

**City of Socorro Regular Scheduled City Council Meeting**  
**City Hall, 111 School of Mines Road, Socorro, NM 87801**  
**April 20, 2015**

Mayor Ravi Bhasker called the meeting to order. Pat Salome, City Clerk, took roll call. Members present at roll call were: Mayor Ravi Bhasker, Councilor Ernest Pargas, Councilor Nick Fleming, Councilor Mary Ann Chavez-Lopez, Councilor Peter Romero, Councilor Michael Olguin, Councilor Toby Jaramillo, Councilor Donald Monette and Councilor Gordy Hicks.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Salome led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF APRIL 20, 2015 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**

Councilor Hicks made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilor Romero, motion passed unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**a. April 6, 2015**

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Councilor Fleming, motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Mayor Bhasker stated there is a Socorro Electric Cooperative meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.

Kathe Maclaren stated that on behalf of the Animal Shelter Advisory Board, she would like to thank the City for allowing the advisory board to participate in the hiring process for the new animal shelter director. Ms. Maclaren stated that the board is very pleased with the new director and her vision for the shelter. Ms. Maclaren stated that she would also like to recognize shelter employees Lisa Simpson and Frank Marquez for keeping the shelter running properly after the previous director suddenly left. Mayor Bhasker thanked the board for continuing to advise the City on animal shelter matters.

**DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION**

**a. Senior Hunger Initiative Distribution - Presentation**

Camille Scielzi, Service Coordinator for the El Camino Real Housing Authority, stated that a three-year Senior Hunger Initiative grant was awarded by the Roadrunner Food Bank. Ms. Scielzi stated that the grant will allow 75 individuals ages 55 and up to receive a free 20-50 pound food distribution monthly. Ms. Scielzi stated that the City's Youth Center will be used as a distribution site. Ms. Scielzi stated that the first distribution will be May 19<sup>th</sup> and will be done every third Tuesday after that. Ms. Scielzi invited everyone to attend the first distribution and assist in unloading and distributing the food.

**b. Molzen-Corbin – Airport Engineering Task Order 15-1**

Jay Santillanes, Division Director, presented Task Order 15-1 for the City's airport. Mr. Santillanes stated that the task order was in the amount of \$28,720.94 and is for design services and survey for the installation of a four-box PAPI on each end of runway 15-33. Mr. Santillanes stated that the funds to be used are from the NMDOT State Aviation Grant. Mr. Santillanes stated that the task order still requires IFE approval.

Councilor Olguin made a motion to approve Task Order 15-1 in the amount of \$28,720.94 pending IFE approval. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

**c. SCOPE Presentation**

Valerie Key, SCOPE Health Coordinator, provided a handout to the Mayor and Council. Ms. Key stated that SCOPE is currently working on creating a county health profile and working on coordinating local service providers to address specific issues in the community. Ms. Key stated that SCOPE's priorities are fitness and nutrition and substance abuse and misuse. Ms. Key stated that SCOPE's mission is to identify and prioritize health and safety needs, establish and plan strategies for community health goals and improve the health and quality of life in families and individuals in Socorro County. Ms. Key stated that Isaac Burleigh, the former Healthy Kids Coordinator, completed several projects including the Parkview community garden, the

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Parkview 5-2-1-0 health challenge, the pump track at Clarke Field and the placement of way finding signs. Ms. Key stated that other successful programs are Bountiful Baskets, Teen Center and Teen Court. Ms. Key thanked the City of Socorro for the continued the support of SCOPE. Mayor Bhasker thanked Ms. Key for her presentation.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilor Fleming stated that the Budget Committee will meet April 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

Mayor Bhasker stated that he recently met with the Library Board in a work session which was also attended by members of the community. Mayor Bhasker stated that he feels the Interim Director, Donald Padilla, is doing a great job at the library. Mayor Bhasker stated that the City Administration will be recommending that Mr. Padilla fill the Director position at the next City Council meeting. Mayor Bhasker stated that he will consider items brought forth by the board members and that he hopes the board understands the position of the Administration.

