

Council Chambers  
Municipal Building  
June 2, 2009

The McAlester City Council met in Special session on Tuesday, June 2, 2009, at 6:00 P.M. after proper notice and agenda was posted, May 26, 2009, at 3:16 P.M.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Priddle called the meeting to order.

Mayor Priddle gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

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: Mark Roath, City Manager; Pete Stasiak, Planning & Community Development Director and Cora Middleton, City Clerk

**SCHEDULED BUSINESS**

**1. Approval of Claim for June 2, 2009. (Sherry Alessi, Assistant Chief Financial Officer)**

Mr. Roath explained that this payment in the amount of \$26,299.00 was a Worker's Compensation Court ordered payment with a deadline of June 5, 2009 and to meet that requirement this had to be addressed before the next regular meeting. He commented that the total settlement was for \$36,125.00 which included the amount for consideration tonight and attorney's fees.

Councilman Fiedler moved for approval of the claim in the amount of \$26,299.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilkinson. There was no discussion and the vote was taken as follows:

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

NAY: None

Mayor Priddle declared the motion carried.

Councilman Fiedler moved to adjourn the Special meeting and convene the Workshop to discuss the Proposed Budget for fiscal year 2009-2010. The motion was seconded by Councilman Condit. There was no 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 and the Special Meeting was adjourned and the Workshop convened at 6:06 P.M.

## **Workshop**

### **1. Discussion on Proposed Annual Operating Budget and Capital Program Budget for FY 2009/2010.**

City Manager Roath addressed the Council to review the Proposed Annual Operating Budget and Capital Program Budget for the FY 2009/2010. Mr. Roath reviewed the schedule for adopting the budget for the Council. He stated that the State and the City's Charter required the Budget be adopted seven (7) days prior to the end of the current fiscal year, which would be June 23, 2009. He added that since the Charter also required the Budget be adopted by Ordinance, that ordinance would have to be posted by June 16, 2009. Manager Roath then informed the Council that the Public Hearing for the proposed Budget would be held on June 9, 2009. Mr. Roath then reviewed the proposed budget for the Council commenting that unlike prior years, this proposed budget showed a "beginning fund balance" for each fund. He indicated that the various groups that the Council had previously funded were entered at the same level of funding as in the previous fiscal year's budget, unless their requests had been received early enough to enter that amount into the proposal before it was submitted to the Council.

There was a lengthy discussion among the Council regarding various aspects of the proposed budget. During the discussion, Councilman Fiedler commented that the Sunbelt Classic may request an additional \$1,000.00 for a total of \$7,000.00. He asked if the Municipal Court would need any updates for the Incode software in the coming year. Councilman Fiedler inquired if the Oklahoma Highway Patrol would loan an intoxilyzer to the Police Department. He asked if the City had received payment for the grass rig that was sold to the City of Krebs. Councilman Fiedler asked if the City had received any payment for the replacement of the traffic lights at the intersection of Main Street and Washington. Councilman Mason asked that O.I.L. submit a legitimate reason to continue their contract at the \$24,000.00 funding level. Mayor Priddle inquired about the process and timing to replace police officers when a vacancy developed. He asked what the comprehensive study would include. Councilman Condit asked if the monies in the Street Division included repairs on Mallard. Vice-Mayor Garvin commented that the City should purchase a boring machine to alleviate the numerous street cuts and asked if this suggestion could be researched. Manager Roath informed the Council that he would research the requests and submit the information to them as soon as he had it.

The Council also discussed the landfill equipment and what was actually needed at the landfill to properly manage it. Manager Roath commented that he had received a letter from DEQ indicating that the expected life of the landfill was now at 1.04 years. He suggested that this topic would need to be addressed by the Council in the very near future.

There was a brief discussion among the Council and Mr. Roath concerning the proposed overpass at Comanche and U.S. 69 Highway and the movement of utilities in that area.

Councilman Fiedler inquired about funds in escrow pertaining to Lowe's. There was a brief discussion regarding a proposed pay increase for the non-uniformed personnel.

Manager Roath informed the Council of the time constraints that the City was under for the adoption of the Budget and the limitations that he was confronted with. He suggested that the Council meet again on Thursday so this would give him time to make adjustments if necessary.

Mayor Priddle moved for the Workshop to recess and reconvene on Thursday, June 4, 2009. The motion was seconded by Councilman Condit, there was no 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, and the meeting was recessed at 8:20 P.M.

