Resolution

Version 2.7 released on 7/1/25
Use for all types of Resolutions

CITY COUNCIL USE ONLY				CITY CLERK USE ONLY	
Date Received:		Tracking #:	25-632-1	☐ Scanned	Date: 07.30.2025
Committee Date:	8-6-25	Committee:	LED		
1st Agenda Date:	8-6-25	Hearing Date:		☐ Posted	Item #: 2507.01961
		2nd Agenda Date:			

All department items requiring Council approval must be submitted through the Mayor's Office.

Primary Details

Board Approval

Other Board Name

City Council Approval
● Yes ○ No

Department: Legal
Contact Name: R.Lawson Vaughn (tmd)
Email: lvaughn@cityoftulsa.org
Phone: 9185967717

Resolution Type: Authorizing Sinking Fund Credit or Payment
Owner-Grantor: Greta J. Hurt and Julie D. Lynn

Amount: ~~$500,000.00~~ 501,007.46
Case Number: 22-CV-337
TMAPC Number
Council District

Description (Subject): Payment of Lawsuit
Bid/Project Number

Section
Township
Range
Addition

Lot
Block
Address

Budget

Funding Source(s)

TOTAL:

Approvals

Department:		**Date:** 7.28.25
Legal:		**Date:** 7-28-2025
Board:		**Date:**
Mayor:		**Date:** JUL 30 2025
Other:		**Date:**

Policy Statement

Background Information
On July 23, 2025 the Mayor approved settlement of this matter in the amount of $500,000.00. The Agreed Judgment was signed by the Judge and filed with the Court on July 25, 2025. (See attached Judgment)

Summation of the Requested Action
Request Council executed Resolution. Request Mayor approve payment of this lawsuit and direct Finance to issue a check in the amount of $500,000.00 payable to Greta J. Hurt and Julie D. Lynn, Plaintiffs, and Barnes Law, PLLC, attorneys at law and return to the Legal Department for further processing.

Emergency Clause?
○ Yes
○ No

Reason for Emergency Clause

Processing Information for City Clerk's Office

Post Execution Processing

☐ Mail vendor copy (addt'l signature copies attached)
☐ Must be filed with other governmental entity
☐ Addt'l governmental entity approval(s) required

Additional Routing and Processing Details

Please return executed Resolution and RFA to City Legal for further processing

(Published in the Tulsa Daily Commerce
& Legal News,
_____, 2025.)

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT IN FULL OF A JUDGMENT SETTLEMENT, FROM SURPLUS MONIES IN THE SINKING FUND; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, on the 25th day of July, 2025, in Case No. 22-CV-337, filed in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma, judgment was entered based on a settlement agreed to by and between Greta J. Hurt and Julie D. Lynn, Plaintiffs, and the City of Tulsa, Defendant, in the sum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($500,000.00), representing principal judgment, pre-judgment interest, costs and attorney fees, was entered against the City of Tulsa, which settlement has been approved by the Court. Post-Judgment interest was calculated at the rate of 4.086% from July 25, 2025 to August 12, 2025 in the amount of $1,007.46. This brings the amount due to $501,007.46.

WHEREAS, it appears from a survey of the Sinking Fund that there is a surplus of cash and investments in said fund, over and above accrued liabilities and statutory obligations, which would allow the City of Tulsa to pay said judgment in full, including court costs and interest thereon; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the best interest of the City of Tulsa to make such present payment out of the City's Sinking Fund, and thereafter reimburse the Sinking Fund from subsequent tax levies, as provided by 62 O.S. §435.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TULSA, OKLAHOMA:

Section 1. That the City Clerk and the City Treasurer of the City of Tulsa be, and the same hereby are, authorized to consummate and complete the payment of said judgment by drawing the following warrant on the City of Tulsa's Sinking Fund:

> To the order of GRETA J. HURT and JULIE D. LYNN, Plaintiffs, and BARNES LAW, PLLC, the sum of Five Hundred One Thousand Seven Dollars and 46/100 ($501,007.46); the same representing the full amount of the judgment, interest, costs and attorney fees, now due and owing to the Plaintiffs in the lawsuit identified above.

Section 2. That the City Clerk and the City Treasurer of the City of Tulsa be, and the same hereby are, authorized and directed to properly advise the Tulsa County Excise Board by appropriate reports, of the prepayment of said judgment in order that said Board may include said prepaid judgment as a necessary and lawful expense of the Sinking Fund of the City of

Tulsa, Oklahoma, for which appropriate tax levies may be made to replenish said Sinking Fund, as provided by the provisions of Title 62 of the Statutes of the State of Oklahoma.

