

MINUTES
LAWTON CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 28, 2015 – 6:00 P.M.
NEW CITY HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS/AUDITORIUM

Fred L. Fitch, Mayor
Presiding

Also Present:
Jim Russell, Acting City Manager
Frank V. Jensen, City Attorney
Traci Hushbeck, City Clerk

Mayor Fitch called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Notice of meeting and agenda were posted on the City Hall notice board as required by law. Invocation was given by Dr. Patrick Latham, First Baptist Church, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Bob Morford, Ward One
Keith Jackson, Ward Two
Rosemary Bellino-Hall, Ward Three
Jay Burk, Ward Four
Dwight Tanner, Jr., Ward Five
Cherry Phillips, Ward Six
Stanley Haywood, Ward Seven
Doug Wells, Ward Eight

ABSENT:

None

PRESENTATION OF OUTSTANDING CITIZEN OF COMANCHE COUNTY TO
CHEARLENE GLOVER-JOHNSON

Mayor Fitch presented a Certificate of Commendation from the Mayor's Office to Chearlene Glover-Johnson

PROCLAMATION FOR AIR QUALITY AWARENESS WEEK

Mayor Fitch proclaimed the week of April 27th through May 1st as Air Quality Awareness Week.

RECEIVE AN UPDATED FROM DAVE TAYLOR, WAURIKA LAKE MASTER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT MANAGER, ON WAURIKA LAKE PROJECT.

Mr. Taylor presented a series of slides which are on file in the City Clerk's Office. He stated they received a refund from the Corps of Engineers. They had a period of high cost due to dam repairs. There have been no major repairs done in 35 years so they did it all at once and it took several years to pay it off. In the last year they billed them \$705,000 and they challenged that

and they received a refund of \$392,000 and the City of Lawton should have received their portion which was \$233,000. In addition, the annual budget will be reduced by \$200,000 to \$300,000. The total cost for operations and maintenance should be reduced next year.

Mayor Fitch stated that we are going to save that money in anticipation of these other costs coming in. He requested that Mr. Taylor keep the council updated on the possible grants and other applications to the Corps of Engineers and what we will be looking at as we move along.

Wells requested that staff keep the council informed on this issue.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: None

CONSENT AGENDA

Burk requested item #4 be considered separately

MOVED by Wells SECOND by Jackson to approve the consent agenda with the exception of item #4. AYE: Morford, Jackson, Bellino-Hall, Burk, Tanner, Phillips, Haywood, Wells. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

1. Consider the following damage claims recommended for approval: Ebony and Anthony Harold in the amount of \$1,999.59 (**Res. 15-33**), Southwestern Bell Telephone, dba AT&T Oklahoma in the amount of \$837.85 (**Res. 15-34**) and Bennie Miles in the amount of \$842.00 (**Res. 15-35**). Exhibits: Legal Opinions/Recommendations. Resolution No. 15-____, Resolution No. 15-____ and Resolution No. 15-____.
2. Consider the following damage claim recommended for denial: Mike McKinney in the amount of \$800.00. Exhibits: Legal Opinion/Recommendation.
3. Consider approving a request from the Fit Kids Coalition of Southwest Oklahoma for the City of Lawton to Co-sponsor the Open Streets Lawton event to be located on SW C Avenue between SW 2nd Street and SW 5th Street. Exhibits: None.
4. Consider approving an amendment to the FY 2014-2015 budget to increase the staffing level of the Animal Welfare Division by adding staffing positions for an Educational Outreach Coordinator and a Veterinarian Technician. Exhibits: None.

Burk questioned how these positions will be funded.

Russell stated they have identified the funding through the general fund. The position for the educational outreach coordinator is a lateral transfer from an existing employee.

Burk stated he cannot support adding an outreach coordinator. He stated the veterinarian technician was probably one of the things needed at the kennel.

Russell stated that was based off of a recommendation from the Oklahoma Veterinary Board investigation. They recommended that we bring in a veterinary assistant or a technician to assist with the care of the animals.

Burk questioned the yearly cost for the veterinarian technician.

