we will appoint one of them of the three or two that night of the meeting. Right, mayor?

Mayor Walker, right. And like I said out here, you don't necessarily have to have a lawyer out here is what I was told in there. In there you have to.

David Bailey, Right,

Mayor Walker, Okay. So, we don't have to have a lawyer for sure at that meeting, but if we can get everybody together and figure out which one we're going to hire, and whatever and see...

David Bailey *inaudible* counsel.

Mayor Walker, yeah. Yeah. See what all happens and try to get it straightened out. Where we can do everything legal.

David Bailey, I want you to put on that special meeting if we can, a little bit of discussion about the dam out there. The mayor has some new things he's come up with, and this, and that, and I think it'd be a good idea for us to.

Mayor Walker, I got a lot of stuff to tell you

David Bailey Or any new things that needs to be said that we could put out there. Put that on the agenda.

Mayor Walker, right. We could do that.

David Bailey, I think that would be good.

Mayor Walker Okay. That'll be good. Get everybody to know where we're at.

Dan Heathcock. It'd just be the discussion?

David Bailey, yeah. There's nothing we can vote on.

Mayor Walker, you can't do anything about it right now until we get OWRB. Just discuss on it and everything,

David Bailey But at least get up to date. I know where we're at, and what we got ahead and what the pulse might be on something on some things.

Mayor Walker Yeah, yeah, yeah. I'll be getting more phone calls from him to and from our engineer too.

5. ADJOURN

Mayor Walker, I guess it is time to adjourn. Anybody make a motion?

Connie Poole, I'll Make a motion to adjourn.

Dan Heathcock seconds.

Mayor Walker calls for a vote. Dan Heathcock- yes, Connie Poole- yes, David Bailey- yes. **Motion passed**