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Council Roll Call was as follows:

Present: Chris Fiedler, Donnie Condit, John Browne, Haven Wilkinson, Buddy Garvin, Sam Mason & Mayor Priddle

Absent: None

Presiding: Kevin E. Priddle, Mayor

Staff Present: Mark Roath, City Manager; Pete Stasiak, Planning & Community Development Director and Cora Middleton, City Clerk

Councilman Wilkinson moved to reconvene the Special Meeting and continue the discussion on the Proposed Annual Operating Budget and Capital Program Budget for FY 2009/2010. The motion was seconded by Councilman Condit. There was no discussion and the vote was taken as follows:

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

NAY: None

Mayor Priddle declared the motion carried and the Special Meeting was reconvened at 6:00 P.M.

Councilman Mason gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Manager Roath distributed the information to the Council in response to their inquiries at the Tuesday meeting. Mr. Roath and the Council then reviewed the following budget items. Main

Street Program was to be funded equally out of both the Economic Development Fund and the Expo/Tourism Fund at \$30,000.00.

J.T. Collier addressed the Council explaining why Pride In McAlester had requested \$60,000.00 for the 2009/2010 Fiscal Year. The Council discussed this request and decided that Pride In McAlester would be funded at \$60,000.00 from Economic Development and Tourism equally. Pittsburg County Emergency Management requested \$40,000.00 and the Council decided to fund it out of the General Fund through the Council's section. The Council next discussed the request from the Sunbelt Classic and decided that it would be funded at \$7,000.00 out of the General Fund through the Council's section. Mayor Priddle reported that the Council had received a detailed letter from O.I.L. and after its review the Council concurred that it would be funded at \$24,000.00 from the General Fund. The next two (2) items discussed were the Crime Stoppers group and the Community Tree Board. After a brief discussion, the Council agreed to fund the two (2) groups at \$2,500.00 each out of General Fund.

Councilman Mason requested that the policy on partnering with groups for use of the Expo Center be brought back before the Council to be readdressed. The Council discussed leaving \$5,000.00 in the partnering account and addressing that item as they received requests.

The next item for discussion was the funding of MEDS. After a brief discussion Manager Roath suggested that the Council fund MEDS at the current level and then after the agreement had been renegotiated they could amend the budget if they chose to. There was a brief discussion concerning the Pittsburg County Expo Authority.

The Council then reviewed their particular additions to the budget as follows:

Vice-Mayor Garvin asked that an Animal Control employee be available on Saturdays. He asked that the tennis court at Mullen Park be included in the resurfacing and that a Maintenance Building be constructed at the landfill. Mayor Priddle commented that he would like the I.T. Division to begin developing a plan for improvements and advancements to the City's information system. Councilman Fiedler commented that the City Garage needed updated equipment. He stated that the communication shack behind Buffalo Water Tower needed to be moved to protect the electronics housed inside and he asked that a forced main system be considered at the Expo. Councilman Fiedler added that bike routes would be a good addition to the City. He added that he would like to see as many purchases as possible made locally when repairs or construction was performed. Councilman Browne stated that he would like to see tin horns installed in the Third Ward ditches to help prevent erosion. He would like to see Second Street repaired and Seneca between Sixth and Third Streets repaired. The drain on River Oaks was sinking and needed to be repaired. There was a problem with the sidewalk in front of Jefferson School and the railroad crossings at "A" and "D" streets needed to be repaired. He then stated that he would like to see development at Hereford Lane. Councilman Wilkinson asked if the Budget was going to be adopted at the Division or Line item level. He inquired on the status of the old CIP projects and if the Economic Development projects that were not finished could be finished in the 2009/2010 fiscal year. He commented that the softball complex needed a levy to control flooding. He asked about the status of the discussion concerning the

golf course. He noted that the barrier between the Health Department and the Cemetery needed to be improved and finally he inquired about the status of the Hotel/Motel tax increase. Councilman Mason and Manager Roath briefly discussed the lagoon at the Expo Center.

Mayor Priddle remarked that the entrance into Taylor Industrial Park needed to be improved. He commended the staff for work that had been done.

Councilman Mason commented that he was satisfied with the preparation of this year's budget and the reserve fund. He added that the number one issue was water quality.

Manager Roath commented that he felt this Budget offered some things for the community and he was cautiously optimistic about the next year.

There being no further discussion among the Council, Councilman Browne moved for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilkinson. There was no discussion, and the vote was taken as follows:

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

NAY: None

Mayor Priddle declared the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 P.M.

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Kevin E. Priddle, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Cora Middleton, City Clerk