

CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, NEW MEXICO
TUESDAY, JULY 26, 2016
City Commission Chambers, 405 W. Third St.

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Mayor Steve Green, who presided and Renee Cantin, 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. Steve Green, Mayor
Hon. Sandra Whitehead, Mayor Pro-Tem
Hon. Rolf Hechler, Commissioner
Hon. Joshua Frankel, Commissioner

Absent: Hon. Kathy Clark, Commissioner

Also Present: Juan Fuentes, City Manager
Renee Cantin, City Clerk-Treasurer

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

2. SILENT MEDITATION

Mayor Green called for fifteen seconds of Silent Meditation and asked us to keep our veterans in our thoughts and prayers.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Green lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Frankel moved to approve the agenda. Mayor Pro-Tem Whitehead seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

C. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (3 Minute Rule Applies)

CITY COMMISSION JULY 26, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Green called for Public Comment, noting those wishing to comment would get three minutes, may only approach the podium once, and any material for the Commission was to be left in the black box by the podium.

Audon Trujillo, 506 W. Third Street addressed the Commission related to:

1) Time is of the essence and some things he thinks need to be addressed by the Commission are: The Evaluation for the City Manager is now four months late. There are no work objectives for one quarter of the year of his evaluation. It is important because our poverty index is at 22% for the city. We rank #1 in terms of being the poorest city in the state. Let that sink in. This is from a Facebook post, he's assuming its correct.

2) Hiring is one of the areas the City and County Commission should get involved with. There are big construction projects going on with the VA and the Hospital. You can have provisions for local hires. You can say you will give more points on your RFP if you hire local people to do your tasks. Look at the VA and how many cars are parked there. They are all out of towners. Spaceport has one employee that lives in Sierra County per an IPRA he got last week. The Commission should get involved and should feel an urgency about stuff like that.

3) Review of the City's Personnel Policies. It's been three or four months now. The last hiring for a Finance Director there were no scoring sheets. Do you want to be treated like that when you go up for a job in the city? That's the way the city works and you all are responsible for the way the city works.

4) The Lease. Ten days after the request he got a reply from the City Manager. That's not time is of the essence. And he's hiding behind a Lawyer/Client privilege. If there wasn't anything to hide, he would show what the lawyer told him. This is getting really old.

Ron Fenn addressed the Commission related to:

1) Heard recently the Chief of Police had pledged to Realtors that he was going to be the new Code Enforcement Agency for the city. That the Police Department was going to take over the Code enforcement that is not being done by the man we pay for it. Good work Chief, if you keep your word. Oh, he is going to shake his head. Well ok then everybody else is lying, but its ok.

2) The first person who needs to be looked at and cited is the City Manager. He is complicit in every violation by the city of its own ordinances. If we hold him accountable for it, we can probably recoup all of the money we have ever paid to this man over the years. He's responsible for the look of our city and for the violation of the codes, especially the sign code.

3) Why you folks allow illegal signs all around our fabulous Recreation Center. There is not a single legal sign on that property. And the Healing Waters Plaza signs, if he had his name on those signs, he would have them taken down immediately because it's an embarrassment. We paid for what's on the picture, we got what's on the ground. The two are not the same. It's an embarrassment, and it will remain an embarrassment and will create more embarrassment for the city for as long as it exists. It's time to plow it under and put up a parking lot.

CITY COMMISSION JULY 26, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Klaus Wittern addressed the Commission related to:

- 1) The Budget, he's disappointed to see the 2016-2017 proposed final budget has a Transfer of more than \$1.2 million from the Electric Division from an Enterprise Fund that is increased by \$200,000 over last year to the cities General Fund. This is a significant move in the wrong direction. It is unclear to him if the General Fund Budget for 2016-2017 as proposed by the City Manager has made a sincere effort to come into compliance with GASB 34 which would reduce current findings and will also bring the City of T or C in compliance with Federal and State requirements. And would provide a more accurate representation of the budget of the City of T or C. Does the proposed budget provide money for a study for the flood mitigation engineering study in the downtown area? Such a study is absolutely necessary in order to integrate its results with previously performed and paid for Preliminary Engineering Reports (PERs) by Smith-Engineering of Albuquerque. The city should also give notice to the natural Gas Company serving T or C of the City's intent to rehabilitate the city's water and wastewater systems, as soon as funds become available.
- 2) Franchise Fees. Does the proposed final budget for T or C reflect expenditures for Franchise Fees payable to the Village of Williamsburg of approximately 5% of the revenues for each of the services rendered by the T or C electric, water, wastewater and solid waste utilities.
- 3) Public Safety. Is the 2016-2017 proposed Final Budget for the City of T or C fully compensating T or C's Public Safety Department (Police and Animal Control) for services provided to the Village of Williamsburg.
- 4) Finance Committee. He would like to reiterate to the Commissioners to consider the creation of a standing Finance Committee, that would assist staff, management, and the Commissioners in the preparation of future budgets, in particular by exploring and addressing the potential to consolidate service of certain overlapping Municipal, County, and School District services.

