

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

January 5, 2009

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 Mayor Ronnie Torres.

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
Lawrence Kanishero, IT
Manny Garcia, Fire Chief

OTHERS: Norman McDonald, City Attorney
Gilbert Tabet, Citizen
Jerah Cordova, Our Tomorrow
Senior Class BHS
Danna Jaramillo
Kathy Savilla
Anthony Savilla
Cindy Clark, Belen Chamber
Frank & Debi Wright Casa De Pizza

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked Donna Jaramillo to lead the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mayor Ronnie Torres requested approval of tonight's agenda and advised appointment of Municipal Judge Action Item Number 10 be tabled. Councilor Rudy Jaramillo so moved to approve as amended. Councilor Wayne Gallegos seconds the motion, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting: December 15, 2008

Mayor Ronnie Torres requested approval of minutes for December 15, 2008. Councilor Terese Ulivarri moved to approve the minutes. Mayor Pro-tem David Lopez 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. Mike Chavez, Chief of Police wanted to bring everyone up to speed on what the Belen Police Department is doing with the Law Enforcement Torch Run. Every two years law enforcement officers from around the world gather to carry the “Flame of Hope” the Law Enforcement Torch Run final leg in honor of the Special Olympics summer games and winter games. The torch run final leg is not only a salute to the athletes who compete in the Special Olympics world games but it is an honor to participate in the law enforcement torch run. The final leg is in Idaho and it promises to be another opportunity to use the “Flame of Hope” to spread the wonderful message of the Special Olympics, to connect with athletes at a marquee event of the Special Olympics and to once again demonstrate the incredible passion we devote to law enforcement as we do to Special Olympics.

The 2009 final leg will begin in northern Idaho and cover a score of cities, towns and communities. In the map, which is included herein and made an integral part of these minutes by reference, Lt. Miller will be doing 8 to 9 miles every day for 8 days in a row. It is cold up there now and the route he is taking is highlighted on the map. Only one officer is chosen to go from the State of New Mexico and that officer was Lt. Miller from the Belen Police Department.

There were several agencies and several officers that were considered for the honor of running. In order to be considered you had to be in a department that raised a certain amount of funds. The funds started from five thousand and above. The first year, with Officer Miller heading the fundraising activity, they raised six thousand and the year afterward, they raised eleven thousand, then seven thousand and this year with six months to go five thousand. It is a great honor for the Belen Police Department be represented in this event.

Mayor Pro-Tem David Lopez asked if Lt. Miller had been training for this run. Chief Mike Chavez advised that the Lt. is running at night to acclimate to the temperatures because they are so cold. Chief Mike Chavez advised they would have pictures when they are done.

Councilor Wayne Gallegos asked if this includes the dates they are running through the county. Chief Mike Chavez advised this is a different event there is only one runner from the state.

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked if there was anyone else with a citizen petition. There were no other citizen petitions at this time.

PRESENTATION BY BHS CLASS OF 2009 (GRADUATION EVENT): Rosaline Wisneski

Mayor Ronnie Torres read the next agenda item in reference to a presentation by the Belen High School Class of 2009 Graduation Event presented by Rosaline Wisneski and students of the Graduating class of 2009. Rosaline Wisneski approached the podium and advised she was present on behalf of the Class of 2009. A student Marie Baca handed out a pamphlet, a copy of which is attached hereto and made an integral part of these minutes by reference, to Councilors and City Manager while Rosaline Wisneski advised this is a proposal for the Annual farewell Senior Carnival and Bon-fire. Rosaline asked for support from the City as well as some of the public works, to have a Carnival Bon-Fire celebration in honor of the Class of 2009 and hopefully carry this on so that every year it is something the community can look forward to. Rosaline directed attention to the proposal, which was handed out previously, and mentioned the dates of May 1st or 8th at the Eagle Park because of the proximity to the High School but they are open to any other suggestions. Rosaline asked for help with funding, City property and public works to help make this a success and hoped the City would entertain the idea.

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked if she was talking about the bon-fire. Rosaline added it also includes the Carnival. Mayor Ronnie Torres asked if she was talking about a midway carnival or a face painting carnival, to which Rosaline advised it was a midway carnival. Mayor Ronnie Torres said it sounds like fun and he would talk with Sally G. Garley, City Manager and the Fire Chief to see if this can be done and find a suitable location. Mayor Ronnie Torres said this would be like "Grease" and that is cool.

Mayor Ronnie Torres reminisced on the high school bon-fire he attended and was the last to leave because his car would not start, "thank God the High School was up hill and we pushed the car and got it started"; the bon fires are a blast especially if you do it safe.

Mayor Torres asked if they were going to have a contest on the bon-fires because it used to be senior, juniors and sophomore and see who could be in the most wood or is it different. Rosaline said that was a fantastic idea but they have not actually proposed this to the High School because they've said no to bon fires in the past because of the liability issue. They thought that having the proper fire personnel on site and having the proper people available to make it successful it would be good.

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked who carried the insurance on this event. Rosaline said she did not know it would be something they would need to discuss they have never planned anything like this but want to hopefully get to the table so they can see what is feasible and work for the City of Belen as well as the graduating class. Mayor Ronnie Torres added that liability is a big issue and kids are wild when there is a fire. Mayor Ronnie Torres asked to meet with a couple of the students and the City Manager to go over a few more things and what the City can actually do and what the limitations are.

Councilor Rudy Jaramillo asked what type of sponsorship they are looking at. Rosaline advised the students would be in charge of hitting the pavement to find sponsors for the event and to help promote the event as well. Mayor Ronnie Torres asked if this was strictly for the students or for the community as well. Rosaline advised it was open to the community.

