

CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, NEW MEXICO  
CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 405 W. 3<sup>RD</sup> St.  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2025

**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rolf Hechler at 9:01 a.m., who presided and Angela A. Torres, City Clerk-Treasurer, acted as Secretary of the meeting.

**B. INTRODUCTION:**

**1. ROLL CALL:**

Upon calling the roll, the following Commissioners were reported present.

Hon. Rolf Hechler, Mayor  
Hon. Amanda Forrister, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Hon. Destiny Mitchell, Commissioner is absent  
Hon. Merry Jo Fahl, Commissioner  
Hon. Ingo Hoepfner, Commissioner

Also Present: Gary Whitehead, City Manager  
Traci Alvarez, Assistant City Manager  
Jay Rubin, City Attorney  
Angela A. Torres, City Clerk-Treasurer  
Luis Tavizon, Chief of Police  
Jocelyn Holguin, Finance Director  
Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager  
Buster Smith, Streets Manager  
Jamie Foreman, Water/Wastewater Compliance Specialist  
Tara Manning, Animal Shelter Manager

There being a quorum present, the Commission proceeded with the business at hand.

**2. SILENT MEDITATION:**

Mayor Hechler called for fifteen seconds of silent meditation. He asked that everyone keep Jeff Barbour in their thoughts and prayers. He passed away recently. He was the artist of the Reed Rocket display.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Mayor Hechler called for Commissioner Hoepfner to lead the pledge of allegiance.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister moved to approve the agenda with the removal of item G13. Commissioner Hoepfner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.**

**C. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 Minute Rule Applies):**

Becca Eza, MainStreet T or C addressed the Commission with comments related to:

- Our youth art competition is currently going on. The deadline is March 28<sup>th</sup>, so if any of you know any talented youth artists, we are looking for them to design an anti-litter sign. I will be coming to you guys with the two winning signs at your April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting to seek approval for us to put them around town. I have been working with OJ on the location of those, but they will more than likely be placed in parks and other public spaces. We will be giving the awards to the kids and recognizing them at the April 26<sup>th</sup> cleanup. We don't have a time set for that yet, but I will let you know. I would love to have you come and help out with that again if you are available.
- Our Fiesta planning is in full swing, and we are having a Fiesta fundraiser gameshow this coming Sunday at the El Cortez theatre from 1pm to 3pm. It will be a lot of fun. We would love to have you come and participate.
- Our Wayfinding project is moving forward. We're having a steering committee meeting next week and on April 14<sup>th</sup> at 4pm and at 6pm at the T or C Brewery. We are having our next round of public meetings to get input on some design options. Our graphic designers have worked up 3 different potential designs for the basic color scheme and what the signage would look like, so we want to get input from the public on that.
- We are really excited that the Foch Street Project is finally out to bid. We are working with New Mexico MainStreet revitalization specialists on something called construction mitigation which is basically just putting together a simple flyer to help the public understand what the project is going to look like because we do have construction fatigue here. We wanted to communicate where the funding came from and what it's going to look like when it's finished and why we are excited about this. Also, it will help with the businesses that are going to be impacted by that closure.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: Is there a list of events on your website.

Becca Eza, MainStreet T or C Director: I try to keep it updated on our calendar on the website, but I'm not great about doing that. I'm trying to be better. We really need a

community calendar. We are talking with a couple of different groups about how we can have a more comprehensive community calendar.

**D. REPORTS:**

**City Manager Whitehead reported the following:**

- We are in the budget process. We sent out a memo to the entire staff and individually sent each of the commissioners the same memo. We do need a date from you for the budget hearing. We are looking at somewhere between the 30<sup>th</sup> and April 3<sup>rd</sup>. You need to give me a couple of ideas and pick one day because the budget is an all-day process because we need to have every department head present to you. Today is our deadline for the department heads to submit their preliminary budget, so we need to get all of that put together. Please respond to your individual emails and let me know a date that fits. I'm going to have to pick one. I'll find the day that seems to have the most consensus and then we'll advertise that for a public meeting. You will hear from the department heads at that meeting, as well as the community members that will be asking you for additional funding through our budget process.
- We held a meeting last week for the digital sign that you viewed for a new digital sign for the Civic Center. We would also like to put one out at the ballfields where we could have a new digital sign that we can add information to. We met with the property owner of where the Civic Center sign is placed, and we came to the conclusion that the sign is on the city easement. They have no concerns, so they are not going to ask for a survey, and they don't want us to ask for a survey. They just asked that we not put a billboard up that would block their store front. They also offered us a potential easement to put a power line to the sign. So, instead of having the wire coming across the street and hanging across the top, we'll put in a sign and a nice pole and make those look really good. We're going to start the work on that process.
- I've had a preliminary meeting on the study you commissioned for the downtown drainage issue. We've seen the preliminary reviews. We are going to get them on the agenda to come and present their findings. That is a concern because it's been a long-time standing problem of the water that builds. They are proposing around \$11 million repair to fix the drainage so be thinking about that.
- The legislation is still in session, and we're still waiting to hear about two projects that we have potentially lined up for funding. One is the Animal Shelter, and the other is the PNC Building. We were able to work both of those projects and at least get them on the table. We potentially have \$500,000 for both of those. If it can get through the process.
- We've started to explore the possibility of a design build concept. I've worked with Jocelyn. She referred me to the county site that they've done. The county building was done through a design build process where they actually went out and found the contractor, negotiated, and then that person was responsible for the entire build. That may be a little better process for us. We are just in the beginning phases of that to try to get the project online. More will come as soon as we know we have the funding from the legislature.

## CITY COMMISSION MARCH 12, 2025 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

- We held a meeting last week with the Ethos team. They are putting in high speed internet throughout the town. They have contracted with a company called Kelley trenching, and they are providing the underground work. We've had a few conflicts with waterlines where over the last 3 or 4 weeks, all of our waterline leaks that have happened have been due to underground drilling where the alignment of our pipe may not have been in the right place where the marking was. So, we met with them to try to come up with a little better process so that we can go on site. They have some obligations they want to do. They felt like we could pull that together or maybe stop hitting lines as they put in a new technology which would be a benefit to the community.
- City Clerk Torres and I have been working on the website trying to improve the information. We've put the leak list on there, and today we have a link to the NMDOT site for the roads so you can comment. She's working hard to take those comments in, and we also have a process to get comments from the public. Especially on the roadway. We also got the Loves Truck Stop presentation on the website so people can go and see it. We are working on that. We are obviously waiting on the PIO, so Becca we can get that community calendar piece in place.
- Our team in finance spent around 5 hours last week working on the finances for the water projects downtown, and understanding our debt. We are going to have another meeting this Friday to construct a plan on how that is going to go forward.
- We are pleased to have Jesse Cole on staff at the Wastewater Department. The crew was happy. We set up a structure, and we think we have a leadership team in place there. He hit the ground running and we are already solving problems there.
- Here in a few minutes you will hear from 5 department heads, and we will do that on a quarterly basis.

Mayor Hechler: What do you think the timeframe is for the electronic boards? Are we getting started on it now?

City Manager Whitehead: We think we found a contractor that can do it that is on the state contract. Jocelyn is working that angle and Bo got us a quote to put the underground line. If everything works well then, we could be ready to potentially order them in 6 weeks or maybe sooner than I would rely on Jocelyn and her team to give us a timeline on how they can be constructed. You budgeted around \$150,000 for two signs, but we might spend a little more to get the underground utilities right and do those things.

### **a. Police Department Update.**

#### **Chief of Police Tavizon:**

- In February the department handles 935 calls for service.
- We dealt with 16 motor vehicle accidents. For some reason in January the motor vehicle accidents were quite a bit higher. We had 25 in January, so they slightly

CITY COMMISSION MARCH 12, 2025 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

improved in February. 16 is still a lot in a month, but either way we still dealt with that.

- Our School Recourse Officer has been busy at the schools. He has been dealing with vaping and fights at the schools. They are working on a policy. They may have passed it where the kids can no longer use their cell phones at school. That was a contributing factor with them recording some of the fights at the middle school. He has been extremely busy at the middle school.
- We had 7 SCI (CYFD) reports. We had 11 in January. They have been higher than usual.
- We had 2 DWI arrests.
- We had 237 traffic stops. The guys issued 138 citations and we had 25 arrests.
- We have been focusing on some of the mandated training. We closed that out for last year. We are currently working on the LAPF applications. In order to be eligible for them we have to meet the state requirements and minimum training, so we're on board to do that.
- We have been working on our budget and new policies. We are also training our staff and sending them to leadership training, procurement training for my executive assistant.
- We have received a lot of calls since they have mostly finished up the downtown area. There is a lot of confusion from some of the community members. I can see where their frustrations are coming from. We are going to try to work with them and do an education process. We will be doing some foot patrols down there to make sure that everybody is parked where they are supposed to be parked and just educating as to what the change is and how it is supposed to be applied downtown. Once we feel that a majority of the people should know, then we will use discretion at that point as far as any kind of enforcement action. I think that is the best way to approach it being that it is new to all of us, so it may take a little bit of time to learn.
- I will be presenting a grant that we were awarded monies for emergency response to crisis intervention, so I will get with you guys on that for approval hopefully here in a bit.

Mayor Hechler: How are we going to remind people what the new parking scheme is, and what are we going to do as far as educational action.

Chief Tavizon: We will add it to social media, and other resources to try and get the information out there. We will also implement some foot patrols downtown and interact with people to make sure that they fully understand how everything works. We will continue down that path until we get to a point where they will use discretion.

City Manager Whitehead: We are also in constant communication with the Department of Transportation. We set up a communication for the public to give us information and we're putting that on the website. Our Clerk's Office has the ability to understand and forward those questions to the New Mexico Department of Transportation. They want to be able to answer all of those questions. Chief and the streets department is involved and we are all talking about the issues with an effort to say that we want to support it

and see if it's going to work. It's intended to slow traffic down, because its in a 2013 document that we asked for foot traffic and a one lane road down town. It took 10 years, but it's here so we want to try and be supportive and get through it so we are doing everything we can to make sure that we educate the public.

