

BELEN CITY COUNCIL Workshop
September 13, 2018
6:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro-Tem David Carter called the Workshop of the Belen City Council to order at 6:03 p.m. Roll Call taken by Brian McBain, City Clerk.

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

NOT PRESENT: Mayor Jerah R. Cordova
Councilor Ronnie Torres

CITY MANAGER: Leona Vigil

CITY CLERK: Brian McBain

REPORTER: None Present

OTHERS: See attached Sign-in Sheet

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro-Tem Carter led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pro-Tem Carter asked for a motion to approve the agenda adding a Presentation item "Homeland Security Update" under #5 and moving Discussion to #6. Councilor Gallegos made a motion to approve as amended. Mayor Pro-Tem Carter 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 |

PRESENTATIONS

A) HOMELAND SECURITY UPDATE

Mr. Eric Kiltz from the NM Department of Homeland Security advised that FEMA assessed the flood damage and found that this event did not qualify for federal funding, however, based on the assessment it appears businesses can utilize the SBA program, he then left some applications for this program which will cover loss of economic revenue to the business due to the flooding event, and advised people to fill this out and get it back to him for qualification processing. There are also programs from the USDA, specifically Section 504 help which can be used to repair homes through a low interest loan, to qualify you must be elderly or low income, but Rick from USDA is here to answer any questions the public may have. There are flood mitigation grants available in this upcoming fiscal year, and we encourage the City to apply for these grants, and we will be happy to answer any questions or assist in the application process.

DISCUSSION

A) FLOOD INFORMATION UPDATE

Fire Chief Manny Garcia advised that he has been working on all paperwork to ensure expenses of flood clean-up are accounted for, ensuring that these number and documents are audit ready, also advising that we need a cutoff date to ensure we can close the books on this event, but this does not mean that we must stop helping our citizens. Councilor Gallegos tasked Leona Vigil to administratively work with Chief Garcia to come up with a close date,

but to ensure that we do not stop helping the citizens that are still cleaning up and need our assistance. Chief Garcia advised that an emergency declaration was signed on August 2, 2018, allowing for state funds of up to \$750,000 to be used in the clean-up efforts throughout Valencia County, but we must be aware that this money will be shared with all effected agencies in Valencia County. We will be submitting a total of \$581,293 for expense incurred during this flooding event, which we will then be eligible for a 75% reimbursement of \$435,969, while we are hoping for this full total it is not fully guaranteed, however, we are working on the paperwork to ensure this is completed correctly so there are no hold up in the reimbursement process, we will be bringing an agreement to the Council within 30 to 60 days to complete the process of submittal.

Councilor Gallegos then introduced the City's plan on flood mitigation, stating that this plan is very important to the City, we can no longer afford to just work on ways to retain the water in ponds, and instead we must move the water away from the city to ensure the residents and businesses are protected.

Mr. Jay Ashbacher from Molzen-Corbin detailed the diversionary flood mitigation plan, advising that there are 4 alternative options built in this plan to channel water away for the city and into the river.

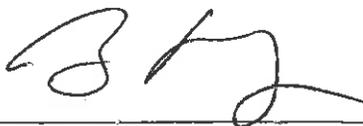
Councilor Ortega then presented the plan in full, detailing his vision for the future diversionary plan, stating that option 1 and 3 will be the most effective in completing his vision and goals for this diversionary channel of the water itself. He also advised that based on the cost of this plan, it will take multiple agency funding and help to implement this diversionary channel and complete this much needed project, however, the only way to plan and receive funding is to present a plan itself, this is why he has pushed so hard on getting a plan that he can send to the various agencies for funding help. Councilor Ortega answered public questions and spoke with state and federal dignitaries in the audience to ensure that they are ware that Belen now has a plan for flood mitigation into the future, something that has not been done in 100 years, he also thanked all the various staff and agencies that assisted him in developing this plan and looks forward to the future implementation. The next step is to receive funding for the engineering and design of this plan so that we can move on this once funding for the project is received.

(A copy of this plan has been made part of these minutes for the record)

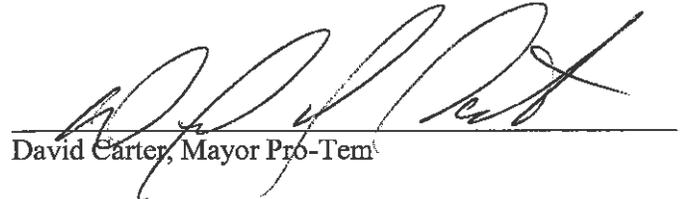
ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Pro-Tem Carter asked for a motion to adjourn tonight's Council Workshop. Councilor Ortega made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Gallegos seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote:

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



Brian McBain, City Clerk/Treasurer


David Carter, Mayor Pro-Tem