Russell stated the assistant position is lower paying than the technician. The technician was suggested by the board. The difference between the technician and the assistant is that the technician can administer rabies vaccinations. Currently our veterinarian administers the rabies vaccinations during the spay/neutering procedure, so there is really not a need for the technician position. He stated there are only two veterinary technicians in the city of Lawton so he does not expect to have a large pool of applicants for that position.

Tanner stated it is \$12.50 an hour for the technician which is about \$26,000 a year and \$22.50 an hour for the outreach coordinator, which is about \$46,000. This is an additional \$70,000 per year.

Russell stated it is \$68,000.

Morford questioned if the technician is certified by the state.

Russell stated the veterinary technician has a certification process.

Burk confirmed that they can actually administer the rabies vaccine.

Russell stated they can administer the rabies vaccine while the vet is on site. Since he is on site and already doing them there is really not a need, so he opted to go with the assistant position instead.

Wells stated he does not understand what Russell is saying that he opted to go with the assistant. The commentary does not say “assistant”.

Russell stated it should have said veterinary assistant and not veterinary technician in the context of the agenda item.

Jackson stated with the preliminary information they have been receiving on the general budget, he cannot support this.

Bellino-Hall questioned what an outreach person would do.

Russell stated the animal welfare division currently has an educational outreach section and they educate the community of spaying and neutering, proper pet care, visiting classrooms, the pooches palooza event, international festival and those types of events.

Bellino-Hall questioned if there is a person that does that now.

Russell stated it is contained within the kennel staff. Animal control officers and kennel technicians are available.

Bellino-Hall questioned why we would need another position we are going to pay for when we are so tight on this budget.

Burk stated they are trying to make a position for somebody that is already employed. He is not willing to do that. He feels they need more information on the vet assistant.

Haywood stated the young lady is already employed and if they don't do something they will find themselves in trouble.

Tanner questioned if they could use the special funds that are generated in the animal welfare division.

Burk stated those funds are not set aside for payroll. Those funds are for working on the kennel and things they can actually use at the kennel.

Tanner stated the state recommended hiring a vet tech.

Burk stated he would like to find out more about vet techs compared to vet assistants and they could bring that back, but he will vote no on the other part.

Tanner suggested they postpone this item.

Burk stated he is just voting no.

Phillips questioned the importance of the assistant to the kennel.

Russell stated they will be vital in working along with the veterinarian and making assessments and evaluations on the health of the animals.

Mayor Fitch stated the veterinarian is only on site 12 hours a week.

Wells stated with what they have been told about the budget, they should not be adding any positions. Some of the positions that will be cut might be changed over. He suggested they deny the item and bring back that veterinarian technician/assistant at a later date.

MOVED by Burk SECOND by Wells to deny the amendment. AYE: Morford, Jackson, Bellino-Hall, Burk, Phillips, Wells. NAY: Tanner, Haywood. MOTION CARRIED.

5. Consider approving a Release and Assignment Agreement for the Maintenance bond deficiencies in Dove Creek Addition Part 4B, and deposit the money in a designated account in order to make the necessary repairs. Exhibits: Release and Assignment Agreement on file in the City Clerk's office.

