

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

December 15, 2008

6:00 P.M.

Mayor Ronnie Torres called the Regular Meeting of the Belen City Council to order at 6:00 P.M. Roll call taken by Sally G. Garley, City Manager.

PRESENT:

Ronnie Torres, Mayor
David Lopez, Mayor Pro-Tem
Terese Ulivarri, Councilor
Rudy Jaramillo, Councilor
Wayne Gallegos, Councilor

CITY STAFF:

Sally G. Garley, City Manager
Audrey Torres, Procurement Specialist
Mike Chavez, Chief of Police
Manny Garcia, Fire Chief
Lenore Pena, Safety Director

OTHERS:

Norman McDonald, City Attorney
Brent Ruffner, VCNB
Jerah Cordova, Our Tomorrow
Gilbert Tabet, Citizen
David Blacher, Blacher Family Holdings
Mike Provine, Molzen-Corbin & Associates
Jacquie Martinez, Molzen-Corbin & Associates
April Chavez, Belen High School Student
Donna Jaramillo, Belen High School Student
Frank DePlanche, Resident

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked Robert Uecker to lead the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mayor Ronnie Torres requested approval of tonight's agenda. Councilor Rudy Jaramillo so moved to approve. Mayor Pro-Tem David Lopez seconds the motion, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting: December 1, 2008

Mayor Ronnie Torres requested approval of minutes for December 1, 2008. Councilor Terese Ulivarri moved to approve the minutes. Councilor Wayne Gallegos seconds the motion, motion carried.

CITIZENS PETITIONS:

Mayor Torres read the next agenda item referring to citizen petitions, and asked if there were any citizen petitions.

1. Mr. Frank DePlanche approached the podium and wished to comment on a paper he had recently received in the mail which asks residents to please clean up their yards and weeds and that a permit was needed for any type of burning. He mentioned that he plays tennis at the City Park and there are tumble weeds all over the place, between the two courts there is no place to walk. Part of the tumbleweed problem is from the High School. Mr. DePlanche and another individual were playing tennis recently and noticed the High School pulled out all of their tumbleweeds and threw them over the fence to the City's property and now there are really a lot of tumbleweeds. Mayor Ronnie Torres advised the situation has been addressed. Mr. DePlanche continued stating that if residents were going to be fined then who is going to fine the City.

ACTION ITEMS:

RECOMMENDATION TO AWARD AIRPORT ON-CALL ENGINEER FOR BELEN ALEXANDER MUNICIPAL AIRPORT: Sally G. Garley, City Manager

Mayor Torres read the next agenda item in reference to a recommendation to award airport on-call Engineer for Belen Alexander Municipal Airport as presented by Sally G. Garley, City Manager who advised three proposals were received after which the selection committee rated and ranked the proposals. Recommendation is to award the proposal for On-Call Engineering services to Molzen-Corbin & Associates.

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked if there were any questions or comments and if none he so entertained a motion. Councilor Terese Ulivarri so moved to approve. Mayor Pro-Tem David Lopez seconds the motion, motion carried.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 2008-18 CDBG AUTHORIZATION FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION: Sally G. Garley, City Manager

Mayor Torres read the next agenda item in reference to adoption of Resolution 2008-18 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) authorizations for submission of application as

presented by Sally G. Garley, City Manager who advised the resolution is part of the application and the project has been identified-Barboa and Gabaldon Court drainage and paving project. Once the resolution is passed, the application will be ready for submission.

Mayor Ronnie Torres noted that there were two public hearings held on the CDBG project. The comments received were from citizens in the area of Barboa and Gabaldon. Mayor Ronnie Torres asked if there were any questions or comments and if none he so entertained a motion. Councilor Terese Ulivarri said she had a statement-“this is a worthwhile project and it would eliminate one of the big issues we have in regards to flooding in this town which has occurred. Councilor Rudy Jaramillo added-“same thing you know, there have been other CDBG grants that have come out in some areas, and it is really a good thing and if there be no more comments I move that we approve the resolution. Mayor Pro-Tem David Lopez seconds the motion, motion carried.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 2008-19 NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AVIATION DIVISION AUTHORIZATION FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION: Sally G. Garley, City Manager

Mayor Torres read the next agenda item in reference to adoption of Resolution 2008-19 New Mexico Department of Transportation Aviation Division authorizations for submission of application as presented by Sally G. Garley, City Manager who advised the resolution is part of the application process and will be done in the next few days if approved.

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked if there were any questions or comments and if none he so entertained a motion. Councilor Terese Ulivarri moved to approve. Councilor Wayne Gallegos seconds the motion, motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION TO AWARD PHASE II COLLECTION SYSTEM REPAIRS: Sally G. Garley, City Manager

Mayor Torres read the next agenda item in reference to recommendation to award Phase II Collection System repairs as presented by Sally G. Garley, City Manager who advised this was a project funding is appropriated. There were five bids ranging from a low of \$1,089,501.50 to a high of \$1,575,668.50. These figures do not include New Mexico Gross Receipts Taxes. The recommendation is to award the bid to New Mexico Underground. (Copy of the letter of recommendation and bid tabulation form is attached hereto and made an integral part of these minutes by reference)

Councilor Wayne Gallegos said, “I noticed there was a local company, is that the local company that is on there?” Mayor Ronnie Torres advised “no”.

