

MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING
ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO
July 14, 2020

The City Council of the City of Artesia, New Mexico met in the City Council Chambers at City Hall with limits in place for the public attendees because of the coronavirus pandemic and the Governor's executive order with Mayor Raye Miller presiding, on Tuesday, July 14th, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., and the following present to wit:

Sam Hagelstein
Kent Bratcher
Ignacio Mariscal
Raul Rodriguez

Jarrod Moreau
George G. Mullen
Mayor Pro Tem Terry Hill
Jeff Youtsey

Also, present:
Aubrey Hobson, City Clerk-Treasurer

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

New Requests for City Facilities:

None.

City Departments and Employees

None.

Special Reports:

A. Presentation and acceptance of the 18-19 audit - JJ Griego

JJ Griego greeted everyone by teleconference and stated that this is another successful year to get this audit done. The audit report is unqualified, which is the best. He stated this is an unmodified opinion and the financial statements look to be in good shape. The end of 6-30-2019 the city maintained a cash balance of about 35 million, 12 of that was business type activities. On page 63, which is a report on internal controls, other matters and compliance is where we say if we have any findings. We have one finding this year that we spoke about numerous times, thanks for Aubrey, Summer and all their staff they did an incredible job making sure everything was checked and all accounts were accurate. The only finding was the city getting the accounting system to where it needed to be for a few years now, it is no fault of the city and was when the conversion took place. JJ would like to thank Aubrey, Summer and all their staff for all their hard work. JJ then asked if there are any questions or concerns. Mayor Pro Tem Hill pointed out that the listing of Human Resource Director was wrong again which is the fifth year in a row. JJ sated he would change that for the final copies.

Mayor Pro Tem Hill made a motion to accept the audit. Second by Councilor Rodriguez. Upon vote, motion passed 8-0.

Approval of Consent Agenda

The consent agenda for July 14, 2020 was presented for passage with a motion by Councilor Rodriguez, as written. Mayor Pro Tem Hill provided a second. Upon vote, the motion passed 8-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA
July 14, 2020**

1. **Approval of Minutes** *June 23, 2020
2. **Consideration of Bids:**
3. ***Contracts, Leases and Agreements:**
 - A. Approval of MOU with Eddy County for Public and Government Affairs Services
 - B. Approval of MOU with Eddy County DWI Program for DWI Offender court ordered sanctions and offender compliance
 - C. Ratification of approval of an electric easement with Xcel Energy for Jaycee Park City of Champions Sports Complex
 - D. Approval of Service Agreement with SENMEDD/COG
 - E. Approval of the Biennial MOU with NM MainStreet Program, Artesia MainStreet and Artesia Arts & Cultural District
 - F. Approval to sell Police Department surplus vehicle (2010 Harley Davidson motorcycle VIN#7144) to Carlsbad Police Department, Carlsbad, NM
 - G. Approval of extension of contract term with Gallagher & Kennedy, P.A. for the TRD Lawsuit
4. **Appointments:**
5. **Personnel Resignations, Hirings, Promotions, and Transfers:**
6. **Dates of Hearing:**
7. ***Travel and Training:**
 - A. Fire – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Firefighter 1 & 2 course in Socorro, NM
8. **Routine Requests for City Facilities:**
9. **Routine Resolutions (to be assigned a number by staff):**
 - A. *Approval of SENMEDD/COG resolution
 - B. *Approval of a resolution approving a list of items to be auctioned to the public
10. **Budgeted Items:**
11. **Quarterly Journal Entries**
12. **Non-budgeted Items:**
13. ***Payment of Bills**

Public Hearings – including consideration of final passage of any ordinance as to which proper notice has been published.

None

Period for Hearing Visitors

Alex Kern proposed an Eagle Scout service project for the community that serves an important need. He passed out material with information on a drop box service to turn in retired flags. Alex stated that currently we have one drop off box at the Chamber of Commerce and would like to add two more drop boxes. He has also gathered together all material and would be able to install the drop boxes mid-September. Councilor Moreau asked who would empty the boxes. Alex stated that the Cub scouts would empty the boxes. Mayor Miller stated that to get the boxes at our facilities we would need to get it on the agenda for any type of item through committee, which would probably be in the first meeting in August. In addition, the Mayor asked Alex to leave contact information with Bryon to get with him to discuss before that meeting.

