

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

May 18, 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 Sally G. Garley, City Manager.

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

CITY STAFF: Audrey Torres, Procurement Specialist
Mike Chavez, Chief of Police
Lenore G. Pena, HR/Recording
Nathan Godfrey, Fire Department
Kathy Peoples, BFD
Mario Sisneros, Solid Waste Department

OTHERS: Norman McDonald, City Attorney
Brent Raffner, VCNB
Gilbert Tabet, Circle T
Jerah R. Cordova, Our Tomorrow
Bruce Prater, Memorial Day Ceremony
Sonny Sanchez, Resident
Marlene Feuer, Waste Management
Gloria Sanchez, Volunteer City

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked Bruce Prater to lead the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mayor Ronnie Torres requested approval of tonight's agenda with the deletion of item number 6. Councilor Rudy Jaramillo moved to approve the agenda with deletion of number 6. Councilor David Lopez seconds the motion, motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting: May 4, 2009

Mayor Ronnie Torres requested approval of minutes for May 4, 2009. Councilor Terese Ulivarri moved to approve the minutes. Mayor Pro-Tem 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. **Gloria Sanchez** said citizen petitions are important it gives the citizen time to be heard. She gave an update on the 911 park and also requested help from the city to remove some heavy debris that has accumulated on the back side of the 911 Memorial Park wall. Mayor Ronnie Torres directed Sally G. Garley, City Manager to direct staff to perform that task. She noted that she and other volunteers worked on the park on Saturday for most of the day and added 20 more memorial bricks. Mr. Robert Baca, a local mason from Los Nutrias, did some work also on the park. They also erected some bricks that identified the wall they are in the center by the limestone.
2. **Gilbert Tabet** suggest the NM State Highway Department stripe all of Main Street and River Road all of the striping is really bad. Mayor Ronnie Torres advised he would take care of it.

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY PRESENTATION: Gloria Sanchez

Mayor Ronnie Torres read the next agenda item in reference to the Memorial Day Ceremony Presentation by Gloria Sanchez and Bruce Prater. Bruce Prater distributed program pamphlets that will be used for the 2009 Memorial Day Ceremony a copy of which is attached hereto and made an integral part of these minutes by reference. Gloria continued with the presentation and gave a background on Memorial Day which she read from a 2005 American Profile article. The birthplace of Memorial Day, it was in Waterloo New York it was 138 years ago with the population similar to that of Belen. One of the organizers of the Memorial Day event, which goes on for two or three days, WWII Veteran Ed Nelson who was 80 years old back in 05 expressed it perfectly. "It is for those who gave their lives for those who are suffering in veterans hospitals and for those of us who took the time to go we all made sacrifices." Back to the program she thanked Bruce Prater for donating his time and talent to the project. This is the third year the City of Belen has presented a Memorial Day ceremony.

PROCLAMATION "EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK": Mayor Ronnie Torres

Mayor Ronnie Torres read the next agenda item in reference to a proclamation for "Emergency Medical Services Week". Mayor Ronnie Torres read the proclamation aloud and thanked the

EMS personnel present. Kathy Peoples of the Belen Fire Department accepted the proclamation a copy of which is attached hereto and made an integral part of these minutes by reference.

ACTION ITEMS:

RECOMMENDATION TO AWARD RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTION, DISPOSAL AND RECYCLING SERVICES: Sally G. Garley, City Manager

Mayor Ronnie Torres read the next agenda item in reference to a recommendation to award residential and commercial solid waste collection, disposal and recycling services which was presented by Sally G. Garley, City Manager who advised there were two proposals received and the recommendation is to award the bid to Waste Management of NM, Inc. Sally G. Garley, City Manager advised Marlene Feuer was present and wished to speak.

Marlene said “she wanted to thank Audrey, Mario and Robert and the professionalism the staff showed in doing the RFP for the services which was very well done and done very professionally. We have appreciated the opportunity for being the trash collector for the past eleven years, I have been your trash lady so thank you very much”. Marlene made mention of an independent customer satisfaction survey, a copy of which is attached hereto and made an integral part of these minutes by reference. The survey was random and done in late March with a random selection of 300 residents. In the survey Waste Management received a 97% approval rating. The primary reasons the customers give for being satisfied were coming on time, being reliable, picking up what is put out and leaving the area clean, Less than 1% of the customers surveyed expressed dissatisfaction with the reliability and consistency of service.