Councilor Wayne Gallegos said “all the way to the right”. Mayor Ronnie Torres said that is Advanced Environmental Solutions, Inc.

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked if there were any questions or comments and if none he so entertained a motion. Sally G. Garley, City Manager advised the total amount of the bid, before the motion is made, is \$1,167,809.42, which is inclusive of NM GRT.

Councilor Rudy Jaramillo said “NM Underground, I know that we have one of the guys from local but its so much a difference on price wise”

Councilor Wayne Gallegos said “I have a question, if I may, on the change orders by the time it is all said and done, how do we keep control on that, that it don’t go all the way up and then we shouldn’t have gotten them.

Sally G. Garley, City Manager advised hopefully everything was included but then you will always find those unknowns.

Councilor Wayne Gallegos said, “That is what I want to look at on this project, because sometimes we get the guys that bid real low or whatever and then when it is all done, it’s all the way up.

Sally G. Garley, City Manager advised that when the design is done they try to include everything that needs to be taken care of but once you start digging that is when you run into those unknown situations and that is where the change orders come in.

Councilor Wayne Gallegos said “then that’s pretty even though that other company would run into those same things.

Mayor Ronnie Torres said, “If there is a change order they would all have to address the change order.”

Mayor Pro-Tem David Lopez said if there are no further questions he so moves to award the Phase II Collection System project to New Mexico Underground. Councilor Rudy Jaramillo seconds the motion, motion carried.

RECOMMENDATION TO AWARD DOODLE BUG PROJECT: Sally G. Garley, City Manager

Mayor Torres read the next agenda item in reference to recommendation to award Doodle Bug Project as presented by Sally G. Garley, City Manager who advised there would be two separate awards. There were to separate bids received, the recommendation is to award to ornamental fencing around the Doodle Bog to Gilbert Garcia and Son for \$21,701.00. The second bid recommendation is to Build Corp. of Tome for \$5,900.00 this portion was published as an addendum. Build Corp. did accept to do only the concrete portion of the Doodle Bug project. These amounts do not include NM GRT.

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked if there were any questions from the Council, if none he so entertains a motion. Councilor Rudy Jaramillo asked if these were the only two bids that came in. Sally G. Garley, City Manager advised these were the only two bids received. Councilor Rudy Jaramillo asked the Mayor, in reference to the renovation of the Doodle Bug none of the

money is used on these projects. Mayor Ronnie Torres added these were separate from the Doodle Bug renovation this project is strictly for the ornamental fencing to protect the Doodle Bug and sidewalk. This money, forty thousand dollar appropriation, was from the legislature-Elias Barela and Andrew Barreras. Councilor Wayne Gallegos asked if there are no more comments he moves to approve. Councilor Rudy Jaramillo seconds the motion, motion carried.

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked when we hope to get these projects started. Sally G. Garley, City Manager advised the letters of award would be sent out tomorrow and would know once she is contacted.

Councilor Wayne Gallegos asked, “When they are doing the work on this and they are doing that fence, I know there some other properties around there, and would they work with those owners if there are conflicts.

Mayor Ronnie Torres advised the residents have already been contacted before we went out to bid and the design was prepared. He spoke to the property owners personally.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

CITY MANAGERS REPORT:

The City Managers report is attached hereto and made an integral part of these minutes by reference.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL:

Student Liaison-April Chavez: the multicultural essay contest is happening at school and is being announced every day, there are no entries as of yet. The luminaria sales are going well it was published in the paper and many citizens are ordering them and picking them up from the school. We also need to be more aware of when scholarship applications are due and begin the process a little earlier.

Councilor Rudy Jaramillo: appreciation party for the firefighters was held recently and it was well attended. The fire fighter of the year was acknowledged. The appreciation party was also recently held for city employees who was also well attended and I am grateful for them. He attended a pep rally recently and it was neat to watch there was a lot of student and teacher involvement. Holidays are here hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a prosperous and safe New Year.

Councilor Wayne Gallegos: attended a RSVP board meeting the main topic was the concern of the special needs citizen which was discussed and RSVP has been transporting special needs citizens for a long time and this case was an issue because there were problems with the unit and

not necessarily the employees. Discussion was made as to having a priority list depending on budgets. Right now there are only two vans and one of them is being sponsored by the VIA which help the community. Our transports have been running for quite a few years. The Kaboom project is online for next year which is the park project and they are looking for another project to mix in younger citizens. The Fire Department awards dinner was nice, "Thank you Manny and all your people". Tomorrow, at the senior center, it will be the holiday luncheon; we go and help serve the seniors. Last time Sally G. Garley, City Manager, Fire Department personnel and others, and I invite anyone here to also attend, and help serve the senior citizens of the community. Happy Holidays to everyone and a safe New Year.