Chief Tavizon: They will also in stall a lot of signage. It's not quite complete as far as signage goes.

**b. Department Head Report.**

**Buster Smith, Streets Manager:**

- We've been patching potholes and blading roads. We've been trying to stay on a schedule. It's a little difficult being that we are shorthanded, but we are doing what we can.
- We're working with the water department with the water cuts to try and get caught up on some of the water cut patches. We fixed the one in the alley off of Foch Street yesterday, and my team is out today doing pothole patches.
- We've been talking with some of the property owners on the Cantell Dam progress and possible acquisitions, and they have been eager to help and work with us.
- We received our dam inspection reports from the Dam Safety Bureau. We are currently waiting for another inspection from the Corps of Engineers for the Cuchillo Dam. We are waiting to hear back from them to get that inspection scheduled.
- They are almost finished with the roadwork downtown and they should be finished painting by the end of the week. They have a second schedule where they are going to come back and re-do all of the signs.

Commissioner Fahl: The street sweeper used to be operating on a regular basis. Can you tell me what's going on with that?

Buster Smith, Streets Manager: We don't have a specific person for that position anymore. They removed it before I was here, so I don't have details on why.

Commissioner Fahl: I think it would be helpful for the community to have some sort of regular schedule when we get an operator for it because if the community knows when it's coming, then I think people will be inclined to move their vehicles so we can do a better job of getting the streets cleaned.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: Buster you're saying that we don't even have that position available. Correct?

Buster Smith, Streets Manager: Right. We have an operator position, but we don't have anybody dedicated specifically to the street sweeper. We run it when we can, but right now it's down.

CITY COMMISSION MARCH 12, 2025 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Fahl: Are you going to have it working before Fiesta?

Mayor Hechler: How many vacancies do you have now?

Buster Smith, Streets Manager: We just filled a position, but he doesn't start until the 24<sup>th</sup> and that will leave me with one laborer position.

Mayor Hechler: Once we are at 100% that will probably be easier. I want to thank you for doing Kopra Street. How are we going to finish that off?

Buster Smith, Streets Manager: We have some millings up there that I can finish it off. We just have to maintain it for now until we can get it chip sealed.

Mayor Hechler: So, that's what we did with the rest of Kopra Street. That's a chip seal?

Buster Smith, Streets Manager: Yes. It's all chip sealed over millings.

Mayor Hechler: I know that we are going to talk about drainage with one of our studies, but in the interim, is there is a reason why we can't use the vacuum truck to clean up those intersections from the water after a rain storm, and what's the capacity of a vacuum truck and is that even feasible.

Buster Smith, Streets Manager: Normally, we use our vacuum sweeper, but we are having issues with it right now, so we are looking into possibly purchasing a new one next year. We rented a vacuum trailer before wastewater bought theirs and it worked well because I was able have my laborers go out there with it and suck up the water puddles. It worked really well so that is another option.

Mayor Hechler: And we put that into your operational ideas if we have a rain storm.

Buster Smith, Streets Manager: Normally we do the areas, especially Bullocks and down there by Pershing.

**City Clerk Torres:**

- I'm going to first touch on our new sound system. We finally got the new mics and a new sound board installed. We are still working on our cameras. They should be in soon to get that done. I think they were on back order, so once they are installed that will be our final step for this project. I really like everything so far. Our projector has a speaker, so that will help when we have zoom meetings or presentations.
- Right now, we are working on our business license renewals. They are due March 15<sup>th</sup> before they become delinquent. We have around 100 more that need to be renewed. We been sending out letters and emails to everyone, but right now we are calling them just to make sure they haven't closed and stuff like that.

CITY COMMISSION MARCH 12, 2025 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

- Our Clerk's Office has an open position for an Administrative Assistant, so if you know anyone who is interested, please send them our way.
- We advertised for the subrecipient grant applications. They are due by noon on Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. We have it on our website, along with the application. It has also been posted on Facebook and published in the Sentinel. You can also pick up an application at the City Clerk's Office.
- We are almost full with all of our boards. We have one seat available on the Public Utility Advisory Board and two extra seats open for the Impact Fee Board. That board consists of the five members on the Public Utility Advisory Board, plus two extra members. We have four seats open for the Airport Advisory Board. There are two applicants that will be presented later on in the meeting for the Golf Course/Recreation Advisory Board. If approved, we will have a full Golf Course/Recreation Advisory Board.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: We're advertising for subrecipients for our budget I'm assuming. Is that something that we thought that we weren't going to do this year. Remember we had talked about it last year and we thought that we weren't going to advertise for subrecipients.

City Clerk Torres: I don't think a final decision was made on that.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: It's because when we put that out people just think that we have this pool of money, and that's not the case.

Commissioner Fahl: We were going to change the name, I think. Instead of grants, we were going to call them something else.

City Clerk Torres: I do remember that.

Commissioner Fahl: Are we calling it grants this year.

City Clerk Torres: We just advertised it as subrecipient applications. The Clerk's Office is kind of new to the whole process, so we can talk about it during budget, and if you guys do want to change that, then next year we will have a plan and we will know exactly how you want us to proceed. We'll talk with finance to see how much money we do have available and then go from there, so we'll have a plan and people won't just think that we have this open pool of money available.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: I think the best way to do it is if they are bringing in their application, and it's maybe something that will fit under lodgers' tax, we can have them apply for that.

City Clerk Torres: We are doing that. Gina Kelley from the Lodgers Tax Board has been amazing. She's been helping through this process. We are sending stuff to her. There was an organization who wanted to apply for subrecipients, and she said that it may be



better suited for the Clean and Beautiful grant so we referred her to Becca Eza at MainStreet. We are doing stuff like that if it doesn't really apply to the subrecipients.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: Let's just make a note that we do talk about subrecipients during budget time.

City Clerk Torres: One more thing, Becca, I can work with you with the city website calendar. If you want to get me list of events, I will add it to our city calendar.

**Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager:**

- We currently have 2 full time cashiers, and we have a full time AR and Utility Supervisor and myself. City Manager Whithead and I have been working on a new position that we are wanting to open up in the Utility Office. We want to make it a collections/customer service position that will mostly deal with collections and in cases where people need to have someone watch their accounts and help them with their payment arrangements and stuff like that.
- We've issued around 480 delinquent notices since January 1<sup>st</sup>. We've done around 138 red tags, and we brought in \$980,000 in January. In February we brought in \$974,000.
- In October the low income energy assistance program renewed so, anyone that is low income that needs help with their utility services is free to file an application with the Income Support Division, and they do help with one payment per year for either utilities or gas. They will pay up to \$480 in some cases.
- We are currently doing our budget billing re-vamps, so if anyone is on budget billing, you will probably get a letter. We look at the previous usage to see if there is a credit or if there is money owed, and then we average the monthly amount that needs to be paid, and we also consider a 5% increase because of all of the increases throughout the year.
- This year we sent out our solar credit checks. We had about 30 checks that went out to solar customers, and we paid out around \$23,000.
- City Manager Whitehead and I have been working on water issues. We've had some issues with customers having leaks so we are trying to figure out what part are we accountable for. So, if the meter readers are out reading meters and they notice a meter spinning, and there is a huge consumption of water, they leave a door hanger, but what if a customer doesn't live in town. So, what we've decided to is if anyone calls us or comes into the office, we will be asking for their updated information such as phone numbers, addresses and things of that nature. That way we can make sure that when we call one person and we reach them and inform them that they have a water leak that we are able to reach the other person as well because we want to make sure that we are contributing to help fix this issue.
- In December we went through a huge change in prices for sanitation. I think it took me around 2 days to create 8 different prices for the trash rates. That has gone over well. Andy and Wes are amazing to work with.
- We have had a lot of customers complaining because of the high usage because we had a few really cold days. I had the chance to work with someone who had a

CITY COMMISSION MARCH 12, 2025 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

high utility bill and I was able to print out reports from our Emerg system and I think that really helped the customer. It shows the time of day when you are using the most utilities.

Commissioner Fahl: On a weekend, one of my good friends called me and his neighbor was out of state for a week, and they saw water bubbling everywhere at their house so he called me to do something. So, I called Sonya, and it was 7:00 p.m. and I asked if there is anything the city could do, and she got her crew to go out there and turn the water off so he wouldn't have substantial loss while he was out of town. I know that he really appreciated that, so having our ability to take care of our people that way is a really good thing for us. I really appreciate you all doing that. I also meant to ask you Gary about how we are doing with our collections, because we talked about that several months ago.

City Manager Whithead: It's been a fast month for me, but Sonya and I addressed it early and we agreed that I am going to help her with that. We are going to sit down and look at those. We have seen reports, but we haven't really put together the program. We kind of hung our hat on trying to find a customer service collections person and develop a way to do it, and then we are going to go in and look at the bill and see which ones we think are collectable. We have bills owed back from 2014, so it's not unreasonable to assume that we are never going to collect those. We talk about it every time we meet when we find a problem, so that is kind of where we are at. Sooner than later. We will have a concept that talks about how we do both of those things. We see this customer person as someone who can reach out to your delinquent customers, and assist them and offer programs and deal with those sorts of things.

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: We also do disconnect for non-payment every week. I wanted to also bring you those numbers, but fortunately most of the people that we have to disconnect for non-payment end up coming into the office and we get the money and we get them re-connected because that is very important to us. We do want to also make sure that people are paying their bills. Especially this time of year, January through March and July through September are our highest billing months.

City Manager Whitehead: One of the first issues that I got was a meter that was turned off. We went out and turned it off, and I got a call, and my reaction is a customer service guy and when someone has their meter turned off and they laid everything on the table that they were challenged with, and we have to turn the meter back on. That's not really fair to the crew who'd probably been working on that. That's what we see. We have to make a stairstep process where we help all the ways that we can, and then I need to know as the manager, the day before we are going to go and turn that off, so that I can say did we do everything, so when that person calls, I can say, I'm sorry, this is on you. We did everything we could, so that's the mindset that we're trying to develop. If I just said, go out there and turn it back on without first looking into it, that defeats our ability to collect. It hurts the team, so we are having good conversations about how to be more customer friendly and also protect the city, and get paid for what we do.

