



City of Lawton

City Council

Minutes

Lawton City Hall
212 SW 9th Street
Lawton, Oklahoma
73501-3944

Tuesday, September 9, 2025

4:15 PM

Lawton City Hall
Wayne Gilley Auditorium

Meeting Called to Order with Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

"Official action can be taken only on items which appear on the agenda. The Council may adopt, approve, ratify, deny, defer, recommend, or continue any agenda item. The Council may also propose and enact floor amendments to any matter presented before them. When more information is needed to act on an item, the Council may refer the matter to the City Manager or the City Attorney. The Council may also refer items to standing committees of the Council or a board, commission, or authority for additional study. Under certain circumstances, items are deferred to a specific later date or stricken from the agenda entirely."

Meeting called to order by Councilperson Mary Ann Hankins-Booker with invocation led by Rev. Warren Winns followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present:

Councilwoman- Ward 1 Mary Ann Hankins-Booker
Councilwoman- Ward 3 Linda Chapman
Councilman- Ward 4 George Gill
Councilman - Ward 5 Allan Hampton
Councilman - Ward 6 Bob Weger
Councilwoman - Ward 7 Sherene L Williams
Councilman - Ward 8 Randy Warren

Absent:

Mayor Stan Booker

Also Present:

Dewayne Burk, Deputy City Manager
Timothy Wilson, Interim City Attorney
Donalynn Blazek-Scherler, City Clerk
Hon. Nathan Johnson, Municipal Judge

Business Items

Motion by Linda Chapman, Second by Sherene L Williams, to have Mary Ann Hankins-Booker be the acting mayor for this Swearing In Ceremony. AYE: Mary Ann Hankins-Booker, Linda Chapman, George Gill, Allan Hampton, Bob Weger, Sherene L. Williams. NAY: None. Motion Passed.

1. Swearing-In Ceremony for Ward 2 City Councilmember – Taron Epps

Councilmember Mary Ann Hankins-Booker invited the Honorable Nathan Johnson, Municipal Judge, and Ward 2 City Council Member Taron Epps to the front for the swearing-in ceremony. Council Member Epps was duly sworn into office by the Honorable Nathan Johnson.

Members of the City Council encouraged Councilman Taron Epps, Ward 2, to follow his faith and to serve constituents with compassion and humility, noting that effective service may involve hands-on assistance, providing encouragement, or simply listening to residents' concerns. Council emphasized the importance of being present, approachable, and responsive to the needs of the community.

Council members expressed appreciation for Councilman Epps's willingness to serve and highlighted that public service is both a privilege and a responsibility. They encouraged him to become familiar with the City Charter and ordinances, noting that constituents will look to him for guidance and advocacy. Council emphasized that representing Ward 2 means serving as the voice of its residents and prioritizing their needs above personal viewpoints.

Council welcomed Councilman Epps as a positive and energizing addition, particularly noting the value of younger leadership and his alignment with the City's focus on families and children. Members acknowledged the strong support of his family and encouraged him to balance public service with family life. Council also underscored the importance of mutual respect among councilmembers, even when disagreements arise, and encouraged him to ask questions and listen as part of the learning process.

Councilman Epps thanked God for the opportunity to serve and expressed gratitude to his family for their continued support. He shared his commitment to community service, stated his intention to be visible and engaged throughout Ward 2, and affirmed that while he may not always be perfect, he would work diligently to represent residents and support the City's continued progress.

Dewayne Burk, on behalf of City staff, welcomed Councilman Epps and affirmed staff's commitment to supporting him in representing Ward 2.

Adjournment

The City of Lawton encourages participation from all of its citizens. If participation at any public meeting is not possible due to a disability, notification to the City Clerk at (580) 581-3305 at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting is encouraged to make the necessary accommodations. The City may waive the 48 hour rule if interpreters for the deaf (signing) is not the necessary accommodation."

Motion by Sherene L Williams, Second by Bob Weger, to adjourn. AYE: Taron Epps, Linda Chapman, Mary Ann Hankins-Booker, Allan Hampton, Bob Weger, Sherene L. Williams. NAY: . Motion .

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:28PM.