

Minutes



City Council Minutes Emergency Meeting January 31, 2002

The Yukon City Council met in for an emergency meeting on January 31, 2002, at 12:00 p.m. in the Emergency Operations Center of the Police Station, 100 South Ranchwood.

Roll Call: Present: Genie Vinson, Mayor
Ron Jurgensen, Vice Mayor
John Weller, Council Member
Dewayne Maxey, Council Member
Earline Smaistrla, Council Member

Others Present:
Jim Crosby, City Manager
Bill Bullard, Deputy Police Chief
Jeff Lara, Fire Chief
Andy Johnson, Police Sergeant
Jerry Reed, Public Works Director
Tim Rundel, Administrative Officer
Tammy Nemecek, Administrative Assistant
Conrad Dudderar
Jan Scott, Parks & Recreation Director

The City Manager called the meeting to order and gave a report of the current status of the ice storm. He stated that he spoke with a representative from O. G. & E. and was told that there was no exact estimate on how long the community would be without power. He said that it could be possibly two to three days or maybe even a week.

The Deputy Police Chief distributed a list to everyone in attendance regarding the areas without power, with power, the intersection lights that were functioning, and the roads that were blocked by trees, limbs, etc. He also asked everyone to keep track of any expenses that have been incurred due to the storm.

The Fire Chief commented that the Fire Department had already lost numerous items.

The City Manager said that transformers were blowing up everywhere and that the ice storm was much worse than the windstorm that had occurred. He told the Council members that there was no electricity at City Hall, but the Yukon Community Center had power. He also stated that the Community Center would be used as a shelter. Due to the emergency, the City Manager told the Council that items and equipment, such as generators and chainsaws, had to be purchased. One generator was placed at City Hall so that the phones could be utilized. Although there was no electricity at City Hall, someone would be there to answer the phones. The City Manager said that the city is in the process of getting a tub grinder,

which cost \$7,500 a month to rent. He informed everyone that the city would be accepting tree limbs at the transfer station, free of charge for the month of February. The city will be clearing the roadways.

The City Manager mentioned that the Governor of Oklahoma has declared Canadian County as a disaster area. Therefore, we should check with FEMA for financial assistance.

The Fire Chief stated that on Wednesday, January 30, 2002, at approximately 11:00 am, the department started answering calls. From that time on, the calls were consecutive. A call back was sounded for all fire department personnel to respond, which they did. Due to the number of calls in our community, the Fire Chief stated that the automatic response for adjacent communities had been suspended. He said that one of the major problems that the personnel was having was the trees and limbs in the roadways and the power lines that were down. The Fire Chief told everyone that Cottonwood Manor had no electricity and had to be evacuated to Trinity Baptist Church at 1:00 pm. He also said that he was in contact with Dr. Bill Spaeth, the Superintendent of Yukon Schools, regarding transportation for the residents.

The City Manager stated that the Public Works building did not have electricity, as well as a majority of the town.

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The Public Works Director mentioned that staff would be trimming trees and it would take several weeks to clean up the community. Over 5,700 Yukon homes were without power.

Vice Mayor Ron Jurgensen asked Mr. Reed if he would like to borrow his chainsaw.

Mr. Reed told Mr. Jurgensen yes. He also stated that the city couldn't do any cleanup in certain areas until O. G. & E. completed their repairs.

The City Manager stated that the damage from the ice storm would be a big expense. He told the Council that he would keep them apprised of the status. He said that the major roads would be cleared first, then the collector streets and finally the residential streets. The city is only allowed to work on the right of way and can't go in people's yards to cleanup. However, the city will be accepting limbs at the transfer station, seven days a week, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. Or, they could be cut in four-foot lengths, bundled in 50 pounds or less, and pulled to the curb.

The Mayor asked if we could get the National Guard or Red Cross to help.

The City Manager said that they could call the Salvation Army. He reiterated that the Community Center has electricity and a kitchen and would be used as a shelter.

Andy Johnson reported that seven officers were currently on duty.

The Deputy Police Chief added that two communication officers had also been called.

Mayor Vinson asked what we are doing for our crews that are working dawn to dusk.

The City Manager said that we were bringing them food, coffee and giving them breaks.

Council Member Smaistrila asked if city staff was working at the Community Center.

The City Manager answered yes and added that they were calling additional personnel to work.

Sergeant Johnson informed everyone that there was a possibility that some people would take advantage of the situation and warned everyone.

Deputy Police Chief stated that the EOC would not be open following the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Genie Vinson, Mayor

Tammy Nemecek, Administrative Assistant