Sophia Peron, 316 N. Joffre addressed the Commission related to:

- 1) Public Comment and the response to Public Comment. First of all, she wasn't at the last meeting and the Mayor took it upon himself to say that people like myself who might be turning from Birch St. onto the new Third St. pavement and notice the eight in curb up Third St. had to be driving 80 mph to notice that. Well she is sorry, the curb has been fixed, the ramp has been built by the state or whoever she sent the email to asking that they fix it because the job was poorly done. Cedar St. also has a ramp that's been done on the South Side and Birch, but not on the North Side. So if you're coming from the courthouse or anywhere else you will run across all kinds of bumps and it's ridiculous. Also, the sidewalk is very good looking that the city approved in 2005 with no curbs and gutters, but it does have curb cuts. It's very interesting to see how this town works.
- 2) As far as the community policing and realtors problem properties. She went with a Realtor six month ago and she took her to a property where there was grass growing up around the toilet in the bathroom. It was a listed property. These Realtors will list anything. They don't care if it's next to a \$200,000 or a crappy house or whatever. She has turned in properties around her house a thousand times and Robbie Travis will

not get off his butt and doing anything except sit in the office and do whatever it is he does. There's no building permits in this town, there's nothing happening. There is no reason to discuss Chavez, he's hiding and she sees him all day long, Wal-mart, Bullocks, lighting up in the alley, whatever. These are the type of employees we have because this is how we run our town like a bunch of idiots.

3) The power company, the holes, everything is falling apart. She has taken upon herself to work with the Chief of Police to fix the problems in her neighborhood. And the courts. And if anybody wants to know how to do it please contact her, because the city staff will do nothing to help you.

Police Chief Alirez addressed the Commission related to:

1) On July 20th he met with the realtors, it was for a presentation of the mobile app that can be downloaded for free. One of the issues that was brought up was Code Enforcement. He explained if someone sent a message to the Police Department in regards to property that has code enforcement issues that needs to be addressed, they are not going to simply tell them it's not their department to call someone else. They would pass it on to the right department or to Code Enforcement to Ray Chavez who is in charge of that. He has a standing rule where they don't tell anyone we can't help them and send them down the road to streamline the process. They have a form they send to Ray and they follow up with the reporting party. He gets calls on street signs and assists with addressing the issue. They want to make service to the community efficient. The other items they help with are safety and so on and so forth. They are not taking over Code Enforcement but they do help them in their daily duties if it's reported to the Police Department.

Chuck McCoy, Glen St. addressed the Commission related to:

2) A while back he had the residents sign a petition about paving the Southside of Glen St. He has been there 15-18 years and it's always been a dirt road. When it rains it floods and you have to drive through a foot to a foot and a half of water. When they blade it, the blade takes all of the dirt in our properties. We had them do the Southside of Glen and that's where they stop. They never touch the two blocks remaining on the South side of Glen. That needs to be paved. The kids have to walk through the mud and water when it rains. He has been maintaining the weeds up and down that road whenever he can. They keep saying we don't have money to get it paved. We have the money, we had money to do the plaza and other streets and we need to put money into that street and pay attention to it. It's in terrible shape and when they blade it, it don't help a bit. When it rains there is a pot hole that's about 12 ft. long and 8-10 ft. wide and it fills full of water and you have to drive through it and it tears up vehicles going up and down. Every time a vehicle goes down the road, a cloud of dust comes flying in all over the place. It's a total mess and needs to be addressed. It needs to be done and he's going to keep fighting it until it gets done. He thanked the Commission for listening to him.

D. RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

E. PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation – Elephant Butte Dam Centennial Celebration. Will Dooley.

Mr. Dooley works for Lago Rico Incorporated who are owners of the marinas at Elephant Butte. Since April of last year they have been the contractors for the Dam's Historic District on the Southside of Elephant Butte Dam. On October 19, 2016 they will be celebrating 100 years of service at Elephant Butte Dam. When it was built it was only suppose to last 50 years because they thought there would be no more water. The Dam is 100 years strong, it produces 4.5 million kilowatts of clean, green electric power every year. It's one of the few Government Departments that actually pays for itself. Before taking over the Damsite and the former PDR site which is now called the Historic Fish Hatchery, they made several improvements. They've got the houses in Hospital Canyon which are being remodeled. They've made improvements to the sewage system; the infrastructure; and they are just starting. The Damsite Centennial starts on October 7th and runs until October 23rd. It starts with a book festival on October 7th-8th, followed by a wooden nickel makers mart. Fireworks on the Dam and Dinner on the Dam on October 14th-16th and then the following weekend there will be a Horseshoe tournament. They are just here to talk about the positive things in this community and looking forward not backward. He introduced Shane Prokoski and Kate Haley who helped with the planning.

Mr. Prokowski talked about the Dinner on the Dam. The evening will start at the Restaurant and they will give everyone a ride in a carriage to the dam where the dinner will be. Invitations will be printed on a gold metal plate. Everyone will also receive a commemorative bottle of wine and commemorative glass. It's going to be a 10 course dinner, with 5 Star Dining. They are encouraging everybody to dress in period clothes for 1916, although it's not a requirement, it's something they would like to see. There will be wine paired with every course except for two, one will be paired with sarsaparilla, the other with a local beer. We do have a local winery who is bottling our commemorative wine and will be providing the wine for the dinner. There will be a magician going from table to table doing magic tricks to keep people entertained; a small orchestra playing music; a small dance floor; and at the end of the night it will top off with a Fireworks display. It's going to be a once in a lifetime event, anyone who is interested can call him anytime.

Ms. Kate Haley talked about some of the events to focus on the positive aspects of our history and things that have made our community great. And also looking at how we can grow and succeed for another 100 years. One of the events she is really excited about is the Wooden Nickel Makers Mart which is taking place at Damsite on the weekend of October 15th. They are working at bringing artists and craft people from all over the state to have a really nice market of vendor booths. It's a great opportunity for everyone to get that great holiday shopping started. They will have demonstrations of chainsaw carving and blacksmithing. People can come and make their own hand dipped beeswax candles. They are working to get agricultural displays and animals for kids to look at. It will be a great event that will hopefully draw people from not just

CITY COMMISSION JULY 26, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

locally but from all around the Southwest to come and enjoy our community. It will help everyone locally because it will bring business to our restaurants and lodging nearby. They are also excited about having their second Damsite Arts Colony. She was lucky to be part of the inaugural group of artists and moved here recently from California and came for two months in February and March and was invited back to help with the Centennial. She gave more details on the art aspect and using that to enrich the area and also be a part of the Art Walk.

Mr. Dooley said they went to Williamsburg and they will be going to Hatch; Dona Ana and Socorro, and a lot of people are asking why they aren't just concentrating on Elephant Butte. It's because this Dam represents us all, whether you are pro or anti dam people. It's a historical way of how we do things in this country. Without that, there would be no Hoover Dam and no Sierra County. We would all be fishing out there in a swamp. The Dam and the BOR actually changed the course of the Rio Grande river. It use to come down and make a horseshoe bend through Mims pond and go through the Rodeo Arena and then around. They changed the course to provide flood control. Without flood control down that river it would just be more and more. One of the main things they are trying to do is put people in beds and people in restaurants and stores. That is there main goal as a business, if they don't have people coming here they don't make money. It goes beyond that, Damsite is a cultural crossroads and really tells a true story of the American People. The men and women that worked there in the sun, the rain, and the wind. You can imagine cutting all of the rocks in 1937 by hand to make up the damsite in the blazing hot summers and the winters. We are just honored being responsible for that. One of the ways they are getting people into town are with Wooden Nickels which admit one person to any one of their events for free. He thanked everyone for the time to bring this to them. It's time to pull together to bring this place back up to where we need to be. We may have problems but if we don't work together, we are never going to solve them.