**Jamie Foreman, Water/Wastewater Compliance Specialist:**

- We are down to 16 total reported leaks in town. This is due to the amazing crew that we have. They are constantly out there trying to protect our water source.
- With the amount of water leaks being down, we are down to a water loss of 35% to 40% which is down from last year where we were at 59%.
- Over the next 3 months we will continue to maintain and improve our water leaks. We are trying to get down below 10. That is our goal. With Jesse Cole coming on, he will help us concur the more complex leaks that we have. The ones that we have been having some problems with and we will be able to get those accomplished.
- Jesse has also offered training to all of our laborers so we can get them certified as operators.
- We plan to send four laborers to testing over the next 3 months. I plan to go test for my Water 2 certification within the next month or so.
- The water quality is excellent. We received all of our water testing back and it is negative for bacteria, and the state has done their testing which includes things such as heavy metals and minerals, and those are all back in normal standards.

Commissioner Fah: What is going on, on Veater Street because that is a mess.

Jamie Foreman, Water/Wastewater Compliance Specialist: We are working to get all of those leaks fixed. We fix a leak and then 10 feet down, another leak pops up, so we are constantly working to repair Veater Street.

Commissioner Fah: Because it's so bad over there, I'm hoping that we are on regular communication with the land owners and they are kept up to date with what is going on. If I was living over there, I would be very irate that I have to put a culvert in the street to get to my driveway, so I'm hoping that will be something that Jesse can focus on right away. I know that eventually we are going to get the money to fix that, but that to me is not acceptable for that to keep going on. I'm sure the landowners don't think that either.

Jamie Foreman, Water/Wastewater Compliance Specialist: That is one of the plans. We do have several portions in town that he will be focused on. Veater is one of them, and he is helping us develop a plan for that.

City Manager Whitehead: I was presented that we GIS our entire system, and we have. Wilson & Company pulled all of the records and we have all of the maps, but occasionally, it sounds like we have a couple of valves that we can't find. That and Elm Street are the two areas where they can't find the valve to turn the water off. That is going to happen today. I think that Jesse is trying to go to the field to help them locate, and then we also know that there are other retired water folks in our community that have information. We sort of talked yesterday about how we can bring those folks in to help us find the valve. We know where every waterline is. We got it mapped and we have those pressures, but we are a little off on some of them. Jamie has addressed Veater with me. I asked the same question, and she said, if we can get some help, we will make those a priority. We are just waiting for USDA to give us the check then we

can go to bid. We are ready. We had a meeting yesterday. The capital outlay project was released this last month. The item that we took off of the agenda was an error on our part. I missed something. We would be starting that second part which is the shovel ready portion, and then critical waterline is next, but it is in design. Veater will be 3<sup>rd</sup> on the list, but the money is secure, and the grant and match is in place for the \$17.5 million for Veater and that will replace all of those lines. If we get WISP1 in the next month, we're going to have a \$9 million project working. If shovel ready comes out, then we will have another \$9 million that could potentially be going this year. That's \$18 million worth of projects, so adding another \$18 million, we might need a little space. Getting it done is great, but it will be a challenge to spend \$20 million affectively if we are not careful.

**City Manager Whitehead reported on the Fleet Department:**

- The Fleet Director was unable to make it to the meeting today. He is in CDL training.
- They were able to fill their last position. They now have a full staff.
- Ingo and I had the opportunity to be onsite. The facility is clean, and well organized. They are working hard.
- They are using our IWorQ program to begin to implement. They are putting vehicles into that system so we can manage the life cycle and the servicing. Brendan in Streets needed some light duty work. He has spent the last 6 weeks with IWorQ studying it, and putting the roads stuff into it. We are trying really hard to make IWorQ part of our program here.
- We have a great young guy who is excited to be there. We talked about some leadership things yesterday, and he is anxious to come on board, so everything is in order there.

Commissioner Hoepfner: When I visited the Fleet Department, I was very impressed especially how everything was in place and ready to go. It was clean and well organized.

**City Commission Reports:**

**Commissioner Fahl reported the following:**

- I did want to acknowledge, during the legislative session some of the Commissioners were able to go up for Municipal Day. I went up twice this year to the session. My husband had never been there, so we went up. We got to sit through some of the sessions, and we got the chance to visit with our legislatures. There was a Soil and Water Conservation District Day, and because of my RC&D status, I went up that day to visit with them. I was glad to be able to do that.
- When Bobby Allen started the Veterans Memorial Park, he tried to secure a Huey helicopter because of its relation to the Veteran Memorial wall that we have there, and they have been trying ever since. We have one coming. The paperwork is in place. We located one in Alabama, and the Veterans Memorial

Park Trust Board is going to pay for its transportation here. It will be around \$13,000 to get it here because we are getting a special trucking company that just does helicopters. We are going to store it at the Airport in a hangar so we can protect it while we build a platform to get it mounted. We are pretty excited about this. It's been a long time coming. It is a Huey helicopter, and our partnership with the Veteran Trust Board and the city is really going to be a great thing. What a bonus it will be to promote tourism and for the veterans to see that helicopter is going to be a wonderful thing for them.

- Ingo and I, and our Turtleback Network Group had a conversation with some folks that are going to be down here with the Rio Grande Trail Commission. They are going to hold their meeting here on April 11<sup>th</sup>. We hope the community comes. This is a re-vamp of that commission. They have been in place since Governor Richardson started that process, and it kind of died on the vine for whatever reason, and now it is getting re-vamped. They really want to have our turtleback trail be incorporated as part as the Rio Grande trail. They are going to come down here on the 10<sup>th</sup> and they want to look at the city's project at the Ralph Edwards Park and then they are going to go with the Jornada group to look to see where we are going to put our signage along the trail. We told them that they needed to support our local economy and to go to the Brewery, so then we are going to go to the Brewery after that. I want to encourage the community to attend the meeting. I think it would really show that group what our community supports. When we talked about the healing waters trail at one of the commission meetings and we had a huge turnout of support for hiking and walking, so if those people can be there at that meeting it would be a really good thing.

**Commissioner Hoepfner reported the following:**

- Art Hop was last weekend and it was a wonderful event. I see the efforts that we do with advertisement and everything here to get more people from all over New Mexico and beyond to come to our events. It was mind blowing to me to see people here from Tucson, Santa Fe and Taos. When I came to New Mexico, I heard, you have to go to Carlsbad and Taos and Santa Fe, and now I see people from those places are coming here. That is absolutely wonderful to see. Businesses are appreciative of it. I hope it will grow even more in the future.
- I am a big fan of any kind of trails or outdoor recreations, so I am full support of that. I believe that is the way to go when it comes to positive tourism. I hope that we will soon have a walking bridge across the river. That would bring us to the next level.
- The striping downtown is done, and I know that it is something new. What I learned very quickly is that when something is new, nobody likes it. I was sitting outside yesterday and watching people park where they are supposed to park and this morning that was not the case, but last night it was. I already saw a big difference when it comes to the speed people drive downtown, and for me, that is the main reason why I am for the change to one lane. I am downtown every day. I am walking downtown, and once a month you almost got killed by a car because they were speeding, and now they have to be more cautious, and slow

down. I ask that the community give it a chance because it is safer to get around downtown now. The bike lane is nice too.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister reported the following:**

- I was also at the Art Hop. The Crab King truck that was over there was fantastic. There were lines, and they are here every Art Hop right next to the Brewery.
- I have received calls about the downtown striping. Again, people don't like change, but I don't necessarily know if that was what we had envisioned, but they had a whole community forum where everyone was able to go and voice their opinions and that is what they came up with. That was the New Mexico Department of Transportation's decision, not ours. I think it is going to be amazing for pedestrians, but what I see that may be one of our biggest problems is any kind of equipment that is being hauled, or a semi that is going through there. That may be a little difficult for them to get through.
- I do want everyone to keep in mind with the recreation that we have a big ATV/UTV community here and that is huge, so if we are accessing other parts of the river, I want to make sure that community is also involved in that discussion.
- Everybody's favorite event is coming back on April 14<sup>th</sup>, donkey basketball. We have miniature donkeys that come to our very nice gym at the high school, but we put a floor down and they have pooper scoopers and everybody handles their business. Our Chief is tasked with putting a law enforcement team together, along with Sheriff Baker. We will have 4 teams, and it is a really fun event for our community, and you will see some of the people that you know out there.

**Mayor Hechler reported the following:**

- We had a great Municipal Day. Gary and I sat down with Senator Brantley, Representative Armstrong and Representative Dow and we advocated for the city.
- I spent a couple of days last week with a new perspective manufacturing business that may locate to our community. They have been around talking to folks for a couple of years. I was able to show them the old Sears building and the old Denny's building and they seemed very interested. I don't want to let too much out right now, but it could bring upwards of 14 manufacturing jobs. They are not dependent on the local economy. They do a lot of their work through mail order and things of that nature. They manufacture and they ship out. We will continue to have conversations with them to see what happens. I am hoping that they will choose Truth or Consequences. They have a house here, so hopefully they will choose our community.
- I was on the city website this morning. Good job on that. It is really nice to see the jobs right up front. You have to turn them off in order to get something else going so that was a good catch, and then we have videos right there in front. I know that a lot of our folks paid money for those videos, so we want to put them in a prominent location where they are right there in front. I am glad that is done. I would ask that everyone go visit the website because the downtown painting project is on the website, and frequently asked questions are also on the website

## CITY COMMISSION MARCH 12, 2025 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

so you can have questions answered. The Loves presentation is on there as well.

- Please remember Fiesta this year. There are several events that we have going on before Fiesta. This weekend we have a gameshow at the El Cortez theatre. It will be on Sunday from 1-3pm. It will be a lot of fun. This is going to be our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary for Fiesta and it's going to be huge.

