

Council Chambers
Municipal Building
July 22, 2008

The McAlester City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, July 22, 2008, at 6:00 P.M. after proper notice and agenda was posted July 17, 2008, at 3:30 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Priddle called the meeting to order. Council Roll Call was as follows:

Present: Chris Fiedler, Donnie Condit, Haven Wilkinson, Buddy Garvin, Sam Mason & Mayor Priddle
Absent: John Browne
Presiding: Kevin E. Priddle, Mayor

Staff Present: David Medley, Utilities Director; Cora Middleton, City Clerk;
William J. Ervin, Jr., City Attorney and Mark Roath, City Manager

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- **James Crowson, Pastor of The King's House**

CITIZENS' COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None

CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will not be separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

- A. Approval of the Minutes from the July 8, 2008, Special Meeting of the City Council.** *(Cora Middleton, City Clerk)*
- B. Approval of the Minutes from the July 8, 2008, Regular Meeting of the City Council.** *(Cora Middleton, City Clerk)*
- C. Concur with Mayor's appointment of Dr. Chad Crawley to the McAlester Regional Health Center Authority for the term to expire February, 2012.** *(Kevin E. Priddle, Mayor)*
- D. Concur with Mayor's reappointment of Betty Pickle to the McAlester Housing Authority for the term to expire July, 2012.** *(Kevin E. Priddle, Mayor)*
- E. Approval of claims through June 30, 2008.** *(Sherry Alessi, Assistant Chief Financial Officer)* In the amount of: General Fund - \$19,753.85.

F. Approval of claims for the period of July 9 through July 24, 2008. (*Sherry Alessi, Assistant Chief Financial Officer*)

Councilman Wilkinson moved for the approval of the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilman Mason.

Before the vote, Councilman Mason requested that items “A” and “F” be removed for individual consideration.

There was no further discussion and the vote was taken on items “B” through “E” as follows:

AYE: Councilman Fiedler, Condit, Wilkinson, Garvin, Mason & Mayor Priddle

NAY: None

Mayor Priddle declared the motion carried.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of the Minutes from the July 8, 2008, Special Meeting of the City Council. (*Cora Middleton, City Clerk*)

Councilman Mason commented that there was still an error in the corrected minutes that they had received. He explained that in the call to order, Mayor Priddle needed to be replaced with Vice-Mayor Mason. He commented that this had just been an oversight and he asked that the City Clerk correct that in the minutes. Mayor Priddle seconded the motion.

There was no further discussion, and the vote was taken as follows:

AYE: Councilman Condit, Wilkinson, Garvin, Mason, Fiedler & Mayor Priddle

NAY: None

Mayor Priddle declared the motion carried

F. Approval of claims for the period of July 9 through July 24, 2008. (*Sherry Alessi, Assistant Chief Financial Officer*) In the amounts of: General Fund - \$143,249.70; Parking Authority - \$183.60; Nutrition - \$628.86; Employee Retirement - \$10,058.00; Educational Fund - \$44,989.43; SE Expo Center/Tourism Fund - \$7,561.50; E-911 - \$2,108.19 and Dedicated Sales Tax-MPWA - \$1,500.00.

Councilman Mason commented that he would like to discuss an item on page ten dealing with a payment to Benefit Partners who are the actuaries for the retirement fund. He stated that he did not object to paying this claim. He added that he had received a copy of the actuarial report and he thought that all members of the Council should be given a copy of the report. He then requested that prior to the next meeting, all members of the Council receive a copy of the report and that they also receive copies of all reports concerning the authorities and boards of the City.

Mr. Roath stated that there was no problem furnishing copies of the report to the Council and when the new report is received it will also be made available to the Council.

Councilman Condit moved to approve the claims and the motion was seconded by Councilman Fiedler.

