

The McAlester City Council met in Regular session on Tuesday, February 11, 2014, at 6:00 P.M. after proper notice and agenda was posted, February 7, 2014, at 4:17 P.M.

**Call to Order**

Mayor Harrison called the meeting to order.

Rev. Anthony Washington, Mount Triumph Baptist Church, gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

Council Roll Call was as follows:

Present: Weldon Smith, John Titsworth, Travis Read, Robert Karr, Buddy Garvin, Jason Barnett & Steve Harrison  
Absent: None  
Presiding: Steve Harrison, Mayor

Staff Present: Peter J. Stasiak, City Manager; John Modzelewski, City Engineer/Public Works Director; Brett Brewer, Fire Chief; Leroy Alsup, Community & Economic Development Director; Kirk Ridenour, Economic Development Manager; William J. Ervin, Sr., City Attorney and Cora Middleton, City Clerk

**Citizen's Comments on Non-agenda Items**

Regina Peoples, the new Executive Director of Pride In McAlester introduced herself and reminded the Council of the Banquet and scheduled work day.

**Consent Agenda**

- A. Approval of the Minutes from the January 14, 2014, Regular Meeting of the McAlester City Council. (*Cora Middleton, City Clerk*)
- B. Approval of the Minutes from the January 16, 2014, Special Meeting of the McAlester City Council. (*Cora Middleton, City Clerk*)
- C. Approval of the Minutes from the January 28, 2014, Regular Meeting of the McAlester City Council. (*Cora Middleton, City Clerk*)
- D. Approval of Claims for January 22, 2014 through February 4, 2014. (*Toni Ervin, Chief Financial Officer*) In the following amounts: General fund - \$53,174.68; Nutrition -

\$1,073.89; Landfill Res./Sub-Title D - \$5,710.53; Employee Retirement - \$7,500.00; Tourism Fund - \$3,62.30; SE Expo Center - \$1,815.86; E-911 - \$444.81; Economic Development - \$5,582.50; Grants & Contributions - \$1,943.64; Fleet Maintenance - \$418.67 and - \$CIP Fund - \$99,043.09.

- E. Consider, and act upon, to expend funds of \$1500.00 for the Mayor to attend the McAlester Stampede in Washington D.C. on May 6-9, 2014. *(Peter J. Stasiak, City Manager)*
- F. Consider and act upon to concur with Oklahoma Municipal Assurance Group recommendation to deny Claim No. 134947-TW. *(Cora Middleton, City Clerk)*
- G. Consider, and act upon, a request by the Italian Festival Foundation to partner with them for the rental fee for the use of the Southeast Expo Center for the 2014 Annual Italian in the amount of \$2,125.00. *(Jerry Lynn Wilson, Expo Center Manager)*

Mayor Harrison commented that Manager Stasiak asked to have item “E” pulled from the Consent Agenda. Manager Stasiak explained that additional research needed to be done regarding the amount of the requested funds.

Vice-Mayor Read requested that item “F” be pulled for individual consideration.

A motion was made by Councilman Titworth and seconded by Vice-Mayor Read to approve Consent Agenda items “A, B, C, D and G.

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

AYE: Councilman Titworth, Read, Smith, Karr, Garvin, Barnett & Mayor Harrison  
NAY: None

Mayor Harrison declared the motion carried.

### **Items Removed from Consent Agenda**

- F. Consider and act upon to concur with Oklahoma Municipal Assurance Group recommendation to deny Claim No. 134947-TW. *(Cora Middleton, City Clerk)*

A motion to approve Consent Agenda Item “F” was made by Councilman Garvin and seconded by Councilman Karr.

Before the vote, Vice-Mayor Read commented that looking at the claim the City would not be responsible for a street light that had been blown over by wind.

There was a brief discussion among the Council and Manager Stasiak concerning the light pole, if it had been bolted down, maintenance’s findings when they responded, if the insurance

company had all of the information before denying the claim and possibly tabling this item for further information.

Councilman Smith moved to table this item, seconded by Vice-Mayor Read. There was no further discussion and the vote was taken as follows:

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

NAY: None

Mayor Harrison declared the motion carried.

