

Council Chambers
Municipal Building
May 18, 2010

The McAlester City Council met in Special session on Tuesday, May 18, 2010, at 5:30 P.M. after proper notice and agenda was posted, May 14, 2010, at 3:52 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Priddle called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Council Roll Call was as follows:

Present: Chris Fiedler, Steve Harrison, John Browne, Robert Karr, Buddy Garvin & Mayor Priddle

Absent: Louis Smitherman

Presiding: Kevin E. Priddle, Mayor

Staff Present: Pete Stasiak, City Manager; Gayla Duke, Chief Financial Officer; John Modzelewski, City Engineer/Public Works Director; Harold Stewart, Fire Chief; Mel Priddy, Community Services Director; David Medley, Utilities Director; Darrell Miller, Assistant Police Chief; William J. Ervin, City Attorney; and Cora Middleton, City Clerk

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

Workshop

1. Discussion on Proposed Annual Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2010/2011.

Vice-Mayor Browne moved to open the Workshop to discuss the proposed Annual Budget for fiscal year 2010/2011. The motion was seconded by Councilman Harrison.

Mayor Priddle reviewed the format for the workshop explaining that a representative from each of the groups that the City funded would present their budget requests and then the Directors would review their sections of the Budget with the Council.

Manager Stasiak distributed corrections to the first two (2) pages of the Budget message. He explained that this budget was based on historical activity, it was a very basic and conservative budget and there had been a 15.9% decrease in employees. He added that the City had sent out for RFP's for all insurance and had budgeted a 14% decrease in health care.

Councilman Smitherman arrived at 5:44 P.M.

Mr. Stasiak briefly addressed the area of equipment that the various departments needed to improve efficiency and commented that the City needed to focus on the streets, curbs, gutters and sidewalks in the future. He added that there were almost no Capital Expenditures in the Budget.

There was a brief discussion among the Council regarding employment levels, the two (2) proposed new positions, contracting services instead of hiring new personnel, and possible income from the sale of the sanitation equipment.

Mayor Priddle asked Kathy Wall with the Main Street Association to present their budget request. Ms. Wall distributed an information package to the Council and asked if there were any questions regarding the budget request. Mayor Priddle commented that the \$30,000.00 request was the same as the previous year and that Main Street was receiving 50% of their funding from other agencies.

Gwen Titsworth addressed the Council to present Pride In McAlester's budget request for the 2010/2011 fiscal year. She commented that Pride would continue to furnish the same level of service.

Shari Cooper addressed the Council presenting the MEDS budget request. She stated that MEDS was requesting \$249,167.00 which was more than the previous request. She commented that with the increase in funding they planned to ramp up marketing. Ms. Cooper then thanked the Council for their support in the past.

Mr. Stasiak relayed the Emergency Managements request stating that there had been a 25% increase in their funding request. He explained that the Chamber of Commerce had requested \$8460.00 to aid in the printing of their magazine. He added that budgeting for OIL was in the Council section of the Budget.

There was a brief discussion concerning revenue from the EMS division, Police fines and oil and gas lease revenue.

At this point in the meeting each department director addressed the Council to review their sections of the Budget. During this review there was discussion regarding the request for two (2) new or additional employees in the Finance department, the Fire Department's request for three employees to replace the four that had been lost due to layoffs and resignations, the swimming pools, the various equipment requests and budgeting funds for street repairs in both the Street Department and the Utilities Department. During this discussion the Mayor informed the Council that they needed to recess this workshop to allow the Planning Commission to call their Regular meeting to order and adjourn to the 2nd floor conference room. Manager Stasiak informed the Mayor that there was not a quorum of Planning Commission members so they would only need to call their meeting to order and announced that there was not a quorum and then adjourn their meeting.

Mayor Priddle moved to recess the Special Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Harrison. There was no discussion, and the vote was taken as follows:

AYE: Councilman Harrison, Browne, Karr, Garvin, Smitherman, Fiedler & Mayor Priddle
NAY: None

Mayor Priddle declared the motion carried and the Special meeting was recessed at 7:36 P.M.

The Special Meeting was reconvened at 7:45 P.M.

Ms. Duke reviewed the Interdepartmental Section of the Budget with the Council. Mayor Priddle commented that since the Council had only reviewed the General Fund areas of the Budget and it was almost 8:00 P.M. he announced that he would call another Special Meeting for next Thursday, May 27, 2010, to finish the Budget review.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Council, Mayor Priddle moved for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Councilman Fiedler. There was no discussion, and the vote was taken as follows:

AYE: Councilman Browne, Karr, Garvin, Smitherman, Fiedler, Harrison & Mayor Priddle
NAY: None

Mayor Priddle declared the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

Kevin E. Priddle, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cora Middleton, City Clerk