Deb Caldwell, Chamber of Commerce Director, stated that the job fair was successful with 106 people attending the event. Ms. Caldwell stated that the Jump Start for Juniors Program is still ongoing with 5 juniors working in various locations. Ms. Caldwell stated that the Chamber is working on the Clean & Beautiful grant and the Co-op Marketing grant. Ms. Caldwell stated that there are 2 NM Tech interns who are assisting the Chamber with updating the website and updating the relocation guide.

**DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR REPORTS**

Lupe Tarango, Dispatch Director, provided a handout to the Mayor and Council of Dispatch Department stats from March 2015 (total calls were 2,087). Mr. Tarango stated that the new dispatch equipment has started to arrive and will be installed in May. Mr. Tarango stated that he did interviews for dispatch positions. Mr. Tarango briefly explained some of the different types of calls on his handout including 911 hang-ups, citizen assist, etc.

Donald Padilla, Library Director, stated that new shelving has been installed in the library's southwest room. Mr. Padilla stated that it appears the south wall in the library is separating from the building and that he is going to have it inspected. Mr. Padilla stated that a high school page has been hired. Mr. Padilla reviewed available funds from GO Bond 2012, GO Bond 2014 and the State Grant-in-Aid.

Mike Winders, Police Chief, provided a handout to the Mayor and Council of Police Department stats from March 2015 (62 arrests, 107 citations, 2 DWI arrests, 169 police reports filed, 29 traffic accidents, etc.). Chief Winders stated that officers will provide security at the CYFD Funfest this weekend. Chief Winders stated that there is one recruit currently at the police academy. Mayor Bhasker stated that Chief Winders provided him a report regarding dogs at large and welcomed everyone to review it.

Joe Gonzales, Fire Chief, stated that operations at the Fire Department are normal. Chief Gonzales stated that new employees continue to attend training for their basic and intermediate license. Chief Gonzales stated that he will be attending a conference in Ruidoso. Chief Gonzales stated that he will present new hires and a promotion for Lieutenant at the next City Council meeting.

Lloyd Martinez, Division Director, stated that wood chips have been replaced at all of the City's parks. Mr. Martinez stated that Water Department crews have been working on the connection for the fire loop at the new jail site and new water lines and valves on Otero & 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Martinez stated that the annual CCR report will be sent this week. Mr. Martinez stated that at the rodeo grounds, crews have been working on planting trees, installing sidewalk and upgrading the ticket booth building. Mr. Martinez stated that Parks Department crews have aerated parks and are planting flowers. Mr. Martinez stated that Production Department crews have been working on the lift stations and getting the swimming pool ready for the summer. Mr. Martinez stated that construction on the wastewater treatment plant will begin in the summer.

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Michael Lucero, Sanitation/Landfill/Recycling Director, stated that operations at the Landfill, Sanitation and Recycling departments are normal. Mr. Lucero stated that crews are busy with litter control as it has been very windy. Mr. Lucero stated that crews also continue to grind tree limbs. Mr. Lucero stated that several commercial dumpsters are being repaired and an order has been placed for new residential carts. Mr. Lucero stated that the City has received the fork lift donated to the City by EMRTC.

Jay Santillanes, Division Director, stated that he recently attended the aviation conference in Ruidoso. Mr. Santillanes stated that Gas Department crews continue natural gas line replacement on Sunset Drive and the installation of radio read meters. Mr. Santillanes stated that the Street Department continues to do earth work at the rodeo grounds, attend to work orders and clean drainage areas. Mr. Santillanes stated that the road crews continue to address road failures on 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Otero. Mr. Santillanes stated that the City's tent will be put up for the CYFD Funfest. Mr. Santillanes stated that 6<sup>th</sup> Street and Otero will be repaved once the Water Department finishes their repairs.

