PUBLIC UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD
CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, NEW MEXICO

Monday, August 18, 2008

REGULAR MEETING
Minutes

TIME & PLACE: The Public Utility Advisory Board of the City of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, in the County of Sierra, and State of New Mexico, met in Regular Session in full conformity with the Law and Ordinances of said Board, at the Commission Chambers of said City, on Monday the 18th day of August, 2008 at 5:30 P.M.

PRESIDING OFFICER: The meeting was called to order by Alvin Siffring, Chairman and Hazel F. Peterson acted as Secretary.

ATTENDANCE: Upon calling the roll the following members were reported present:

Alvin Siffring, Chairman
Bill Jacka, Member
Mike Potia, Member
Al Wilkinson, Member

Also Present:
Bernadine Garcia, Utility Office Manager
Gil Avelar, Electric Superintendent
Hazel F. Peterson, Deputy City Clerk

Absent Was/Were:
James Hunt, Member

QUORUM: There being a quorum present the Board proceeded with the business at hand.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Alvin Siffring, Chairman called for approval of the Agenda.

"Al Wilkinson moved approval of the Agenda as submitted."

Seconded by Bill Jacka
Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Alvin Siffring, Chairman called for review and approval of minutes of the Regular meeting held Monday, July 21, 2008.

"Bill Jacka moved approval of the minutes of the Regular meeting held Monday, July 21, 2008 with the correction on Page 3 Paragraph 9 "Alvin Siffring stated he doesn’t thing”, the work thing should be think.”

Seconded by Mike Potia
Motion carried unanimously.

RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS: Alvin Siffring spoke to the Ground Rules for Comments from the Public. (Complete copy attached hereto and made a part hereof.)

Discussion ensued.

"Bill Jacka moved to approve the Ground Rules for Comments from the Public with an addition to Paragraph 2 after the words “per
REPORT:
FINANCIAL
CONSERVATION
STUDY:
WATER
PERMIT:
COLLECTION
REFUSE
THE
COMMENTS
FROM
PUBLIC:
None.
REFUSE
COLLECTION
PERMIT:
Berna Garcia stated Chris Nobes had given the City Manager a permit where in the past the City had allowed commercial businesses that do their own refuse fill out an application for a permit to be able to collect their own trash.
Ms. Garcia stated that currently we have a Refuse Collection Application but the City Manager wanted this Board to review it and approval with the addition to the application of “payment of $100.00 franchise permit fee”.
Discussion ensued.
“Mike Potia moved to approve the Refuse Collection Application with the addition of the $100.00 annual franchise permit fee and submit to the City Commission for their consideration.”
Seconded by Bill Jacka
Motion carried unanimously.
WATER
CONSERVATION
STUDY:
Al Wilkinson stated he spoke with the City Manager about including the conservation tips along with the utility bills and he was very much for it and explained why the Water Department didn’t have enough funds to cover it. He stated the City Manager also said he would encourage this Board to develop conservation tips for the other utilities because the other utilities may have some funds in their budget to help defray the cost.
He stated the City Manager additionally approved of the concept of the public/private venture.
Discussion ensued.
Mr. Wilkinson stated he would construct a list of alternative energy and bring it back next month for the Boards approval. He stated that meanwhile if they couldn’t go ahead with the water conservation list in the billing.
Berna stated she didn’t think there was space for it.
Mr. Wilkinson stated he and Mike would get together with the business people that are interested in the public/private venture and get the information to Berna so it can be put in next months billing.
FINANCIAL
REPORT:
Discussion ensued with no action taken.
The PUAB has always welcomed input from the public and usually this input is relative to items on the agenda. Recently a period for public comment has been added to the meeting agenda. The subjects suggested by the public may very well be other than those scheduled for our discussion. To provide for an orderly opportunity for input, some basic guidelines will be followed in the conduct of our meetings.

Public comments will be limited to three minutes per person. Should a board member desire additional information or have questions of the speaker for clarification, the time limit will be extended as is practical. Board members will not normally attempt to respond to the speaker but will make a response at the next meeting.

The public will bear in mind that Board members are private citizens who have volunteered to be appointed to their positions without pay to make available their own time, experience, expertise and best judgment to the City Commission. The Board has no decision-making or taxing authority but is expected to make logical recommendations to the City Commission in matters concerning the city’s public utilities. Members of this Board have no private agendas, only the efficient operation of the city utilities.

Meetings of this Board are conducted in an orderly, courteous manner and any departure from courtesy such as badgering members or defamatory comments about city officials or employees will be ruled out of order and will end that person’s right to speak.
ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Public Utility Advisory Board Alvin Siffing, Chairman declared the meeting adjourned.

APPROVAL: PASSED AND APPROVED this 15th day of September, 2008, on motion duly made by Mike Potter, seconded by Al Wilkerson, and carried.

[Signature]
Alvin Siffing, Chairman
Public Utility Advisory Board

[Signature]
Bill Jackson, Vice Chairman