

Council Chambers
Municipal Building
January 24, 2008

The McAlester City Council met in special session on Thursday, January 24, 2008, at 6:00 P.M. after proper notice and agenda was posted January 22, 2008, at 5:15 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

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

Present: Buddy Garvin, Haven Wilkinson, Sam Mason, Weldon Smith, Travis Read,
Donnie Condit & Mayor Lewis

Absent: None

Presiding: Don Lewis, Mayor

Staff Present: Robert Ivester, City Attorney and Cora Middleton, City Clerk

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

1. Discussion, and possible action, on the proposed revised Charter dated January 16, 2008. *(Tim Wynn and Weldon Smith, Charter Review Committee)*

Councilman Mason moved to approve the discussion and possible action on the revised Charter dated January 16, 2008. The motion was seconded by Councilman Condit.

Before the vote, Councilman Smith distributed a newer version of the revised Charter dated January 24, 2008. He then stated that the best way to go through this document was page by page.

The Council discussed the many changes in the revised Charter and during the discussion several citizens expressed concern and agreement with many of the changes. One of the questions from a citizen was, "What was the difference between the Mayor presenting a state of the City report and the City Manager's annual report."

Mark Roath explained that the Mayor reports on past accomplishments and the City Manager's report focused on the operations of the city.

Harold King asked if the Council would have the authority to remove a bonded employee.

Councilman Smith stated that if Council could hire or fire an employee it would in essence give the employee two bosses.

Councilman Mason stated that in the old Charter or Code the Council had the right to investigate any department or employee. They could then solve any problems with City Manager or go further if necessary.

Mel Stubbings commented that the Council should step up and establish goals for the City.

There was discussion regarding the Council's ability to make requests of employees like other citizens could.

The Mayor declared a short recess at 8:00 P.M.

The meeting reconvened at 8:06 P.M.

There was further discussion, among the Council and the citizens in the audience, over many topics covered in the revised Charter including questions regarding bonded employees, the municipal court and the limitation on the Hospital, a capital improvement program and whether the Audit & Finance Advisory Committee should be in the Charter.

There was no further discussion and no vote was taken.

DJOURNMENT

Deleted: A

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

AYE: Councilman Condit, Read, Wilkinson, Garvin, Mason, Smith & Mayor Lewis

NAY: None

Mayor Lewis declared the motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 P.M.

ATTEST:

Don R. Lewis, Mayor

Cora Middleton, City Clerk