

WHAT'S GOING ON?



Muskogee Voters Have the **RIGHT** to Know the Latest

Muskogee is entering a critical period of leadership transition, with several local offices on the ballot on February 10, 2026. As voters prepare to choose new leaders, a series of recent decisions involving public revenue, public records, and city governance have raised important questions about transparency, independence, and accountability. These issues directly affect how police, fire protection, and other essential city services are funded and managed.

At the same time, the political environment has grown more complex. Candidates for office, politically connected actors and influencers, and professional political lobbyists are actively shaping the public conversation. Some lobbyists are paid hundreds of thousands of dollars by private interests to advocate positions before city bodies and influence how issues are presented to the public. While this activity may be lawful, it makes transparency and independent oversight more important than ever.

Key concerns that have drawn public attention include:

- Disputes over annexation and public revenue, including efforts to avoid long-standing franchise fees that support police, fire, and infrastructure
- Questions surrounding tourism funding management and the handling of public assets
- Concerns about the preservation of public records, including the return of city-owned devices without intact data
- Overlapping roles between public boards, vendors, political advocates, and candidates for office
- Disclosure of relationships affecting city business, particularly during an active election cycle

In response to these developments, the City Attorney has taken formal steps to preserve records, and residents have increasingly asked for clearer explanations of how decisions were made and whether long-standing rules were applied consistently. These actions underscore why heightened scrutiny is necessary during a transition of power—when political incentives, private interests, and public responsibilities can collide.

Muskogee Citizens Alliance exists to help residents navigate this moment with facts, context, and lawful tools for civic participation. The effort documents publicly available information, explains issues in plain language, and helps citizens engage constructively by contacting elected officials, requesting public records, attending meetings, and serving on boards or committees. The goal is not to tell voters who to support, but to ensure that as Muskogee approaches the February 10, 2026 election, citizens have clear information, full transparency, and confidence that decisions affecting public trust and public resources are being made openly and fairly.

www.MuskogeeCitizensAlliance.com

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MUSKOGEE CITIZENS ALLIANCE **VOTE!** **TUESDAY, FEB 10**

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