6. Consider accepting a settlement agreement, two permanent easements and a temporary easement from Richards Enterprises, an Oklahoma general partnership, also consider executing a warranty deed from The City of Lawton, a municipal corporation, for right of way needed for the SE 45th Street Reconstruction (Between Lee & Gore) Project #2006-12, authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the documents. Exhibits: Location Maps. Documents are on file in the City Clerk's office.
7. Consider approving plans and specifications for the 2012 CIP Local Street Reconstruction Project #2012-11, Phase I and authorizing staff to advertise for bids. Exhibits: List of Project Locations. Plans and specifications are on file in the Engineering Division office.
8. Consider entering into a lease agreement with Pitney Bowes for a Digital Mailing system. Exhibits: Proposed lease agreement is on file in City Clerk's Office.
9. Consider extending contract (CL14-042) Rock Hauling to Evans Transportation Services of Lawton, OK for an additional year. Exhibits: Department recommendation, Contract Extension Form, Price Sheet.
10. Consider awarding contract (RFPCL15-016) Bulk fuel delivery to Carey Johnson Oil Company of Lawton, OK (Primary Contractor), Glenn Oil Company of Lawton, OK (Secondary Contractor), and Petroleum Traders Corporation of Fort Wayne, IN (Emergency Backup Contractor) for sites located at the Public Works Yard, Lake Lawtonka and Lake Ellsworth. Exhibits: Department Recommendation, Abstract of Bids, Price Sheet.
11. Consider awarding contract (RFPCL15-016) Bulk Fuel Delivery to Oil Company of Glenn Oil Company of Lawton, OK (Primary Contractor) and Petroleum Traders Corporation of Fort Wayne, IN of (Secondary Contractor), and for sites located at the Landfill, Medicine Park Water Treatment Plant, Wastewater Treatment Plant and all emergency Generator sites. Exhibits: Department Recommendation, Abstract of Bids, Price Sheet.
12. Consider extending contract (CL13-031) Nuisance Abatement – East Side to JM Lawn Services of Lawton, OK for an additional year. Exhibits: Department recommendation, Contract Extension Form, Price Sheet.
13. Consider extending contract (CL13-032) Mowing & Litter Areas Rogers Lane from I-44 to Hwy 62 on Ramp; Pump and Lift Stations; Water Treatment Plant Sludge Lagoons & Lake Ellsworth to Teen Challenge of Cache, OK for an additional year. Exhibits: Department recommendation, Contract Extension Form, Price Sheet.
14. Consider extending contract (CL14-046) Mowing & Litter Contract (Areas M & Q) to Teen Challenge of Cache, OK for an additional year. Exhibits: Department recommendation, Contract Extension Form, Price Sheet.
15. Consider extending contract (CL14-046) Mowing & Litter Contract (Area N) to UCI Services Group Inc., of Lawton, OK for an additional year. Exhibits: Department recommendation, Contract Extension Form, Price Sheet.

16. Consider awarding contract (CL15-039) Cationic Polymer to Chameleon Industries, Inc. of Mesquite, TX primary vendor and to Polydyne Inc. of Richboro, GA as the secondary vendor. Exhibits: Department Recommendation, Abstract of Bids, Price Sheet.
17. Consider awarding contract (CL15-035) to Z Floor CO., LTD. of Lake Dallas, Texas for the replacement of the gym floor at the Patterson Community Center. Exhibits: Department Recommendation, Abstract of Bids, Price Sheet.
18. Consider extending contract (RFPCL12-014) for Eastside Community Park Concession Operations with the LaSill Optimist Club of Lawton, OK for an additional sixty (60) days under the same terms and conditions. Exhibits: Department recommendation, Contract Extension Form, Price Sheet.
19. Consider extending contract (RFPCL12-015) for Ahlschlager Park Concession Operations with the Lawton Evening Optimist of Lawton, OK for an additional sixty (60) days under the same terms and conditions. Exhibits: Department recommendation, Contract Extension Form, Price Sheet
20. Consider extending contract (CL14-020) Grassing and Sodding (Items 1,2,3 [option 2] and 4) to Eastside Sod Farms of Lawton, OK for an additional year. Exhibits: Department recommendation, Contract Extension Form, Price Sheet.
21. Consider extending contract (CL14-020) Grassing and Sodding (Items [option 1] and 5) to Green Turf Sod of Lawton, OK for an additional year. Exhibits: Department recommendation, Contract Extension Form, Price Sheet.
22. Consider extending contract (CL14-029) Liquid Sulfate to Southwest Chemical Service, Inc. of McAlester, OK for an additional year. Exhibits: Department recommendation, Contract Extension Form, Price Sheet
23. Consider approving appointments to boards and commissions. Exhibits: None.

McMahon Auditorium Authority

Audy R Snodgrass
Fort Sill Liaison
Director DPTMS
462 Hamilton Road Suite 120
Fort Sill Oklahoma 73503
Unexpired Term 6/30/17

24. Consider approval of payroll for the periods of April 13 - 26, 2015.

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:

25. Hold a public hearing and consider the approval of the FFY 2015 Consolidated One-Year Action Plan and the adoption of Resolution 15-____, authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute any documents necessary to implement the FFY 2015 Consolidated One-Year Action Plan. Exhibits: Resolution 15-____. A copy of the FFY 2015 Consolidated One-Year Action Plan (draft) is on file in the City Clerk's Office.