Commissioner Hechler asked him how this event is advertised and who the target audience is. Mr. Dooley responded they are advertising in two major state magazines including New Mexico Magazine and the Co-op Magazine Enchantment. They reached out to reporters all over the state and all over the country. We have people coming this week who are writing an article in a Senior Magazine in the Albuquerque paper. We will be on television in El Paso and Albuquerque. We are doing a major in-state radio push and also identifying areas like Ocean City, Maryland and a town outside of Chicago who will promote boating for people on the East Coast who can't do it in the winter. Getting them here in October maybe we can get them to come stay here for three or four months. He added anyone, anywhere that will listen to them, they will be there. He will be going to libraries to talk about the book festival. They want to bring people here and show them what a great community we have. This community welcomed him and his family with open arms when they moved here and he will never look back. All he wants to do is anything he can do to make this place a success.

Mayor Green thanked Neil Brown for putting together such a low key team. He jokingly added maybe they need a little more energy. He said when you are talking about all of

the assets that make us a phenomenal destination, he didn't see anything about the Hot Springs and he feels that would add to it. He added anything we can do to help the event, please let us know. This is the type of exposure that impacts all of the communities.

F. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. City Commission Regular Minutes, June 28, 2016
2. City Commission Regular Minutes, July 12, 2016
3. Subrecipient Grants 4th Quarter Reports

Mayor Pro-Tem Whitehead moved to approve the Consent Calendar including the City Commission Regular Minutes for June 28, 2016; City Commission Regular Minutes for July 12, 2016; and the Subrecipient Grants 4th Quarter Reports. Commissioner Hechler seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

G. PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Public Hearing for the Approval of the Sierra Grande Lodge & Spa Restaurant Beer & Wine License with On-Premise Consumption Only and Patio for Application #999718. Renee Cantin, City Clerk-Treasurer

City Clerk Cantin notified the Commission this item. We received the letter from Alcohol & Gaming who has given preliminary approval for a new license that was previously in a different name for the Sierra Grande Lodge & Spa. It will be a Restaurant Beer & Wine License with On-Premise Consumption Only and Patio.

Audon Trujillo was a Proponent. He added hopefully this will be a slam dunk. He is an advocate for having more beer establishments because in High School he use to clean one out back when we had seven bars downtown and places to go dancing. He would like to see if we could get more places who can serve at other events. We need more of those in town. He wishes we had that type of Liquor License downtown at the Lee Belle Johnson Center where we could serve Beer & Wine. To him it just seems like a no brainer. The city has done it with the Golf Course and we need to look at doing it at the Civic Center too. He wished them luck.

2. Public Hearing: Final Adoption of Ordinance No. 672 amending the Uniform Traffic Ordinance, Section 12-7-9.2. Renee Cantin, City Clerk-Treasurer

City Clerk Cantin presented the item. She said we have the final adoption of this ordinance before them. She called their attention to part of the background to make it very clear which states, "Approving this ordinance does not mean we are approving the use of off-highway motor vehicles. It only means the city has the option to pass an ordinance allowing it." She has not received any comments from the public through the publication, and the requirements have been met.

3. Public Hearing: Final Adoption Ordinance No. 673 amending Section 7-211 of the City Code related to Lodgers Tax. Steve Green, Mayor

City Clerk Cantin presented as per the previous discussions about the Lodger's Tax allocations, the Mayor presented this item to revise the wording for this section on the current ordinance to allow the governing body to appoint a designee to administer the Lodgers Tax allocation. The only change was adding "or their designee" and some typos in the ordinance were changed. We have not received any comments and the publication requirements have been met.

Commissioner Hechler asked City Manager Juan Fuentes what administration means in this designation and what we expect the other entity to do for us. City Manager Juan Fuentes responded this would allow the Commission to designate a fiscal agent for the funds we allocate to different organizations who will administer these funds at the discretion of the Commission, for the Subrecipient Grants, but not for the entire Lodger's Tax grants. It's only a small fraction of what we allocate for the Subrecipients. The intent is to designate a fiscal agent who will oversee those funds. Commissioner Hechler asked if administer includes paying. City Manager Juan Fuentes said it will include having those funds and being able to process the payments for those organizations or process the reimbursements for those organizations. It will be done however the Commission decides to structure that agreement.