Mayor Ronnie Torres advised them to contact Brenda Gurule, Recreation Director, to get contact information for individuals who do carnivals, they are limited to the times they do them and the days they have open. Therefore, the days Rosaline and students have open may not coincide with the Carnival folks. Rosaline said she hopes they are early enough to get things started. Mayor Ronnie Torres advised they set their carnival a year in advance, but that does not mean they are not available. Mayor Torres advised that by the time they meet they will have some contact numbers for the committee, and as far as funding the City cannot give money because of the anti donation law, but there are different things the City can help them with and that is worth a lot. Rosaline asked how much midway carnivals cost. Mayor Torres advised there is no cost for the carnival the City gets a percentage of the profits so it is a fundraiser. When the Carnival comes to town the City usually get about seven thousand dollars from a three day event, depending on the turnout. Sally G. Garley, City Manager asked Andrew DiCamillo, Planning and Zoning Director if there was a Carnival fee. Andrew advised he thought there was some type of permit but for the actual Carnival, they need to come in and fill out paperwork, which goes to the Safety Director, Lenore Pena. Councilor Terese Ulivarri suggested the group get started as soon as possible. Rosaline asked when it would be beneficial to meet, Mayor Torres said “tomorrow”. Rosaline advised the students are in school, after a brief discussion it was decided to meet after school at City Hall.

PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER A RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE (BEER AND WINE ON-PREMISE CONSUMPTION ONLY) LOCATED AT 1128 S. MAIN: Sally G. Garley, City Manager

Mayor Ronnie Torres read the next agenda item and opened the public hearing to consider a restaurant liquor license (beer and wine on-premise consumption only) located at 1128 S. Main, which is Casa De Pizza. Sally G. Garley, City Manager advised she received an application requesting the beer and wine license from Alcohol and Gaming and this is part of the procedure. Mayor Ronnie Torres asked if they already had a beer and wine license, and was answered by Councilor Rudy Jaramillo who advised he had talked to Frank and for some reason or another it lapsed and they have to start the process.

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked if there were any questions or comments. Mayor Ronnie Torres asked if there were any questions or comments from the Council. Councilor Rudy Jaramillo advised that the establishment has had a license for many years and they should be good to go. Mayor Ronnie Torres closed the public hearing.

ACTION ITEMS:

APPROVAL OR DENIAL OF A RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE (BEER AND WINE ON-PREMISE CONSUMPTION ONLY) LOCATED AT 1128 S. MAIN: Sally G. Garley, City Manager

Mayor Ronnie Torres read the next agenda item in reference to approval or denial of a restaurant liquor license (beer and wine on-premise consumption only) located at 1128 S. Main, which is Casa De Pizza. Councilor Terese Ulivarri moved to approve. Councilor Rudy Jaramillo seconds the motion, motion carried.

PRESENTATION HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 2009: Sally G. Garley, City Manager

Mayor Ronnie Torres read the next agenda item in reference to presentation of Holiday Schedule as presented by Sally G. Garley, City Manager who advised the holiday schedule is the approved holiday schedule for State employees. Approval for adoption for City Employees is requested with the addition of Good Friday. A copy of the holiday schedule is attached hereto and made an integral part of these minutes by reference. Mayor Ronnie Torres asked if there were any questions or comments and if none he so entertained a motion. Mayor Pro-Tem David Lopez moves to approve. Councilor Terese Ulivarri seconds the motion, motion carried.

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: Christmas break is over and back to school tomorrow, hopefully next meeting there will be more to report.

Councilor Rudy Jaramillo: 2008 is out and a new year 2009 not much happened so for a community that is quiet that is a good thing. Saw teachers at the restaurant they are excited about getting back to school as well.

Councilor Wayne Gallegos: he was glad to hear about the booster pump. It is going to take until August to be complete. That has been needed for a long time for fire protection and everything. He is glad that is taking place. 2009 the year of hope is what they so lets see, he wished everyone a safe new year.

Mayor Ronnie Torres: January 17, is the Chamber of Commerce installation at the Sheriff Posse café and the chamber has tickets for sale. The 17th is the same night they are having a grand opening for “Fat Sats Grill” located in the Roadrunner Pit Stop. He went to the establishment with Gary and Andrew and it is a sports bar restaurant. It would be nice for the newspaper to do a story on them, in case they need a story to do. Everyone says there is nothing to eat in Belen except Mexican food-he told Councilor Jaramillo “he loves Mexican food”-but this is another venue. There are 21 big screen TV’s and it is a nice place and a great addition to Belen. Thanks to the paper for the story on Main Street, Andrew, Claudette and he will be traveling to Santa Fe, where they are still trying to get the status of “Main Street Community”. The City if competing with many other cities for this designation and there are only two slots open. They have been attending meetings for the last year now to make sure they see their faces and know who they are. Good Luck to us.

Councilor Terese Ulivarri: she served at the Senior Christmas luncheon and represented the City there. She has attended a flurry of Martin Luther King meetings to get ready for the vigil

and that's basically been the extent of her meetings. Other than that everyone have a great new year and hopefully it will be a better year than last year.

Councilor David Lopez: glad to see everyone made it thorough the holidays. The 2009 legislative session is going to kick of here soon. We have submitted our requests to respective legislators, representatives and senators. The money is going to be tight so hopefully we can manage to scrape up a few dollars. Two months ago he went to MRCOG and all the City representatives went in front of the legislators and senators and gave them a spill on what we will be requesting for Capital Outlay projects and wish list. They are aware of what our needs are and they are prioritized. The Council will be going to Santa Fe shortly and lobby for some of these projects.

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 Terese Ulivarri moved to adjourn this meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem David Lopez seconds the motion, motion carried.

/ss
Ronnie Torres, Mayor

ATTEST:

/ss
Sally G. Garley, City Manager