

BELEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 22, 2019
6:00 p.m.

Mayor Jerah Cordova called the Regular Meeting of the Belen City Council to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll Call taken by Leona Vigil, City Manager.

PRESENT: Councilor Wayne Gallegos
Mayor Pro-Tem David Carter
Mayor Jerah R. Cordova
Councilor Frank F. Ortega

ABSENT: Councilor Ronnie Torres

CITY MANAGER/: Leona Vigil
ACTING CLERK

REPORTER: Clara Garcia, VC News Bulletin

OTHERS: See attached Sign-in Sheet

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Cordova led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Cordova asked for a motion to approve the agenda. City Manager Leona Vigil announced that Officer Peperas had a family emergency and could not present tonight. With that, Mayor Cordova asked for a motion. Councilor Ortega made a motion to approve. Councilor Gallegos second the motion. Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor Wayne Gallegos	Yes	
Councilor David Carter	Motion Carried	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Cordova asked for a motion to approve the minutes dated January 7, 2019. Councilor Gallegos made a motion to approve. Mayor Cordova asked for a second. Councilor Ortega second the motion.
Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor Wayne Gallegos	Yes	
Councilor David Carter	Abstained	Motion Carried

Mayor Cordova asked for a motion to approve the minutes dated January 14, 2019. Councilor Ortega made a motion to approve. Mayor Cordova asked for a second. Councilor Gallegos second the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor Wayne Gallegos	Yes	
Councilor David Carter	Yes	Motion Carried

PUBIC COMMENTS

Mayor Cordova asked if there was anyone with a public comment.

Kenneth Gibson: He handed out a copy of the “*Weekly Alibi Newspaper*” to members of the City Council. He pointed out that it talks badly about Belen. He offered his experiences to help Belen thrive.

Tony Cowen: He owns a lot of properties in Belen. He was frustrated because of the lack of police patrol up in the Mesa area, up by Moonlight Rd. He was also frustrated because the streets are not being maintained and AC Disposal missed his trash pickup twice. He also stressed his concerns of the Sidewalk GO Bond money; he would like to know why Gilbert Street has not received sidewalks.

There being no other public comments, this portion of the meeting was closed.

PRESENTATIONS

WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS PROGRAM - *Monique Marquez*

Monique Marquez was not present at the meeting to present to the Council. Mayor Cordova moved to the next item on the agenda.

ADMINISTER THE OATH OF OFFICE FOR THE NEW BELEN POLICE CHIEF, *Judge Kathy Savilla*

Judge Kathy Savilla administered the oath of office to the newly appointed Police Chief, Victor Rodriguez.

DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION

APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF THE APPOINTMENT FOR THE PUBLIC SAFETY VACANCY ON THE IT (TIF) COMMITTEE – *Mayor Jerah Cordova*

Mayor Cordova reminded the Council that the City needed to replace Former Chief Scott Conner on the IT Committee. Mayor Cordova nominated Police Chief Victor Rodriguez to fill that position.

Mayor Cordova asked for a motion. Councilor Carter made a motion to approve. Mayor Cordova asked for a second. Councilor Ortega seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor Wayne Gallegos	Yes	
Councilor David Carter	Yes	Motion Carried

APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE FLOOD MITIGATION EFFORTS IN THE CITY OF BELEN- *Leona Vigil*

Leona Vigil reported that a meeting was held at City Hall a while back to discuss joint efforts for flooding mitigation in Valencia County. Representatives from Rio Grande Conservancy, Valencia County, Rio Communities and Belen were some of the individuals present. During that meeting, Mike Hamman asked that all entities pass a resolution in support of one another to help in locating funding sources. Leona added that the amount the Conservancy is seeking is \$150,000, and she used the template that Valencia County presented and passed. Councilor Gallegos added that this way of showing regionalization. Mayor Cordova asked if anyone had questions. Councilor Gallegos answered that it show support.

Mayor Cordova asked for a motion. Councilor Gallegos made a motion to approve. Mayor Cordova asked for a second. Councilor Ortega seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor Wayne Gallegos	Yes	
Councilor David Carter	Yes	Motion Carried

APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION COMMITTING TO COMPLETE AND IMPLEMENT AN ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN BY 2022 – *Leona Vigil*

Leona Vigil explained to the Council that the Asset Management Resolution before them was the same resolution that was passed 3 years ago, the only difference were the dates. Leona stated that in order to apply to the Water Trust Board the City must have a basic asset management plan and an updated water conservancy plan. The resolution will show that the City is working towards that Asset Management Plan. Councilor Gallegos and Councilor stressed that the City has to start putting money towards this project.

Mayor Cordova asked for a motion. Councilor Gallegos made a motion to approve. Mayor Cordova asked for a second. Councilor Ortega seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor Wayne Gallegos	Yes	
Councilor David Carter	Yes	Motion Carried

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Leona Vigil: She reported that after consulting with the City's attorney and auditor, the City is able to exchange services for the Annual Hispano Matanza. The Hispano Chamber will be providing the City with approximately \$1,000 in marketing and promotion and the City will be providing use of the stage, bleachers and some personnel. She and Rosemary worked hard last week to put together capital outlay request to give to our legislators; they will be hand delivering them tomorrow. She has a meeting with PNM to go over the list of inop light poles. She met with Charles from AC Disposal; he is asking the City to upgrade the convenient center to a transfer station, so we can be allowed more tonnage. If approved, Charles would like to start taking his debris that he collects from Rio Communities and the County to the Transfer Station. The City will be collecting \$9,678.50 from the recent completed auction.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilor Gallegos reported that he has been working with Councilor Ortega on the VA Memorial. He attended the luncheon for the Friends of the Harvey House and Friends of the Library; the luncheon was held to show teamwork and appreciation. He attended the Advisory Council for the Older Americans. The Governor has appointed a new representative that has understanding of the program; they serve 600 meals a day. He attended the MLK event. He also attended a meeting at the Library to review e-rate which is a higher internet service; they will get a discount for running fiber to the Harvey House.

Councilor Carter: Councilor Carter made a rebuttal against the Alibi news article referring to Judy Chicago. He mentioned that press makes up news to cell papers.

Councilor Ortega announced the Annual Matanza this coming weekend. He also notice that the fire hydrant on 10th and Camino were repaired. Councilor Ortega emphasized that he is very proud of what the City has accomplished in the last few years; he stated that even though you can't see some of the projects they still benefit the City. He mentioned the newly built Fire Station, sewer line for Dennis Chavez Elementary, water tank that was inoperable for 10 years and Martha Jean that had been annexed now with City services – Nearly \$17,600,000 in projects. He added that the Mayor should be very proud of the Council and Staff he has supporting him.

Mayor Cordova reported that he met with the Scouts here at City Hall and talked to them about a Mayor's role. He attended La Dos Gringas Ribbon Cutting and Mayor Keller's State of Address and the Special Meeting on January 14th.

Councilor Wayne Gallegos mentioned that if there is not enough money to complete 10th Street sidewalks the City will do the sidewalks on Gilbert.

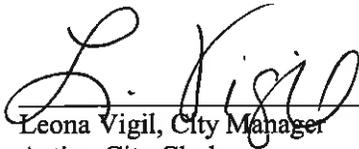
ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Cordova asked for a motion to adjourn tonight's Regular Council Meeting. Councilor Carter made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Ortega seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor David Carter	Yes	
Councilor Wayne Gallegos	Yes	Motion Carried



Jerah Cordova, Mayor



Leona Vigil, City Manager
Acting City Clerk