### **Scheduled Business**

1. Presentation of the Mayor's Annual State of the City Address. (*Steve Harrison, Mayor*)

Executive Summary

Annual Mayor State of the City Address.

Mayor Harrison delivered his "State of the City" address highlighting several areas of where the City was continuing to improve and how the City had become more transparent in its' financial dealings. He commented on the various street construction projects that were possible because of the broadening of purpose of an existing sales tax and how this was a good start to the work that was still ahead for the City. Mayor Harrison concluded his speech thanking everyone for listening.

There was no vote on this item.

2. Presentation of a report explaining who needs affordable housing; a discussion of the current type and number of affordable housing development units in our community, general background information on McAlester's existing housing stock and a limited analysis of select indicators projecting the need for additional affordable multi-family housing units in the City of McAlester. (*Leroy Alsup, Community & Economic Development Director*)

Executive Summary

Report and discussion only, no action to be taken.

Leroy Alsup and Kirk Ridenour presented the Council with the information they had gathered concerning the City of McAlester's need for affordable housing. They explained which members of the City's population would need affordable housing, the existing affordable housing and how their analysis had been limited because of the possibility of duplication.

There was a brief discussion concerning historical information and looking more closely at the designs of any new housing additions.

There was no vote on this item.

3. Consider, and act upon, authorizing the appropriation of funds for the replacement of the 30 - inch header pipe at the Water Treatment Plant. (*John Modzelewski, P.E., City Engineer and Public Works Director*)

Executive Summary

Motion to approve the appropriation of \$180,000 for the replacement of the 30- inch header pipe at the Water Treatment Plant.

Mayor Harrison stated that this item did not need a motion since the Council was not appropriating funds at this meeting.

Manager Stasiak commented that this would be brought back at a later date to address.

John Modzelewski informed the Council that he had been made aware of this matter in November and that Robert Vaughan was also available to answer questions.

There was a brief discussion concerning the photos that had been provided to the Council, if the inside of the pipe could be as corroded as the outside appeared to be, implementing a good maintenance program after all repairs had been made, if the funds for the Budget amendment would come out of the CIP funds and having staff bring a Budget amendment before the Council to act upon.

There was no vote on this item.

### **New Business**

There was no new business.

### **City Manager's Report**

Manager Stasiak distributed copies of the City's old Personnel and Administrative Policies to the council explaining that these three (3) policies would be consolidated into one (1) policy. He commented that all procedures had been removed and the Federal and State updates had been incorporated. He reported on the tremendous job that the employees had done during the bad weather and commented that the budget was about seventeen thousand (17,000) over budget which indicated stabilization in the economy. Manager Stasiak then distributed copies of information on the Sanitation revenue and briefly reviewed the figures with the Council.

### **Remarks and Inquiries by City Council**

Councilman Barnett inquired about the length of the contract with Allied. Manager Stasiak informed him that it was for ten (10) years and the City was in the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) year of the contract.

Councilmen Garvin, Karr, Read, Smith and Titsworth did not have any comments for the evening.

**Mayor's Comments and Committee Appointments**

Mayor Harrison had not comments for the meeting.

**Recess Council Meeting**

Mayor Harrison asked for a motion to recess the Regular Meeting to convene the Authorities. Councilman Smith moved to recess the Regular Meeting and convene the Authorities. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Read. There was no discussion, and the vote was taken as follows:

AYE: Councilman Smith, Read, Karr, Garvin, Barnett, Titsworth & Mayor Harrison  
NAY: None

Mayor Harrison declared the motion carried and the meeting was recessed at 7:25 P.M.

**Reconvene Council Meeting**

The Regular Meeting was reconvened at 7:27 P.M.

**Adjournment**

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

AYE: Councilman Smith, Read, Karr, Garvin, Barnett, Titsworth & Mayor Harrison  
NAY: None

Mayor Harrison declared the motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 P.M.

ATTEST:

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Steve Harrison, Mayor

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Cora Middleton, City Clerk