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

City of Lawton

City Council
MINUTES

Friday, December 29, 2023 **2:00 PM** **Lawton City Hall**
Council Chambers/Auditorium

"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 WITH INVOCATION BY PASTOR BOB WEGER, FOLLOWED BY THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mary Ann Hankins, Ward 1
Kelly Harris, Ward 2
Linda Chapman, Ward 3
George Gill, Ward 4
Allan Hampton, Ward 5
Bob Weger, Ward 6
Randy Warren, Ward 8

ABSENT: Onreka Johnson, Ward 7

ALSO PRESENT: Stanley Booker, Mayor
John Ratliff, City Manager
Tim Wilson, Interim City Attorney
Donalynn Blazek-Scherler, City Clerk
COL James Peay, Fort Sill Liaison

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Hold a public hearing and consider adopting an ordinance providing for the annexation of the Southwest Quarter of Section One, Township One North, Range Thirteen West of the Indian Meridian, Comanche County, Oklahoma, into the corporate limits of the City of Lawton, Oklahoma; providing that the annexed territory be zoned as Temporary I-4 (Heavy Industrial District) for a period not exceeding one year, superseding Ordinance No. 22-34, and by a separate vote declare an emergency.

Wilson explained that on December 6, 2022, the council held a public hearing and adopted Ordinance 22-34, which annexed the same tract of land under discussion today. While preparing for the amended redevelopment agreement for Westwin earlier this month, staff identified an issue with the notification process carried out last year. At that time, the notice was published only once in the newspaper, whereas the law requires two notifications.

After consulting with outside counsel, it was decided to confirm the annexation by addressing the procedural oversight. As part of this process, CCIDA submitted a new petition for annexation, and the required notices were published twice in the newspaper. Today's meeting provides the council an opportunity to consider the updated ordinance for annexation and to hold a public hearing.

If the ordinance passes, it will supersede last year's ordinance, confirming the annexation of the property. An emergency clause is being requested to ensure the ordinance takes effect immediately, which will require a separate vote.

Harris asked why the property is being zoned as I-4 (Heavy Industrial District) for only one year.

Wilson explained that when an annexation occurs, the property is given a temporary zoning designation as its initial classification. In this case, staff is recommending the property be temporarily zoned as I-4 (Heavy Industrial District). The matter will return to the council at a later date to establish a permanent zoning classification within the appropriate zoning category.

Mayor Booker opened the Public Hearing and invited anyone that would like to speak on this item to come up. Seeing none, Mayor Booker closed the public hearing.

Motion by HARRIS, Second by GILL, to approve an ordinance providing for the annexation of the Southwest Quarter of Section One, Township One North, Range Thirteen West of the Indian Meridian, Comanche County, Oklahoma, into the corporate limits of the City of Lawton, Oklahoma; providing that the annexed territory be zoned as Temporary I-4 (Heavy Industrial District) for a period not exceeding one year, superseding Ordinance No. 22-34. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Hampton, Gill, Weger, Warren. NAY: None. *Motion Passed.*

Motion by HARRIS, Second by CHAPMAN, to declare the Ordinance an emergency. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Hampton, Gill, Weger, Warren. NAY: None. *Motion Passed.*

2. Consider an ordinance approving and adopting the First Amended Skills Training, Education, Development and Investment (STEDI) Project Plan, as a minor amendment within the meaning of the Oklahoma Local Development Act, 62 O.S. §858(D); providing for severability; and by separate vote declare an emergency.

Dan Bachelor explained that this is a minor amendment with three key outcomes, contingent upon approval. First, it will adjust the project area. Second, it will incorporate sites related to the Westin Development, including both the immediate pilot plant and the larger facility, should it be developed in the future. Third, it will expand the project area to include locations where the city plans to install certain public improvements.