### **City Attorney Rubin reported the following:**

- When you get your utility bill, there are two timeframes on the bill. On the righthand side there is a service period which is a 30-day period, and on the left side of the bill there is actually a date that ends when the meter is being read, and those dates don't match up. That was my question, and I learned that it is a timeframe where the meter is read, and that is the date that you focus on. I thought that would be helpful for everybody to know.
- When we have our meeting on March 26<sup>th</sup> we will meet at 4pm, and I know there was some discussion by the Commission and the City Manager that there will be some changes to the agenda, and if anybody wants to use my time to discuss it you are welcome to do that now, or we can just wait until the 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **E. CONSENT CALENDAR:**

- 1. City Commission Regular Minutes, February 12, 2025**
- 2. City Commission Regular Minutes, February 26, 2025**
- 3. Acknowledge Regular Recreation/Golf Course Advisory Board Minutes, January 6, 2025**
- 4. February 2025 Accounts Payable**
- 5. Purchase report of items between \$20,000 and \$60,000**

Commissioner Fahl: On item number 5, I like the format of the report, but I was hoping for a little bit more. Some of these items are pretty easy to understand, but where it says architect design and contract, what is that for? So, in the future if you could put a little bit more detail so we are more aware of what we are doing, that would be appreciated.

City Manager Whitehead explained that this is their first run at it and we will do a better job of adding more information. He then reviewed the purchase items between \$20,000 and \$60,000. (Report attached hereto and made a part hereof).

**Commissioner Fahl moved to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted. Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.**

**F. ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS/ZONING:**

**1. Discussion/Action: Resolution No. 33 24/25 Budget Adjustment Request.**

Jocelyn Holguin, Finance Director, reviewed the budget adjustments provided in the packet. (Complete copy attached hereto and made a part hereof).

**Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister moved to approve Resolution No. 33 24/25 Budget Adjustment Request. Commissioner Fahl seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.**

**2. Discussion/Action: Resolution No. 34 24/25 Confirming the City of Truth or Consequences to participate in the New Mexico Department of Transportation Municipal Arterial Program Local Government Road Fund Program.**

City Manager Whitehead: At the last meeting you approved the projects and then Traci developed the next step to do those.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: You approved the project for the Municipal Arterial Map funding and they require a resolution to submit that application. You have the funding last year for the design on Second Street and Pershing Street, and we will be asking for construction funding with this application.

Commissioner Fahl: How long does this process usually take after you send it in?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: The applications are due on Friday, and I want to say that it took approximately 3 to 6 months before we got the award.

Mayor Hechler: I see that we require a 25% match. Are we able to do this in kind or do we have to come up with funds?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: This particular funding source does allow in kind, so that is probably an internal discussion that we will have with the streets department and the City Manager to see what we can do for in kind services.

**Commissioner Fahl moved to approve Resolution No. 34 24/25 Confirming the City of Truth or Consequences to participate in the New Mexico Department of Transportation Municipal Arterial Program Local Government Road Fund Program. Commissioner Hoepfner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.**



**3. Discussion/Action: Resolution No. 35 24/25 Supporting the City of Elephant Butte Resolution to urge the New Mexico Legislature to adopt a minimum pool for Elephant Butte Lake to protect the Ecosystem.**

Mayor Hechler: There is a document that was submitted through the legislature to establish a minimum conservation pool to protect the eco system at the Elephant Butte Lake State Park. This is not the first attempt that has been made to try to establish a minimum pool. The Elephant Butte Lake was established as an irrigation reservoir, and there has been several attempts in the past to establish a minimum pool. The last one that I recall was in 1974 where we had a 50,000-acre ft. minimum pool, but unfortunately that was lost when the lake went over the spillway. I don't really understand why the 50,000-acre ft. had to be on top when we lost it. Why couldn't it have been on the bottom. In the past we used to argue exclusively on the economics of the lake to establish the minimum pool because we know how important that lake is to our community of Elephant Butte and Truth or Consequences. Businesses were established and people moved here because of the lake. It is a huge economic driver for the Southwest so you can imagine the RV's that are purchased in the southwest in New Mexico and in the surrounding states. You can imagine the boats and watercraft. A lot of those things are purchased in the southwest because they know that they are going to come to Elephant Butte Lake or Caballo Lake State Park, so it is a huge economic driver, and that is the reason why we wanted to try and fight for a minimum pool at Elephant Butte and in the past, it has fallen on deaf ears. In 1938 the Elephant Butte Reservoir has been governed by the Rio Grande compact between Colorado, New Mexico and Texas through a portion of water. Elephant Butte Lake irrigates around 188,000 acres of farmland downstream, so we know it's an irrigation reservoir. We also know that in 1906 we entered into a treaty with Mexico with guaranteeing them 80,000-acre ft. of water every year, so those are things that are allocated out. This resolution that I hope that we will support, identifies a new minimum pool of 113,000-acre ft. which is 5.7% of the capacity of the reservoir. How much is that and how can we look at that. This year, we got down to 5.7-acre ft. That was the lowest point this year. That is also the lowest point that we have at the lake where our facilities like the marinas don't have to move. If it goes below that, then the Damsite marina has to move to a deeper location in the lake and that is a huge undertaking. It takes several weeks to do that. When you see the main marina, Marina Del Sur, you will see the huge walkway that is established from the land to the actual marina that is several 100 ft. long at some points in time. That is another reason why we should establish the minimum pool of 5.7-acre ft. Instead of focusing on economics, this focuses more on environmental concerns that are caused with large fluctuations of water such as anoxic which occurs when warm water and low levels mix together and depletes oxygen in the lake and that causes huge fish kills. In recent years when the lake went down to that level, we had fish kills. It's been many years, but in the 1950's the lake went down to its lowest point ever at 2,300 square ft. of water. That is just a river channel. I remember when I first started there, you could smell the dead fish in town. That's how bad it could get when you have as many fish as you have in that lake and it does down to a river. So, we want to try to get support for this minimum pool. This resolution supports our friends at the City of Elephant Butte and thrives to secure our future based on ecological principals and the needs of the irrigation recreation environmental sustainability. By doing this, that is what

CITY COMMISSION MARCH 12, 2025 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

we are trying to accomplish, and we are trying to put the emphasis more on the ecology of the lake vs. the economic of the lake. We know they are both important, but this is a different way to try it. Since then, this has been put before our legislatures, and we talked to them about it and supported this thing. City Manager Whithead and I had a meeting with the New Mexico State Parks Director. We know that Elephant Butte Lake State Park is the flagship of all of the state parks in New Mexico. There are 35 state parks and Elephant Butte is the biggest, the busiest and the most important. It also makes the most money and it has the most visitation, so it makes sense to us to try and support this resolution.

Commissioner Fahl: I think that is a smart way to go with this. I think you will get more reception with the ecosystem from the legislators up north because the environment drives a lot of their decision making.

Mayor Hechler: I hope so, and I hope that we get some traction that way.

Commissioner Fahl: Do you think that you will get it with this session since we are just now doing it this week?

Mayor Hechler: This is the first year, so it is going to take a couple of times I think to get it started and to start talking about it, but I think this is the start for us. Certainly, piggybacking a resolution with the City of Elephant Butte is important and it lets folks know what we are concerned about. I think that is an important step, and we will get notice that way. That is how we start these things.

Commissioner Fahl: Do you think Sierra County and Williamsburg are doing the same thing?

Mayor Hechler: I don't know, but we could certainly pass it on to them. The City of Elephant Butte is the driver behind this and they asked us to support them and hopefully we will.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: I'm sure they are hitting the county for that.

Commissioner Fahl: Having all of us united gives it a little bit more emphasis.

City Attorney Rubin: I wanted to make a comment. As explained to you the City of Elephant Butte has already adopted a similar resolution, and this is supporting the action that they have already taken. When we got together yesterday for the agenda review meeting, I had suggested that the therefore language on page two after where it says acknowledges, we should throw in the phrase "and supports."

**Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister moved to approve Resolution No. 35 24/25 Supporting the City of Elephant Butte Resolution to urge the New Mexico Legislature to adopt a minimum pool for Elephant Butte Lake to protect the Ecosystem with the amendment of adding supporting the City of Elephant Butte and to include the**

phase "and supports" suggested by City Attorney Rubin. Commissioner Fahl seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

**G. NEW BUSINESS:**

**1. Discussion/Action: Medical Grant from Best Friends.**

Tara Manning, Animal Shelter Manager: As you know, running an Animal Shelter can be difficult. There is the fun and joy of us getting to play with the animals, but there is also the difficult stuff when you get a sick animal which takes a toll on everybody. So, when Best Friends reached out to me asking me for details about what animals we sadly have to euthanize, where do we see the trend happening. So, of course IWorQ went into works and reports were ran, and we figured out, in the last two years that we have sadly put down 23 puppies with parvo, and around 20 kittens that have come in with upper respiratory issues. The treatment for puppies with parvo is extensive and expensive and they also have to be in quarantine, and as you know our shelter is very small and it is very difficult to do so without exposing everybody in the building. That is a scary thought for us. Usually, the average cost of saving one parvo puppy is equivalent to getting 10 animals fixed, so financially it made more sense because their chances of survival can be 50/50. It is even harder when it is in the shelter because they need around the clock medical care. Kittens with upper respiratory issues that are under 6 months old and can't smell their food will not eat. The upper respiratory issue clogs their nose, and they can't see because their eyes are shut. We do everything we can to treat them and medicate them, but sadly their chances of survival are very small. So, we do prevent suffering, and it's very sad when we have to euthanize them. That is the hardest topic to talk about. I ran some extra numbers about the animals that we had to out down from 2023 and 2024 and if we did have some additional funding, what would our save rates look like and would it make a huge difference. So, when I ran the numbers, in 2024 we ended with an 87% save rate. Had we had the extra funding to save these parvo puppies and the kittens with upper respiratory issues and also the dogs that come in with tumors that the vet says that we can remove the tumor, but it will cost you \$500 to do so, or you can end their suffering today then we would have ended with a 91% save rate, and we would have been a no kill shelter last year. The year before, we ended the year with a 87% save rate, and had we had the extra funding to save these additional animals, we would have ended with a 90% save rate. So, we could have been a no kill shelter for the last two years. I gave all of this information to Best Friends and they offered to give us this grant to be able to save the parvo puppies and we have talked to our Vet about the upper respiratory kittens because the spread of disease is the scariest thought of all when it comes to this because I don't want my other cats getting sick and I don't want the other dogs getting sick either. Our Vet has graciously opened their doors to let us house the parvo puppies and the upper respiratory kittens and anything else that needs additional care over there. They would get around the clock treatment and they would get the IV set ups and once they are healthy and not contagious, they would come back and go up for adoption. With that we will be able to

save more animals and be a no kill shelter hopefully by the end of the year. The thing that they mainly look for is parvo and upper respiratory issues, but they also want us to take care of the additional animals that do need the extra surgery to remove the tumors to save their lives. We had a dog that was fixed last week, and she was a difficult surgery. We put her up and brought her back to the shelter after having to stay an extra night. Everything was doing well, and Monday morning we came in and it was a very awful scene in her kennel so we rushed her to the Vet. Apparently, she was getting stressed out and she was getting infected and it was just really bad. Based on her personality and her temperament, the Vet thought that she was definitely savable, and so we opted to save her life. A few years ago, we had that dog that was hit by a truck, and the shelter was full so it made sense to put him down, but something in my heart said don't do it, so we removed his leg. This medical grant would have been able to do that, and we would have been able to have our current budget to go through and get the additional vaccines that we needed, as well as the additional testing that we need. Just the simple day by day things, as well as being able to get everybody fixed and not pinching pennies so to speak.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: Is this something that we can apply for every year?

