

Council Chambers
Municipal Building
August 3, 2011

The McAlester City Council met in Special session on Wednesday, August 3, 2011 at 5:30 P.M. after proper notice and agenda was posted, August 2, 2011 at 3:13 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Priddle called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Council Roll Call was as follows:

Present: Weldon Smith, Steve Harrison, John Browne, Robert Karr, Buddy Garvin, Sam Mason & Mayor Priddle

Absent: None

Presiding: Kevin E. Priddle, Mayor

Staff Present: Pete Stasiak, City Manager; John Modzelewski, City Engineer/Public Works Director; David Medley, Utilities Director; William J. Ervin, City Attorney and Cora Middleton, City Clerk

Scheduled Business

1. Consider, and Act upon authorizing the Mayor to sign a Lease Purchase Agreement with First National Bank & Trust, Co. for a 2011 Gradall.

Vice-Mayor Browne moved to authorize the Mayor to sign a Lease Purchase Agreement with First National Bank & Trust, Co. for a 2011 Gradall. The motion was seconded by Councilman Harrison.

Before the vote, Councilman Harrison asked about the time frame in which a payment needed to be made. He expressed some concern that other financing institutions had not been contacted about this item and he asked the City Attorney for an opinion about paying for the piece of equipment out right instead of lease purchase.

Mr. Ervin commented that the item had been listed as authorize the Mayor to sign a Lease Purchase Agreement. He stated that he would probably prefer to bring the item back as a new business item.

Manager Stasiak commented that on October 26, 2010 the Council authorized the purchase of the Gradall. He asked if that authorization could be used at this time.

Mr. Ervin stated that Councilman Harrison could amend his motion to not authorize the Mayor to sign a Lease Purchase Agreement.

There was a brief discussion among the Council concerning the City's ability to pay for this piece of equipment and operations of the Gradall.

Councilman Harrison's motion was to not authorize the Mayor to sign a Lease Purchase Agreement for the reason it would be purchased through direct funds. The motion was seconded by Mayor Priddle.

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

AYE: Councilman Smith, Harrison, Browne, Karr, Garvin, Mason & Mayor Priddle

NAY: None

Mayor Priddle declared the motion carried.

2. Consider, and Act upon a Resolution Authorizing the Calling and Holding of an Election in the City of McAlester, State of Oklahoma, for the purpose of submitting to the Registered Qualified Electors of said City the Question of Approval or Rejection of the Creation of Indebtedness by the McAlester Public Works Authority or another Public Trust having the City of McAlester, Oklahoma as the Beneficiary thereof; and Containing other provisions relating thereto.

A motion was made by Councilman Karr and seconded by Councilman Harrison to approve RESOLUTION NO. 11-11, authorizing the calling and holding of a Special Election in the City of McAlester.

Before the vote, Mayor Priddle explained the reason for this election was to refinance certain bonds to a lower interest rate of approximately 4.5 percent. He added that no additional debt would be added and the term of the bond would not change.

Mr. Brooks stated that he had sent drafts of the election documents to the City on Friday and that he had made further modifications to those documents. He reviewed the resolution and explained the modifications. He also commented on the reason for the Special Election.

There was a brief discussion among the Council including Mr. Brooks and Mr. Wolfe regarding the language in the proposition, how the bond issue was currently being paid, how it would continue to be paid and the possible savings to the City of McAlester if this proposition was approved by the voters.

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

AYE: Councilman Browne, Karr, Garvin, Mason, Smith, Harrison & Mayor Priddle

NAY: None

Mayor Priddle declared the motion carried.

3. Consider, and act upon authorizing the Mayor to sign a Special Election Proclamation and Notice.

Councilman Garvin moved to authorize the Mayor to sign a Special Election Proclamation and Notice. The motion was seconded by Councilman Karr.

Before the vote, there was discussion among the Council concerning the Council's responsibility to educate the citizens, adding other issues to the ballot and contacting the voting citizens in the wards to let them know how important this issue was to the City of McAlester.

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

AYE: Councilman Garvin, Mason, Smith, Harrison, Browne, Karr & Mayor Priddle

NAY: None

Mayor Priddle declared the motion carried.

Mayor Priddle called for a motion to recess the Special Meeting to allow documents to be signed. Vice-Mayor Browne moved for a brief recess, seconded by Councilman Harrison. There was no discussion, and the vote was taken as follows:

AYE: Councilman Karr, Garvin, Mason, Smith, Harrison, Browne & Mayor Priddle

NAY: None

Mayor Priddle declared the motion carried and the Special Meeting was recessed at 5:55 P.M.

The Special Meeting was reconvened at 6:00 P.M.

4. Discussion and update on MPower (Economic Development Organization).

Councilman Harrison moved to open the floor for a discussion and update on MPower (Economic Development Organization). The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Browne.

Before the vote, Mayor Priddle explained that this was for Ms. Cooper to update the Council on MPower's past year's activities.

Ms. Cooper distributed MPower's annual report. She apologized for the tardiness of the report due to the recent changes in the board membership. She then introduced Chris McAfee as MPower's interim President.

Mr. McAfee commented that he was here to help answer any questions that may come up.

Ms. Cooper addressed the Council reviewing the activities for the past year. She highlighted the past six (6) months development of specific analysis. In her review she commented on prioritizing the City's needs, what the community wants, what the City had to offer, her visits with existing businesses, land owners, potential business or industrial developers, how the areas

workforce was an important factor in drawing businesses and borrowing footage from the Choctaw Nation to use in a television campaign.

There was discussion among the Council including Ms. Cooper concerning grants that may be available to MPower, the Governor's Hunt, the new office location that MPower was moving to, the marketing brochure, television advertising to promote McAlester, having a regional approach on economic development, and working together and including the community in the economic development process.

There was no vote on this agenda item.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Council, Vice-Mayor Browne moved for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Councilman Harrison.

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

AYE: Councilman Smith, Harrison, Browne, Karr, Garvin, Mason & Mayor Priddle

NAY: None

Mayor Priddle declared the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 P.M.

Kevin E. Priddle, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cora Middleton, City Clerk