



**WORKSHOP AND  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
December 2, 2015  
103 Water St. Elephant Butte, NM 87935  
ACTION MINUTES**

**WORKSHOP -1:00pm**

Council discussed with Manager Finzen Finances for the Rock Canyon Phase III project, and the Annex Project.

Council discussed options for the floorplan of the Annex Project. Manager Finzen presented alternate choices for the floorplan.

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING - 2:00pm**

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Kent called the Regular Meeting to order at 2:00 PM, and Councilor Trager led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Clerk Rieth called the roll. Mayor Kent, Mayor Pro-Tem Skinner, Councilor Lafont, Councilor Rogers, and Councilor Trager were all present.

Also present was Manager Finzen, Fire Chief Leavitt and T or C Fire Chief Tooley.

Two members of the Press and 6 members of the public were also present.

**STATEMENT OF OPEN MEETINGS RESOLUTION AND THREE MINUTE LIMIT PER SPEAKER ON ALL ISSUES**

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Mr. Parry Larsen, Rio Grande Circle, stated that he is categorically not a resident of a Colonia, and takes issue with the Colonia designation of the City. Mr. Larsen believes it is a travesty that the City designated itself a Colonia.

Mr. Robert Demeulg, 3601 Pan American Freeway, Albuquerque is the apparent low bidder on the Rock Canyon Road Phase III Project and states that his company is ready and capable of accepting the award for Contract for the Project.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

Fire Chief Leavitt and T or C Fire Chief Tooley updated Council on the Status of the ISO rating and Nfirs reports. Chief Tooley reported that The Nfirs are now caught up, and members of the Fire Department are trained on how to keep them up to date.

Chief Tooley presented a comparison between the 1998 Needed water flows and current needed water flows. The water flow demand has greatly increased. For instance, Boat Storages have larger fire flow requirements, but water system did not change at the same rate.

Both the City Water System and the New Mexico Water System will be evaluated to determine if a higher rating might be attained.

Flushing of hydrants, testing of flow from the hydrant, and inspection of the water systems must be done annually.

Once all of the due diligence is done, the City will need to get together with New Mexico Water Service to make sure they will do their part to insure that the water need is met from a fire suppression standpoint.

Chief Tooley agreed with Mayor Kent that a meeting should be set up to include NM Water once the original data is collected.

Chief Tooley's report is included for the record.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Kent asked for a motion to approve the Agenda.

**Councilor Rogers made a motion to approve the Agenda as submitted.**

**Councilor Lafont seconded.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

### **BOARDS AND COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

### **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS**

Councilor Rogers reported that the next SCRDA meeting is December 10 at 10am, and requested that Manager Finzen attend in his place as alternate.

Councilor Trager reported attending the presentation by Randy Shaw in Alamogordo on desalination of brackish water. El Paso is generating 27 million gallons per day. There is also a facility in Rio Rancho that is producing about 700,000 gallons per day. The facilities put out 10% brine solution, and they are researching possibly using for insulation, or other industrial uses.

Councilor Trager reported attending the economic development meeting this morning in T or C.

Councilor Lafont will attend a meeting of the South Central Transit Authority next week.

Mayor Pro-Tem Skinner reported attending the SET meeting for the Middle Rio Grande Valley Region. The next meeting will be in Valencia County. The group comprised of businesses, hospitals, schools, etc. identify the top sector of businesses and will be applying for grant money. Mayor Pro-Tem Skinner commented that it would have been nice to look at trends, but only had one year of data.

Mayor Pro-Tem Skinner announced dates and times for The Luminaria Beachwalk and lighting contest. Anyone wishing to enter the lighting contest can register by phone by calling The Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Kent announced the Christmas Tree Lighting tomorrow night at 5:30pm. Cookies and Hot chocolate will be served. The public is invited to place commemorative ornaments. An appreciation open house for City Staff & volunteers on Thursday, December 17 from noon until 4:30pm. Food will be served. Mayor Kent asked Chuck Looney to please notify the Planning & Zoning commission and Manager Finzen to put together a flyer.

### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Manager Finzen clarified that residents are welcome to contribute ornaments to the tree throughout the holiday season.

Rock Canyon Road Project bid opening was November 24. 11 bids were submitted. Further discussion is later on today's agenda.

Permitting update is attached for the record.

Manager Finzen reported that the exercise group renewed their contract for the Community Center.

Chamber of Commerce contract for services is being discussed.

### **CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT**

Clerk Rieth announced that the Candidate information packets for anyone wishing to run for office are available through the Clerk's office. Applications for Absentee ballots can be requested through the Clerk's office. Candidate filing day will be January 5, 2016 from 8am – 5pm.

Clerk Rieth reported a correction to Councilor Trager's FICA withholdings not being properly reported on the quarterly 941 reports.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

Mayor Kent asked for a motion to approve the Consent Items

- Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, November 18, 2015

**Councilor Rogers made a motion to approve the Consent Item(s) as submitted.  
Councilor Lafont seconded.**

**A Roll Call vote was held:  
Mayor Pro-Tem Skinner voted yes.  
Councilor Lafont voted yes.  
Councilor Trager voted yes.  
Councilor Rogers voted yes.  
Motion carried.**

**REGULAR ITEMS**

Discussion and possible action: December 16 Meeting. The December 16<sup>th</sup> meeting will be cancelled due to lack of quorum as several Council members will be out of town.

Recommendation and possible action: Award of Rock Canyon Phase III Contract

Manager Finzen reviewed the bid award recommendations from Bohannon Huston with Council.

**Councilor Rogers made a motion to award the Rock Canyon Road Project Contract to Mountain States Contractors.**

**Councilor Lafont seconded.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

There being no further items on the agenda, Mayor Kent asked for motion to adjourn.

**Councilor Lafont made a motion to adjourn.**

**Councilor Trager seconded.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.

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**Minutes adopted at the Regular meeting on January 6, 2016**



Karen Rieth, City Clerk -Treasurer

