August 31, 2026
Budget Workshop

The workshop began at 3:00 p.m. In attendance: Westmark, Lewis, Tartt, and McClendon.

General Fund:

Depot: Council decided to replace the steps for now and stabilize the posts and replace them later. Decrease the Depot operating expense line to $10,000.

Water Fund:

Personnel: Council agreed with CC Schilling's recommendation to give Luke Steinle a total of 5% raise (reclassifying one level), and O'Neill Ward a total of 6% (reclassifying two levels).

CC Schilling added all three new positions to the budget as instructed and once the Council looked at the impact, they asked which position was critical. CC Schilling stated the AA (to train in Ann Barton's position) and PWD Green stated if he has to choose, he wants to hire an additional distribution tech. Council approved hiring the AA and Distribution Tech now and waiting on the PWDAA.

Public Works: SEH is contacting DEP to see if the $1.8 million Trice Lane project can be funded from the $35 million received. If so, the Capital Improvement line item will need to be adjusted. The city received a $400,000 LBR grant for water system redundancy out of $800k requested. Waiting on a phase breakdown to see what the $400k will cover and what additional funds will need to be city funded.

Emergency Hours/OT Budget: Green presented a policy for consideration. He's asking employees to be paid monthly instead of deducting the hours from existing comp, AL or SL, on books. Lewis suggested going to bi-weekly timesheets but still get paid monthly. Council also discussed paying up to 80 hours of annual leave each year for employees who are maxed out, and anything above the 80 continue to transfer to sick leave. During the discussion, a verbal exchange occurred between PWD Green and CC Schilling. CC Schilling abruptly walked out of the meeting and returned after a period of time.

Councilman McClendon left the workshop at 5:00.

Green presented a quote of $48,999.99 for a utility track loader and Council agreed to the purchase. There should be enough in the RMO line item to purchase without increasing the line item.

CC Schilling is waiting for information from the auditors to see how to handle the water system purchasing a portion of the land at SHS for a well.

The workshop ended at 5:40.

DRAFT