Tim Libby, Assistant Director for Housing and Community Development, presented a series of slides which are on file in the City Clerk's Office. He stated the City Planning Commission (CPC) offered one method that was not approved by the entire commission and then they decided to split it right down the middle. He stated they have taken the same actions for the past five years and those amounts were based on the review of the applications and the scoring system. He announced that Lawton is no longer considered as a city in fiscal distress. We really are moving forward. But there is a consequence in that now we have to provide match. We have been banking matching funds for a long time and have over a million dollars. This in kind match will keep us going for a long time.

Wells stated on the handout the HOME funding requirement slide shows the matching requirement as \$65,737 but the same slide on the screen shows that amount as \$32,869.

Libby stated that was an error.

Phillips stated that she is the president of a foundation that contributes to one of these organizations and upon the advice of counsel she will not discuss or vote on this issue.

Mayor Fitch requested Libby explain the HCD proposed versus CPC proposed and why there is a difference.

Libby stated they have a grading system they have been using for the past six or seven years. That grading system sets aside 25 points for various types of activities that they are doing such as are they one of the top ten priorities. They are saying that they are going to fund the highest priority activities within our consolidated plan. If they were the first place public service organization, they will receive the most points and will receive that highest funding recommendation level. The CPC initially felt that the shelters were a higher priority and they wanted to put more money in the shelters but that got voted down because in our current plan they are not the priority. He will be coming back to the council in June with a new five year plan and as part of that process, he will be bringing the results of the latest survey that may show different top ten priorities. The CPC then made the proposal to provide everyone an equal amount of funding and that motion passed.

Mayor Fitch stated staff has had a point system for the last six or seven years and applying the point system to the needs assessment. CPC basically did not want to get involved in this and they just recommended splitting it evenly.

Wells stated the CPC did get into a discussion and they ended up with an even split for everyone.

Burk stated about six years ago the council made an issue of wanting a funding plan like what is currently in place and it is working. With this process he felt like some organizations upped their game so that they would get a higher point ranking. He feels that staff's proposal is the way to go. This lists the criteria instead of having the council come up with one every single year.

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED.

Charlie Baer, Executive Director of the Christian Family Counseling Center, stated he highly endorses the proposal made by Mr. Libby and asked the council to consider that proposal.

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED.

MOVED by Haywood SECOND by Wells to approve **Resolution 15-36** approving the FFY 2015 Consolidated One-Year Action Plan. AYE: Morford, Jackson, Bellino-Hall, Burk, Tanner, Haywood, Wells. NAY: None. ABSTAIN: Phillips. MOTION CARRIED.

26. Consider providing direction to the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance and election documents placing a 2016 sales tax proposal on the ballot for an election in August, 2015 that includes the early termination/restructuring of the City's 2012 Capital Improvements Program (CIP) and a new replacement CIP setting forth alternative water sources as the highest priority along with incorporating identified 2012 CIP projects yet to be completed, and critical LATS Transportation improvements. Exhibits: Spreadsheet – Proposed Revised 2012 CIP through 12/31/2015 and Spreadsheet - Proposed 2016 CIP through 12/31/2025.

Wells stated the council committee met last Tuesday and discussed this in detail and agreed that they needed to do this so we would have funding for alternate resources and are recommending the ten year plan to expire the same time as the 2015 sales tax extension. From the 2012 CIP, the city wide sewer rehab program, which was federally mandated, was planned in the 2019 CIP and we would need \$15 million more to complete that program. They have added that into the 2016 proposed CIP making it a total of \$36,700,000. They need to expand the landfill by the end of this period so they left that \$7.5 million. They left in the 45th Street project, \$8.5 million, because that is an 80% funded by the state project and it would not make sense to give up that money from the state. The city overlay projects are 50% by ward and 50% by council and they felt that roads are in such bad shape and they need to keep that program. The nine mile sewer line has been on the books for 25-30 years and he feels this needs to be accomplished this time. There is a lot of building on the west side, but if they build further out they will be in the Cache school district. The only place to expand is the east or the south and they feel because of the limited sewer capacity on the east side of town, they have to build that line and carry it on out. Staff has already completed all but one right of way purchase on the east side of town. He stated they also added \$3.5 million for buses because LATS staff and city staff have told them their buses are in such bad shape and they may have to start cutting routes or times. The major thing they wanted was water source money for ground wells, surface water and reuse water. Wichita Falls spent about \$50 million on their reuse system. Groundwater testing and well digging is approximately \$7 million and that only included a well, not the infrastructure to get it to where it

needed to be. They have added that money and it came to a total of \$72 million. They think it is a reasonable request and he does not know how else we could raise the kind of money needed.