Councilor Terese Ulivarri asked “what are you providing for us under the recycling contract”? Marlene advised “we proposed to do a drop off center to take single stream, plastics, aluminum, news paper etc. one container with that and another with cardboard. In our proposal we proposed to provide enclosed containers or we gave an option, I just talked to Mario about this, our district manager found two compactors that we are willing to supply at no additional charge as long as you have the proper electricity to run them. That will be a great savings to the city if you can to that because it will make fewer trips to the recycling center”.

Councilor Terese Ulivarri asked “are you compacting cardboard and plastic”? Marlene said “yes we can compact the single stream which is everything but the cardboard. We can also compact the cardboard because it will give you more payload. As soon as we can get this done and get those containers there and do some advertising we can basically get the program started”. Councilor Terese Ulivarri asked what it would take to get curbside recycling. Marlene advised this was the first step”.

Mayor Ronnie Torres entertained a motion. Councilor Terese Ulivarri moved to award the residential, commercial solid waste collection disposal and recycling services to Waste Management. Mayor Pro-Tem Wayne Gallegos seconds the motion, motion carries.

RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING: Mike Chavez, Chief of Police

Mayor Ronnie Torres read the next agenda item in reference to recommendation to approve School resource officer memorandum of understanding. Chief Mike Chavez advised this was just a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Belen and Belen Consolidated Schools in reference to the school resource officer. This is the same memorandum of understanding in place for the past two years only this adds a second resource officer.

Councilor Terese Ulivarri said “when school is not in session is this a street on the beat cop?” Chief Mike Chavez advised yes. Councilor Terese Ulivarri said “then the school is paying for one officer and we are paying for the other half.” Chief Mike Chavez advised correct they are splitting the cost. During the summer months the officer will be out on the street and of course during the year he is teaching classes and going to school. Our responsibility as far as training goes is we do send them to school resource officer school and continue training in the school and it works out well. One officer will be stationed at the high school and one at the middle school.

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked if there were any other questions. Councilor David Lopez said “if there are no further questions I make a motion that we approve the memorandum of understanding between the Belen Schools and the City of Belen. Councilor Terese Ulivarri seconds the motion, motion carries.

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:

Councilor Rudy Jaramillo: said “graduation tomorrow in Belen and I am sure there are a lot of gatherings and parties going on. I hope the gatherings are kept safe and alcohol free for these young people so just be there.”

Councilor Wayne Gallegos: said “a thank you to the memorial day group that’s helping there’s a lot of people that always get involved I know we have some leaders but it does take a lot of people to make it happen because you are working a lot of different agencies and people so good job and thank you guys.

Also the Emergency Medical Service week, I know they had to run on a call but they are really important and I was glad to see that because just like everything else you don’t want to see them but you are happy to see them when you need them.

That survey was neat that 97% of the people in our area and that is one of the things you see and hear about. If it's bad you are going to hear about it but if it's good you are not going to hear nothing it is just going to blow and I think there's good advertisement when there is a holiday or a change and people always, for whatever reason, know when to put it out. I think whatever system that is it is working so that's good. A little bit more on the recycling I know we had a cleanup day and don't get down when a lot of people don't use it. I think we just need to push it more and advertise and whatever else we can. I know the City's been having two of those every year on in the fall and one in the spring. I say just keep on doing it and keep on letting people know about it. And sometimes it is the same old people but it's well needed in the city so keep those up.

Just about the officer at the high school I am glad to see there's going to be one at the mid school and up there and then the extra officer and then in the summer, you know, vacations and stuff you have coverage so good to see that you guys."

Mayor Ronnie Torres: said "speaking of the clean up day, when are they going to pick up the bags of trash on the streets." Mario Sisneros, Solid Waste Supervisor advised they are already doing that. "Mayor Ronnie Torres continued saying "I have seen a lot of bags all over the place I thought it was kind of neat. And Marlene thank you so much for all you have done, you've always provided very good service and I gave you a very good recommendation on that. I am one of your 97% there so you have always done a lot. And also for the extra things the extra containers that you provide to the community in know we use it for clean up and we use it for the matanza, you are always very helpful when we need that so thank you.

