

The McAlester City Council met in a Special session on Tuesday, April 23, 2019, at 5:30 P.M. after proper notice and agenda was posted, April 22, 2019 at 11:26 A.M.

**Call to Order**

Mayor Browne called the meeting to order.

**Roll Call**

Council Roll Call was as follows:

Present: Weldon Smith, Cully Stevens, Travis Read, James Brown, Zach Prichard & John Browne

Absent: None

Presiding: John Browne, Mayor

Staff Present: Peter Stasiak, City Manager; Toni Ervin, Assistant City Manager; Kirk Ridenour, Economic Development Director; Jayme Clifton, Community Development Director; Stephanie Giacomo, Grant Writer/Public Information Officer; An-Chen Lai, CFO; Brett Brewer, Fire Chief; William J. Ervin, city Attorney and Cora Middleton, City Clerk

Audit & Finance Advisory Committee member present: Carl Gullick and Mike Kerns

**Swearing-In Ceremony**

Municipal Judge Deborah Hackler administered the Oath of Office to Maureen Harrison, newly appointed Ward Five Councilwoman.

The Mayor and Council members welcomed Ms. Harrison to the Council and congratulated her on the appointment.

**Incoming Council**

Councilwoman Harrison gave Honor to the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the opportunity to serve the City of McAlester and Ward Five. She acknowledged her family for their support and encouragement. She thanked the Mayor and Council for giving her the opportunity and she thanked the original candidates for running a clean campaign.

## **Scheduled Business**

### **WORKSHOP**

#### 1. Discussion of Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Budget.

Manager Stasiak stated that two (2) weeks ago the preliminary budget had been presented and had met all requirements including ten percent (10%) in Emergency Fund and all staff were present to answer any questions.

Mayor Browne commented that this Budget included a two percent (2%) COLA and that was something that the City had not been able to do regularly.

Manager Stasiak commented that last year the City had been able to give a three percent (3%) COLA but that was the first time in a few years. He recapped the presentation of the preliminary Budget highlighting that the Streets Department was budgeted at \$1.136 million, Community Services at \$1.448 million, Administration and Planning at \$2.3 million, the Police was budgeted at a little under \$4 million and the Fire was at \$3.3 million. He added that water sales were projected with a \$100,000. Increase, District water sales at a \$20,000. Increase, sewer was projected to increase around \$100,000. and garbage was remaining the same.

There was discussion concerning the number of structures that were demolished in the previous year, funding request from the Pittsburg County Child Advocacy, the Senior meal program, addressing the infrastructure needs and how the City would meet those needs.

Manager Stasiak informed the Council that staff had began working on calculating replacement cost.

There was further discussion concerning raising revenue and cutting costs, the number of vehicles in the City's fleet, the insurance on those vehicles, increasing rates, how important the role of increased employment in the City would be in the future and focusing on businesses in the community.

Carl Gullick, Audit & Finance Advisory Board President commented that the Board had found this budget to be very reasonable.

There was another brief discussion concerning the impact of the loss of Web Coat, the funding in the Street Department being for maintenance, the Stormwater Master Plan and its planned projects and if City employees or contractors would be used for those projects.

No action was taken on this item.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Council, Councilman Smith moved for the meeting to be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Councilman Read. There was no discussion, and the vote was taken as follows:

AYE: Councilman Smith, Read, Stevens, Brown, Harrison, Prichard & Mayor Browne

NAY: None

Mayor Browne declared the motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:56 P.M.

ATTEST:

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John Browne, Mayor

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Cora Middleton, City Clerk