

BELEN CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

November 20, 2017

6:00 p.m.

Mayor Jerah Cordova called the Regular Meeting of the Belen City Council to order at 6:01 p.m. Roll Call taken by Brian McBain, Deputy City Clerk.

PRESENT: Mayor Pro-Tem Frank Ortega
Mayor Jerah Cordova
Councilor Darlene Aragon
Councilor Wayne Gallegos

NOT PRESENT: Councilor David Carter

CITY MANAGER: Leona Vigil

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

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Frank Ortega Yes
Councilor Darleen Aragon Yes
Councilor Wayne Gallegos Yes Motion Carried

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Cordova asked for a motion to approve the minutes dated November 6, 2017 as presented. Councilor Aragon made a motion. Mayor Cordova asked for a second. Councilor Ortega seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Frank Ortega Yes
Councilor Darleen Aragon Yes
Councilor Wayne Gallegos Abstain Motion Carried

PUBIC COMMENTS

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

Charles Montoya from AC Disposal: I just came to day to inform you guys that carts are being rolled out, all the poly carts for Mondays and Tuesdays routes have been delivered, and we will continue this until all the routes are done, we did move some routes around. We did purchase Waste Management's metal bins for commercial pick up, they will say there and we have 180 days to paint them with our logo, as well as fix them up. Waste Management will be sending drivers with us for the first week, to ensure that we have a smooth transition. Everything is going smooth, we are waiting for one more truck load of poly carts that will be delivered tomorrow. We are talking to the State of NM about operating the transfer station, getting all the required documents completed. We also have a conditional use variance that will take place with the Planning and Zoning Commission on Monday, 11/27/2017.

There being no further public comment, Mayor Cordova closed this section of the agenda.

PRESENTATIONS

A) INTRODUCTION OF NEW CITY EMPLOYEES

Lashae Cordova, Belen Human Resources Director, read the names of the new employees that have been hired in the last year, this presentation will be happening quarterly moving forward.

DISCUSSION WITH POSSIBLE ACTION

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF THE QUARTERLY BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS RESOLUTION.

Roseann Peralta, Finance Director, presented and described the changes to the budget as presented in the Resolution. Councilor Gallegos stated that he did see increases because of actuals coming in better than expected, and on the few that we had to increase, where did the funding come from? Ms. Peralta stated that the money came from advancements in the GRTs, pulling from a few other areas, but the unrestricted cash amount is what has helped. Leona Vigil stated the money from the permits of Loves and Circle K also helped, and that money is going back to the general fund. Councilor Gallegos stated that it was nice to see when business starts to take off in the city, how amazing it is for us as a city to help our budgets.

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

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor Darleen Aragon	Yes	
Councilor Wayne Gallegos	Yes	Motion Carried

****Resolution Number 2017-26****

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL TO VACATE 225 FEET ON THE NORTH END OF SEVENTH STREET.

Steve Tomita, Planning and Zoning Director, summarized the purpose of this change and advised the Council that this item was heard at the last meeting as a public hearing, and tonight a decision could be made, he then stood for questions. Councilor Gallegos was concerned with the alley way and the 4 feet of Bosque drain, wanted to ensure this is getting taken care of. Mr. Tomita advise that there will be improvements to this, and that issue will be addressed. Councilor Ortega stated that this was addressed at the last meeting also, and they have a plan for improvements in the area and this will be addressed.

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

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor Darleen Aragon	Yes	
Councilor Wayne Gallegos	Yes	Motion Carried

****Resolution Number 2017-27****

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF A REQUEST FOR ZONE CHANGE FROM R-1 TO C-1 AS REQUESTED BY CIRCLE K STORES INC. ON 705/701/621 W. ARAGON RD IN BELEN.

Steve Tomita, Planning and Zoning Director, summarized the purpose of this change and advised the Council that this item was heard at the last meeting as a public hearing, and tonight a decision could be made, he then stood for questions.

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

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor Darleen Aragon	Yes	
Councilor Wayne Gallegos	Yes	Motion Carried

****Ordinance Number 2017-15****

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF A REQUEST FOR ZONE CHANGE FROM C-1 TO R-1 AS REQUESTED BY RAYMOND SALAZAR ON 312/314 RIVER ROAD IN BELEN.