Jackson stated that water is the biggest issue in Lawton. This is something they really need to do and he is very excited that they are doing this so they can get staff started on the water situation.

Mayor Fitch stated the water study will be back in the September timeframe and we have no money to apply to these recommendations. You would have to wait until the 2019 CIP to have monies allocated for alternative water resources. This is urgent and needs to be done now and this is the best way to keep all the 2012 CIP items in place and not throw out any project because these were all significant projects to benefit the citizens and the growth of this community. We are looking at the possibility of water out of the Texas panhandle and that could be five years or longer and then getting all the infrastructure built to utilize that water will be a long ways down the road. This will just bring the 2012 CIP to a halt as of December 31, 2015 and starting in 2016. He commended Councilmember Wells for all the time and effort he has spent on this issue to find the money so that when they do have the recommendations from the studies as to increasing our water source we will have the monies in which to do it. We cannot wait until 2019.

Bellino-Hall questioned what projects in the 2012 CIP will not be done.

Wells stated we are going to do all the projects.

Bellino-Hall questioned if some will be put off.

Wells stated not necessarily. Once we have the funds identified we can get bonds to do all these projects. When we get ready to do something on the water, we are not going to wait until we have funds accumulated to do these things, we will do like we always do and borrow some money when we need it to get a project started.

Mayor Fitch stated that everything that is being dropped from the 2012 plan and will end this December, is being put into the new 2016 plan. It is not going anywhere.

Bellino-Hall stated we are just putting it off.

Wells stated they can still be done. All this will do is to identify a source of revenue so we can borrow the money. Some of the projects may not get done for the first couple of years, it just depends on when public works has the engineering design, but when they are ready to go we will do those along with the water projects.

Burk questioned what would happen if this does not pass.

Wells stated the 2012 CIP stays in effect and will go on until 2019.

Mayor Fitch stated if it is not approved it just stays like it is but we will have no money for water sources.

Bellino-Hall confirmed that what is on the 2012 CIP will get done if we can sell bonds for it.

Wells stated yes. He stated we might have already started nine mile creek if we would have gotten all the right of ways. That is the only reason that project has not started. They will all be completed whenever engineers are ready to send them out to bid.

Mayor Fitch stated we are taking the seven year 2012 CIP and dropping it as of December 31st and we will finish those jobs that have already been started and the monies allocated for and the jobs we haven't started will be moved to the January 1, 2016 CIP plan. There will be no time difference in what it would have been under the 2012 CIP.

Tanner stated that his constituents were concerned that we were doing away with some of these projects. Every project that is in the 2012 CIP is going to be accomplished. Some of these projects will be carried over to the 2016 CIP if it passes. One of the advantages of combining this is that the current sales tax extension passed last year and the proposed 2016 CIP will expire at the same time. When we go back out for a CIP project and there are big ticket projects we will be able to accomplish these in a shorter period of time.

Mayor Fitch stated that will generate about \$25 million a year and you can go out four years and do \$100 million worth of projects, whereas, we have been going out for seven years for \$100 million worth of projects. You can still get a good bond rate for four years as you can for seven years. It is getting us back to years ago when we were doing three, four and five year CIP projects.

Wells stated we are doing nothing but identifying a source of funding by developing a new program that goes out for a ten year period to do alternate water sources. Everything in the 2012 CIP that is not completed will be moved over to the 2016 CIP and all the projects will be done and we will have money to do something on the water situation when the engineers study comes in September.

Jackson stated it will all be done in a timely manner.

Mayor Fitch stated the 2015 sales tax extension does not even play into this at all. It is still in tact and does not have any impact on what is being discussed tonight.

Bellino-Hall confirmed that this has to go to a vote of the people.