Comments from Public Officials and Contracted Services

None

Committee Reports:

- A. Budget and Finance - None
- B. Personnel - None
- C. Police and Fire - None
- D. Planning (*Project Management, Code Enforcement, Permits and Inspections*) – Councilor Rodriguez wanted to remind everyone about the meeting tomorrow at the new location for some items on the agenda.
- E. Recreation - None
- F. Infrastructure (Streets, Garage, Cemetery, Parks, Water, Wastewater, Solid Waste, Facility Maintenance) - None
- G. Government - None

Personnel:

None. Sandy stated that it has been quiet as far as stats are concerned with worker comp and accidents, then stood for questions

Public Safety:

A. Police Department:

- 1) Discussion of the State Mandated Body Cam project and approval to add \$80,000 to the 20-21 budget

Chief Roberts greeted the Mayor and Council and has two items on the agenda the first being the new state law mandating body cameras; the new statute was signed and chaptered on July 8th, we have 90 days from that time to be up and running. They have been doing research and are confident on the product they would like to go with. They would have one system running that links all the videos together providing a capability to make sure we have court defensible data to be presented which also allows redaction for privacy and saves the original that stays intact for evidence purposes or a lawsuit. The contract will be spread out over five years and every 30 months the cameras are replaced along with additional cameras, upgrade and updates. We currently have a contract with this company with software we are now using with evidence and the tasers. This system allows for protection of officers; the system has the capability to automatically turn on the body cameras for triggers such as when the vehicle camera is turned on or when another officer drives up, it automatically turns on their cameras and syncs the

videos. With the tasers and drawing of a firearm it will automatically turn on the cameras. Chief Roberts has made a recommendation at the fire and police committee and they are in support. We are looking at \$80,000 a year with all the equipment, installation and maintenance.

Mayor Pro Tem Hill made a motion to approve the \$80,000 additional expenditure to the 20-21 budget and approve the contract with Axon Enterprises. Second by Councilor Mullen. Upon vote, motion passed 8-0.

- 2) *Stats
None. Chief Roberts stood for questions.

B. Fire Department:

- 1) *Stats

Chief Hope Greeted the Mayor and Council and stated that everything has been the same and then stood for questions.

Community Development:

- A. *Stats

Jim McGuire stated that our building inspection report is better this fiscal year than the previous. Jim then stood for questions.

Infrastructure:

Byron Landfair greeted the Mayor and Council and that he doesn't have anything for us tonight. Byron stated as the committee chair pointed out that they do have a tank up in the air at JC Park. They are out there coating it this week. It takes two weeks to coat and 3 weeks to cure so we are at least 5 weeks before we start putting water in the tank. Byron has also received the bid for emergency sewer replacement out on Bullock Street between 7th and 10th. Byron then stood for questions.

Councilor Youtsey asked where we are on the permanent chlorine injections. Byron stated that they have spent the last couple of months going back and forth with the state on the current system we are using, we got final approval on it, we have a couple of caveats that we have or either need to work out. Byron stated that the short answer to the question is that everything has a chlorinator on it except for two wells.

Councilor Mariscal stated that on Hermosa and 1st he sees that the lights are going up. He asked if it is a state project. Byron replied that is correct. Councilor Mariscal stated that we have turning lanes on 1st Street and then asked if the City or State is going to be putting turning lanes on Hermosa. Byron stated for the new signal that the State controls the intersection. Byron stated that it has been a few years since he has seen the plans and he will review them and have it ready for him to let Councilor Mariscal what is planned. Councilor Mariscal stated he does not see much room on Hermosa Street for a turning lane. Byron stated again he would be misquoting if he told him what is going to happen there without looking at the plans. Councilor Mariscal stated another thing on the water tank; once it is done, are we ready for it or is there going to be something else that needs to be done. Byron replied with all that is in there he is going to give it at least 5 weeks and give it another 3 weeks to work out all the kinks in the system. Byron stated to be safe he would give it another two and a half months and we will have pressure on that side of town.

City Attorney:

None.

City Clerk:

Aubrey stated that the budget committee are meeting Thursday of this week at 4:00. Aubrey asked the board members if they want a potential quorum just in case somebody wants to show up, it will be a quick run though. They have added the infrastructure projects and all the carryover. Aubrey stated we are still working on all the grants; we did get the ladder truck and the vactor truck in the first bond sale and is looking at getting agreements by September, however we are also trying to get them to allow us to do things early because of the build out time and as of yet have not received anything back. Last year we had \$150,000 in senior grants that were delayed, which we have received this month for those projects and two other projects that we are trying to catch up on now.

Mayor:

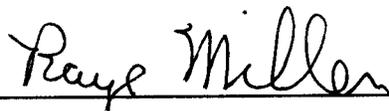
Mayor Miller stated that there was a request to add the Mayor's name to a letter from the Mayor Cobb of Hobbs, which he then read to council; he had declined adding his name since we have not had a chance to go to council with it and he has mixed feelings about it.

New or other business from Councilors:

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm on July 14, 2020.



Raye Miller – Mayor

ATTEST:


Aubrey Hobson – City Clerk