Tara Manning, Animal Shelter Manager: The amount that we are getting now covers us until September 30<sup>th</sup>, and usually parvo and upper respiratory issues take place between May and September which is where she is stressing it. She does want to maybe do an additional grant for the following 6 months, but mainly focus on the medical purpose of it, and when puppy and kitten season starts then give us more ability to continue saving parvo puppies and upper respiratory kittens. So, it sounds like it might be consistent for us. This will not only give us the communities respect because everybody wants a no-kill shelter, but we would also be the first city shelter in the State of New Mexico that would be a no-kill shelter, so that would be really exciting. We would also have the ability to open our doors for additional grants throughout the state, and not just through Best Friends.

Commissioner Fahl: How many puppies and kittens do you think this would fund?

Tara Manning, Animal Shelter Manager: So, if we were just to treat the parvo and the upper respiratory kittens based on the current amount that it is, we would probably be able to save 30-40 of them. We have been a no kill since January 2025. We have to be a no-kill shelter for 12 consecutive months, and then we can get a certificate and officially be a no-kill shelter.

Commissioner Fahl: That's great!

City Manager Whitehead: This is Tara's year goal to have a no kill shelter, so anything that we can do to recognize the goal that she set for herself and her staff is important.

**Mayor Pro-Tom Forrister moved to approve the Medical Grant from Best Friends. Commissioner Hoepfner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.**

**2. Discussion/Action: Recommendation of approval from Planning and Zoning Commission of a Special Use/Variance Request at 320 Marr Street.**

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: The applicant is requesting to build 2 homes at 320 Marr Street. Each of those houses are approximately 400 square ft. or a little under. The request went to Planning & Zoning regarding the development standard. The current code doesn't allow for that dwelling unit size. The property is located in the R3 district, and within the R3 district your single-family home would be a 700 square ft. minimum. A two-family home would be a 500 square ft. minimum and then it goes down from there. A manufactured home is 550 square ft. and apartments are 400 square ft. We held the public hearing at the Planning & Zoning meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup>. There was one proponent and no opponents. The Planning & Zoning Commission recommended it for approval on a vote of 3-1.

Clayton Chowing, applicant: I am hoping to be able to put a couple of small homes on 320 Marr Street. There are two individual lots there and I was hoping to be able to use them partially for my family to use as well, and I wanted to also possibly do some rentals at the same time. I was hoping to do something a little bit smaller than the pre-manufactured 400 square ft. homes.

Roy Gibson, Bohannon Huston, applicant representative: When we reviewed the site development of 320 Marr, you will notice that it's a 50 ft. width lot. When we were doing the site development and planning for the lot, we discovered that there was a minimum square footage on the property, so we wanted to come before the council.

City Manager Whitehead: We are advocating for this potentially. Just coming on board, and of course being a member of the community, I wanted to make sure that I extended due diligence to how we'll implement and how I will be able to interact inside the code. I am not just administering, I have worked inside the code and part two of that would say that we make sure that the decisions that we make moving forward on the planning & zoning part are consistent with law, and they are things that we could duplicate. They would be things that we potentially may want to consider, like in this particular case. Is this something that we should send back and say that this is an opportunity. The code was developed in 1992. It is 30 plus years old and so items with the word "tiny homes" or homes this small didn't exist at that time, so these are opportunities in this new style to go. When we looked through the code, the first question that we had from the application was if it was a special use or was it a variance. They asked for both in consideration. In consultation with Jay we both came to the conclusion that this is a variance because it does potentially just affect the size on the property. Jay was clear in his argument that a

special use permit would be to change the use. The second thing is, if you look at the code under R3, what they asked for in two areas, they wouldn't need any application or variance from us. The size of the lot is 6,000 square ft. Under R3 with two homes you can put two separate homes. They can be attached or detached, so they would be in compliance to say that they are going to build two 500 square ft. structures here, or put two 500 square ft. units there. What they asked for is the change to say what's the size of the unit that needs to go on that spot. Our code would only allow 500 square ft. In their presentation they used the word tiny homes. I want to get to that in a minute because that's critical to the discussion. In their application what we would recommend that we do for them is that we would approve the R3 two family section of the code, and then we would ask the commission to allow the structure on this particular property to go down to 390 square ft. That is relevant because as you look at a park model home, they all seem to kind of fall in the 397 square ft. range. There are some that fall below that, but generally 397 square ft. kind of put that application in. We would ask that you require that they set that on a permanent foundation. If you look at the tiny homes statute, it would indicate that as long as a park model remains on wheels, its considered an RV. The moment the wheels are removed it's considered a manufactured structure within that code. I was concerned about the timing within the code because it would only allow them 90 days to get a building permit, but as I re-read the code, its 90 days to get a building permit or 180 days to start construction. They could just come to Planning & Zoning for an additional 90 day extension, so technically they would have  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a year to develop their project and come up with what they want to do, and find the right park model that fits, and with the variance they could move on. Whether they put one now and put one later, the fact that they got their building permit in that timeframe they would have checked the box for all of that. That is our recommendation to support this effort. We think it's the right thing. It opens the door to affordable housing, and it opens the door to kind of clean up some issues and it gives us those opportunities. Before we vote on that, I want to go down the conversation of tiny homes. As I reviewed the code, we have nothing in our provision that talks about tiny homes. New Mexico has a statute that covers tiny homes, and in New Mexico's language, it says any structure under 400 square ft. is considered a tiny home, so that's the area where I would say to the commission that we really don't at this moment want to open that door. I am a fan of tiny homes. I love watching them be built. I think they are some cool stuff and its something that we absolutely should consider, but I don't think we should open that door at this moment with this particular application. By going to 390 square ft., they could find the right park model, or they could build their own 390 or 500 square ft. unit. They could do whatever they wanted and it would give them that opportunity, so I would ask that we not consider the word tiny home in this variance, and that we grant them the application.

City Attorney Rubin: I think the point that should really be emphasized is that I agree that this is a variance procedure and not a special use procedure, and therefore 11-5-5 of our planning & zoning code applies. There was already a full-blown hearing at the Planning & Zoning level and sworn testimony was given at that level. I think that it's important to note that I'm assuming that any other property owners in the area were notified, and they chose not to attend and there was no objection to what is going on here. That was pursuant to the Battershell process where we went through the full-blown public hearing,

CITY COMMISSION MARCH 12, 2025 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

so I think you can look at that as well. There is no determination or finding that this would adversely affect adjoining properties, impair established property values, or endanger public safety, so those are all things that are set forth in our code.

Commissioner Hoepfner: When we allow this, then other people can do the same thing, and that is hurting us.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: There are lots of homes in our community that just put skirting around, so it's just that the wheels can't be visible.

City Manager Whitehead: The park model, based on what I read in the statute is considered a recreational vehicle if the wheels remain on it. So, to make it work for this variance, they would have to remove the wheels and make it a manufactured home. In the manufactured home code, you have two options. You can set it as a manufactured home or you can set them permanently which is a law in the statute that would require that the title be de-commissioned, the property be permanent, and that the assessor recognize that property as a permanent foundation and now that home is assessed as a permanent residence, not personal property. In this particular case, we are not asking that they make it a permanent foundation by the code to follow that statute. In this code they just have to make it a manufactured home, and then he would have to comply with the code for manufactured housing in that area. That could be ground set, but it has to be on a permanent foundation. They know the rules and it's pretty clear what they have to do to make it on a permanent foundation. It just can't be an RV. That's what we want to avoid here, and it also has to meet that minimum size. They could go one more step and deactivate the title and go the county assessor and dedicate it as a permanent structure, and then it would be assessed different and stay on the property and it would no longer have a title and be personal property.

Mayor Hechler: Mr. Chowling, have you decided what you want to do on the property?

Clayton Chowling, applicant: I haven't been able to contact anybody about how much it would cost to build here, but I would definitely like to look into that. I would love to use local businesses if possible. I haven't compared the two as far as cost efficiency goes. I do have an idea that I could afford one of the pre-built homes. I would love to have a site-built house if I could afford it, but the cost is just not achievable at times. The difference between a park model home and an RV other than the width is that you don't have holding tanks like you do on an RV. It's permanently plumbed into wherever you are staying. It's not something you could use like a regular RV.

City Manager Whitehead: When you think about the tiny home piece, it's really restricted. They have a lot of rules, so you can't just build a 200 square ft. home. It seems like a lot of these park models are following the restrictive code within the tiny home rule so they can be compliant with that application when the community says we will allow a tiny home.

Mayor Hechler: I did visit the site twice and the general neighborhood, if it's a new park model, it's going to improve the neighborhood. If we are able to do something like that I

think that it is a win for us. We need to address our ordinance itself. This may be kind of the way of the future because housing itself is not as affordable as it used to be. People are looking at smaller units and downsizing and things like that. I think we are going to have to address that at some point.

