
PRESS RELEASE

February 26, 2021

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Midwest City has filed a resolution calling a special election for May 11, 2021

to consider the following propositions:

PROPOSITION #1

“Shall the City of Midwest City, State of Oklahoma, incur an indebtedness by issuing its bonds in the sum of Five Million Seven Hundred Thousand and no/100s Dollars (\$5,700,000.00), to be issued in series, to provide funds (either with or without state or federal aid) for the purpose of acquiring, constructing, reconstructing, improving, remodeling, and repairing public safety buildings and facilities including extending utilities and improving access thereto and purchasing and installing public safety equipment, all to be owned exclusively by said City, and levy and collect an annual tax, in addition to all other taxes, upon all the taxable property in said City sufficient to pay the interest on said bonds as it falls due, and also to constitute a sinking fund for the payment of the principal thereof when due, said bonds to bear interest at not to exceed the rate of ten percent (10%) per annum, payable semi-annually and to become due serially within twenty-five (25) years from the date?”

PROPOSITION 2

Article II. Elective Officers,
Section 2. Councilmembers: Qualifications.

Councilmembers shall be qualified electors of the city at least twenty-five (25) years of age, must have been residents of the city for at least one (1) year next preceding their election or appointment to fill vacancies, and must at the time of their election or appointment to fill vacancies be residents in good faith of the respective wards from which they are elected or appointed. Proof of residency shall be provided to the City Clerk prior to a councilmember's swearing in for their current term. Proof of residency are any two of the following type of documents: utility bills, homestead exemption, lease agreement or other document that records residency. If a councilmember ceases to be a resident of the city, or is convicted of a felony, or enters a plea of guilty, or a plea of nolo contendere to a charge of felony, he/she shall thereupon cease to be a councilmember. No councilmember may hold any position in the city government by appointment by the city manager.

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PROPOSITION 3

Article II. Elective Officers,
Section 12. Council: Quorum, Rules, Yeas and Nays.

A majority of the council shall constitute a quorum, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day. The council shall determine its own rules. On the demand of any member, the vote on any question shall be yeas and nays and shall be entered in the journal. The vote of each individual member must be communicated as either a Yea, Nay, Abstention or Recusal and each member's vote must be recorded.

PROPOSITION 4

Article II. Elective Officers,
Section 18. Code of Conduct for Elected and Appointed Officials.

For ease of reference, the term "member" refers to any member of the City Council, City Boards, Committees and Commissions established by City ordinance or Council policy.

(a) Acknowledgement of Code of Ethics and Conduct

An acknowledgement of Code of Ethics and Conduct shall be signed by each councilmember upon being sworn in (or if already serving within 30 days of Sec 18 being enacted). All signed acknowledgements shall be filed with the City Clerk. Councilmembers who do not sign an acknowledgement shall be ineligible for intergovernmental assignments or Council subcommittees. Board, Committee and Commission members who do not sign an acknowledgement are not eligible to hold office.

(b) Ethics Training for Local Officials

Members who are out of compliance with State or City mandated requirements for ethics training shall not represent the City on intergovernmental assignments or Council subcommittees, and may be subject to sanctions.

(c) Behavior and Conduct

Reporting and sanction measures set out in the City of Midwest City's Ordinances, state and federal statutes shall be followed regarding behavior by members.

PROPOSITION 5

Article III. City Manager and Administrative Departments,
Section 3. City manager: Powers and duties.

(8) (a) The City Manager, during the existence of a state of emergency, by proclamation, may, in the area affected by public disorder, disaster, or riot at the time the proclamation is issued, prohibit activities that he/she may reasonably believe should be prohibited to help preserve and maintain life, health, property or the public peace.

(b) In imposing the restrictions provided for in this section, the City Manager may impose them for such times, upon such conditions, with such exceptions and in such areas, he/she from time to time deems necessary.

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PROPOSITION 6

Article IV. Department of Finance, Fiscal Affairs, Section 4. Property Valued at more than \$10,000, shall be repealed and placed into reserve.

PROPOSITION 7

Article V. Municipal Court,
Section 1. Municipal court.

There shall be a Municipal Court for the City of Midwest City. The City Council, shall by ordinance, set and determine the number, qualifications and terms of the judges, who shall be officers of the city. The municipal judges shall have original jurisdiction to hear and determine all cases involving offenses against the Charter and ordinances of the city. A record of all proceedings of the municipal court, of the disposition of all cases, and of all fines and other money collections shall be maintained by the Court staff. The style of all processes shall be in the name of the city. The municipal judges may administer oaths, make and enforce all proper orders, rules and judgments, and punish for contempt.

PROPOSITION 8

Article VI. Nominations and Elections,
Section 2. Primary election: Filing.

Any qualified person may have his/her name placed on the ballot for the primary election as a candidate for any city office by filing, not more than ninety (90) days and at least sixty (60) days prior to the primary election for a special election, and no fewer than fifteen (15) days for any regular municipal election, with the secretary of the county election board, a sworn statement of his candidacy; provided that the council by ordinance may require such statements to be filed with the city clerk instead.

PROPOSITION 9

Article VI. Nominations and Elections,
Section 6. Political activity of officers and employees.

Municipal employees may attend and express their views at city council meetings, or any other public meetings of municipal entities.

Any municipal employee may actively participate in partisan and nonpartisan political activities. Provided, the political activity in which the employee participates shall be exercised only during off-duty hours and while not in uniform. Any federal statutes restricting the political activities of certain municipal employees shall supersede the provisions of this section as to such employees. Municipal corporations may establish employment requirements requiring municipal employees to refrain from filing as a candidate for public office while employed by said municipality.

It shall be unlawful for the governing body or officer of any municipal corporation in this state to directly or indirectly coerce or attempt to coerce any municipal employee to participate or not to participate in municipal political activities or public meetings.

Any person convicted of violating any of the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

PROPOSITION 10

Article VII. Miscellaneous Provisions,
Section 4. Nepotism, compatibility of offices.

Neither the city manager, the council nor any other authority of the city government, may appoint or elect any person related to any councilmember, the city manager, or to him/herself or, in the case of plural authority, to one of its members, by blood or marriage within the third degree, to any office or position of profit in the city government.

However, the city manager may appoint him/herself, or the council may appoint or elect him/her, to other offices and positions in the city government, subject to any regulations which the council may make by ordinance; but he/she may not receive compensation for service in such other offices or positions.

Except as may be otherwise provided by this Charter or by ordinance, the same person may hold more than one (1) office or position of employment in the city government. An employee may not hold an elected office or campaign for one while employed by the City, nor shall an elected or appointed officer apply for employment while holding such office.

PROPOSITION 11

Article VII. Miscellaneous Provisions, Section 13. Residency, shall be repealed and placed into reserve.

PROPOSITION 12

Article VII. Miscellaneous Provisions,
Section 14. Publicity of records.

All records and accounts of every office, department or agency of the city government, shall be made accessible pursuant to the requirements set forth in Oklahoma Open Records Act, Title 51 Oklahoma Statutes Sections 24A.1 et seq.

PROPOSITION 13

Article VII. Miscellaneous Provisions,
Section 16. Proclamation of State of Emergency.

- (a) The City Council, after finding that a public disorder, disaster or riot exists which affects life, health, property or the public peace, may proclaim a state of emergency in the area affected. The proclamation of a state of emergency and other proclamations issued pursuant to this section shall be in writing and shall be signed by the Mayor and filed with the City Clerk.
- (b) The City of Midwest City shall give as much public notice as practical through the news media of the issuance of proclamations pursuant to this section.
- (c) During the state of emergency, the City Manager shall have the authority to act in accordance with the items listed in Section 2-126 Emergency Purchases, of Article VIII of Chapter 2 of the City of Midwest City's Code of Ordinances once the Council approves the state of emergency.

- (d) The state of emergency shall cease to exist upon the issuance of a proclamation of the City Council declaring its termination; provided that the City Council shall terminate the proclamation when order has been restored in the area affected.

PROPOSITION 14

Article IX. Recall,
Section 2. Election.

The mayor and councilmembers shall make or cause to be made publication of notice and all arrangements for holding such election, and the same shall be conducted, returned and the results thereof declared in all respects as for other city elections. The question on the ballot is whether the subject of the petition is recalled. If the question passes, the council shall fill the remainder of the term for the vacancy by appointment.

PROPOSITION 15

Article X. Parkland, Section 1. Parkland, shall be repealed and placed into reserve.