



City of Lawton

City Council

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

Agenda

Friday, April 11, 2025

10:00 AM

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."

Roll Call

Unfinished Business

1. Consider a request from the City Manager to waive the requirements of Sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of Council Policy 4-1 for the FY26 budget, and take appropriate action as deemed necessary.

Executive Session

1. Pursuant to Section 307 B.4, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session to discuss the pending damage claim of Peyton Davidson and, if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.
2. Pursuant to Section 307B.4, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session to discuss the seven (7) pending actions in Comanche County District Court, each titled City of Lawton vs. Great Plains Improvement Foundation, et al., Case No. CJ-2025-31, CJ-2025-32, CJ-2025-33, CJ-2025-34, CJ-2025-35, CJ-2025-36, CJ-2025-37 , and if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.
3. Pursuant to Section 307B.2, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session to discuss negotiations of the FYE 2026 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF), Local 1882, and the City of Lawton, and, if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.
4. Pursuant to Section 307B.4, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session to discuss the pending action in the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma titled Kent Jackson, as the

Personal Representative of the Estate of Isreal Williams v. City of Lawton, et al, Case No. CIV-23-284-G, and if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.

5. Pursuant to Section 307C.11, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session for the purpose of conferring on matters pertaining to economic development, the public disclosure of which would violate the confidentiality of prospective business entities, and if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.

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."

[MEET_FOOT]

Item Title:

Consider a request from the City Manager to waive the requirements of Sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of Council Policy 4-1 for the FY26 budget, and take appropriate action as deemed necessary.

Initiator: John Ratliff, City Manager

Information Source: John Ratliff, City Manager

Background:

Due to General Fund budget constraints, the City Manager is requesting a waiver of Sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of Council Policy 4-1 for the FY26 budget. At the April 8, 2025, City Council meeting, Council approved a motion to waive Sections 1, 2, and 3; however, Section 1 was not included in the agenda item title, and Section 4 was not included in the motion. This item is intended to clarify and formalize Council's action by explicitly considering the waiver of all four sections as originally requested.

Correlation to the True North Statement:

Transparency

Exhibit:

Council Policy 4-1

Key Issues:**Funding Source:****Staff Recommended Council Action:**

Approve a request from the City Manager to waive the requirements of Sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 of Council Policy 4-1 for the FY26 budget, and take appropriate action as deemed necessary.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 04-01 Council Policy - Preliminary Budget Deadline & Other Budget Guidance

Council Policy 4-1 Preliminary Budget Deadline and other Budget Guidance

SUBJECT: Preliminary Budget

PURPOSE: Establish guidelines for the preliminary budget, including a deadline for the preliminary budget to be submitted to the City Council.

BACKGROUND: The City has previously established guidelines for the submission of the preliminary budget, including a deadline for the submission of the preliminary budget to the City Council. Oklahoma Municipal Budget Act requires the preliminary budget for a municipality to be prepared and submitted to the governing body at least thirty (30) days and the budget approved at least seven (7) days prior to the beginning of the fiscal year.

The City does not have a policy with respect to funding road and park maintenance every year. In an effort to avoid falling behind in both of these areas, it is imperative that an automatic escalation clause of 2% be adopted by Council each year. This tool will ensure that adequate minimum funding is allocated to ensure that the City does not fall behind in these areas that are critical to sustaining our community's quality of life.

POLICY/ PROCEDURES:

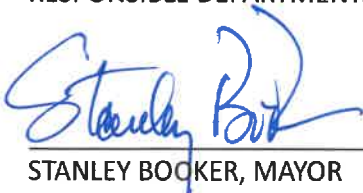
1. The City of Lawton's preliminary budget shall be prepared by the City Manager and submitted to the City Council by April 1st of each year. To assist with meeting this deadline, the City Manager will require officers or employees who are charged with the management or control of departments of the City of Lawton to furnish projections for the fiscal year covering estimated departmental and all other revenues and expenditures on or before a date set by the City Manager.
2. The City of Lawton recognizes the need to adequately fund mill and overlay and panel replacement for city streets. To accomplish this, the preliminary budget shall include a minimum 2% increase from the previous years' allocated budget for the Streets & Traffic Control Division's Repair and Maintenance account.
3. The City of Lawton recognizes the need to adequately fund citizen-usable amenities for city parks. To accomplish this, the preliminary budget shall include a minimum 2% increase from the previous years' allocated budget for the Park Maintenance Division's Construction, Improvements, and Additions account.
4. Council shall vote against or affirmatively opt-out of the aforementioned increases in order for them to NOT be included in the final budget.
5. Council shall only provide any type of support to one Juneteenth Committee. The committee the City shall support will be the Lawton-Fort Sill City-Wide Juneteenth Committee.

REFERENCE: Oklahoma Municipal Budget Act (11 O.S. §17-201 et seq.)

RECISSION: This policy rescinds and replaces the previous Council Policy 4-1 "Preliminary Budget Deadline", which was effective July 8, 2014.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 9, 2024

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: Finance


STANLEY BOCKER, MAYOR

Item Title:

Pursuant to Section 307 B.4, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session to discuss the pending damage claim of Peyton Davidson and, if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.

Initiator: Timothy Wilson, Interim City Attorney

Information Source: Garrett Lam, Assistant City Attorney

Background:

The Assistant City Attorney desires to discuss with the Mayor and Council the pending claim of Peyton Davidson filed through her attorney, Shae Bielby relating to an accident that occurred on February 26, 2024.

The City Attorney advises the City Council that the Council should determine that disclosure of confidential communications between the Council and the City Attorney regarding the above referenced claim will seriously impair the ability of the City to defend the City's interest, and from that determination, the Council should convene in executive session to discuss this matter.

Correlation to the True North Statement:**Exhibit:**

N/A

Key Issues:

N/A

Funding Source:

N/A

Staff Recommended Council Action:

Convene in executive session to discuss the pending damage claim of Peyton Davidson and, if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.

ATTACHMENTS:

None

Item Title:

Pursuant to Section 307B.4, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session to discuss the seven (7) pending actions in Comanche County District Court, each titled City of Lawton vs. Great Plains Improvement Foundation, et al., Case No. CJ-2025-31, CJ-2025-32, CJ-2025-33, CJ-2025-34, CJ-2025-35, CJ-2025-36, CJ-2025-37 , and if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.

Initiator: Timothy Wilson, Interim City Attorney

Information Source: Timothy Wilson, Interim City Attorney, Garrett Lam, Assistant City Attorney

Background:

The Deputy City Attorney desires to discuss with the Mayor and Council the seven (7) pending actions in Comanche County District Court, each titled City of Lawton vs. Great Plains Improvement Foundation et al., Case No. CJ-2025-31, CJ-2025-32, CJ-2025-33, CJ-2025-34, CJ-2025-35, CJ-2025-36, CJ-2025-37. The Deputy City Attorney advises the City Council that Council should determine that disclosure of confidential communications between the Council and the Deputy City Attorney regarding the above referenced matters will seriously impair the ability to protect the City's interest and from that determination, the Council should convene in executive session to discuss this matter.

Correlation to the True North Statement:**Exhibit:**

N/A

Key Issues:

N/A

Funding Source:

N/A

Staff Recommended Council Action:

Convene in executive session to discuss the seven (7) pending actions in Comanche County District Court, each titled City of Lawton vs. Great Plains Improvement Foundation, et al., Case No. CJ-2025-31, CJ-2025-32, CJ-2025-33, CJ-2025-34, CJ-2025-35, CJ-2025-36, CJ-2025-37 and, if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.

ATTACHMENTS:

None

Item Title:

Pursuant to Section 307B.2, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session to discuss negotiations of the FYE 2026 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF), Local 1882, and the City of Lawton, and, if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.

Initiator: Dewayne Burk, Deputy City Manager

Information Source: Dewayne Burk, Deputy City Manager

Background:

The Deputy City Manager desires to discuss the status of the current Collective Bargaining Agreement with the City Attorney and Council to include discussions regarding the negotiation process between the City and Lawton Firefighters Association, IAFF Local 1882. The City Attorney advises the City Council that the Council should determine that disclosure of confidential communications between the Council and the City Attorney regarding the above-referenced item will seriously impair the ability of the City to defend the City's interest, and from that determination, the Council should convene in executive session to discuss this matter.

Correlation to the True North Statement:

N/A

Exhibit:

N/A

Key Issues:

N/A

Funding Source:

N/A

Staff Recommended Council Action:

Convene in executive session to discuss the Collective Bargaining Agreement for FY 2025-2026 between the IAFF Local 1882, and the City of Lawton, and, if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.

ATTACHMENTS:

None

Item Title:

Pursuant to Section 307B.4, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session to discuss the pending action in the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma titled Kent Jackson, as the Personal Representative of the Estate of Isreal Williams v. City of Lawton, et al, Case No. CIV-23-284-G, and if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.

Initiator: Timothy Wilson, Interim City Attorney

Information Source: Timothy Wilson, Interim City Attorney

Background:

The Interim City Attorney desires to discuss with the Mayor and Council the pending action in the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma titled Kent Jackson, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Israel Williams v. City of Lawton, et al, Case No. CIV-23-284-G. The Interim City Attorney advises that City Council should determine that disclosure of confidential communications between the Council and the Interim City Attorney regarding the above referenced action will seriously impair the ability of the City to protect the City's interest, and from that determination, the Council should convene in executive session.

Correlation to the True North Statement:**Exhibit:**

N/A

Key Issues:

N/A

Funding Source:

N/A

Staff Recommended Council Action:

Convene in executive session to discuss the pending action in the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma titled Kent Jacsion, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Israel Williams v. City of Lawton, et al, Case No. CIV-23-284-G, and if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.

ATTACHMENTS:

None

Item Title:

Pursuant to Section 307C.11, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session for the purpose of conferring on matters pertaining to economic development, the public disclosure of which would violate the confidentiality of prospective business entities, and if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.

Initiator: Stan Booker, Mayor

Information Source: Stan Booker, Mayor

Background:

The Lawton Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) is tasked with recruiting and retaining industrial development within the Lawton Community. To this end, they have requested an opportunity to discuss with the Council an ongoing industrial development proposal that will include information that is considered confidential. Said discussion will include conferring on matters pertaining to economic development, the public disclosure of which would violate the confidentiality of prospective business entities. The City Attorney advises the City Council that the Council should determine that disclosure of such confidential communications between the Council and the LEDC regarding the above-referenced item will seriously impair the development of the proposal and violate the confidentiality of prospective business entities involved, and from that determination, the Council should convene in executive session to discuss this matter.

Correlation to the True North Statement:**Exhibit:****Key Issues:****Funding Source:****Staff Recommended Council Action:**

Pursuant to Section 307C.11, Title 25, Oklahoma Statutes, consider convening in executive session for the purpose of conferring on matters pertaining to economic development, the public disclosure of which would violate the confidentiality of prospective business entities, and if necessary, take appropriate action in open session.

ATTACHMENTS:

None