Mable Gonzales, City Treasurer, stated that she has been working with the Department Heads on the new budget. Ms. Gonzales stated that she has seen the need for equipment, vehicles and infrastructure and she is trying to work that into the budget. Ms. Gonzales stated that there will be a public hearing on May 5<sup>th</sup> for public funding requests. Ms. Gonzales stated that lodger's tax funding applications are available online or at the Tourism Department.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Councilor Monette asked about the status of the GPS program. Mayor Bhasker stated that there have been no issues found and that the Administration is trying to make the program a positive one. Mr. Salome stated that the program is designed to be a deterrent and to change patterns.

Councilor Monette stated that the 25-year time capsule buried in the Plaza should be due to open in 7 or 8 years.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

**a. Flow Chart – Police Department**

Mayor Bhasker presented an updated flow chart for the Socorro Police Department. Mayor Bhasker stated that the new flow chart will better represent the structure of the Police Department.

Councilor Hicks made a motion to approve the updated flow chart for the Socorro Police Department. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

**b. Personnel Changes**

Councilor Hicks motioned to approve the personnel changes as read by Mayor Bhasker:

Charles Contreras – 5-1-15 – Police – Transfer to Facilities Security Guard Position – A-37 to A-30  
Michael Chavez – 4-20-15 – Police – Completed Probation – A-35 to A-37  
Michael Contreras – 4-20-15 – Police – Completed Probation – A-35 to A-37  
Angel Garcia – 5-1-15 – Police – Promotion to Asst. Chief – Q-51 to Q-53  
Kenneth Greenwood – 5-1-15 – Police – Promotion to Captain – P-44 to P-48  
Victor Chavez – 5-1-15 – Police – Promotion to Sergeant – F-40 to F-42  
Robert Aragon – 5-1-15 – Police – Promotion to Corporal – J-40 to J-41  
Carlos Valenzuela – 5-1-15 – Police – Promotion to Corporal – F-40 to F-41  
Kristy Padilla – 5-15-15 – Water to Administration – Transfer to Administrative Assistant (Office of the Mayor & City Clerk) – J-32 (no change)

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Ruby Lopez – 4-15-15 – Finance – Additional Job Duties – F-35 to F-38

Temporary New Hires: Allen Gonzales, Jenny Crespín

Temporary Renewals: Tony Montoya, Paul Marquez, Elias Jacquez, Tony Silva, Regina Valencia, Sergio Cuevas, Angelica Vega, Michael Padilla, Jeremy Chavez, Kevin Gonzales, Shaina Lopez, Felipe Romero, John Ferguson, Billy Romero, Brad Winton, Cindy Saiz, Loretta Tolliver, Angelica Rael

Student Workers: Giovanna Rosas, Samantha Maldonado, Mariah Jaramillo, Jeremy Gallegos, Ben Bohling  
Referees (7), Zumba (1)

Seconded by Councilor Jaramillo, motion passed unanimously.

**c. Business Registrations**

Councilor Hicks motioned to approve the business registrations as read by Mayor Bhasker:

Mariposa Maintenance Services – Out of Town – Bosque, NM – Anthony Salas – Maintenance of Rental Units

Kenyon Plastering of NM Inc. – Out of Town – Albuquerque, NM – Corporation – Stucco

Yo Mama’s Grill – C-2 – 400 California Street – Jason & Diedra Vinson - Restaurant

Seconded by Councilor Pargas, motion passed unanimously.

**d. Voucher Run**

Councilor Hicks made a motion to approve vouchers 133258 to 133624 in the amount of \$1,270,806.59, plus Payroll Transfers (\$290,367.83), for a total of \$1,561,174.42. Seconded by Councilor Monette, motion passed unanimously.

**e. Announcement – Next City Council Meeting Date and Time – May 4, 2015 @ 6:00 p.m.**

Mayor Bhasker stated that the next regular City Council meeting would be held on May 4, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:14 p.m., Councilor Hicks motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Monette, motion passed unanimously.

**THE CITY OF SOCORRO – a municipal corporation**

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/s/  
**Ravi Bhasker, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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/s/  
**Pat Salome, City Clerk**