

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING
ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO
May 10, 2016

The City Council of the City of Artesia, New Mexico met in the City Council Chambers at City Hall on Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in regular session with Mayor Phillip Burch presiding, and the following present to wit:

Jose Luis Aguilar	Manuel Madrid
Kent Bratcher	Bill Rogers
Luis Florez	Jeff Youtsey
Terry Hill	

The following were absent:

Raul Rodriguez

Also present:

Aubrey Hobson, City Clerk-Treasurer
John Caraway, City Attorney

It was determined that a quorum was present. The invocation was given by Councilor Bratcher and all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda

Human Resources Director Sandi Farley requested that item 5-B be pulled and no action taken. Councilor Bratcher moved to approve the Consent Agenda, minus item 5-B. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro tem Hill and upon vote, the motion passed.

The Consent Agenda includes:

1. Approval of Minutes: *April 26, 2016
2. Consideration of Bids:
3. Contracts, Leases and Agreements:
 - A. *Approval of Hangar Sublease Agreement between Yates Holdings and Cross D (Hangar No. 112)
 - B. *Approval of Hangar Sublease Agreement between Yates Holdings and MYCO (Hangar No. 112)
 - C. *Approval of Amended and Restated Hangar Sublease Agreement between Yates Holdings and Yates Petroleum Corporation (Hangar No. 112)
4. Appointments:
5. Resignations:
 - A. Accept the resignation of Jarrod Davis, Street Department Equipment Operator, effective April 27, 2016
 - B. Pulled from consideration
6. Dates of Hearing:
7. *Travel and Training:
 - A. Planning – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Asbestos Inspector refresher course in Albuquerque, NM
 - B. Police – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Instructor Development training in Carlsbad, NM

- C. Police – Permission for two (2) employees to attend the Checkpoint Supervisor training in Hobbs, NM
 - D. Facility Maintenance – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Transfer Station Operator training in Farmington, NM
- 8. Routine Requests for City Facilities:
 - 9. Budgeted Items:
 - 10. Non-budgeted Items:
 - 11. *Payment of Bills

Public Hearings

Mayor Burch declared the meeting open for public hearing for the following:

- 1. Consideration and approval of the 2016 Uniform Traffic Ordinance (UTO) update.

Councilor Bratcher moved to postpone this public hearing until the meeting of May 24th. The motion was seconded by Councilor Florez and upon vote, the motion passed.

Comments from Public Officials and Contracted Services

Scott Verhines, representing Occam Consulting Engineers, introduced Emily Connelly, Engineer Intern.

Mr. Verhines presented an update on the proposed water rate increases. Mr. Verhines reported that the recommended increase will be a 40% increase to \$1.82 per 1000 gallons (\$0.00182/gallon), with 5% increases annually for the next two years. There would also be two surcharges per account – one for overusage above the winter average and a second surcharge for usage over the city-wide average. The proposed rates would generate an estimated \$3,188,000 in water and \$1,480,000 in wastewater. This does not include revenue from Navajo, since they have a separate agreement. Concerns were expressed that the education portion would need to begin soon and it was recommended that Mr. Verhines continue to work with the Infrastructure Committee.

Committees

Budge and Finance

Discussion took place regarding the city's percentage of the insurance packages. Currently, the city pays between 84-91%, depending on which plan the employee selected. Because of budget issues, Council would like to redistribute the insurance cost with the employee paying a higher percentage of the cost. Councilor Aguilar moved to change the split to 75/25. The motion died for lack of a second.

Mayor Pro tem Hill moved to change to split to 80/20. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rogers and upon vote, with Councilors Aguilar and Madrid voting "nay", the motion passed.

Human Resources Director Sandi Farley reported that Blue Cross Blue Shield had indicated that the increase would be around 25% due to our recent usage, and that the rates were not negotiable. Through the Hub, the city's insurance broker, they received a bid from Cigna for all insurances. Councilor Rogers moved to accept Cigna as the insurance package provider for employees for the 2016-17 year. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro tem Hill and upon vote, the motion passed.

Discussion took place regarding the 2016-17 budget. Some of the current changes include cutting travel for all departments by 60%, assess franchise/administrative fees for the city utilities regarding road repair, since repairs are part of the general fund. There is also a large request from IT for the next year. The ending balance in General Fund would be around \$12.5 million.

Currently no positions or benefits are eliminated.

City Clerk Aubrey Hobson reported that the Budget and Finance Committee would meet next week and that the draft interim budget will be presented at the May 24th meeting.

Personnel

Sandi Farley requested that item 10-A (transfer/promote Infrastructure Administrative Assistant) be removed, since the resignation letter has been withdrawn.

Ms. Farley distributed the safety statistics for the month of April.

Public Safety

Police

Chief Raley distributed the department statistics for April.

Fire

Division Chief Hope distributed the department statistics for April.

Community Development

Community Development Director Jim McGuire distributed the department statistics for April.

Mr. McGuire reported that the demolition at the old hospital will take place beginning the last week in June.

Infrastructure Department

Infrastructure Director Byron Landfair distributed department statistics and reported on the status of several projects.

New And Other Business from Councilors

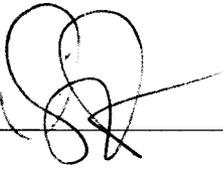
Mr. Hobson reported that the date for the retreat would be July 29-31 at the Hotel Artesia.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m., May 10, 2016.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk