

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

August 3, 2015

6:00 P.M.

Mayor Jerah Cordova called the Regular Meeting of the Belen City Council to order at 6:00 P.M. Roll call taken by Leona Vigil, City Clerk.

PRESENT: Councilor Darleen Aragon
Mayor Pro-Tem Wayne Gallegos
Mayor Jerah Cordova
Councilor David Carter
Councilor Frank Ortega

CITY MANAGER: Jay Ruybalid

CITY CLERK, CMC: Leona Vigil

REPORTER: Clara Garcia, VC News Bulletin

OTHERS: See attached sign-in sheet

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Jerah Cordova led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Jerah Cordova asked for approval of the Agenda. Councilor David Carter moved to approve the agenda. Mayor Jerah Cordova asked for a second. Councilor Frank Ortega seconds the motion. Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor David Carter	Yes	
Councilor Wayne Gallegos	Yes	
Councilor Darleen Aragon	Yes	Motioned Carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Jerah Cordova asked for an approval of the Minutes dated July 20, 2015. Councilor Wayne Gallegos motioned to approve the Minutes. Mayor Cordova asked for a second. Councilor Darleen Aragon seconds the motion. Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor David Carter	Yes	
Councilor Wayne Gallegos	Yes	
Councilor Darleen Aragon	Yes	Motioned Carried

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gloria Sanchez: She had several concerns; first, the Gas Power Plant being built on the mesa that will be providing service to customers outside the city. She wanted to know why we didn't consider solar. She suggested PNM help build the fire station. Second, expanding the airport; she asked, will the noise get worse? Third, she believes the City put the cart before the horse on the Christopher Rd. project. She stated that the stupid medians restrict any ambulance for emergencies. Fourth, the El Corazon Park, she claims growing vegetable and fruit in boxes is just not going to work. And finally, no more Dollar Stores.

Mayor Jerah Cordova asked if there was anyone else with public comments. There were no more public comments at this time and Mayor Cordova closed this portion of the meeting.

PRESENTATION

EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER: Wayne Gallegos, Mayor Pro-Tem

Mayor Pro-Tem Wayne Gallegos read and presented Edward Ron Chavez with an Employee of the Second Quarter letter and certificate. A copy of the letter and certificate is attached hereto and made an integral part of these minutes by reference. Ron Chavez received a day off with pay and his name will be placed on the Employee of the Quarter Plaque located inside City Hall.

SALARY STUDY: Mary Lucy Baca, Human Resource Manager

Mary Lucy Baca went over the salary study which she was asked to put together some time ago. A copy of the study is attached hereto and made an integral part of these minutes by reference. Mary Lucy stressed that this is a working document and is subject to change. The positions that are highlighted in the report are the highest underpaid positions within the Library and Public Works Department. Mary Lucy was asked to focus in the Library and Public Works Department. Councilor Frank Ortega asked how the Water Levels in Belen compared to other entities. Lucy answered they were not comparable, but we're getting close. Councilor Gallegos suggested looking at this at mid-year and at new budget time. Mayor Cordova stated that the Council will look at the whole package when Roseann gets back, not just the library and public works department and plan for a workshop. Mary Lucy will add the incentive pay plan and the longevity schedule to the study. Jay pointed out that the employees highlighted in the study were close to 20% or higher of being below the lowest rung. He added that it would cost around \$30,000 to bring those 5 employees to the lowest rung. He added that it would take at least 100,000.00 to bring up the other employees.

DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Leona Vigil, City Clerk

Leona went over her department update presentation; a copy of which is attached hereto and made an integral part of these minutes by reference. Councilor Ortega asked if the GO bond is set in stone yet. Leona answered no; the next step is to meet with John Pate to get an updated estimate. Leona mentioned outstanding ordinances that are pending for action, Panhandling Ordinance, Zoning Ordinance and the Alcohol Ordinance. Mayor Cordova advised Leona that we can set up workshops after the two that are already scheduled or we can add them to the agenda of the other workshops. Jay asked Leona to expand upon the summer recreation program. Leona informed the Council that Jay is working to get more monies budgeted for the Summer Recreation Program. She added that this year they added a second day of swimming to the summer recreation schedule. Leona would also like for the Recreation Center to add Movies in the Park next year. Jay suggested using the stage on the west side of the building.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Jay Ruybalid reported that the runway groundbreaking was excellent. Council Carter provided Leadership Training to City of Belen employees on the 28th. He hosted a Staff Employee BBQ to show his appreciation to all employees. A workshop was held regarding city properties and Sunrise Bluffs; the plan is for staff to inspect the properties on Aragon Rd. The Eagle Tank Ribbon Ceremony is this Thursday at 9:00 A.M. Speed humps have been installed on Orchard and Desoto roads. Steve submitted an application for a Comprehensive Master Plan. The Downtown Master Plan will be reviewed on August 6th. He informed the Council that the light installation for Aragon Bridge will be in October not July. There will be an Economic Development Workshop on August 14th. He plans on having a meeting with all employees once or twice a year.

Councilor Ortega asked if the speed humps on Orchard Rd. had a petition. Jay answered the normal process is to have a petition, unless there is a concern from staff.

Mayor Cordova thanked Commission Hieder for being here tonight

COMMUNICATION FROM CITY COUNCIL

Councilor Darleen Aragon: On July 22 she participated in the MainStreet Meeting. On the 27th she attended the Runway Ground Breaking. On the 28th she participated in the Greater Belen Chamber of Commerce Board

Meeting; they will be coming to Council on a couple of issues. She attended the staff BBQ. Between the BBQ and the workshop, she went to the Harvey House; she emphasized that they have an impressive exhibit on Descansos.

Councilor Wayne Gallegos: He has some concerns with the Camino de Llano ponds; the contractors are running into some problems with fiber optic and lines that have to be lowered. “The City was promised a certain price and it’s changing as we go.” His main concern is with the traffic safety and signage. He informed everyone that the City is the fiscal agent for the Belen Senior Center, which is a county program. The City of Belen is the owner of the building and is requesting an assessment of the building be done. He also reported that the director of the current director of the program is looking to retire this year. He continues to meet with NM Housing; he stated that they are happy with the building there in. Wayne Abraham from UNM is seriously looking into getting into the building on South Main. Right now, Mike Moreno is in the Armory Building, and he is working on occupying the rest of the building.

Councilor David Carter: He attended the Crosswind Runway Ground Breaking Ceremony at the airport. On the 28th he taught a Leadership Training at City Hall. On July 31st he attended the Employee BBQ. On the 31st he attended the Workshop. He received a call from a Rio Metro Representative; he was asked to provide transportation for a group of people to tour the Harvey House. He received a couple of complaints regarding Impala Drive. They closed the south end of the road, but there were no signs. The issue was taken care of right away and the constituents called to thank him.

Councilor Frank Ortega: He stated that everything has already been reported. He added that he is remodeling his wife’s bathroom.

Mayor Jerah Cordova: On the 24th he attended the Grand Nationals for Belen Academy of Martial Arts at the Community Center; there was a dinner and awards given. On the 25th he had a constituent meeting; potholes seem to be the big issue. He attended the Ground Breaking on the 27th and the Workshop on the 31st. He went to Becker Street Grill this past Saturday; he claimed they have great food, and they are now serving beer. He also mowed the grass at the Community Garden this past weekend.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

AN EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING AND THREATENED LITIGATION REGARDING THE PROPOSED HOSPITAL AND HEART OF BELEN, AND LIMITED PERSONNEL MATTERS AS ALLOWED PER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT (10-15-1)

Mayor Jerah Cordova asked for a motion to go into executive session. Councilor Wayne Gallegos so moved. Councilor David Carter seconds the motion. Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor David Carter	Yes	
Councilor Darleen Aragon	Yes	
Councilor Jerah Cordova	Yes	Motion Carried

Mayor Jerah Cordova asked for a motion to return to an open meeting from a closed meeting. Councilor Wayne Gallegos so moved. Mayor Cordova asked for a second. Councilor Darleen Aragon seconds the motion. Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor David Carter	Yes	
Councilor Darleen Aragon	Yes	
Councilor Jerah Cordova	Yes	Motion Carried

Mayor Jerah Cordova asked for a motion that discussion was limited to pending and threatened litigation and no action was taken. Councilor Gallegos so moved. Councilor Carter seconds the motion. Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor David Carter	Yes	
Councilor Darleen Aragon	Yes	
Councilor Jerah Cordova	Yes	Motion Carried

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Jerah Cordova asked for a motion to adjourn tonight's Regular City Council Meeting. Councilor Carter motioned to adjourn. Councilor Aragon seconds the motion. Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor David Carter	Yes	
Councilor Darleen Aragon	Yes	
Councilor Jerah Cordova	Yes	Motion Carried

/s/ _____
Jerah Cordova, Mayor

/s/ _____
Leona Vigil, City Clerk, CMC