City Manager Whitehead: I would ask that you allow me to send back the tiny homes conversation to Planning & Zoning, and let them review that and decide if we have a presence there, and I would also ask them to debate whether we want to lower the standard in R3 to something below 500 square ft. We need to use the Planning & Zoning Board for something more than just approving a variance.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister made a motion to grant the variance in the R3 two family section of the code for the request at 320 Marr Street, and to allow the variance to go as low as 390 square ft. and require that they conform to the manufactured housing standard in our code. Commissioner Fahl seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer.**

Hon. Merry Jo Fahl, Commissioner voted aye  
Hon. Ingo Hoepfner, Commissioner voted nay  
Hon. Amanda Forrister, Mayor Pro-Tem voted aye  
Hon. Rolf Hechler, Mayor voted aye

**Motion carried voted 3-1.**

**3. Discussion/Action: Appointment of Jim Apodaca to the Golf Course/Recreation Advisory Board.**

City Clerk Torres: The Golf Course/Recreation Advisory Board currently has two vacant seats available. On March 3, 2025 the Board unanimously recommended the appointment of Jim Apodaca to serve a 2 year term on the board. We recommend approval of the appointment.

**Commissioner Fahl made a motion to appoint Jim Apodaca to serve as a member on the Golf Course/Recreation Advisory Board. Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.**



**4. Discussion/Action: Appointment of Buddy Montoya to the Golf Course/Recreation Advisory Board.**

City Clerk Torres: Buddy Montoya also applied to serve as a member on the board. If appointed we will have a full board. On March 3, 2025 the Board unanimously recommended his appointment to serve a 2-year term on the board. We recommend approval of the appointment.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister made a motion to appoint Buddy Montoya to serve as a member on the Golf Course/Recreation Advisory Board. Commissioner Hoepfner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.**

**5. Discussion/Action: Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Sierra and the City of Truth or Consequences for the Provision of Emergency Management Services.**

City Manager Whitehead: This was presented to you a few meetings ago. The county has an Emergency Management Office, and they are in the process of applying for a new grant to do their county-wide emergency management plan. The county asked that we decide to join forces with them and participate both with the plan and in some financial considerations. I asked that we table this at the last meeting just so we could get our hands wrapped around it and so we did. We brought together our team to see if this would be a benefit to us and the city and it was unanimous. We all agreed that we definitely need emergency management. We are really busy and these things don't just happen, so if we kind of make it a subset we may or may not give it the attention that the county could with a fulltime EMO Officer, so the staff agreed that we would like to recommend that we adopt and become part of this MOU. Through the discussions we agreed that we would develop a working team and design some training and a process. The Chief graciously stepped up and said that he would find two or three officers to volunteer to do this and the EMO would become part of their area of expertise, and then Ryan would create the volunteers and staff that would take care of things. Larger emergencies would be activated by myself, the Chief of Police, the Fire Chief and then Ryan would become an active member of the community dealing with the particular emergency that was there. We think that we need to develop an operational plan within it. We decided not to ask for a change within the contract so that it wouldn't have to go back, so we ask that you approve the MOU and approve the \$10,000 annual fee. I will need to do a budget adjustment resolution for about \$3,400 for this year's portion of that as we get started and then it will appear in the next budget.

Mayor Hechler: Ryan, how would this affect something like what happened with Mims pond, and the fires that we had there. How would you be involved in that, and how would that be coordinated because we had a mess at one point with that, so I'm hoping that we

have some clarity and we are able to deal with some of this down the road if we enter into this MOU.

Ryan Williams, Sierra County Emergency Services Administrator: Mims pond was being handled by two different jurisdictional authorities. Elephant Butte and the City of T or C Fire Department. They had the same goal and objectives but they were not working together. They were not unified. They were running rogue. When you are doing things like that you are kind of doubled tying the tasks and resource orders, and the state gets really confused when things like that are going on, so you would need an initial point of contact. During Mims, I came from Spaceport when I was working there, and I brought in resources. When I got on scene, I noticed that we didn't have that unification and we didn't have a safety officer. We had a lot of things that were not happening that needed to happen so I just assumed those roles, and that was just from being out at Spaceport. It worked well because I facilitated that communication between both of those chiefs because there was a lot of friction between both of them. When that happens in a command structure, things don't get accomplished, so I kind of bridged that gap and tied the knots between both of them. So, we started working a little more effectively on it. Now if that were to happen, with my constant communication with Chief Long in Elephant Butte and Chief Tooley, we're a unifying command right off the bat. Resources that are requested to the state are going directly through me. State statute states that any municipality that requests resources needs to come through the recognized emergency manager and then through the state. That just really stops all of that double ordering and the confusion at the state level because all they are getting is why do we need 15 engines, we only need 7, and stuff like that. It clears all of that up, and then it becomes, what do our residents do. What do we do. So, all of that would go through me, and I would do all of the support functions such as working with elected officials and managers, and figuring out a plan of action.

Mayor Hechler: So is everybody going to understand the unified command system. In other words, are they going to take the FEMA classes in relationship to that, and are you going to advocate for that? How is that going to work?

Ryan Williams, Sierra County Emergency Services Administrator: We're pushing that. I've sent some class opportunities to Chief Tavizon for some ICS300 and 400 which would help his team learn. 300 and 400 are good because other classes that you take are self-paced online, or in text books, so you're getting a lot of terminology and you're not putting through work. With the 300 and 400 you are actually doing scenario-based stuff.

**Commissioner Fahl moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the County of Sierra and the City of Truth or Consequences for the Provision of Emergency Management Services. Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister and Commissioner Hoepfner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.**

**6. Discussion/Action: Approve and Accept 2022-2023 Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP) Grant.**

Chief of Police Tavizon: The Byrne SCIP provides funding for the creation and/or implementation of extreme risk protection order (ERPO) programs, state crisis intervention court proceedings, and related gun violence reduction pro-grams/initiatives. The funding for the 2022-2023 SCIP award totals \$41,475.10 and is allocated to support the implementation of specific goals and objectives. The approved grant funding includes \$18,000.00 for personnel salary and wages, \$1,000.00 for in-state and out-of-state travel, \$21,739.10 for contractual services, and \$736.00 for other costs. This allocation will enable the department to effectively execute its planned activities and achieve the objectives outlined in the grant.

**Commissioner Fahl moved to approve and Accept 2022-2023 Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP) Grant. Commissioner Hoepfner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.**

**7. Discussion/Action: Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee/Stakeholder Selection.**

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: We had a meeting with our engineer for the comprehensive plan, and what that would entail. The first step to begin the process of the City Comprehensive Plan update is to establish a steering committee. Committee should be a combination of City officials, stakeholders and the public. Staff is requesting designation of two Commissioners for this committee. In addition, staff would like the Commission to reach out to various members of the public and recommend 1-2 members of the public to serve on the committee. Additional members should be a combination of both stakeholders and the public. Committee members need to have the ability to attend virtual and/or in-person meetings. We anticipate that this will take approximately a year from April 2025 to begin the work on it, so we would be able to hopefully present the Comprehensive Plan to the Commission by April of 2026. A lot of public input is extremely important for this plan. We are looking for a very active group to be on this Steering/Stakeholder Committee.

City Manager Whitehead: We have a current Comprehensive Plan for the city. This will be a big update, so we need lots of input. They will come at Fiesta and walk through the crowd and set up a booth and start taking that public input in those kinds of settings. They think that they will have somewhere between 3 & 4 meetings like that where they gather the feedback for this particular document. The process in place. It's kind of a set standard. It is definitely public driven, and the main focus of Traci's presentation today was really the Steering Committee. We would like to have 10 members on this committee, and so what we're going to ask today if you guys will accept this as a proposal. We would like two Commissioners to serve on the Steering Committee and we'd like those 2 Commissioners to select 1 person from the community. Then the other three

Commissioners that don't serve, we would ask them to give us 2 names from the community that you would want to serve. So, effectively the 5 of you would develop the 10 members of the committee. 2 Commissioners and then 8 members of the public. The engineers asked that we consider somebody potentially from outside the community. A County Commissioner that potentially lived inside the city would be a thoughtful person they suggested to bring in. They said that we aren't really limited to the city limits. We want to get a good cross section of the public. You will have until April 1<sup>st</sup> to present me the 2 names of who you want to serve on the committee. This committee has no action. They are just a volunteer committee to listen and be able to say, did you consider this or that. The plan will come from the engineers, not from this committee.

Mayor Hechler: Commissioner Mitchell has indicated an interest in it, so she would like to serve on the committee if nobody objects.

Commissioner Fahl: I would say that the problem would be who is not going to want to serve.

Mayor Hechler and Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister indicated that they were not interested in serving on the committee due to other commitments.

Mayor Hechler: Commissioner Mitchell and Commissioner Hoepfner are both from one area of our community. They are both downtown folks, so we might want to have some representation from outside that area. I don't know if that makes a difference or not.

