

The McAlester City Council met in Special session on Thursday, October 24, 2013, at 5:30 P.M. after proper notice and agenda was posted, October 18, 2013, at 2:01 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, Sam Mason & Steve Harrison
Absent: John Titsworth, Robert Karr & Buddy Garvin,
Presiding: Steve Harrison, Mayor

Staff Present: Peter J. Stasiak, City Manager; John Modzelewski, City Engineer/Public Works Director; and Karen Boatright, Deputy City Clerk

Scheduled Business

1. Discussion regarding Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), STREETS RECONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

Manager Stasiak informed the Council that Mr. Modzelewski had information to present to the Council and would be able to answer questions from them.

John Modzelewski addressed the Council commenting that this was to refresh the Council on the information regarding the City's proposed Street Reconstruction Program. Mr. Modzelewski reviewed the nine (9) streets that had been chosen for the proposed program and how those streets had been selected. He commented that after the sales tax modification bond passed in May of this year, it was realized that there would be less funding available so the list was shortened to seven (7) streets. He added that if the list had to be pared down further would be determined by the prices that were received with the bids. Mr. Modzelewski informed the Council that the first project to be bid had been for Seventeenth (17th) Street and it had advertised last Sunday. He explained the process that was set out for the 17th Street bid and how that would affect the number of bidders. He reviewed the timeline for the 17th Street project and stressed the timing requirements for the bond issue. He added that 5% of the bond money had to be encumbered within six (6) months and the entire amount of the bond issue had to be encumbered by June, 2015. Mr. Modzelewski reviewed the traffic counts.

There was discussion among the Council including Mr. Modzelewski concerning the location of the traffic counts, the change in street priority, the replacement of any water and sewer lines under the streets, the second phase of the street survey, and the information from the inclement weather street clearing map.

Councilman Smith distributed information that he had combined information from the street survey, the inclement weather street clearing map, the street reconstruction proposals, and estimated costs for the various repairs. He asked if entire streets would be reconstructed if only sections needed to be replaced.

There was discussion regarding what had been proposed to the citizens regarding the replacement of water and sewer, what most of the citizens would prefer to have repaired, the problems that arise from spot repairs of streets, what the difference was between concrete streets and asphalt streets, curb and guttering, Stormwater drainage, how the streets were constructed in the past, how long it takes to go through the entire bid process, what the quality of the streets would be if they were not replaced properly, and the estimates furnished by the consultants.

Mayor Harrison commented that his understanding was that the City was looking for direction for the next projects so not to fall behind on the schedule. He stated that he was comfortable with what the City proposed with the priority list and he provided a brief background on how the City had gotten to this point. He reminded the Council of the information that had been provided to the citizens prior to the Special Election in May and that was what the voters would be looking for the City to do. Mayor Harrison stated that the City needed to find a way to accomplish what was presented to the citizens before any other streets were addressed. He added that at some point along the timeline the City would need to decide if they go out after the other \$4.9 million and nobody knows what the economy will look like then.

There was discussion among the Council regarding the quality of the City of McAlester's streets, what the other cities in the State had experienced with the surveys done by IMS Infrastructure Management, the problems with the intersections of many of the streets, and which streets in the proposed schedule could be repaired without a complete reconstruction.

Mayor Harrison asked if there was any issue with taking the two (2) items shown as proposed schedule two (2) on the list and suggest that they submit those to the Council with the stipulation that they look at 6th Street trying to see what really needs to be reconstructed.

Councilman Read proposed coming back with five (5) and six (6) at the Council meeting in November. He commented that staff needs to have some direction from the Council. He added that the City to come back with two (2) proposals, one from the schedule from the October 24th meeting and one from the newest schedule presented tonight.

There was a brief discussion concerning the City's need for direction overall and giving the Council information on projects 4, 5, 6 and 7 and when the City would come back before the Council to get approval on the engineering services for other projects.

Adjournment

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

AYE: Councilman Read, Smith, Mason & Mayor Harrison

NAY: None

Mayor Harrison declared the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

ATTEST:

Steve Harrison, Mayor

Karen Boatright, Deputy City Clerk