

**City of Socorro Regular City Council Meeting**  
**City Hall, 111 School of Mines Road, Socorro, NM 87801**  
**June 1, 2015**

Mayor Pro-Tem Gordy Hicks called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. Pat Salome, City Clerk, took roll call. Members present at roll call were: Mayor Pro-Tem Gordy Hicks, Councilor Michael Olguin, Councilor Ernest Pargas, Councilor Donald Monette, Councilor Nick Fleming, Councilor Peter Romero, Councilor Toby Jaramillo and Councilor Mary Ann Chavez-Lopez. Mayor Ravi Bhasker was absent.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilor Pargas led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF JUNE 1, 2015 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**

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

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**a. May 18, 2015**

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

**PUBLIC FORUM**

**a. NRAO - Presentation**

Peggy Perley, on behalf of NRAO Director Dale Frail, presented the City of Socorro with a check for \$5,000 for the City's Summer Youth Employment Program. Mr. Salome stated that NRAO has participated in the program for many years and their recognition/contribution shows that the program is a meaningful and successful program. Mr. Salome stated that the City's Summer Youth Employment Program has been going on for over 20 years and that NRAO does a very good job with the students that are placed with them. The Mayor Pro-Tem and City Council thanked NRAO for their contribution.

**DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION**

**a. Contract Award – WWTP Bar Screen Equipment – Dennis Engineering**

Tappan Mahoney, of Dennis Engineering, stated that the City opened bids on May 28, 2015 for a front cleaning penetration mechanical bar screen. Mr. Mahoney stated that the low bid was from Duperon Corporation in the amount of \$150,958.13.

Councilor Monette made a motion to award the bid for a front cleaning penetration mechanical bar screen to Duperon Corporation in the amount of \$150,958.13. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

**b. Contract Award – WWTP Lift Station Pumps & Accessories – Dennis Engineering**

Tappan Mahoney, of Dennis Engineering, stated that the City opened bids on May 28, 2015 for lift station pumps, a control panel and accessories (including a discharge elbows, piping, etc.). Mr. Mahoney stated that the low bid was from JCH Inc. in the amount of \$88,115.65.

Councilor Monette made a motion to award the bid for lift station pumps, a control panel and accessories to JCH Inc. in the amount of \$88,115.65. Seconded by Councilor Jaramillo, motion passed unanimously.

**c. Preliminary Budget Approval – FY 2015-2016**

Mable Gonzales, Finance Director, presented Resolution No. 001A which, if approved, adopts the City's preliminary budget for FY 15-16. Ms. Gonzales stated that the preliminary budget includes the City's cash balance as of the end of April and the final budget will have cash balance through June 30<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Gonzales stated that that the budget includes 1% anniversary increases and the short-terms salary adjustment for City employees. Ms. Gonzales stated that there is a new fund for the convention center fee. Ms. Gonzales stated that there will be no increase to health insurance premiums for employees. Ms. Gonzales stated that there is no capital outlay listed in the preliminary budget but that it will be included in the final budget and will be based on the cash balance available. Ms. Gonzales thanked everyone who helped in the preparation of the

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budget. Mr. Salome stated that the resolution for final budget approval will be presented at a future Council meeting and will have the changes outlined in more detail.

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve Resolution No. 001A. Seconded by Councilor Fleming, motion passed unanimously.

**d. Fireworks - Discussion**

Mr. Salome stated that NM State Statute allows municipalities to restrict the sale of certain fireworks in the municipality if the municipality is listed as having severe or extreme drought conditions. Mr. Salome stated that current drought conditions in the City of Socorro do not meet the criteria needed to restrict the sale of certain fireworks. The City Councilors were given a map indicating drought conditions throughout New Mexico. Joe Gonzales, Fire Chief, stated that the Fire Department inspects each fireworks stand for compliance with applicable laws. Some discussion followed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Councilor Olguin stated that he will be attending the National Association of Latino Election Officials conference which will be held out of state. Councilor Olguin stated that the conference will include strategic planning seminars which will provide information that may be helpful in getting the SET Grant.

Councilor Hicks scheduled an Airport Committee meeting for noon on June 4, 2015.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Councilor Chavez-Lopez asked if the street sweeper was working. Jay Santillanes, Division Director, stated that the street sweeper was in for maintenance and that he hopes it will be operational this week.

Councilor Chavez-Lopez stated that there were a large amount of weeds on some parts of California Street. Mr. Santillanes stated that Mike Czosnek, Code Enforcement Officer, can send the property owner a letter regarding the weeds. Mr. Salome stated that it could also help to contact the real estate agent and they will have the weeds cut.

Councilor Chavez-Lopez stated that Otero Street is in bad condition. Mr. Santillanes stated that the road will continue to be repaired until the large trucks are done hauling and then it will be reconstructed properly.

Councilor Jaramillo stated that trash has been dumped in the open area on the south side of Walmart. Mr. Salome stated that if the area poses an immediate danger, the City can go in and clean the area and charge the property owner.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

**a. Reporting on Personnel Changes**

Councilor Romero motioned to approve the personnel changes as read by Mayor Pro-Tem Hicks:

Felix Saavedra – 6-4-15 – WW to Production – Change from Wastewater Dept. to Production Dept.  
(Technician II) – L-31 (no change)

Seconded by Councilor Jaramillo, motion passed unanimously.

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**b. Business Registrations**

Councilor Romero motioned to approve the business registrations as read by Mayor Pro-Tem Hicks:

JD's Barber Lounge – C-2 – 203 Manzanares – Dylan Julian – Barber Shop  
THD At-Home Services, Inc. dba The Home Depot At-Home Services – Out of Town – Atlanta, GA –  
Corporation – Home Improvements  
Gage Electrical – Out of Town – El Paso, TX – Gerardo Banuelos - Electrical

Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

**c. Next City Council Meeting Announcement**

Mayor Pro-Tem Hicks stated that the next City Council meeting would be held on Monday, June 15, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 12:35 p.m., Councilor Romero motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Pargas, 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**