Discussion ensued regarding the selection.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister made a motion to nominate Commissioner Fahl and Commissioner Hoepfner to serve on the Comprehensive Plan Steering Stakeholder Committee. Mayor Hechler seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **8. Discussion/Action: Adding a Seasonal Program Casual Employee Position.**

City Manager Whitehead: The sun is coming out and it's getting warm. We have opportunities. The pool is getting ready to open and we are starting to water at the parks, and it turns out that we have a couple of positions within the system for what we would call a casual employee. However, that casual employee rate is set at \$12.50. The New Mexico State Parks indicated, based on the law, they have to follow the federal guidelines for salaries, and that led them to issue casual employees this year at around \$17.75. So, it became evident to us that we would have a challenge trying to find people that would potentially want to take a summer job and work at our swimming pool and do some of those jobs because we would potentially lose them to the park. We brought the team together and we took a look at the positions that we currently do not have filled, and

CITY COMMISSION MARCH 12, 2025 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

decided if we could come up with a program that would open the door to a temporary seasonal employee that would give us the opportunity to move that level up. What you have in front of you is our proposal. If we hire an individual at \$12.50 an hour, and they are entitled to benefits, retirement, health insurance and all of those items. Just a single person, our rate is \$18.38 an hour. That's the number that we would be dealing with. It puts them up over \$40,000 a year which is our total investment package for somebody that we unfortunately paid \$12.50. We definitely have to fix that, but that was the number that we were working with. So, then we took a look at positions could we not hire right now in this position and as you see we have a park maintenance 1 available that we haven't filled. We have a maintenance 2 at \$15.19. We are looking to fill the pool supervisor, so we wanted to be respectful of that position. We also have 3 positions at the golf course that are not currently filled and we would kind of transition here for this. I had Human Resources help me put this plan together. She presented to you what the living wage is in New Mexico just for information. What we would like to ask you today is to allow us to not fill the 3 positions at the golf course, and allow us to move the rate up to \$15.19 an hour for seasonal employees, and then the seasonal employee would be an employee that could work up to 40 hours, but they would get no benefits, sick or vacation time. We would ask that it go 174 days, so it would start April 1<sup>st</sup> and the pay period in September would end September 19<sup>th</sup>. So, that would be 174 days that the program would exist, and then we would ask that you would give us 10 positions. The reason why we want 10 positions is because we are going to use this for the pool. OJ needs up to 6 people at the pool. We would like to use the golf course and give him these 2 seasonals back so he can pay a little more and maybe get somebody that can help him through the summer. And Buster really needs somebody to go cut the weeds in the median and kind of clean up the roads. We would like to paint our curbs. He has the system to do it at the streets department, but he never had the person to do it. With ten employees, we should be able to facilitate some good work and maybe draw some high school kids in at a rate where they don't want to drive to the lake to work, but we would be competitive. There are only a couple of employees that we would be stepping over with rate, but remember, it's only in the base salary. Those employees are getting benefits and all of the things that come with being a full-time employee of the city. So, their base rate is really \$18.00 an hour so we are really not competing with that.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: Is Workforce Connections something we could work with because I know that they pay a portion of that.

City Manager Whitehead: So, you can. I sat on the Workforce board and I had for a lot of years. In the youth area we would need to develop some kind of a program that would have training and some perks to it. You have to be careful because you can use on the job training programs, but that requirement is to create a permanent job for the employee. So, you really can't use it in this temporary space. The labor department does not want to give us money just to fill a temporary position. They want to put people to work and create new high paying jobs.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: Well, we could hire them.

CITY COMMISSION MARCH 12, 2025 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

City Manager Whitehead: Absolutely. It is possible but we need to work with the contractor to develop a youth program that potentially could do those things and create it. It's complicated we would like to work with them but in this particular case it wouldn't work.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: I'm glad you guys are thinking outside the box on how to get these positions filled. I was just wondering if there was some way that we can get these kids hired and do something with Workforce Connections.

City Manager Whitehead: Where I do think you and I need to have a discussion on is that we do need a high school program that introduces work for the City of Truth or Consequences in the high school and be able to show what it means if you come to work here when you graduate. Work on the utility crew and get a certification on something that's not just for us but that can go on, a wastewater certification that's at Dona Ana branch. I think we need to do a better job introducing that and making T or C a place to come to work when you leave high school.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: I can do that.

Mayor Hechler: This is not a deal breaker for me. I like the program I think it's important to do that but there is one position here that requires certification and that's life guards. They require first aid, CPR, AED, and life saving certifications. Out of all the temp positions these are the only positions that require certifications maybe they are in line for a little bit more money. That would be my justification and for that reason I would maybe bump them to \$15.95 an hour and keep the rest at \$15.19. They not only have to do those certifications but they also have to take the swimming test.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: Then we would have to do something with our pool supervisor they are at \$15.95.

Mayor Hechler: It's not a deal breaker for me I'm just trying to recognize that they do have to have all that.

Commissioner Fahl: They should have something that recognizes the extra certifications. What would you think manager Whitehead?

City Manager Whitehead: I like the idea of certifications. If you take what we did with the police department where we gave a stipend if they had a college degree. We can kind of follow that structure just a little bit in thinking outside the box. We could maybe give 75 cents an hour for the certification and we offer that same raise to the pool supervisor because that person is going to have to get the same certifications and be a teacher. We can add that if you get those some certifications, it would be 75 cents more and then we would move the lifeguard and the pool supervisor up so effectively it would be \$15.94 for the life guards and \$16.70 for the supervisor.

CITY COMMISSION MARCH 12, 2025 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Hechler: I think it's important for the professionalism of our staff I think its and incentive for them to get more pay. I would like to build that into the system if we can.

City Manager Whitehead: I have no problem with that friendly amendment. If we don't get people at the pool we are going to have to close the pool. Those are to opposite its going to be a problem.

Commissioner Fahl: I like that. Its good like Amanda said to think outside the box and find aways to get people on board in a fashion we could afford also.

Mayor Hechler: I know we are going through the process of upgrading all the other positions in some ways so eventually it will all catch up but we have to start somewhere.

City Manager Whitehead: It will catch up and then again, I always saying how are we being consistent. We think that the \$15.19 is probably the right base even in the new study where you start. We not breaking anything that we don't think we are going to create and get to. We are staying with in the structure where we want to go. Again, doing thing like stipend pay where its more of a base and then you can do something if you get a certification, I really like that. We also did a night patrol. You get your base and if you work at night, you get a little more and if don't work at night anymore you don't get that. We would be in line to match up with that structure.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister moved to approve adding a Seasonal Program Casual Employee Position with a Certification Bonus of 75 cents per hour. Commissioner Hoepfner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.**

**9. Discussion/Action: FY2024 Community Project Funding Grant Agreement B-24-CP-NM-1489.**

City Manager Whitehead: This is the grant agreement for one of one of our water projects. I'm going to call on Assistant City Manager Alvarez to give you the presentation.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: In August of 2024 the city was awarded a procreation grant we have been working on the process of going through the Department of Housing and Urban Development is quite a process. We have everything uploaded. They have now issued us the grant agreement for the funding. On the very last page of my packet information is that plan. It's combined with the funding we received for FY 25. You guys know that have been acknowledged that we were supposed to receive an appropriation from Senator for FY 25. We have not received an official award letter yet if we do then we would combine the FY 24 with the FY 25 for design and construction of the roads that are noted on that one. If for some reason we don't receive the funding then we will have an internal meeting with the engineers in figuring out a rescope of the funds. The grant

agreement itself is vague enough in the scope that we can administer the however is needed as long as it's affecting waterlines.

City Manager Whitehead: The total area that you are seeing this whole project would be what we are calling in the map that we have is called HUD FY24-25. It would be combining 2 projects because the overall scope of these 2 would be just under 10 million dollars to do what you see. That is the engineers estimate on this particular project so as Traci pointed out today you are approving and accepting half of that or \$4.3 million dollars of that. Then we would be waiting for the second funding. To put his back in scope of where we are at project wise. We are in April probably May now, the federal government there is an issue that potentially could happen on Friday and nobody would be at work on Monday if that happens our USDA WISP1 grant technically would be on hold because nobody could review the documents to give us the approval. We are ready for their final concurrent they had a switch in the office so Wispi1 is ready to bid that should happen by June or July. Shovel ready we just go the release to start that, remember that is going to be a repackage of that second part of those loans. We have given Wilson about a \$400,000 contract for repackaging and project management. Those are ready to go we think by the end of the year. Then I identified that the \$16 million dollars that's in your budget is for critical water lines that's the 3<sup>rd</sup> project. That is in current design right now. The 4<sup>th</sup> project is WISP2. Those funds are secured. They are USDA funds so that project is coming online in about 2 years. This project is for 2024 so we are really not going to get to project and this spending probably for 2 to 3 years because WISP1, shovel ready and critical and WISP2 which are funded ready to go are about 40 million dollars' worth of water projects. What you are approving today is putting this money in the bank we will begin to start talking about it, doing detail planning hoping that we do get the award letter on 2025. Then that project will begin to develop.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister moved to approve the FY2024 Community Project Funding Grant Agreement B-24-CP-NM-1489. Commissioner Hoepfner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.**

**10. Discussion/Action: Review, Approve and/or Allocate Funds to the Sierra County Sheriff's Posse-Arena for Improvements and Fiesta Rodeo Advertisement.**

City Clerk Torres reviewed the Sierra County Sheriff's Posse-Arena application for Improvements and the Fiesta Rodeo Advertisement.

**Commissioner Fahl moved to approve the Sierra County Sheriff's Posse-Arena application for Improvements and Fiesta Rodeo Advertisement in the amount of \$4,000. Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.**



**11. Discussion/Action: Review, Approve and/or Allocate Funds to MainStreet Truth or Consequences for the Second Saturday Art Hop ad in the New Mexico Field Guide.**

City Clerk Torres reviewed the MainStreet Truth or Consequences application for the Second Saturday Art Hop ad in the New Mexico Field Guide.

**Commissioner Hoepfner moved to approve the MainStreet Truth or Consequences application for the Second Saturday Art Hop ad in the New Mexico Field Guide in the amount of \$2,185. Commissioner Fahl seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.**

**12. Discussion/Action: Review, Approve and/or Allocate Funds to MainStreet Truth or Consequences for the Desert Ultra Runner Magazine T or C Desert Ultra Ad.**

City Clerk Torres reviewed the MainStreet Truth or Consequences application for the Desert Ultra Runner Magazine T or C Desert Ultra Ad.

**Commissioner Fahl moved to approve the MainStreet Truth or Consequences application for the Second Saturday Art Hop ad in the Desert Ultra Runner Magazine T or C Desert Ultra Ad in the amount of \$1,180. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.**

**13. Discussion/Action: Approval of Purchase Requisitions over \$60,000.**

Item was removed from the agenda.


