BELEN REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
July 2, 2018
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, City Clerk.

PRESENT:	Councilor Frank F. Ortega Mayor Pro-Tem David Carter Mayor Jerah R. Cordova Councilor Ronnie Torres
NOT PRESENT:	Councilor Wayne Gallegos
CITY MANAGER:	Leona Vigil
CITY CLERK:	Brian McBain
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 Torres seconded the motion.
Roll Call Vote:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Mayor Cordova asked for a motion to approve the minutes dated June 18, 2018 as presented. Councilor Ortega made a motion. Mayor Cordova asked for a second. Councilor Torres seconded the motion.
Roll Call Vote:

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

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

Norbert Schueller: I am a resident in the unincorporated area in Valencia County, the west mesa of Belen, I am here on behalf of the Valencia County Older Americans Program, and its advisory council, on August 21st through the 22nd, there will be a conference on aging, in the past until last year the County paid for the advisory council to attend this conference, this is volunteer capacity, because of financial setbacks the county will not pay the fees, so this year we are asking the municipalities to underwrite a scholarship to the advisory council members from their respective districts. For the City of Belen, this would be a total of $195, we would need a PO for Wayne Gallegos ($45), myself as a representative of the Belen Senior Center ($45) and Nancy Jo Gonzales for ($105). This conference on aging is worthwhile and informative for people that work in this field, the deadline for registration is August 6th, if you have questions, please let me know and please put this on the agenda for 7/16/2018.

Jim Rickey: This is about RSVP in Belen, I am the chairman of this council, I monitor the park at 10th and Ross in Belen, I pick up trash, water and look for problems. There is a problem with graffiti in the park, there is some on the picnic tables and concrete, it is cleaned on a regular basis. There is a large metal sign with the name of the park on it, the wood frame is rotted, and I would like this to be examined and replaced. Park is in good shape, but there is a gate that does not meet the latch on Ross St, would like this addressed at some point. Councilor Ortega advised that a tree has also been stolen and we are addressing this also.

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

PRESENTATIONS

A) AIRPORT UPDATE

Ms. Deborah Abingdon presented an update on the projects and plans of the Airport, in September there will be a name change, it will be called Belen Regional Airport, the new identified will be BRG. We have two new agreements, and second new hanger is complete, a new company is being recruited to bring several businesses to airport being called "Project Flight". We had a recent FAA inspection, and overall it was positive, there are a couple of items that need to be addressed, some have been resolved, and the remaining will be addressed with future projects, finalizing scope of work for fence on Camino, and a preliminary engineer report for the rehab of runway 321, this is an FAA priority. We are also working on pavement maintenance for runway 1331 that will be ready for work next year, in addition, we have Armstrong working on a conceptual land use development plan. Mr. Tim Archibeque from Armstrong Consultants advised that they are working on the new ICIP initiated by the FAA, we are finalizing scopes of work on fencing, also working on rehab of runway 321ensuring that scope of work is being submitted for this, looking at airport layout and bubble plan for the future of the airport, we will also look at a storage maintenance plan for all the airport equipment. Councilor Ortega wanted to ensure that we keep the name of Alexander in the airport name, Mayor Cordova advised that for city purposes this will remain the same.

B) RSVP DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Ms. Bertha Flores handed out a copy of the current newsletter, we have 236 active volunteers throughout the County, we have two new sites for a total of 25, and there has been over 99,000 hours of volunteer work in the fiscal year. We have six board members with one opening, we receive donations from many organizations to help with things for the seniors, and we help with what we can due to budget cuts in the County program. We are providing a senior health fair this year, with 35 vendors, we will provide more information as it becomes available.

C) WASHINGTON DC TRIP UPDATE

Councilor Carter advised that Councilor Torres, Kevin from Molzen-Corbin, and himself went to Washington DC to lobby for funding to complete several projects in Belen, projects included the interchange, ponding, water arsenic, and asset management plan. We met with Representative Udall, Senator Heinrich and a representative of Senator Peirce. They gave us many ideas on what we can do for this funding, they also asked for more information which will be provided to them by Molzen-Corbin. Councilor Torres advised that this was a great trip, it appears that the representatives where excited about our north interchange.

DISCUSSION

A) DISCUSSION ON INABILITY TO RAISE REVENUE THROUGH AD-VALOREM INCREASE FOR PUBLIC SAFETY.

Mr. John Archuleta advised the Council that the reason for this inability was due to the yield control law present, after speaking with the State, this has been reached prior to 2002 based on yield control, therefore the city is not able to institute this based on the current mil levy rates, prior to this the assumption was made that we had not reached this limit based on county tax rates, however, this was due to the yield control of the past, and he then presented information based on how this yield control equation is worked out through complicate formulas, so taxes will not be raised to property owners. Councilor Ortega advised that maybe another avenue we can look at is through internet purchases in the City, Mr. Archuleta advised that they are looking to see how this will work.

PUBLIC HEARING WITH POSSIBLE ACTION

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL TO SUBMIT THE APPLICATION FOR A USDA GRANT THAT WILL ALLOW FOR THE PURCHASE OF 4 NEW POLICE CARS.

Chief Scott Conner advised that he has submitted an application to the USDA for a grant in the amount of $200,000 that will be used to fund four more police cars, as a requirement for this grant the city must hold a public hearing to inquire public feedback on the process and need. We will look at pledging the Law Enforcement Protection Fund to help cover any costs associated with what our portion of payback may be for this grant. Chief Conner also advised that he has received a JAG grant in the amount of $13,000 for new non-lethal weapons, which he will use to purchase Tasers for officers.