With no proponents or opponents, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

H. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTION, & ZONING

1. Discussion/Action: Final Adoption of Ordinance No. 672 15/16 amending the Uniform Traffic Ordinance, Section 12-7-9.2. Renee Cantin, City Clerk-Treasurer

City Clerk Cantin had nothing further to add, staff is recommending approval for the final adoption of this ordinance.

Mayor Pro-Tem Whitehead moved to approve the Final Adoption of Ordinance No. 672 15/16 amending the Uniform Traffic Ordinance, Section 12-7-9.2. Commissioner Frankel seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken by the Clerk. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Discussion/Action: Final Adoption, Ordinance No. 673 15/16 amending Section 7-211 of the City Code related to Lodgers Tax. Renee Cantin, City Clerk-Treasurer

City Clerk Cantin had no additional information, staff is recommending approval for the final adoption of this ordinance.

Mayor Pro-Tem Whitehead moved to approve the Final Adoption, Ordinance No. 673 15/16 amending Section 7-211 of the City Code related to Lodgers Tax.

Commissioner Hechler seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken by the Clerk. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion/Action: Resolution No. 01 16/17 Open Meetings Act. Renee Cantin, City Clerk-Treasurer

City Clerk Cantin presented this item. The detail is in the background of your Commission Action Form. On March 22nd the Commission approved the Resolution after the last election to include the changes of the meeting time to be at 9:00 a.m. and the posting requirements to be five days prior to the regular meeting. In the past, this Resolution has been approved as the first resolution of each fiscal year which is very convenient for granting purposes because we always know it's the first one. The only change we are requesting on this is in Section B where it states the posting requirements for Special Meetings. There are two places we are requesting to change. The first place is the Sierra County Courthouse bulletin board, where there is no longer a bulletin board there. In light of trying to reach as many people as we can, which is what the posting is for, we would like to change that to the City Utilities Office. And we would also like to change the Compass Bank to First Savings Bank, because we no longer bank with Compass Bank and we frequent the First Savings Bank. This would be more convenient and better use of staff time for postings. The other posting places are Bank of the Southwest, the Post Office on Main Street, the posting board outside the City Clerk's Office and the city website.

Mayor Pro-Tem Whitehead moved to approve Resolution No. 01 16/17 Open Meetings Act. Commissioner Frankel seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken by the Clerk. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Discussion/Action: Resolution No. 02 16/17 FY 2015-2016 4th Quarter Report. Melissa Torres, Finance Director

Finance Director Torres presented the 4th Quarter Report for approval. She provided a summary as of June 30, 2016 the General Fund cash balance of \$585,393 with a decrease of \$270,126 from the July 1st balance. One of the biggest factors was the Small Cities Assistance which was mentioned at the workshop. The General Fund expenses were within the approved budget, the individual departments did a great job with the approved amounts. She reported the following ending cash balances: Solid Waste was \$276,802 with a reduction of \$486,796, due to the closure of the landfill; Fire Protection Fund was \$176,735, the Fire Chief will be using the amount for Capital Purchases; Water Fund was \$320,447 with a \$77,672 decrease due to vacancy savings; Solid Waste Fund was an increase of \$27,991; Wastewater Department had a \$2,065 increase; Airport \$23,644 decrease due to the transfers in was only at 50%; Utility Billing showed a negative balance of \$1,152, however there is \$10,000 in the checking account, we are still determining if this was a general entry error; Electric Fund was an increase of \$65,000.

CITY COMMISSION JULY 26, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Green asked if we owe any money to the company we contracted out to do the billing. Finance Director Torres said that is no longer an expense, we paid our final bill last month.

Commissioner Frankel inquired about the refund of some of the May bills. Finance Director Torres sent an email requesting documentation, however, she has not received a response. That is one of the biggest reasons we were having those dilemmas was the lack of response from them.

Mayor Pro-Tem Whitehead moved to approve Resolution No. 02 16/17 FY 2015-2016 4th Quarter Report. Commissioner Frankel seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken by the Clerk. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Discussion/Action: Resolution No. 03 16/17 adopting the FY 2016-2017 Final Budget. Melissa Torres, Finance Director

Finance Director Torres presented the final budget where the beginning cash balances were updated; the investments were updated and reconciled with our bank accounts. There were no significant changes to the revenues from the workshop budget which was presented. Overall our budget is a total of \$43,000,000 and if approved we will proceed in submitting our DFA Forms.

City Manager Fuentes added one of the differences we did include is a little merit increase for the staff. It's not going to equate to what we've done in the past but it's a little bit and they will be meeting with Department Heads on how to use that increase. And he brought to their attention the ending cash balance is less \$1,000 and as we move forward we try to stay within our budgets and manage the projects by seeking out grants and doing it in-house. We need direction from the Commission as we get to the January-February we will need to look at the next year and keep an eye out to make sure we have the funds necessary to approve the budget for next year. We will looking at trying to generate \$200,000 in the General Fund in order to approve next years budget.

Mayor Green asked how he as a Commissioner have a mindset as we move forward and what can we do to help the budget.

City Manager Fuentes said there is one specific item and one of the cautions is some of these projects do not have recurring expenses. If it's not in our current budget, it may not be something we can take on. That can be something we control. If we open something that requires additional expenditures, we need to look at that. Going into the Fiscal Year we can realize going into February-March, when there are vacancies we will need to look at whether we have the budget to open the position, or will we need to wait before the position is filled but keeping the position active. We are going into the ICIP process for specific projects, but just the general awareness that there will be reviews to make sure we set ourselves up for the next fiscal year budget.

CITY COMMISSION JULY 26, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Green attended the RPO meeting in Socorro and they all groaned of loss of money and budget. He did hear when they have a position open or someone retires or moves, they don't post that position to save money in the budget.

Finance Director Torres explained the vacancy savings process which means more than just keeping a position vacant. It means that position still has money towards it such as, paying out the vacation or comp time when an employee leaves. We have to basically take that money of the position and factor it into our budget to post after it clears. If you don't you would be doing what is considered a double fill because you're taking that positions money owed to them and hiring on top of that. Right now, our budgets cannot handle that. One of the things she noticed coming into the City is 60% plus is based on salaries, so vacancy savings is very important to us. We have to ensure when we have these positions are not posted until we have cleared the previous position.

Commissioner Frankel said that concerns him for a couple of reasons. We started out talking about the poverty level and the lack of jobs. Then, he is hearing there are positions in the city that are unfilled and we are lagging on filling those positions, as a way to save money. He can see within a few departments they may be able to get by and save a few dollars, but there are other departments that are critical on their staff and need to be filled. By doing this we are losing potential jobs and giving ourselves a false sense of income. He would hate to see the loss of jobs in our community and our town.

Finance Director Torres added that's one of the biggest concerns in management is to ensure our staff and operations are being taken care of. It's not about savings it's ensuring we don't go into a deficit and we stay within our budget. It might not be a vacancy for six months, it may be just one month before we clear it for the position to be filled. We will identify positions that are crucial and essential to look at other avenues to help balance our budget.

Mayor Green said you don't know who is going to retire and it's important to look at the critical positions. Rich Williams from MainStreet was here and they heard the Governor only wants to fund legacy projects through MainStreet. Those are the big projects and not the smaller ones. Smaller communities are also petrified on the Hold Harmless because it could be another hit on top of the Small Cities Assistance and we will have to raise our GRT Tax because there is no other way.

Mayor Green moved to approve Resolution No. 03 16/17 adopting the FY 2016-2017 Final Budget. Commissioner Hechler seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken by the Clerk. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Discussion/Action: Resolution No. 04 16/17 approving the participation in the Local Government Road Fund (LGRF) for improvements to Kruger St. from 3rd St. to 7th St. Don Armijo, Public Works Director

Public Works Director Armijo presented the item. At the February 23rd meeting we discussed this, the state has gone through for the distribution and we need the resolution approving the participation for the funding.

Mayor Pro-Tem Whitehead moved to approve Resolution No. 04 16/17 approving the participation in the Local Government Road Fund (LGRF) for improvements to Kruger St. from 3rd St. to 7th St. Commissioner Frankel seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken by the Clerk. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Green asked if we have something left that we consider laying something down on Glen St. for Mr. McCoy.

I. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion/Action: Sierra Grande Lodge & Spa Restaurant Beer & Wine License with On-Premise Consumption Only and Patio for Application #999718. Renee Cantin, City Clerk-Treasurer

City Clerk Cantin stated we have nothing further to add, Myra is here is you have any questions. Staff is recommending approval.

Mayor Pro-Tem Whitehead moved to approve Sierra Grande Lodge & Spa Restaurant Beer & Wine License with On-Premise Consumption Only and Patio for Application #999718. Commissioner Frankel seconded the motion.

Mayor Green wished them well, it's an important asset for our community.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Discussion/Action: Selection of a Voting Delegate and Alternate for the 2016 New Mexico Municipal League Annual Conference to be held in Hobbs from August 29th - Sept. 2nd. Renee Cantin, City Clerk-Treasurer

City Clerk Cantin presented each year at the New Mexico Municipal League Annual Conference needs a voting delegate and alternate to be appointed of either an Elected Official or staff. She reported that she, City Manager Juan Fuentes, and Police Chief Alirez all served on different Policy Committees in June and she and Police Chief Alirez served on the final Resolutions Committee on July 23rd. City Clerk Cantin explained what these Resolutions are for. Each year the Municipal League puts together a packet that our Executive Director and staff help push for and lobby for during the Legislative Session on behalf of all of the Municipalities. These Resolutions give them the ideas as to what all of the municipalities feel are important issues at the time of the session. We are asking the Commission to appoint a voting delegate and an alternate.

Mayor Green has made plans and the Mayor Pro-Tem will not be going. He asked if there is any interest to go to this three day conference in Hobbs. City Manager Juan Fuentes doesn't believe the League requires that it is an Elected Official, so a staff member can serve because City Manager Juan Fuentes, City Clerk Cantin, and Police Chief Alirez will be attending.

Commissioner Frankel moved to approve if Commissioner Frankel or Commissioner Hechler cannot attend they will appoint City Clerk Renee Cantin as the Voting Delegate and Police Chief Alirez as the Alternate 2016 New Mexico Municipal League Annual Conference to be held in Hobbs from August 29th - Sept. 2nd. Mayor Pro-Tem Whitehead seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

J. REPORTS

1. City Manager

Gave an update on the ICIP that will need to have a public hearing we will be scheduling. The purpose of the ICIP is to develop a five year list of projects that will need to be presented by the end of next month. It will be presented at a meeting in August for approval by Resolution. This week starting tomorrow, he will be attending the City Manager's meeting in Ruidoso, and one of the issues we are dealing with would be the tax policy. For a number of years the Municipal League and the Manager's Association have been trying to work with Taxation & Revenue Department to get access to the information and also how do we begin to start diversifying our revenue stream so we don't heavily rely on GRT. Any changes in that have a significant impact. In the Albuquerque Journal today there was an article about the state of finances for the state. It's going to be a tough session coming up, and they are talking about having a special session. Hold Harmless is an issue of concern for some municipalities and that will be one of the main issues they will be discussing this week.

He reported on the issues with the water restrictions that was sent out by staff. We had some issues with the Cook pump station which supplies our upper zones with water. Staff hired Current Electric and got it going. Now the storage supply is catching up. We still need a day and a half or two to get the level up. It wasn't necessary to issue a citywide restriction, but we did reach out to our heaviest users to limit the water consumption and that has helped. We are getting back online but again it still highlights the needs on the water system. Finally, he thanked the Commissioner's for approving the Quarterly Report and DFA Report. He and Melissa will be working on getting the numbers into the required DFA forms and will get the budget submitted by the end of this week. He apologized for the amount of time it took, but with the new system it took a little bit of time to figure out where the numbers were coming from but they have identified some changes for moving forward and making it easier and smoother.

2. City Commission

Commissioner Hechler commended City Manager Fuentes and Finance Director Torres for their effort on this budget. It's difficult when the budget is normal but when you go through a change in Finance Director's and forms and all of those things, he knows it becomes more difficult. He thanked them for their hard work and for finding a little bit of money and including a merit budget. He feels you should always value

CITY COMMISSION JULY 26, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

people above equipment and anything else. When and if we can do that it's an important endeavor and he thanked City Manager Juan Fuentes for that.

