

City of Socorro Regular City Council Meeting
City Hall, 111 School of Mines Road, Socorro, NM 87801
June 2, 2014

Mayor Pro-Tem Gordy Hicks called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Pat Salome, City Clerk, took roll call. Members present at roll call were: Mayor Pro-Tem Gordy Hicks, Councilor Donald Monette, Councilor Toby Jaramillo, Councilor Nick Fleming, Councilor Michael Olguin, Councilor Peter Romero and Councilor Mary Ann Chavez-Lopez. Mayor Ravi Bhasker and Councilor Ernest Pargas were absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

APPROVAL OF JUNE 2, 2014 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 19, 2014

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

b. May 22, 2014

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

PUBLIC FORUM

Marie Watkins provided a handout which shows the salary for the general manager at the Socorro Electric Cooperative for 2012. The documentation showed: Base Compensation \$141,354, Retirement and Other Deferred Compensation \$16,463 and Nontaxable Benefits \$19,869 for a total of \$177,686. Ms. Watkins stated that she is concerned about the funds the SEC is trying to acquire in order to fight the acquisition of the SEC by the City. Ms. Watkins stated that she feels the members will somehow end up paying the costs.

Deb Caldwell stated that the Chamber of Commerce applied for a \$2,500 Wal-Mart grant for youth mentorship and that the Chamber was awarded the grant. Ms. Caldwell stated that the recent EMRTC tour went well. Councilor Romero stated that he took the tour and that it was very educational. Councilor Romero stated that he recommends everyone try to take the tour. Ms. Caldwell stated that the Chamber will be the project managers for the Socorrofest event. Ms. Caldwell stated that there is a junior from NM Tech who will be doing an internship at the Chamber and the City this summer.

DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION

a. Public Hearing – Liquor License Application – Small Brewer License with On-Premise Consumption and Package Sales – Twisted Chile Brewing Co.

Councilor Monette made a motion to go into public hearing. Seconded by Councilor Jaramillo, motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Salome stated that Twisted Chile Brewing Co. has requested a Small Brewer License with On-Premise Consumption and Package Sales which has to be approved by the local Governing Body. KC and Stephanie McFadden, the owners of Twisted Chile Brewing Co., were in attendance. Mr. McFadden stated that the business plans to open July 15th. There was no public comment.

Councilor Monette made a motion to go back into regular session. Seconded by Councilor Romero, motion passed unanimously.

Councilor Monette made a motion to approve the Small Brewer License with On-Premise Consumption and Package Sales for Twisted Chile Brewing Co. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

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b. Socorro County Substance Abuse Prevention Presentation/Update

Pat Lincoln, Savannah Morris and Isaac Burleigh attended the meeting. Ms. Morris stated that the assessment phase was complete and included surveys, focus groups, etc. Ms. Morris stated that the planning phase will now begin and interventions will be implemented in January. Ms. Morris stated that the next coalition meeting will be held June 12th at noon at City Hall. Ms. Lincoln provided a handout containing the results of the assessment. Ms. Lincoln briefly reviewed the results and answered questions from the City Council and the public. Mr. Salome stated that the City could put the findings on the City's website. Some discussion followed.

c. Resolution No. 14-06-02a – Utility Billing Write-Offs

Mable Gonzales, Treasurer, presented Resolution No. 14-06-02a which, if approved, removes uncollectible utility billing accounts from 2009, in the amount of \$28,647.86, from the City's list of accounts. Ms. Gonzales stated that the billed amount for this year was \$6,071,029.86. Ms. Gonzales stated that the Finance Department still attempts to collect these funds through a credit agency.

Councilor Monette made a motion to approve Resolution No. 14-06-02a. Seconded by Councilor Fleming, motion passed unanimously.

d. In-House Budget Resolutions 101 and 102

Ms. Gonzales explained that In-House Budget Resolutions 101 and 102 are adjustments within a department which are needed to allow for expenditures through the end of the fiscal year. The adjustments move funds from one line item to another within the same department. Budget Resolutions 101 and 102 include adjustments in the Administration, Library, Police and Animal Control departments.

Councilor Monette made a motion to approve In-House Budget Resolutions 101 and 102. Seconded by Councilor Romero, motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Salome read an invitation to the City Council on behalf of Councilor Pargas. The invitation is from Chief Justice Barbara Vigil and invites everyone to the next Socorro County Juvenile Justice Board on June 5th at noon at the Socorro County Courthouse.

Councilor Fleming stated that the preliminary budget has been approved and sent to the State for approval. Ms. Gonzales thanked the Budget Committee, the City Council and the Department Heads for their assistance with the preparation of the budget.

Mayor Pro-Tem Hicks asked Jay Santillanes, Division Director, to give an update on the card reader at the airport. Mr. Santillanes stated that a new screen and touchpad had been ordered for the card reader at the airport.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilor Fleming stated that he was concerned about the two-way traffic on Mt. Carmel Street. Councilor Fleming stated that he feels the street would be safer as a one way street. Councilor Fleming also stated that he has noticed some issues with people parking on the wrong side of the street.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilor Olguin stated that he would like to amend the May 19, 2014 minutes to reflect a question that he asked Nann Winter and her response regarding the SEC franchise discussion. Mr. Salome stated that he could make an amendment to the minutes and present them at the next City Council meeting for approval. Mr. Salome stated that the minutes for this meeting would reflect that the May 19, 2014 minutes were approved earlier in the meeting and that the amendment would be voted on June 16, 2014 and the May 19, 2014 minutes would indicate the change.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

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MAYOR'S REPORT

a. Reporting on Personnel Changes

Councilor Romero motioned to approve the personnel changes as read by Mr. Salome:

Roque Fernandez – 5-26-14 – Police – Resignation
Warren Scates – 5-23-14 – Maintenance – Resignation/Retirement
Jennifer Lopez – 5-21-14 – Library – Termination
Fernando Torres – 5-21-14 – Landfill – Abandonment/Termination

Seconded by Councilor Jaramillo, motion passed unanimously.

b. Business Registrations

Councilor Jaramillo motioned to approve the business registrations as read by Mr. Salome:

Rhino Roofing – Out of Town – Albuquerque, NM – Corporation - Roofing

Seconded by Councilor Olguin, 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 16, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:55 p.m., Councilor Monette motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

THE CITY OF SOCORRO – a municipal corporation

/s/
Ravi Bhasker, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/
Pat Salome, City Clerk