Section 3. That an emergency exists for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, by reason whereof this Resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage, approval, and publication.

ADOPTED by the Council: _____ (Date)

ADOPTED as an emergency measure: _____ (Date)

_____
Chairman of the Council

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Received by the Mayor: _____, at _____
Date Time

Monroe Nichols, IV, Mayor

By_____
Secretary

APPROVED by the Mayor of the City of Tulsa, Oklahoma: _____,
Date

_____.
Time

_____
Mayor

(Seal)
ATTEST:

_____
City Clerk

APPROVED:

_____
City Attorney

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

1. GRETA J. HURT and, 2. JULIE D. LYNN, Plaintiffs, v. 1. CITY OF TULSA, OKLAHOMA, FIRE DEPARTMENT, Defendants.	)	Case No. 22-CV-337-JDR-SH

JUDGMENT

NOW ON this 25th day of July, 2025, the Clerk of this Court finds that the Plaintiff s have filed their Acceptance of an Offer to Confess Judgment served upon them by the Defendant pursuant to Rule 68, FRCP. The City of Tulsa's Offer to Allow Judgment states "The Defendant City of Tulsa, pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure Rule 68, offers to allow judgment to be taken against it in favor of the Plaintiffs Greta J. Hurt and Julie D. Lynn in the amount of Five Hundred Thousand dollars and 00/100 dollars ($500,000.00) for all claims, damages, costs accrued to date of this offer, specifically including attorneys' fees."

The undersigned Clerk of United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma, pursuant to Rule 68, therefore enters judgment for the Plaintiffs on all of their claims, against the Defendant City of Tulsa, for $500,000.00 inclusive of costs and attorney fees.

S/C. Portilloz
Clerk of the United States District Court
for the Northern District of Oklahoma

CITY OF TULSA

LEGAL

Date: July 18, 2025
To: Monroe Nichols, IV, Mayor
From: Lawson Vaughn, Sr. Asst. City Attorney
Subject: *Greta Hurt and Julie Lynn v. City of Tulsa* - Request for Settlement Authority

Attorneys Linda Morrissey and John Nicks filed this suit on behalf of Plaintiffs Greta Hurt and Julie Lynn in the Northern District of Oklahoma against the City of Tulsa claiming hostile work environment, gender discrimination, retaliation, and constructive discharge (as to Hurt only) in violation of Title VII. Hurt is a former member of the Tulsa Fire Department who resigned while in the position of Chief of Health and Safety. Lynn is still a member of the Tulsa Fire Department who currently serves in the position of Deputy Chief (FD-07).

We filed a Motion For Summary Judgment as to all claims. The Court granted the motion in part and denied it in part. The Court found insufficient evidence to support the claims of hostile work environment, retaliation, and constructive discharge and those claims were dismissed. The Court denied the motion as to Plaintiffs' claims of gender discrimination related to the August 2021 Assistant Chief promotional process and allowed the case to proceed forward solely on those claims.

2021 Promotional Process for Assistant Chief Positions

Hurt and Lynn, along with males Bryan Hickerson and Leon Wilson, were candidates for two vacant Assistant Chief positions in August 2021. Because there were only four candidates for two positions and he could pick from any two of the four, Chief Baker determined it did not make sense to incur the time (30-60 days without two Asst. Chiefs) and expense ($30,000) of the outside assessment that is set forth in the Administrative Operating Procedures for this promotional process. He then obtained the consent of the Union, Personnel Committee, Mayor's Office, and each of the candidates. Chief Baker then assembled an interview panel made up of himself, Deputy Chief Goins (to whom they would report), and Donnell Campbell (a retired chief from out of state familiar with TFD through his role at TCC). After the interviews, each of the panelists agreed that Wilson and Hickerson were the stronger candidates and they were ultimately selected. Hurt and Lynn claimed they were more qualified than the males and that they must not have been selected due to discrimination on the basis of their gender. They also alleged that Chief Baker decided to forego the outside assessment because he knew they would be ranked higher than the two males.

SETTLEMENT AUTHORITY REQUEST

The parties attended a settlement conference in January that was unsuccessful. The parties were ordered to attend a second settlement conference on July 14, 2025 where you authorized engaging in settlement negotiations and we ultimately arrived at a global settlement amount of $500,000.00. Given the claimed loss in pay and benefits, emotional distress, and attorney fees, and the risks of trial, I recommend approval of this settlement of $500,000.00.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter in greater detail, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you.

Lawson Vaughn