We just came back from Washington DC, Councilman Ulivarri, myself, Sally and Andrew DiCamillo went up there, of course Andrew and Terese went at their own expense and we spoke with representatives and took, once again, the stimulus package up there and when I went up there and we talked with them it was good to talk to them again and tell them our wish list. I told them this is very repetitive but we are bringing the stimulus requests that we have because I don't want to hear is that you could have gotten money or you should have gotten money whatever, but you failed to ask a certain person. We did take them up there and we did talk to everybody. I want to compliment the team, of course Del Archuleta from Molzen-Corbin went also, when we spoke to all these people all went really well as far as the information we all had to present. Sally personally handed out yellow ribbon invitations to this yellow ribbon ceremony to every single one of them on your behalf (speaking to Gloria Sanchez) so those are all taken out there. I think it went very well and we were very well received by all of them and we got a couple of more leads of different people that we can speak to when we go up next time. Again thank you Gloria and your team for all you do.

Gloria Sanchez wanted to mention the team: Bruce, Sonny, Sally, Manny, Charlie Anderson, Lenore and Ken Gibson.

Councilor Terese Ulivarri: said "I attended a Martin Luther King commission meeting. We awarded two scholarships to high school graduates, one of them is Thomas Rodrigues who I find out is our salutatorian this year for Belen High School, the other is Erica Saiz who is going to attend the UNMVC. We gave out two scholarships one for someone going to school in New

Mexico and the other one going to VC. We had some beautiful applicants this year and the kids have to answer questions in regards as to how their lives are going to relate to Dr. Martin Luther King, we had some excellent submissions this year.

We went to DC as the Mayor said and we met with representatives from Senator Bingaman's office, Congressman Harry Teague and Senator Udall's office. And just so you'll know it was, we went up on Sunday met on Monday and came back on Tuesday and that is a whirlwind trip if you've ever done it. It's quite a task because you lose two hours and you are messed up the whole time you are there so it is kind of interesting and we had some beautiful weather for once it wasn't raining.

On Saturday I met Congressman Teague at his rail runner stops and I once again reinforced the stimulus package stuff and he is well aware of what we are asking and what we are doing. I also thanked him for coming up to Belen and Los Lunas. Because we used to be ignored Congressman Pearce started the tradition of actually acknowledging that we existed and the previous Congressman just kind of-we are out there in the middle of nowhere. So it is kind of nice that we are, that we matter know and that's the positive stuff. He is positive about Belen and he wants to work with us well so it was fun meeting him.

Marlene thank you for all your work I appreciate it. Throughout the years you have given everything that you can to help us out and it doesn't go unnoticed so thank you so much for that.

Gloria and your gang thank you again you always do a wonderful job with that ceremony I am always looking forward to being there.

Chief thank you for that (MOU) the School's working together with them can only make our community much stronger and I know they needed that second resource officer so thank you for that.

Councilor David Lopez: said "graduation is tomorrow it is surprising how fast these kids grow up you see them playing in the playground and the next thing you know they are graduating and on their way to college. Also Marlene everything the City has asked of you, you have done, and it is been my pleasure to have worked with you over the years as well as with the community. It is like the matanza when you need you do extra things you were there and helped make that a success.

Gloria as far as you and your crew, an idea is only an idea unless you go forward with it and so it is good to see that you have a good group behind you to follow through with what you propose to do and I appreciate that.

Also to the City employees, the emergency team, that got this proclamation like Wayne says whenever everything is going fine and dandy you forget about them as well as the police department. The presence is always around and you take them for granted until you need them.

Mayor Ronnie Torres added he wanted to thank Claudette Riley, Andrew DiCamillo and the entire committee for the Main Street Program because we did get it. It was a lot of hard work and I wanted to thank each of the council people because when we had the interviews all of you

guys showed and that was one of the comments they made that this is the first time that they had the stuff and the entire council shows up. So it was a lot of work and it was good and we were number one and it's finally nice to come out on top

ADJOURNMENT:

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

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

/ss
Ronnie Torres, Mayor

ATTEST:

/ss
Sally G. Garley, City Manager