Steve Tomita, Planning and Zoning Director, summarized the purpose of this change and advised the Council that this item was heard at the last meeting as a public hearing, and tonight a decision could be made, he then stood for questions. Councilor Gallegos stated that he had an issue because a person at Zeeks Auto was concerned that this may change or effect his business, he also found that some of the properties were mislabeled in out maps, so now planning and zoning will work on fixing this issue completely in the entire area. Councilor Ortega stated that somewhere down the line we will need to really check all these zones to ensure that this confusion does not take place in the future, and audit should happen really soon.

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

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor Darleen Aragon	Yes	
Councilor Wayne Gallegos	Yes	Motion Carried

****Ordinance Number 2017-16****

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF THE 2018 CALL TO ELECTION RESOLUTION.

Brian McBain, Deputy Clerk, presented the call to election resolution as amended, describing that the city will be holding an election for one mayor, two councilors and one municipal judge (all four year terms) on March 6, 2018, with two convenience center polling locations. Packets for the candidates will be available on Friday, December 1st, 2017 and this resolution will also be posted twice per statute.

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 Darleen Aragon	Yes	
Councilor Wayne Gallegos	Yes	Motion Carried

****Resolution Number 2017-28****

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL OF THE PRO-TEC FIRE SERVICES OFFICE SPACE LEASE.

Brian McBain, Deputy Clerk, presented this lease to the Council, which will allow Pro-Tec to use office space needed in order to fulfill the ARFF contract at the airport, Pro-Tec and the Airport Director have agreed to these terms. Councilor Gallegos stated that he spoke with the Airport Manager, and he has concerns with timelines, making sure that we are meeting deadlines and using the federal money correctly to ensure we take care of this contract. Councilor Gallegos also stated that he feels a workshop or meeting to detail this would be useful to ensure this is completed. Leona Vigil advised the staff is tracking this progress and that she has also talked with the Airport Manager, also, the engineer contract is being completed now by Roseann, so that we do not lose out on the federal money for that. Mayor Cordova stated that this is a great idea, and we can have a meeting set up by the City Manager. Deborah Abington, Airport Director, thanked the Council for support, stating that the lease itself is good and the fire services are going nicely, she has been in contact with them throughout the process.

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

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor Darleen Aragon	Yes	
Councilor Wayne Gallegos	Yes	Motion Carried

PUBLIC HEARING WITH POSSIBLE ACTION

PUBLIC HEARING AND INPUT ON A REQUEST FOR ANNEXATION BY JERRY ROGERS FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT THE JUNCTION OF SOUTH MAIN STREET AND HIGHWAY 116.

Steve Tomita, Planning and Zoning Director, presented the Council with detailed information about this annexation, showing the area on the map as a visual reference. Councilor Gallegos stated that this would be fine for the city and most people have already thought this land was part of the city anyway. Councilor Ortega stated that if this passes, we will really need to record this correctly to ensure this is completed properly, he also asked why we do not just annex all the way up to 190, so this is squared off. Mr. Tomita said that he would approach the owners in the area to see if they are willing to petition in for annexation.

Mayor Cordova opened the public comment portion of this hearing and asked if there was anyone in the audience that would like to speak for or against this annexation request.

Mayor Cordova asked if there was any further discussion from the audience, there being no discussion, Mayor Cordova closed the public hearing.

No action was taken on this item.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Leona Vigil stated: The employee appreciation luncheon has been tentatively scheduled for December 15 from 11 am to 2pm, community center is booked but we are looking for a place to hold this. Nominations for employee of the year are due on December 4th, please submit. Sgt. Chavez has his last day of employment on Friday, he has been with us for about 10 years and he will be going to the insurance fraud bureau. The police department just hired 3 candidates for police officer and they will start on December 4th, the academy will be held in January. Chief Conner is also revamping the Detective division, he is adding another Detective. Shop with a Cop is coming up soon, will take place instead of the Toys for Tots, a store will be set up in the police department and let the kids go shopping. IT purchased a new Wi-Fi transmitter and they are being put out throughout the departments to expand service. Miracle on Main Street event and Bugg Lights will kick off this Saturday, festivities start at 1 pm. The Airport is doing well in fuel sales, have had some high sales in two months. We have five openings that have been posted for certified police officer, laborer in water department, IT Tech level 1, firefighter, and airport worker, but we have only received one application, there does not seem to be interest here, so we are going to repost in other locations. LaShae will be moving our planning and zoning commission to our payroll so that will make them employees of Belen, per the audit findings that needs to be addressed. RSVP will be handling the food drops, a \$2,000 donation was received to help with this. Finance Department will be short staffed for a while Elena is out. We will be having supervisor training December 4th and 5th, we went with an external person but will give us a good rate, and will help with law changes for first time supervisors, CDL training will also be taking place for the water department and street shop. Chief Manny Garcia will be rescheduling the Emergency Management Meeting for some time in the near future.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL

Councilor Ortega stated: We have a signed copy of the contract for the Veterans Memorial, which is going to the state for approval now, we are going with TFC, I just want to let the Veterans know that this is ongoing and we will ask for additional monies for this through legislation, thank you Steve for your help with this. Happy Thanksgiving to all the staff and all the departments, their families and to everyone in the City of Belen, also asking the police and fire departments to be safe out there. Congratulations to the Belen Eagles, you are going for one more then on to the Championship, I have a feeling that this year we are going to go all the way!

Councilor Gallegos stated: Wanted to bring up that on the 30th we have our legislative meeting, wanting to make sure our proposals are ready to go, sticking to our ICIP and listing small projects we can ask for in there is more funding. On the 14th we had a meeting with the Martha Jean residents, it went great, we had people opposed to things but once they were informed, they felt great about this change, the project is scheduled and ready to go, which will be great for the residents. On the 15th I attended the financial audit, but we cannot say anything until January when the auditor says it went ok, but I can say that we did a good job. On the 16th we had our Thanksgiving Dinner at the Senior Center, we had over 100 people there in Belen, the same day they had one in Del Rio, preparing over 600 meals, it was really neat, the new person running it is great, and our RSVP Director is doing a lot to help them out, they have accepted each other. I did go to the Business

Center, it is looking good, we need a bit more work in some of the offices, and we are looking forward to Phase 2 to get things moving. Go Eagles, looking forward to attending the games, and I will be helping at Miracle on Main Street.

Councilor Aragon stated: Go Eagles! We did have our meeting last week on Martha Jean and I want to say that Leona, did a great job and I am very proud of you, You really took control of the room and you did an awesome job, you have really come into your own, and I have started to see you blossom and bloom, you did a great job, you commanded the room, and presented the City well, Leona, you are doing great! The Food, Fun and Fashion Show went great on Friday night, had a great turn out, hopefully people can attend the Eagles game, so that we can fill it up.

Mayor Cordova stated: On the 7th we had the VALEO meeting, it was about the local economy, very positive in Valencia County, and they were very complimentary about Belen and the Keter project. Yes we did have the meeting with Martha Jean, it went well and thank you to all who prepared for that, it was very professionally done. I also had a meeting with Nancy, the new director of the senior center, she is delightful and ambitious, and I expect great things from her in the future. We had a meeting on the Airport fuel system, we had a few hiccups getting that thing up and running but it looks like it is looking ok now. We had the Main Street meeting, and we talked to the Director of NM Main Street about our main street program, they have a grant they are looking at working on. Last Friday, I had a neighborhood watch meeting for the Anna Becker Park area, Assistant Chief Miller did a great presentation for the citizens on how to stay safe during the holidays, they really did not bring up too many problems, some issues on 1st street which has historically been there, they had some issues with getting the porta johns there at Anna Becker Park, so Tommy is working on that. Excellent football game but all went well in the second half.

ADJOURNMENT:

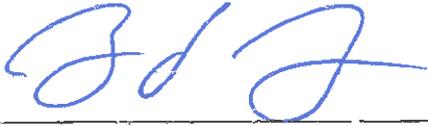
Mayor Cordova asked for a motion to adjourn tonight's Regular Council Meeting. Councilor Gallegos made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Aragon seconded the motion. Roll Call Vote:

Councilor Frank Ortega	Yes	
Councilor Darleen Aragon	Yes	
Councilor Wayne Gallegos	Yes	Motion Carried



Jerah Cordova, Mayor

Attest:



Brian McBain, Deputy City Clerk