

**CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 26, 2022**

**Council Present:**

Benny L. Jasso, Mayor  
Joe “Butter” Milo, Councilor  
Irmaisela “Irma” A. Rodriguez, Councilor

Dr. Victor Cruz, Councilor  
Monica Topham, Mayor Pro Tem

**Staff Present:** Aaron Sera, Administrator  
Joe Owen, Fire Chief  
Adrian Coloma, IT

Laura Holguin, Finance Director  
Clint Hogan, Police Captain

**Staff Present (Telephonically/Virtually):** Alexi Jackson, Community Services Director  
Jim Massengill, Public Works Director

**Recording Secretary:** Mary Jo Valdez, Municipal Clerk

Mayor Jasso called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**1. Resolution: To Consider the Acceptance of Material Terms of the Distributor and Jansen Settlements Consistent with the National Opioid Settlement Agreements**

Mr. Sera explained that the city was notified by the NM State Attorney General’s office that this resolution is necessary to take part in a class action lawsuit against the opioid parties. Mr. Sera stated that the funds will be used to assist in mitigating opioid abuse throughout the City.

Councilor Cruz stated that it is like the tobacco abuse settlement that all states are entitled to a portion if all cities and counties within each state accept it.

Mr. Sera stated that all cities and counties must agree to it for the state to participate.

Councilor Cruz motioned to approve the resolution considering the acceptance of material terms of the distributor and Jansen Settlements consistent with the National Opioid Settlement Agreements; Councilor Rodriguez second the motion; motion carried by the following roll call vote:

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE</b>	
Mayor Pro Tem Topham	Aye
Councilor Rodriguez	Aye
Councilor Milo	Aye
Councilor Cruz	Aye

**2. Closed Session: To Discuss personnel matters concerning the Deming Fire Department, Pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1 (H)(2) of the open Meetings Act**

Councilor Milo motioned to go into closed session, pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1(H)(2) of the Open Meetings Act; Councilor Cruz second the motion; motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Councilor Rodriguez	Aye
Mayor Pro Tem Topham	Aye
Councilor Cruz	Aye
Councilor Milo	Aye

**3. Open Session: Motions if any**

Councilor Milo motioned to go into open session; Councilor Rodriguez second the motion; motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Mayor Pro Tem Topham	Aye
Councilor Rodriguez	Aye
Councilor Cruz	Aye
Councilor Milo	Aye

Mayor Jasso stated that there were no motions made during closed session.

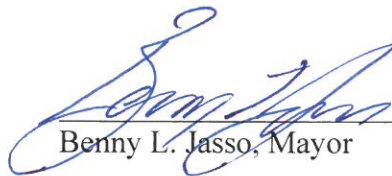
Councilor Cruz stated that Council discussed the issues that were related to the personnel matters at the Fire Department and the Fire Department has gone through the proper legal requirements to open negotiations. The City of Deming has always been willing to negotiate and is happy to negotiate with the Fire Department for fair wages and benefits, as we have for all departments, and we look forward to negotiating with them.

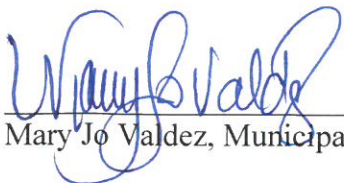
**4. Adjourn Meeting**

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Jasso entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Milo motioned to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Cruz second the motion; motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.



**CITY OF DEMING, NEW MEXICO**

  
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 Benny L. Jasso, Mayor

  
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 Mary Jo Valdez, Municipal Clerk