

To:

Honorable Mayor and City Councilors

From:

Michael Spurgeon, City Manager

Date:

May 1, 2020

Re:

Notes to Council

## 1. STAFF REPORTS / ITEMS REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

N/A

### 2. GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE / NOTIFICATION

- Press Release City of Broken Arrow transitions back to on-site meetings
- Press Release National Drinking Water Week, May 3-9
- Cox Communications Local Franchising Authority Memo

### 3. SPECIAL EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

• N/A

Respectfully submitted

CLM for

Michael Spurgeon

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Attachments

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release Date: May 1, 2020

Contact: Jennifer Swezey, City of Broken Arrow 918-607-8921 | jswezey@brokenarrowok.gov

# City of Broken Arrow transitions back to on-site meetings

- City of Broken Arrow began holding meetings via videoconferencing April 7 to promote social distancing due to COVID-19.
- City Council and other boards and authorities will begin holding on-site meetings again at City Hall in early May and others will be phased in later.
- Residents can begin watching live City Council meetings online and submit comments in advance or in person.

#### **Background:**

The Broken Arrow City Council, in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines and in the interest of public safety, held its meetings via videoconference in April during the COVID-19 pandemic. The governing body will transition back to on-site meetings starting May 5. Social distancing measures will be followed in the City Council Chambers, and staff presentations will be made virtually until further notice.

To promote citizen engagement and transparency, City Council meetings will be broadcast live through our online legislative center on the city's website. Recordings of the meetings will continue to be available online after each meeting and on the Broken Arrow government access channel, Cox Cable Channel 24.

City Council typically meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, followed by the Broken Arrow Municipal Authority and Broken Arrow Economic Development Authority.

Agendas are typically posted online before close of business on Fridays before a Council meeting date. Residents may attend the meetings in person, watch online, or submit comments to the City Clerk prior to the start of the meeting (online link).

Find City Council meeting dates, agendas, minutes, videos, and live broadcasts online at www.brokenarrowok.gov/agendas.

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www.brokenarrowok.gov 5/1/2020



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release Date: 4/27/2020 Contact: Lesa Jones City of Broken Arrow

918-259-2400 X5436| email: lljones@brokenarrowok.gov

In celebration of National Drinking Water Week May 3-9 and the 46<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Safe Water Drinking Act, the City of Broken Arrow is sponsoring the *Drinking Water:There When You Need It Art Contest.* The contest is open to all ages with art focusing on the importance of clean drinking water.

## **Background**

- Only tap water delivers public health protection, fire protection, support for our economy and the quality of life we enjoy.
- Any measure of a successful society, including low mortality rates, economic growth and diversity, productivity, and public safety are in some way related to access to safe water.
- From the first cup of coffee in the morning to washing our clothes, we use tap water every single day. The City of Broken Arrow works to ensure that the water delivered to consumers meets all Federal and State standards and is clean and abundant.
- Each citizen of Broken Arrow is called upon to help protect our source waters from pollution, to practice water conservation, and to get involved in local water resource issues.

With this year's theme, "There When You Need It," we ask all citizens and civic organizations to recognize the contributions that the Utilities, Engineering and Construction staff and officials make every day by providing this invaluable resource.

The contest entries will be divided by age into six categories with one \$100 winner in each category. The categories are ages 10 and under, ages 11-14, ages 15- 19, ages 20-40, ages 41-61 and ages 62 and over. Submissions will be accepted starting Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. and will be judged on Creativity, Adherance to message/theme and quality of the artwork. **For more information on contest rules go to www.brokenarrowok.gov** and the City of Broken Arrow -Municipality Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/cityofba.

Dear Local Franchising Authority,

As we at Cox continue to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic with ways to support our residential and business customers to allow them to work, learn and stay connected socially, we are pleased to announce, our continued support for the FCC's Keep America Connected initiative, along with extensions to existing offerings to provide support for customers and communities in greatest need as part of the company's ongoing coronavirus response efforts.

This means that through June 30 we will: not terminate internet or telephone service to any residential or small business customer because of an inability to pay their bills due to disruptions caused by the coronavirus pandemic; waive any internet or telephone late fees that any residential or small business customer incurs because of their economic circumstances related to the coronavirus pandemic; and keep open its Cox WiFi hotspots to help keep the public connected in this time of need.

In addition, Cox is extending previously announced relief offerings to provide continued support and relief for customers and communities in greatest need.

Cox is offering the following through July 15:

- \*Free Connect2Compete service, Cox's low-cost internet product for families with schoolaged children who are enrolled in low-income assistance programs. Customers must sign up before May 15 to qualify. All new customers that have enrolled since March 13 will receive free service through July 15.
- \*Upgraded speeds of 50 Mbps download for residential customers in the company's Starter, StraightUp Internet and Connect2Compete packages.
- \*For those tiers, free Cox Complete Care phone and remote desktop support for residential customers providing assistance for loading new applications they may need to use during this time like online classroom support applications and web conferencing services.

Residential customers can still take advantage of a \$19.99 offer for new Starter Internet customers through May 15. This includes a temporary boost up to 50 Mbps download speeds, no annual contract or additional qualifications and is designed to help low income individuals impacted by Coronavirus challenges, like seniors and college students.

For more information on Cox's coronavirus relief efforts, visit cox.com.

As always, we stand ready to support and serve you and our communities. Please feel free to call my cell at (405) 406.8233 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Robbie Squires
Director, Government Affairs
Cox Communications Central Region

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