Commissioner Hechler reported on some Citizens inquiries, one about poor visibility as the exit 79 off ramp. They feel it's a possibility the visitor's couldn't see the off-ramp so they could come to town. He made a few phone calls and was able to ascertain some information. He contacted Jason Polanco who is the Acting Manager of the Williamsburg Patrol Yard and Richard Bouve who use to be in charge of the Williamsburg Patrol Yard and is now the Project Superintendent. Both were very responsive and professional and he appreciated their immediate response. They reported that a bid was awarded about 10 days ago to an electric company to activate the off-ramp lights and the main bridge lights. The project should be completed in two or three months. He has several inquiries from businesses on the North end of town so it was nice to hear that. It's an important project and it seems like it will be done in the next couple of months.

He is working on the status of the New Mexico Department of Transportation corridor study related to the traffic on North Date St. and several of the intersections. He asked Police Chief Alirez to give some statistics on the traffic at the intersections and some overall ideas and what he proposes. Police Chief Alirez reported he doesn't have those numbers directly in front of him but it's a significant amount of accidents that have been identified at four intersections. When you're traveling Southbound on Date St. from the Interstate, you're going to hit a peak right after Sonic before Citizen's Bank where it starts to go to a downhill decline. We have 4 intersections where we had 11 accidents, in one, 12 in the other, 7 and 5 in the other two intersections. Last year he participated in some meetings because of the traffic not only on Date St. but on Broadway in regards to getting some signage put out for direction. He made a suggestion in the interim while they were doing a traffic study to put out an electronic sign. He spoke to them at the yard and the electronic sign will be out there for school when it starts. They are looking at different plans and options at that roadway. Commissioner Hechler reported on the statistics including about 35 traffic accidents reported at these intersections in the past 3 ½ years. The intersection that appears to have the most accidents is at New School Road and Date St. Date St. is a state highway so we have to rely on the NMDOT to construct traffic control devices at this intersection. He asked Mayor Green to give a brief report on his meeting with SCRTPO.

Mayor Green first of all said you are only as good as your staff, and he's grateful City Manager Fuentes and Finance Director Torres for finding some money for staff to show the appreciation that we understand who you mean for the community. And also he wishes it could have been more but at least it's in the right direction. He also wants to appreciate the Commission who sees the opportunities and things that need to be done and from his own personal standpoint as long as we run it by Manager Fuentes so he is not blindsided or the Director of Finance or Electric to let people know what we are doing so when people ask them about something, they will know. That's the way to properly conduct business because he thinks staff feels comfortable with us doing the groundwork and it will help make the team function well.

CITY COMMISSION JULY 26, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Last week he attended the South Central Regional Planning Organization which he serves as the Vice Chair. He read Commissioner Hechler's concerns into the minutes of that meeting about Date Street and what is happening. Where you have distracted drivers and accidents happening. Then they kind of came up with a little bit of a plan to have a resolution passed by the Commission and to have Williamsburg and Elephant Butte pass the same resolution. What he heard at that meeting is even though this is a safety issue, there is no money for 2016 or 2017, and maybe they might have money for 2018 because their budget has been cut. However, we have representatives in our area including John Arthur Smith and he suggested to Commissioner Hechler that maybe if we get this resolution passed, we can go in the fall and let him know this is a safety issue. He state we should start to work the crowd and see if we can get dedicated dollars to the Date Street traffic light. He thinks we must be proactive and not be bullied by Santa Fe. We have got to fight for our citizens and our community as we move it forward. We know we don't have a lot of money but we have spent more money patchworking something than we do to save the money for a big project and do it right the first time thirty years ago. He thanked staff for making due with literally nothing and getting us there.

Commissioner Hechler said so in an effort to pressure the NMDOT to install a light on Date St. he would like the Commission to pass a resolution of support of the project. He would also like to forward the Resolution to the Cabinet Secretary, the NMDOT, District 1 Engineer Doolittle and whoever else we need to. We would also like to put some pressure on other entities to help us move this up on the priority list.

Mayor Green said this is a great community and he believes our hearts are in the right place and our direction is in the right place and we have the leadership from City Manager Fuentes and right on down, to turn the page and move us forward in the right direction.

K. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro-Tem Whitehead moved to adjourn at 10:34 a.m. Commissioner Frankel seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Passed and Approved this 9th day of August, 2016



Steven Green, Mayor

ATTEST:


Renee L. Cantin, CMC, City Clerk