Mayor Ronnie Torres: in reference to the scholarships, there are a lot of students that do not apply for them. He is not aware if there is an individual assigned to make the students aware of what scholarships are available; however there is a list of them. There is also a Martin Luther King scholarship available along with a few others that are small but anything helps. Try to contact Cindy Clark at the Chamber of Commerce who may be aware of what else is available. Manny thank you for the work at the Fire Department you all work so hard and sometimes don't get the credit you deserve but we "Thank You" and appreciate all you do. Usually folks don't think about the fire department until there is a fire and hopefully we won't ever have to think of you. Thanks to the firefighter of the year, Luke, who also helped with the Belen star on the water tank.

The pastorelas which will be held at the Library, he asked that the VCNB please run an informational ad advising citizens it will be held Saturday the 20th at 6:00 pm. There was a life nativity scene by one of the local churches-First Assembly of God, Jerah was instrumental in getting that done, they were available from 5 until 6:30 because the wind was really bad. He took a ride on the Rail Runner with Councilor Terese Ulivarri and City Manager Sally G. Garley. It was nice to see all the snow coming down and traffic was slow but the train just went right by. There are some late trains coming back but they are only coming back as far as Albuquerque and left us out on that one. It was nice to listen to what folks have to say on the train and of course when he hears the name "Belen" it is nice to know they are speaking positive of the town.

Councilor Terese Ulivarri: additionally in reference to scholarships she believes the deadline may have already passed for the UNM scholarships they usually need to be in by December 1. She attended a Rio Metro regional transportation District meeting one of the things that came out, which was really cool, Sandoval County and Bernalillo County along with Valencia County all approved the funding 1/8 tax for transportation which 1/2 goes to rail runner and the other 1/2 goes to regional transportation. Valencia County had 60% and the other two had a lower 50% so we really pushed it here. Those funds won't kick in until July and won't be available until October of 09.

We named a service sector of Council Members for Belen who will represent us to the Service Sector Council for Valencia County which will in turn be liaison for the Rio Metro service sector. Martin Luther King meetings are starting to plan the MLK vigil which will be held in January. She also attended the Fire Department Banquet and once again Manny you did a good job and also on the slide show which included a presentation to Rancho Cielo and BNSF for their contribution of the new fire truck. She attended a COG meeting which was a wrap up of stuff

done for the year and also to pass the legislative issues that are coming in now for January. She rode the rail runner today and there were a lot of good comments about Belen. She asked the questions because the first train that leaves it goes to Santa Fe leaves from Los Lunas and does not leave from Belen and we need to get that fixed. There were a lot of people who asked here why it does not leave from the Belen station and I was told it was because it leaves too early in the morning but it is only 10 minutes more coming down south. She was also told it was because of trains coming thru at the time from north coming thru Belen, we need to get that fixed. We have some folks that commute to Santa Fe and it defeats the purpose of our Belen Station if they have to drive to Los Lunas to meet the train.

Also in riding the Rail Runner to Santa Fe there were a lot of comments on how slow traffic was going, however there was a roll over accident which included a fatality and this is one of those things the train will help avoid. The employee appreciation banquet was held and well attended, special thanks to Lenore on the safety video she made. Everyone have a safe Holiday.

Councilor David Lopez: also in reference to the scholarships, last time he knew, there were three five hundred dollar scholarships available, that no one had applied for and those were through the UNM VC. There is not much left to say, it is the last meeting of the year it was a rough year, GRT's have been tight all year but City of Belen managed to retain all of it's employees and manage to give all of our employees an increase. City Council had to cut back on trips as all municipalities have done to conserve funds.

The appreciation luncheon was great it was nice to see the slide show with employee children asking parents to be safe. The luncheon gives us a chance to thank employees for the work they do all year as they are the ones who get yelled at all year long for trivial issues. Brandy Moore who passed away recently because of heart complications, Long John Silver is having a benefit fundraiser tomorrow evening from 5 to 8 and all the proceeds are going to help the family please spread the word so we can help raise funds. In reference to the Fire Department, he had an elaborate speech prepared but was not able to attend, however he did ask his wife to attend and give the speech and she said she did a good job but we won't mention any names. I am sure, Manny; your crew appreciates all you do for them as we appreciate all they do for us. The Belen PD has worked hard this year and this time of year my hat is of to them because the collect all kinds of toys for less fortunate children.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Torres called for executive session

Mayor Ronnie Torres	Yes
Mayor Pro-Tem David Lopez	Yes
Councilor Terese Ulivarri	Yes
Councilor Rudy Jaramillo	Yes
Councilor Wayne Gallegos	Yes

Mayor Torres reconvened this regular meeting and stated for the record that no action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked for a motion to adjourn tonight's meeting.

Councilor Rudy Jaramillo moved to adjourn this meeting. Councilor Wayne Gallegos seconds the motion, motion carried.

/ss
Ronnie Torres, Mayor

ATTEST:

/ss
Sally G. Garley, City Manager