CITY OF WILBURTON
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
MONDAY JUNE 15th, 2026; 5:00 P.M.
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Wilburton City Council convened in a Public Hearing meeting held on the 15th day of June 2026 at 5:00pm with Mayor Mayes presiding.

City Clerk – Cindee Blankenship conducted roll call with council members responding:

LITTLEJOHN	*PRESENT*	COCKE	*PRESENT*	KENDALL	*PRESENT*
HAYNES	*PRESENT*	GOAD	*ABSENT*		

MAYORS COMMENTS

- *Budget Overview:*
  - *Revenue Challenges: Sales tax revenue has decreased by approximately $120,000 compared to previous years. The budget has been adjusted to reflect actual revenue trends and there were some difficult decisions to be made.*
- *Cost-Cutting Measures:*
  - *Elimination of the Parks and Rec Director position.*
  - *Elimination of 2 Senior Citizens Center Site Aide positions (not previously/currently reimbursable by Feed the Need Program)*
  - *Reduction in travel expenses.*
  - *No budget allocated for summer help next year (current year vacancies were used to mitigate impact).*
  - *Evaluation of miscellaneous spending and shift towards sponsorships/fees for sports and events.*
- *Sales Tax Trends: A recent report shows the highest sales tax in several years for a specific month. The city is investigating if this is a trend driven by increased online/delivery use tax collection.*

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Ward 1 Allen Littlejohn:

- *Recognizes in the summary that the amount awarded to E911 was only partial and not the full amount requested but is a step in the right and appreciates that being prioritized as all emergency services would not be able to operate otherwise. It also prioritizes safety within our community and for our citizens.*
- *Vehicle Management (Enterprise): The city has moved away from the maintenance agreement with Enterprise as it was not cost-effective. Savings are being realized through reduced travel costs. The city is exploring a USDA 50% match for future vehicle leasing.*

Ward 2 Terry Haynes:

- *Staff and everyone that's been involved in the budget has done a wonderful job of giving council and the public the information needed in a timely manner and that's very much appreciated.*
- *Storm Sewer/Infrastructure: Concerns were raised regarding the deteriorating storm sewer on SE 4th and 6th Streets. The council discussed long-term financing options, noting that property tax increases are difficult. Discussions included using CD loans, municipal bonds, and researching OML (Oklahoma Municipal League) findings on alternative funding models.*

CITIZENS COMMENTS

- *State Question 832 (Minimum Wage):*
  - *Rick Farmer – Oklahoma Council of Public Affairs: shared information regarding the potential passing of minimum wage increase could significantly raise municipal costs and impact small businesses with limited employees.*
  - *Hannah Schaffer: In support of Question 823, stating that higher wages increase the local purchasing power of residents, which ultimately supports the local economy and sales tax base.*

ADJOURN.

MOTION BY LITTLEJOHN SECOND BY COCKE TO ADJOURN AT 5:33PM
Upon roll call, members voted as follows:

LITTLEJOHN	*YES*	**COCKE**	*YES*	**KENDALL**	*YES*
HAYNES	*YES*	**GOAD**	*ABSENT*		

APPROVED: THURSDAY JULY 9th, 2026.

Cindee Blankenship
CINDEE BLANKENSHIP, CITY CLERK

Loran Mayes
LORAN MAYES, MAYOR

Allen Littlejohn
ALLEN LITTLEJOHN, WARD 1

Terry Haynes
TERRY HAYNES, WARD 2

Sara Jane Cocke
SARA JANE COCKE, WARD 3

-absent- 6/15
JAYME GOAD, WARD 4

Julia Kendall
JULIA KENDALL, WARD 5