**I. ADJOURNMENT:**

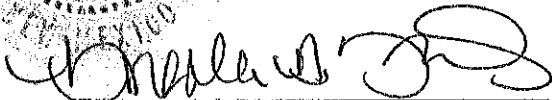
**Mayor Hechler adjourned the meeting at 12:20 p.m.**

**Passed and Approved this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2025.**

CITY COMMISSION MARCH 12, 2025 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES



  
Rolf Hechler, Mayor

  
Angela A. Torres, CMC, City Clerk



Department of Finance and Administration  
Local Government Division  
Financial Management Bureau  
SCHEDULE OF BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

For Local Government Division use only:

ENTITY NAME: City of Truth or Consequences  
 FISCAL YEAR: 2024-25 3/12/2025  
 DFA Resolution Number: 33 24/25  
 BAR NUMBER: 10

DOCUMENT NUMBER	FUND	ACCOUNT STRING	ACCOUNT NAME	REVENUE EXPENDITURE or TRANSFER (TO or FROM)	APPROVED BUDGET	ADJUSTMENT INCREASE	ADJUSTED BUDGET	PURPOSE
1	101	101-1009-44607	GF Parks -Field Supplies	Expense	\$ 82,400.00	\$ 20,000	\$ 102,400	Ballfield supplies for All Star
2	304	304-7046-32314	SJOA-State Grant	Revenue	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	SJOA Grant Agreement A2412022 to purchase & equip vehicles
2	304	304-7046-80610	SJOA-Equipment Vehicle Grant	Expense	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	SJOA Grant Agreement A2412022 to purchase & equip vehicles
2	304	304-7046-39835	SJOA- Transfer In	Revenue	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	SJOA Grant Agreement A2412022 to purchase & equip vehicles
2	101	101-1099-49930	GF- Transfer Out	Expense	\$ 2,276,229.00	\$ 50,000	\$ 2,276,229	SJOA Grant Agreement A2412022 to purchase & equip vehicles
2	101	101-1099-39835	GF-Transfer In	Revenue	\$ 1,651,823.00	\$ 50,000	\$ 1,701,823	SJOA Grant Agreement A2412022 to purchase & equip vehicles
2	304	304-7046-49930	SJOA- Transfer Out	Expense	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	SJOA Grant Agreement A2412022 to purchase & equip vehicles
3	315	315-8010-80860	Parks-Infrastructure	Expense	\$ -	\$ 322,875	\$ 322,875	Ralph Edward's Park River Improv. Shade Structures RFP#23-24-008
3	315	315-8010-46600	Parks- Entity Match	Expense	\$ -	\$ 162,641	\$ 162,641	Ralph Edward's Park River Improv. Shade Structures RFP#23-24-008
4	101	101-1008-45607	Animal Shelter Donation Exp	Expense	\$ -	\$ 6,988	\$ 6,988	Donations Received for Animal Shelter Needs
5	299	299-7047-32375	PD- JAG Grant 23-JAG-TORCC-SFY25	Revenue	\$ -	\$ 31,930	\$ 31,930	JAG Grant 23-JAG-TORCC-SFY25 to purchase radar equipment for police units
5	299	299-7047-44607	PD- JAG Grant 23-JAG-TORCC-SFY25	Expense	\$ -	\$ 31,930	\$ 31,930	JAG Grant 23-JAG-TORCC-SFY25 to purchase radar equipment for police units
6	360	360-7048-32700	WTR-NMFA WPF-6323 Grant	Revenue	\$ -	\$ 14,400,000	\$ 14,400,000	NMFA WPF-6323 Design & Construction Waterline Replacement 10% Loan \$1,600,000 / 90% Grant \$14,400,000
6	360	360-7048-38387	WTR-NMFA WPF-6323 Loan Proceeds	Revenue	\$ -	\$ 1,600,000	\$ 1,600,000	NMFA WPF-6323 Design & Construction Waterline Replacement 10% Loan \$1,600,000 / 90% Grant \$14,400,000
6	360	360-7048-80660	WTR-NMFA WPF-6323 Grant Infrastructure	Expense	\$ -	\$ 16,000,000	\$ 16,000,000	NMFA WPF-6323 Design & Construction Waterline Replacement 10% Loan \$1,600,000 / 90% Grant \$14,400,000
6	360	360-7048-39836	WTR-Transfer In	Revenue	\$ -	\$ 16,000,000	\$ 16,000,000	NMFA WPF-6323 Design & Construction Waterline Replacement 10% Loan \$1,600,000 / 90% Grant \$14,400,000
6	315	315-9003-49930	CI-Transfer Out	Expense	\$ 4,961,908	\$ 16,000,000	\$ 20,961,908	NMFA WPF-6323 Design & Construction Waterline Replacement 10% Loan \$1,600,000 / 90% Grant \$14,400,000
6	315	315-9003-39835	CI-Transfer In	Revenue	\$ 4,662,300	\$ 16,000,000	\$ 20,662,300	NMFA WPF-6323 Design & Construction Waterline Replacement 10% Loan \$1,600,000 / 90% Grant \$14,400,000
6	360	360-7048-49930	WTR-Transfer Out	Expense	\$ -	\$ 16,000,000	\$ 16,000,000	NMFA WPF-6323 Design & Construction Waterline Replacement 10% Loan \$1,600,000 / 90% Grant \$14,400,000

Department of Finance and Administration  
Local Government Division  
Financial Management Bureau  
SCHEDULE OF BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

7	403	403-1203-90910	Debt Serv-Interest	Expense	\$ 408,522	\$ 1,267	\$ 409,789	NMFA WPF-6323 Debt Interest Payment
7	403	403-1203-39935	Debt Serv-Transfer In	Revenue	\$ 1,267,913	\$ 1,267	\$ 1,289,180	NMFA WPF-6323 Debt Interest Payment
7	315	315-9003-49930	Transfer Out	Expense	\$ 4,961,908	\$ 1,267	\$ 4,963,175	NMFA WPF-6323 Debt Interest Payment
							\$ -	
8	304	304-7049-32314	SJOA-State Grant	Revenue	\$ -	\$ 60,883	\$ 60,883	SJOA Grant Agreement A2412021 to purchase & equip vehicles
8	304	304-7049-80810	SJOA-Equipment Vehicle Grant	Expense	\$ -	\$ 60,883	\$ 60,883	SJOA Grant Agreement A2412021 to purchase & equip vehicles
8	304	304-7049-39935	SJOA- Transfer In	Revenue	\$ -	\$ 60,883	\$ 60,883	SJOA Grant Agreement A2412021 to purchase & equip vehicles
8	101	101-1099-49930	GF- Transfer Out	Expense	\$ 2,226,229.00	\$ 60,883	\$ 2,287,112	SJOA Grant Agreement A2412021 to purchase & equip vehicles
8	101	101-1099-39935	GF-Transfer In	Revenue	\$ 1,651,823.00	\$ 60,883	\$ 1,712,706	SJOA Grant Agreement A2412021 to purchase & equip vehicles
8	304	304-7049-49930	SJOA- Transfer Out	Expense	\$ -	\$ 60,883	\$ 60,883	SJOA Grant Agreement A2412021 to purchase & equip vehicles
9	312	312-7050-31375	R&R Airport - State Grants	Revenue	\$ -	\$ 146,489	\$ 146,489	TCS-25-01 #AVA1629 NMDOT Aviation (NM State Funding for Apron Project)
9	312	312-7050-47415	R&R Airport - Grounds & Roadways	Expense	\$ -	\$ 146,489	\$ 146,489	TCS-25-01 #AVA1629 NMDOT Aviation (NM State Funding for Apron Project)
9	312	312-7050-39935	R&R Airport -Transfer In	Revenue	\$ -	\$ 146,489	\$ 146,489	TCS-25-01 #AVA1629 NMDOT Aviation (NM State Funding for Apron Project)
9	101	101-1099-49930	GF- Transfer Out	Expense		\$ 146,489	\$ 146,489	TCS-25-01 #AVA1629 NMDOT Aviation (NM State Funding for Apron Project)
9	101	101-1099-39935	GF Transfer in	Revenue		\$ 146,489	\$ 146,489	TCS-25-01 #AVA1629 NMDOT Aviation (NM State Funding for Apron Project)
9	312	312-7050-49930	R&R Airport -Transfer Out	Expense	\$ -	\$ 146,489	\$ 146,489	TCS-25-01 #AVA1629 NMDOT Aviation (NM State Funding for Apron Project)

ATTEST:

Angela Torres, Clerk-Treasurer (Date)

Rolf Hechler, Mayor

(Date)

Column A: Enter the Resolution Number;  
Column B: Enter the FUND Number affected;  
Column C: Enter REVENUE, EXPENDITURE or TRANSFER TO or TRANSFER FROM;  
Column D: Enter APPROVED BUDGET;  
Column E: Enter ADJUSTMENT INCREASE (+), DECREASE (-);  
Column F: Enter ADJUSTED BUDGET;  
Column G: Enter PURPOSE.

# FY25 Lodgers' Tax Award

## Approved Scope of Work

Lodgers' Tax Meeting Date: February 24 2025

Applicant: Sierra County Sheriff's Posse

### Project(s) Applied For:

1) Fiesta Rodeo

Amount Requested: \$5200 Amount Approved: \$4000

Approved x Postponed        Denied       

Reason for Postponement/Denial/Different Award Amount: Some items included in the budget were not determined to put "heads in beds"

Scope of Work	Award Amount Approved
1) Promotional flyers	\$200
2) Promotional posters	\$100
3) Promotional window stickers	\$100
4) Sierra County Sentinel	\$100
5) El Paso Times	\$400
6) Arizona Daily Star	\$700
7) Albuquerque Journal	\$400
8) Talon Septic	\$2000

# FY25 Lodgers' Tax Award

## Approved Scope of Work

Lodgers' Tax Meeting Date: February 24 2025

Applicant: MainStreet Truth or Consequences

### Project(s) Applied For:

1) New Mexico Field Guide Second Saturday Art Hop Ad

Amount Requested: \$2185 Amount Approved: \$2185

Approved x Postponed        Denied       

### Reason for Postponement/Denial/Different Award Amount:

#### Scope of Work

#### Award Amount Approved

New Mexico Field Guide full page ad

\$2185

# FY25 Lodgers' Tax Award

## Approved Scope of Work

Lodgers' Tax Meeting Date: February 24 2025

Applicant: MainStreet Truth or Consequences

### Project(s) Applied For:

1) Ultra Runner Magazine T or C Desert Ultra Ad

Amount Requested: \$1800 Amount Approved: \$1800

Approved x Postponed        Denied       

### Reason for Postponement/Denial/Different Award Amount:

#### Scope of Work

#### Award Amount Approved

Ultra Runner Magazine

\$1800