

The McAlester City Council met in Special session on Thursday, January 16 P.M. after proper notice and agenda was posted, January 15, at 10:00 A.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  
Presiding: Steve Harrison, Mayor

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

**Scheduled Business**

1. Presentation, and Discussion of proposed Public Private Partnership for Water Treatment Plant, McAlester Public Works Authority.

Manager Stasiak explained the City had been looking at the possibility of entering into a Public Private Partnership since last summer and had sent out four (4) requests for qualifications. He informed the Council that the City had received two (2) of those requests back and had evaluated and interviewed both firms. He stated that Severn Trent had been selected in September of 2013. He commented that since that time Severn Trent had been analyzing the City's Water Treatment Plant. Manager Stasiak informed the Council that Severn Trent had completed their analysis and their representative, Ed Schwab was here tonight to discuss their results.

Mr. Schwab presented the Council with a power point presentation that detailed the company's analysis of the City's Water Treatment Plant, the company's Operations, which states and cities the company was currently operating in, he reviewed the steps that had been taken to develop their proposed plan for the Water Treatment Plant, and how an agreement had been developed with the City Attorney and City Manager that contained performance guarantees. Mr. Schwab informed the Council of his company's proposed Capital investments for the water treatment plant, the company's intent to keep all of the current employees, how the funding for the Capital investments would be amortized over ten (10) years, the plans to automate the system at the Water Treatment Plant and how all savings would come back to the Public Works Authority.

After the presentation, there was discussion among the Council, Manager Stasiak, Mr. Schwab and Chris Black, Water Treatment Superintendent concerning the services offered to the cities in Oklahoma, the length of the agreement, what possible increases were based on, the agreements review by the City Attorney, how the company planned to control costs at the plant, the type of support offered that the City did not currently had, the benefits that were offered to the employees, how the company would make the plant safer, the number of violation notices the City sent out the past year, the opportunities that this could offer the City, how the plant would be brought into compliance, the overtime at the plant, if this would guarantee better water quality, and if there was a way out of the agreement if the partnership did not improve or work for the City.

Vice-Mayor Read commented that the most important thing that the City did was to provide safe clean water. He stated that over the last six (6) years the Council had approved and implemented every staff and consultant recommendation to improve the plant. He recommended that the Council consider if the City of McAlester as it was now have the ability to provide clean safe water consistently.

There was further discussion regarding the costs of keeping the water treatment plant operations in house, the termination clause in the agreement, what the City would need to do to keep the plant operation in house and the improvements that had been made at the water treatment plant.

**Adjournment**

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

AYE: Councilman Smith, Read, Karr, Garvin, Barnett & Mayor Harrison

NAY: None

Mayor Harrison declared the motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 P.M.

ATTEST:

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Steve Harrison, Mayor

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Cora Middleton, City Clerk