

BELEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING
February 18, 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 Brian McBain, Community Services Director.

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

CITY MANAGER: Brian McBain *(In Leona Vigil's Absence)*

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. Councilor Ortega made a motion. Mayor Cordova asked for a second. Councilor Gallegos seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Cordova asked for a motion to approve the minutes dated February 4, 2018 as presented. Councilor Torres made a motion. Mayor Cordova asked for a second. Councilor Gallegos seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

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

PUBIC COMMENTS

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

There were no public comments and this portion of the meeting was closed.

PRESENTATIONS

A) RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION FOR EAGLE SCOUT TROOP #307

Mayor Cordova read the certificate of appreciation for the record and expressed his sincere thanks for their hard work for the City of Belen, however, no representatives from Eagle Scout Troop #307 were present to receive the award.

DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION (1)

**APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF THE HISTORICAL PROPERTIES REVIEW BOARD
RECOMMENDATIONS TO DESIGNATE OLD CITY HALL AS A HISTORIC PROPERTY**

Ms. Joan Artiaga presented details on Old City Hall to the Council, showing the historical importance of this building, also advising that SHIPPO (State Historic Board) has approved this building as historical and is now submitting this nationally. Councilor Ortega advised that he attended the meeting in Santa Fe and learned about the historical process, and would like to ensure any plans for this building are considered before moving forward to ensure historical compliance. Councilor Gallegos advised that this is something important to be considered, and we must be careful how we move this building forward in plans and use, following guidelines as mandated. Councilor Carter stressed his concerns with making a building historical, advising that this usually means any work done to the building is more costly, what are the benefits for making this historical. Ms. Artiaga advised that this will allow for grant opportunities that could not be done without this historical designation. Councilor Torres is excited about this historical process and would like to work with this Board to put his home on the historical registry. Mr. Steve Tomita advised that we also should consider making this an ordinance to protect future decisions on this building into the future.

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

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE DISCUSSION OF LIMITED PERSONNEL MATTERS REGARDING THE CITY'S APPOINTED POSITIONS, AS ALLOWED PER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT 10-15-1 (H-2)

Mayor Cordova asked for a motion. Councilor Gallegos made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Mayor Cordova asked for a second. Councilor Ortega seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote:

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

****The Council entered into Closed Session at 6:21 pm****

Mayor Cordova asked for a motion. Councilor Ortega made a motion to re-enter into Open Session. Mayor Cordova asked for a second. Councilor Gallegos seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote:

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

****The Council returned to Open Session at 7:35 pm****

Mayor Cordova asked for a motion to advise that the matters discussed in the closed meeting were limited only to those specified in the motion for closure, and no actions were taken. Councilor Ortega made the motion. Mayor Cordova asked for a second. Councilor Gallegos seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote:

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

DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION (2)

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF THE APPOINTMENT FOR THE BELEN FIRE CHIEF POSITION

Mayor Cordova named Bret Ruff as his appointment to Belen Fire Chief.

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

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

Municipal Judge Kathy Savilla swore in Mr. Bret Ruff to the position of Belen Fire Chief.

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF THE APPOINTMENT FOR THE BELEN CITY CLERK/TREASURER POSITION

Mayor Cordova named Amanda Tenorio as his appointment to Belen City Clerk/Treasurer.

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

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

Municipal Judge Kathy Savilla swore in Ms. Amanda Tenorio to the position of Belen City Clerk/Treasurer.

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE LODGER'S TAX COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mayor Cordova named the following members as appointments to the Lodger's Tax Committee: Danny Bernal, Kelly Cross, Barb Jaramillo, Baymont Representative, Travel Lodge Representative, Roseann Peralta (ex-officio), and Danny Goodson (ex-officio). Councilor Gallegos stressed the importance of this committee, advising that in any situation in which the Lodger's Tax fund is to be used, must through this committee first before the Council can approve and this process must be followed at all times.

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

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

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF THE 3RD QUARTER BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Ms. Roseann Peralta presented the budget adjustments to the Council. Councilor Gallegos was concerned with item 27, advising that the process of the Lodgers Tax must be followed before the Council can approve, asking that this go before the committee before this is approved by Council. Councilor Carter advised that he was concerned with the increases to the General Fund budget, saying that this increase is for \$108,000, which is something that needs to be monitored when looking to spend "extra" GRT revenue, the reserves are also used for these circumstances.

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

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

Resolution 2019-03

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Brian McBain stated: City crews are preparing for the snow storm should it hit in the City limits, Tommy's crews is on call for the evening and will take care of the roads as needed, John at the Airport is also ready to assist. We had a water shut off today for a Hydrant repair in the area of Camino, a press release was issued and water has been restored. Just trying to hold down the fort in Leona's absence.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilor Ortega stated: Working on the VA Memorial site, getting ground prepared for the construction, we are also working on the website and would like a status on this. IT Committee meeting went well, street light on Teresa Dr. is working, I want to thank Robert Lucero for all the work he is doing at Eagle Park, he has really done a great job out there.

Councilor Torres stated: Went to Santa Fe Friday, thank you to all who attended, also went to Historical Meeting for Old City Hall.

Councilor Gallegos stated: Had calls from residents about the water shut off on a holiday, would like to ensure we improve on call systems for this. Met with police Chief and visited with Boy Scout that painted, had meeting with people who are interested in bringing back the Tractor Supply business so we need to start re-looking at this. Had Library Board meeting discussing policy and procedures, as well as the IT Committee meeting, which has been reorganized. I met with a group of people who are planning to do a clean-up of the city at Vivian Fields on March 21 or 23rd.

Councilor Carter stated: The clean-up of Vivian Fields is being done by Celebrate Belen group which is appreciated. Would like to look at the Resolutions which was passed creating the Belen Economic Development Association, want to make sure that this groups stays intact and is still promoted, think this has started going in the right direction and want to make sure that this continues into the future and is not reorganized until the Resolution itself is looked at or changed by the Council directly though a vote.

Mayor Cordova stated: Completed and interview for a documentary concerning Judy Chicago, also attended the Judy Chicago fundraiser and raised \$30,000 for the museum, attended an installation service for Rev. Jane Ruiz in Rio Communities, had clerk interviews and attended the P & Z meeting to review my economic plan for the city, attended a Mayor's lunch with Mayor Keller and other area Mayors discussing important municipal issues, attended Old City Hall preservation meeting in Santa Fe.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

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



Jerah Cordova, Mayor



Belen City Clerk/Treasurer