MOVED by Wells SECOND by Morford to direct City Attorney to prepare an ordinance and election documents placing a 2016 sales tax proposal on the ballot for an election in August, 2015. AYE: Morford, Jackson, Bellino-Hall, Burk, Tanner, Phillips, Haywood, Wells. NAY: None. MOTION CARRIED.

27. Consider adopting a resolution amending Article A-22-1, Chapter A-22, Appendix A, Schedule of Fees and Charges, Lawton City Code, 2005, to revise Section 22-111 under Article A-22-1 to reinstate the amount of the drainage maintenance fee from \$1.75 to \$2.00 for each unit per month. Exhibits: Resolution 15-____.

Morford stated it seems like we are playing games just going back and forth on this even though we do need the money.

Mayor Fitch stated it was taken back a couple years ago when we had to have had a hefty increase in the water rates. They tried to ease the burden by taking a quarter off of these items. They want to reinstate this so we can get back to the original fee that had been charged for some time.

Morford stated they should not have taken it off in the first place.

Jackson stated if this is reinstated it will be realized in the budget and if it would have continued it would not have been realized.

Phillips questioned why we were adding it back in.

Larry Wolcott, Deputy Public Works Director, stated it is being added back in to get back to that \$2.00 level. That \$2.00 had been in place since 2008. It is based on the operating expenses for that division. The drainage maintenance division has nine personnel and they are responsible for mowing and maintenance and repair and replacement of all the drainage structures in town.

Phillips questioned if we would be hiring any new people.

Wolcott stated no. If the \$2.00 is not in place the division will have to cut back on services or it may not be funded in the future.

Tanner stated he is still living down from some of the citizens in his ward for voting to put a \$1.00 on the water bill for a year for the cloud seeding, which he fully supports. He supports what the staff wants to do but at this time he finds it hard to add more money to the water bill because they have this Waurika project that will have to be accomplished and that may be a proposal that they have to add some more money to the water bill. He knows we need the money, but it is difficult.

Burk states he hates this water bill thing because every council wants to put something on the water bill. It's our easy button. We don't have to go to a vote of the people, we just vote in and they pay the bill. The services are much needed and he supports that and those nine people are doing so much and we are still not able to keep up and people get mad and we call it in and they send someone out to take care of the ditch. He hates putting money back on the water bill but he just doesn't know how to come up with funding to support the nine employees unless we cut something else.

Mayor Fitch stated when you look at funding for the city, we have water and utility revenue and sales tax. We don't get any ad valorem and we are the only state in the United States where cities cannot get any ad valorem. The only thing we can do is raise sales tax, and it is at the maximum limit right now and we have needs that have to be addressed. It is not like they are adding \$2, they are adding .25 cents.

Bellino-Hall questioned what the division does as far as maintenance.

Wolcott stated maintenance could be anything from reconstructing a drainage pipe that is caved in or replacing rick rack in a creek.

Bellino-Hall stated maintenance is important.

Burk stated in the past we would actually try to bid that stuff out, but we don't even have the money to bid it out so now they are doing pretty major projects that hold them for a long time.

Bellino-Hall stated for .25 cents she can support maintenance.

Wells stated as far as ad valorem, he believes that we do get several million dollars a year on ones that we put on the property roles.

Mayor Fitch stated those are judgments and bad debt write offs and things of that nature that we have no control over.

Phillips stated the comments she has gotten from citizens has to do with the quick way that the council seems to "attack" the water bill. It appears in the paper one day and a day or two later it is done. The citizens feel like they have no time or any right to say anything. She has not heard any concerns about the .25 cents, but it has to do with the way they do it.

Burk questioned when the .25 cents went off.

Wolcott stated it has been \$2.00 since 2008. It was reduced during the 2013-2014 budget.

Haywood stated we are the lowest in Oklahoma, so adding this .25 cents will put us up there with the other cities.

Tanner stated Mr. Wolcott just sent out a crew to clean out a creek bed and he appreciates what they do for the citizens of Lawton. He does not think it is the .25 cents the citizens are concerned with, it is the principal. Every time they turn around the council is adding to the water bill and that is why he is reluctant to do this in light of some things that are coming up.