Mayor Cordova asked if there was any one from the audience who would like to speak for or against this measure, there being no public comment, Mayor Cordova closed the public hearing and opened up the floor to any Councilor comments or questions. The Council had no further questions or comments on this measure.

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

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

DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE NMFA FOR A LOAN TO PURCHASE ONE LOADER FOR THE WASTE WATER DEPARTMENT.

Ms. Roseann Peralta advised this loan will cover the costs of a front end loader, payments will be $32,000 per year for around 5-7 years, which will come out of the Waste Water Revenue which will come from the revenue collected on sewer charges from the Utility Bill. Ms. Peralta also presented the resolution and loan application for consideration. Councilor Ortega asked if we would be getting a grader also. Ms. Peralta advised that this was not approved but could be looked at in the future or next budget time.

Mayor Cordova asked for a motion. Councilor Ortega 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 David Carter	Yes	Motion Carried

Resolution 2018-12

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE NMFA FOR A LOAN TO PURCHASE ONE LOADER FOR THE COMMUNITY MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT.

Ms. Roseann Peralta advised this loan will cover the costs of a front end loader, payments will be $32,000 per year for around 5-7 years, which will come out of the Gas Tax Revenue we receive. Ms. Peralta also presented the resolution and loan application for consideration, Councilor Torres asked what we would do with the old loader. Ms. Peralta advised that we may put the loader up for auction. Councilor Carter said that we should just try and use this for a trade in, Ms. Peralta advised that she would ask if this can be done and try that.

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 David Carter	Yes	Motion Carried

Resolution 2018-13

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION FOR THE END OF YEAR BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS
Ms. Roseann Peralta presented a copy of the adjustments which have been made a part of these minutes and detailed.

Mayor Cordova asked for a motion. Councilor Ortega 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 David Carter	Yes	Motion Carried

Resolution 2018-14

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Leona Vigil stated: Person wanted for arson has been arrested, there was robbery at Giant and person has not been caught. The first Public Safety Committee meeting has taken place, they discussed what they will do moving forward, the Animal Control Officer will be out for two weeks so Police Officers will be handling these calls. Our IT Director has retired as of Friday, but we have two employees covering this department and information has been presented to staff. We have had a busy HR month, Tommy is budgeted for 4 temp employees but we have not been able to fill these positions, temp jobs are hard to fill right now based on the job market, so we may try and get two permanent jobs instead. We do have one police department vacant with new budget, we have two part time custodians available, we have one full time recreation specialist open, an Airport Manager positon is open, and we also have Library Director Position open. The Fourth of July event went well, seems to be a larger crowd, 11 teams for volleyball tournament, would like to do an overnight tournament sometime in the future. Summer Rec is on a two week break, we had 134 registered kids, we have also increased the days and times, all have registered for the next session. AA has been housed in community center for some time and the issue is the key to facility after hours, but we will be moving them to another location. The Keep America Beautiful kids was difficult due to supervision, the time spent supervising takes away from other city project, pulling four staff members, so we are a bit behind on the work. Danny Baca is the new assistant in the Community Maintenance Department, we also have a new employee at the Waste Water Facility. We are working on getting equipment in the street department certified by DOT, this is an issue for CDL testing, but we will look at other avenues for this and ensure we get the correct information. (Councilor Carter advised that Tommy contact him so that we can look into this need) Wire from I-25 bypass lights are missing, getting quotes to get this repaired. Bluewater consultant is having issues finding our wells at the old dump, so we are looking into this to find them, they may have been covered by the County when road repair was done in the past. The Fire Department is working on their 9/11 event planning now, they will conduct a drill at the airport with the National Guard.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilor Ortega stated: Kuddos to Tommy's crew in cleaning the City. The schools need some dirt, they will send trucks to pick up just contact Max Perez on that. I put up the flags at the Veterans Memorial for the first time, they looked great, event went well, fire ball was great but was part of the event, and it is part of the show. I did report the lights out but they got taken care of at Eagle Park so it was great that this was done. Streets are looking good, so thank you.

Councilor Torres stated: Got a call from Ms. Garcia, when it rained there was some mud damage to the mail boxes from rain, it has been quiet other than that.

Councilor Carter stated: Was quiet, spent a week in the Mayor chair but it went good, took care of a contractor issue with Brian so that was resolved. I took a tour of the new Emergency Dispatch Center, it was a very nice facility, was advised that this new house identification process will be difficult and overwhelming, so we may need a specialist in that area when it comes time to complete this project, will not just be addresses but jurisdictions also. Last Thursday I did a presentation for the directors and supervisors on employee motivation, went well with good questions and participation. The fireworks scared me because I forgot about it, but it seems that the event went well.

Mayor Cordova stated: Thanked Councilor Carter for watching over things in his absence for two weeks. Fireworks show was spectacular and event went great.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR THE DISCUSSION OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING STRATEGIES FOR THE UNION CONTRACT CONCERNING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, AS ALLOWED PER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT 10-15-1 (H-5)

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

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

The Council entered into Closed Session at 7:30 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 Torres seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote:

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

The Council returned to Open Session at 7:39 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 Torres seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote:

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

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 Ronnie Torres	Yes	
Councilor David Carter	Yes	Motion Carried (7:40 pm)

Jerah Cordova, Mayor

Brian McBain, City Clerk/Treasurer