

The McAlester City Council met in Special session on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at 5:30 P.M. after proper notice and agenda was posted, April 13 2015, at 3:00 P. M.

**Call to Order**

Mayor Harrison called the meeting to order.

**Roll Call**

Council Roll Call was as follows:

Present: Weldon Smith, Travis Read, Robert Karr, Buddy Garvin & Steve Harrison  
Absent: John Titsworth & Jason Barnett  
Presiding: Steve Harrison, Mayor

Staff Present: Peter J. Stasiak, City Manager; John Modzelewski, P.E, City Engineer/Public Works Director; Mel Priddy, Community Services Director; Toni Ervin, CFO; Gary Wansick, Police Chief; Leroy Alsup, Community & Economic Development Director and Cora Middleton, City Clerk

**Scheduled Business**

1. Presentation and discussion of the preliminary Budget for 2015-2016. (*Toni Ervin, Chief Financial Officer*)

Manager Stasiak expressed his appreciation to the staff and all employees involved in putting this Budget together. He then turned the presentation over to CFO Ervin.

CFO Ervin addressed the Council informing them that this was being presented as a balanced budget. She began with a review of the revenues for both the General Fund and the Public Works. Ms. Ervin commented that the City was experiencing stable growth but the royalties were decreasing due to the age of the wells and demand. She informed the Council that sales tax had been budgeted at a conservative 3% increase and royalties at a 35% decrease. She added that the Public Works should return to normal with this fiscal year.

CFO Ervin reviewed the expenses for both the General Fund and Public Works informing the Council that in the General Fund the Police Department garnered 32% of the budget and the Fire Department garnered 26%. She highlighted the Public Works expenditures with refuse collection taking 33% of that funds budget.

CFO Ervin briefly reviewed the Capital with \$1,987,000 in the Budget. She explained that this July the final payment on the Durapatcher would be made and the roof on the Genealogy Building and the Marquee Sign at the Expo had been added per the previous conversation.

CFO Ervin reviewed the personnel totals for the City explaining that the proposed number was 215 which added 2 positions, a new employee in Street Maintenance and another Administrative Assistant in Engineering. She added that the City would remain with OPEH&W with no increase for the fiscal year. She then stated that McAlester was the only community to pay 100% of the employee's health premiums.

There was discussion among the Council including CFO Ervin and Manager Stasiak regarding the value of the employee benefit package, the 3.5% pay increase that had been funded, the City continuing to fund Step and Merit increases, the next steps that needed to be taken prior to adoption of the budget, having more time during the process, the value of the work that the Durapatcher was doing, if obtaining another similar machine would make a better dent in the pothole maintenance and the number of personnel that would be required to operate another machine, and having a plan for addressing the pothole situation in the City.

Mayor Harrison commented that the Council had time to review the preliminary budget in depth and have comments and questions for the workshop that would be scheduled at a later date.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Harrison adjourned the meeting at 6:00 P.M.

ATTEST:

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Steve Harrison, Mayor

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Cora Middleton, City Clerk