Mayor Fitch stated the water bill is about 46% of our budget and that revenue is down about \$8 million this year. It is due to the drought conditions, and people have become conservative in their water efforts and it has brought the revenue down for this fiscal year close to \$8 million. We have to deal with that in next years' budget. The council is going to have to find \$8 million worth of services that will have to be cut without changing any of the billing.

Tanner stated another complaint he heard is that once something goes on the water bill it never comes off.

Wells stated he is not sure \$8 million is a good number, he knows we keep throwing that around. He does not know if that is the number the departments asked for and cuts haven't been made. Mayor Fitch stated we are talking about water revenue of what was expected to be received this year.

Wells stated we are probably going to be within a few hundred thousand dollars of what was expected. We will probably make the budget this year with the budget numbers that were given or close to it.

Phillips questioned what they will lose if they do not include this .25 cents.

Wolcott stated they reduce their ability to make repairs, to mow, to hire temporary workers during the summer. All of their work will be slowed down.

Phillips stated it will just take longer to complete

Mayor Fitch stated instead of mowing something every two weeks, you mow it every three or four. Then you will have to answer complaints from your constituents about why aren't we mowing.

MOVED by Burk SECOND by Morford to deny. AYE: Morford, Jackson, Burk, Tanner, Phillips, Wells. NAY: Bellino-Hall, Haywood. MOTION CARRIED.

28. Consider adopting a resolution amending Article A-22-1, Chapter A-22, Appendix A, Schedule of Fees and Charges, Lawton City Code, 2005, to revise Section 22-111 under Article A-22-1 to reinstate the amount of the stormwater management fee from \$0.75 to \$1.00 for each unit per month. Exhibits: Resolution 15-____.

Mayor Fitch stated this is basically the same as the previous item just a different category.

Bellino-Hall questioned what they will lose if this is not approved.

Wolcott stated it will take away their ability to have long term engineering support for this division where they do plan review, engineering drainage studies, floodplain engineering, stormwater and groundwater environmental engineering.

Burk questioned if it will do away with this or just slow it down.

Wolcott stated those engineering duties have been split up between the drainage engineer, assistant director of environmental services, assistant director of operations and deputy public works director. This will push those duties even further. Right now he is doing these engineering duties.

Morford stated we keep talking in the budget that the only thing we can do is to cut personnel and this is the reason we are in this predicament. If we add these people then the budget is increased and if we have to cut we have to let somebody go. Instead of making a place for this, we need to deny it here.

Mayor Fitch stated that won't solve the problem.

MOVED by Burk SECOND by Morford to deny. AYE: Morford, Jackson, Burk, Tanner, Phillips, Wells. NAY: Bellino-Hall, Haywood. MOTION CARRIED.

FINANCE REPORT (Tabled for two weeks)

REPORTS: MAYOR/CITY COUNCIL/CITY MANAGER

Russell announced that on Monday, May 4th we will have two new directors, Chase Massie, the Human Resource Director and Jack Hanna, the Parks and Recreation Director.

Mayor Fitch stated how happy he was to have Councilmember Haywood back.

Haywood stated he will be retiring from Lawton Public Schools and will not be returning this year. He plans to stay on council as long as he can.

Tanner thanked Officer Miranda Durham and Officer Mary Lile. Someone kicked in the back door of his property Sunday evening and those ladies were there and cleared the property by the time he got there. They did an outstanding job.

The Mayor and Council convened in executive session at 7:27 p.m. and reconvened in regular, open session at 8:06 p.m. Roll call reflected all members present excluding Haywood.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS:

29. Pursuant to Section 307B.2, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session to discuss negotiations for a Collective Bargaining Agreement for FY 2015-2016 between the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), Local 1882, and the City of Lawton, and, if necessary, take appropriate action in open session. Exhibits: None.

Jensen read the title of item #29. No action was taken.

30. Pursuant to Section 307B.2, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session to discuss negotiations for a Collective Bargaining Agreement for FY 2015-2016 between the Police Union, IUPA Local 24, and the City of Lawton, and, if necessary, take appropriate action in open session. Exhibits: None.

Jensen read the title of item #30. No action was taken.

There being no further business to consider, the meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m. upon motion, second and roll call vote.

FRED L. FITCH, MAYOR

ATTEST:

TRACI HUSHBECK, CITY CLERK