

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

November 3, 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
Wayne Gallegos, Councilor

ABSENT: Rudy Jaramillo, Councilor

CITY STAFF: Sally G. Garley, City Manager
Audrey Torres, Procurement Specialist
Lenore Pena, HR/City of Belen
Manny Garcia, Fire Chief
Dan Robb, Police Department

OTHERS: Brent Ruffner, VCNB
Jerah Cordova, Our Tomorrow
Gilbert Tabet, Citizen
Bryant Arnink, City of Belen Resident
April Chavez, Belen High School
Donna Jaramillo, Belen High School
Cindy Clark, Greater Belen Chamber of Commerce
Britney Lardner, Belen High School
David Blocker, Blocher Family Holdings
Mike Chavez

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked Cindy Clark to lead the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Meeting: October 20, 2008

Mayor Ronnie Torres requested approval of minutes for October 20, 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 citizen petitions, and asked if there were any citizen petitions. No Citizen petitions reported at this time.

ACTION ITEMS:

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION 2008-16 AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE NEW MEXICO WATER BOARD FOR THE CITY OF BELEN "EAGLE" WATER TANK REPLACEMENT: Sally G. Garley, City Manager

Mayor Torres read the next agenda item in reference to adoption of Resolution 2008-16 authorizing the application for financial assistance to the New Mexico water board for the City of Belen "Eagle" water tank replacement. Sally G. Garley, City Manager advised the resolution is required for submission of an application to the NM water trust board for funding in the 2009 water project funding cycle and asked if there were any questions.

Councilor Terese Ulivarri asked what the color would be. City Manager, Sally G. Garley advised that decision would be made in the planning stages and Mayor Ronnie Torres added that would be the best time to ask. Mayor Torres asked if there were any further questions or comments if none he so entertains a motion. Councilor Terese Ulivarri so moved to approve the resolution. Councilor Wayne Gallegos seconds the motion, motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF POLICE CHIEF: Mayor Ronnie Torres

Mayor Torres read the next agenda item in reference to appointment of Police Chief. Mayor Ronnie Torres submitted the name of the previous Chief of Police Mike Chavez who did a

fantastic job in the past and has been offered positions with other entities. Mayor Ronnie Torres asked if there were any questions. Mayor Pro-tem David Lopez asked if there were no questions would like to make a motion to approve Mike Chavez as Chief of Police. Councilor Terese Ulivarri seconds the motion. Mayor Ronnie Torres then asked for a vote: Councilor Terese Ulivarri “yes”, Councilor Wayne Gallegos “yes”, Mayor Pro-Tem David Lopez “yes”, and Mayor Torres “yes” motion carried. Mike Chavez was welcomed back.

Mayor Ronnie Torres thanked Captain Dan Robb for the fantastic job in the absence of Chief Chavez and added that you could tell when you have a professional organization where people are on the same page because everyone knew what to do.

Chief Mike Chavez stood and accepted the appointment and thanked the Mayor and Council for the opportunity for the job and considered it an honor to serve the citizens of Belen in a responsibility that he takes seriously and he will do the best that he can. He thanked Captain Dan Robb for a great job.

Councilor David Lopez added that during the baseball season, Chief Chavez approached him with the possibility that he may be retiring and he did it with such professionalism. He hopes that everything goes well on the force. Thanks also to Captain Dan Robb for the professional job he did as acting Chief.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

ACTING CITY MANAGERS REPORT:

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

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY COUNCIL:

Student Liaison-**April Chavez:** reported that last week they had the volley for the cure and raised over three thousand dollars for breast cancer research. Red ribbon week was held last week and the Belen anti drug force was at the school and did a demonstration. The Halloween football game had a big victory and the cheerleaders won the spirit stick on channel 7 news. During half time show they dressed like zombies and danced to thriller for entertainment. They are selling luminaries. Belen High School Student Council is getting ready for state and that is where all student councils’ from around New Mexico compete and it will be held in Rio Rancho.

Mayor Ronnie Torres asked them if the Saturday after thanksgiving, during the Miracle on Main Street Parade, if they would like to have a booth and take orders for the luminaries. April reported that staters are having a food drive.

Councilor Wayne Gallegos: he attended an advisor board meeting for the Belen public library they are working on the bylaws because they are old and outdated. It looks like that they update should be completed by January. Some of the new programs are the preschool story hour on Tuesdays and Wednesday at ten. Also the new server is complete at the library for checking books in and out. There was a circulation study done and the circulation has gone up 12%, new borrowers are 84% and the computer sessions have skyrocketed up to 102% and an increase from sixteen thousand people to thirty three thousand people who utilize the library. The friend of the library had a good fall book sale recently and was successful.

Mayor Ronnie Torres: there was a recent Miracle on Main Street meeting held and there is another one scheduled tomorrow. There are many people doing different things for the event so we will all have something to present to the paper. Halloween was great and it was strangely quiet but safe, there were not many trick or treaters out maybe they were all at the football game.

Councilor Terese Ulivarri: attend a workforce connection meeting, for the Mayor, they just dedicated a new facility and it is the first one in this region that has a one stop shop for everyone. They are located in the same building, but instead of separating the two entities from where they go and where they are referred to they are actually in the same building in Albuquerque. We still have our facility here at the F&E plaza for Valencia County.

The Martin Luther King meeting was held and there are four baskets that will be sent to families for Thanksgiving and we are getting the names from RSVP. They are also getting ready for the MLK candlelight vigil, which happens in January. We will be asking student council to help with the vigil.

Welcome back to Chief Chavez and thanks to Captain Robb for a fantastic job.

Councilor David Lopez: just a follow up on the Thanksgiving, we are working with the Midwest Cap to get baskets to families in need within the community. At work they are wrapping up the end of the year employee contribution program which is a fund that is open all year long for the entire county for help with Habitat for Humanity and Roadrunner Food Bank. The Midwest Cap is also taking food donations they can contact Sandy at the Mid West CAP office.

Councilor Rudy Jaramillo: Absent

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Mayor Pro-tem David Lopez moved to adjourn this meeting. Councilor Terese Ulivarri second the motion, motion carried.

ss/
Ronnie Torres, Mayor

ATTEST:

ss/
Sally G. Garley, City Manager