

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Mark B. Roath
City Manager

SUBJECT: City Manager's Report

DATE: April 22, 2009

General:

1. Chief Financial Officer Recruitment: Mr. Chuck Rohre, with Waters Consulting Group, Inc., has advised that eleven individuals have applied for the position since April 1, 2009.
2. Drinking Water State Revolving Fund: The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality held a meeting in Oklahoma City last week. The DEQ staff invited representatives from various cities including the City of McAlester to attend a meeting involving the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, which the Federal Government has given \$31,481,000 to distribute via a 70% loan, 30% grant for drinking water infrastructure projects in Oklahoma. Of the 84 projects submitted by counties, cities and rural water districts across the State, the City of McAlester ranked 12th for potential funding. The City applied for \$3,886,800 in funding to make continued improvements to the Water Treatment Plant and system as well as to replace and upgrade water meters citywide. According to the DEQ staff, they intend to begin allocating monies as early as June, 2009.

It should be noted, Section 5.11 (7) (c) of the City Charter restricts the City's ability to incur debt in excess of \$500,000 without approval by a majority of the qualified electors of the City. Thus, should DEQ award DWSRF monies to the City, in the form of a loan/grant, in excess of the Charter debt limitation, then it would require voter approval before acceptance. It should further be noted, the City's Bond Counsel is reviewing what potential legislation might be required should the City Council desire to pursue a loan/grant via the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.

3. Independent Audit FY 2007-2008: For two days this week, the City Auditors were here completing their field work before they issue the FY 2007-2008 Independent Audit Report. It is anticipated that the Auditors will issue their Report by mid-May.

Departments:

4. Municipal Court Software Conversion: Sherry Alessi, Assistant Chief Financial Officer, reported that the Municipal Court, in conjunction with Information Technology, is currently transferring data to the INCODE software program.
5. Fire Department Inspections: Harold Stewart, Fire Chief, reported that his personnel are currently scheduling and performing pre-fire planning inspections of local churches within the City.
6. Building Demolitions: Pete Stasiak, Planning and Community Development Director, reported that building division staff have identified twelve homes for possible demolition. He further reported that staff will be preparing information about these properties in anticipation of presenting it to the City Council for possible action.
7. Curb Painting: Pete Stasiak reported that the code division staff, in conjunction with the City street division staff and McAlester Main Street, began painting the curbs on Choctaw Avenue, with the main focus being the Choctaw Parking Lot to 6th Street.
8. Hotels: Pete Stasiak reported that building permits have been issued for Fairfield by Marriott and Sleep Inn, both hotels to be located along Highway 69 and in the vicinity of the Choctaw Medical facility.
9. McAlester "Tea Party": Jim Lyles, Chief-of-Police, reported that the protest in the area of the McAlester Federal Building was very orderly. He reported that the approximate 150 protestors caused no known problems for regular business or traffic in the area.
10. Hazard Mitigation Plan Update: George Marcangeli, City Engineer/Public Works Director, reported that the engineering division is in the process of mailing invitations to 50 community agencies inviting them to participate in the planning process for this Plan update.
11. Economic Development Utility Extension Projects: George Marcangeli reported that the engineering division has submitted to DEQ, for their review and approval, the engineering plans for the two utility extension projects along Highway 69.
12. New Utility Backhoe: David Medley, Utilities Director, reported that the utility maintenance division received the new backhoe, which was recently approved by the City Council.

13. **Water Treatment Plant Enhanced Coagulation Project:** David Medley reported that the manufacture recently repaired the new fiberglass chemical tank. He further reported that the contractor is scheduled to be on-site, by the end of this week, to repair the clarifier. (It should be mentioned that the City has a one-year warranty on the contractor's work related to this project.)

Upcoming Regular City Council Meetings and Town Hall Meeting:

- **Regular Meeting**, May 12, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.
- **Town Meeting**, Ward Two, May 19, 2009 at 6:00 or 6:30 p.m., at a site yet to be determined.
- **Regular Meeting**, May 26, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

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