There was no further discussion, and the vote was taken as follows:

AYE: Councilman Wilkinson, Garvin, Mason, Fiedler, Condit & Mayor Priddle

NAY: None

Mayor Priddle declared the motion carried

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

1. Presentation on the status of the Water Treatment Plant Improvements. (David Medley, Utilities Director)

Executive Summary

This agenda item concerns a presentation on improvements to be made to the water treatment plant including information on the City's water quality.

Mayor Priddle explained that previously the Council had approved a payment of \$676,000.00 for improvements to the Water Treatment Plant and this item had been placed on the agenda because he felt it was important to keep the Council and citizens updated on the status of any projects that the City may be involved with.

David Medley reported to the Council on the status of the Water Treatment Plant Improvements. During his report Mr. Medley stated that the project was on schedule. The Notice of Award had been signed by Mayor Priddle and forwarded to the contractor, Northern Equipment Company. He stated that the contractor was in the process of obtaining the required bonds and insurance. He commented that a preconstruction conference had tentatively been scheduled for next week.

Mr. Medley stated that the City Attorney had reviewed the contract and had given a preliminary approval as to its completeness. He added that once they had the signed contract, bonds and insurance and the City Attorney had reviewed and approved the information, a Notice to Proceed would be issued. Hopefully that would be done in the next few days and then, according to the contract, the contractor would have ten days to begin work and ninety calendar days to complete the contract. He stated that they were tentatively looking at August 11th for a start date and November 8th for completion.

He furnished some background information regarding this project, stating that this would allow for a new process at the plant called enhanced coagulation. He stated that this process was used to remove excess organics from the water and that when this is completed should aid in keeping the City in compliance with DEQ requirements.

NEW BUSINESS

None

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Roath reported that the light agenda had partly been due to the changes in the new Charter. He commented that the procedure for addressing ordinances had greatly changed and now required a seven day posting prior to consideration. He stated that he was actively working on filling the position of Chief Financial Officer. He added that he had scheduled an interview with one candidate for this week. Mr. Roath then commented that the staff was working diligently to reduce the cost of fuel and other energy. He stated that there had been several meetings on the subject since this had been one of the main items with this years' budget.

REMARKS AND INQUIRIES BY CITY COUNCIL

Councilman Fiedler welcomed "Pet Sense" to the community. He commented that he had attended the grand opening Saturday. He mentioned that "StarBucks" was closing the recently opened store.

Councilman Condit commented that he had also attended the grand opening for "Pet Sense". He added that he had visited with "StarBucks" corporate office and was informed that they would be reviewing all emails they received regarding the closing.

Councilman Garvin commented on the highway construction on north 69 Highway, stating that hopefully it would be completed soon. He stated that he would be looking for a little bit of growth in Fifth Ward.

Councilman Mason commented on the length of the meeting and how it could help conserve energy.

Mayor Priddle reminded everyone of the upcoming Prison Rodeo on the fifteenth and sixteenth of August. He commented on how impressed he was by the activity of the various boards and committees and their members. He mentioned that "Pride in McAlester" was still working. He also expressed his appreciation for the report that had been given by David Medley.

RECESS COUNCIL MEETING

Mayor Priddle asked for a motion to recess the Regular Meeting to convene the Authorities.

Councilman Condit moved to recess the Regular Meeting and convene the Authorities. The motion was seconded by Councilman Mason and the vote was taken as follows:

AYE: Councilman Wilkinson, Garvin, Mason, Fiedler, Condit & Mayor Priddle

NAY: None

Mayor Priddle declared the motion carried, and the Regular Meeting was recessed at 6:19 P.M.

RECONVENE COUNCIL MEETING

The Regular Meeting was reconvened at 6:20 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, Councilman Mason moved for the meeting to be adjourned, seconded by Councilman Wilkinson. The vote was taken as follows:

AYE: Councilman Fiedler, Condit, Wilkinson, Garvin, Mason, & Mayor Priddle

NAY: None

Mayor Priddle declared the motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:21P.M.

Kevin E. Priddle, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cora Middleton, City Clerk