This amendment is considered minor because it does not alter the overall goals or intent of the project, nor does it increase the budget or expand any increment district by more than 5%. Since the original adoption of the plan, the City of Lawton has established the FISTA facility, which focuses on STEM programs, training, and education. As a result, the proposed focus and authorization of STEM activities have been broadened to include FISTA, providing the City with greater flexibility in determining how to implement these initiatives.

Motion by WARREN, Second by GILL, to approve an ordinance approving and adopting the First Amended Skills Training, Education, Development and Investment (STEDI) Project Plan, as a minor amendment within the meaning of the Oklahoma Local Development Act, 62 O.S. §858(D); providing for severability AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Hampton, Gill, Weger, Warren. NAY: None. *Motion Passed.*

Motion by HANKINS, Second by HARRIS, to declare the Ordinance an emergency. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Hampton, Gill, Weger, Warren. NAY: None. *Motion Passed.*

3. Receive a presentation from the Lawton Economic Development Corporation and the Lawton Economic Development Authority regarding a potential industrial development project with the Airport Industrial Park.

Brad Cooksey and Richard Rogalski gave a presentation about potential industrial development. The presentation is available upon request at the City Clerk's Office.

4. Consider approving a resolution of support for the appointment of Mayor Stan Booker to the District 9 seat on the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Municipal League; declaring said appointment to be for the benefit of the City of Lawton and other municipalities within the district; and declaring the mission of the Oklahoma Municipal League to be for the public purpose.

Motion by WARREN, Second by HARRIS, to approve a resolution of support for the appointment of Mayor Stan Booker to the District 9 seat on the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Municipal League; declaring said appointment to be for the benefit of the City of Lawton and other municipalities within the district; and declaring the mission of the Oklahoma Municipal League to be for the public purpose. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Hampton, Gill, Weger, Warren. NAY: None. *Motion Passed.*

5. Consider approving a Professional Services Agreement for Insurance Broker services with INSURICA and authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement.

Craig Akard explained this is a professional services agreement from the previous Council meeting when Council voted to go with Insurica Broker.

Motion by CHAPMAN, Second by HARRIS, to approve a Professional Services Agreement for Insurance Broker services with INSURICA and authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Hampton, Gill, Weger, Warren. NAY: None. *Motion Passed.*

The Mayor and Council convened in executive session at 2:25 PM and reconvened in regular, open session at 2:43 PM. Roll call reflected all members.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS:

6. Pursuant to Section 307B.4, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session to discuss an action relating to class action lawsuit against McKinsey & Company, Inc., United States; and McKinsey & Company, Inc, Washington, D.C., ("McKinsey") claiming McKinsey played a central role in the unfolding, propagation, and exploitation of the opioid crisis by advising multiple opioid manufacturers and other industry participants how to sell as may prescription opioids as possible, said lawsuit being In re McKinsey & Co., Inc., National Prescription Opiate Consultant Litigation, Case No. 3:21-md-02996-CRB (N.D. California), and if necessary take action in open session.

Wilson read the title of item #6

Motion by HARRIS, Second by GILL, to approve action relating to class action lawsuit against McKinsey & Company, Inc., United States; and McKinsey & Company, Inc, Washington, D.C., ("McKinsey") claiming McKinsey played a central role in the unfolding, propagation, and exploitation of the opioid crisis by advising multiple opioid manufacturers and other industry participants how to sell as may prescription opioids as

possible, said lawsuit being In re McKinsey & Co., Inc., National Prescription Opiate Consultant Litigation, Case No. 3:21-md-02996-CRB (N.D. California). AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Hampton, Gill, Weger, Warren. NAY: None. *Motion Passed.*

Ratliff made a public safety announcement regarding not being able to use fireworks inside city limits without a permit.

ADJOURNMENT 2:46 PM

Motion by HANKINS, Second by HAMPTON, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF December 29th, 2023. AYE: Hankins, Harris, Chapman, Hampton, Gill, Weger, Warren. NAY: None. *Motion Passed.*

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:46 PM.