



**WORKSHOP AND  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**June 17, 2015**

**103 Water St. Elephant Butte, NM 87935**

**ACTION MINUTES**

**WORKSHOP -1pm**

Scott Anderson, Architect discussed possibilities of splitting the Annex project into 3 phases with the Council. It would be more expensive to do it this way, but it might be easier to ease into the budget over a 3 year span.

Council discussed the Fiscal Year 2016 Budget. Final public hearing for the new budget will be at the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. A Budget workshop will be held July 28 at 10am, and a special meeting to pass the final budget will be held July 29<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.

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

**103 WATER STREET**

**ELEPHANT BUTTE**

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Kent called the Regular Meeting to order at 2:00 PM, and the Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Karen Rieth, Clerk-Treasurer called the roll. Mayor Kent, Councilor LaFont, Councilor Rogers, and Councilor Trager were present.

Mayor Pro-Tem Skinner was absent due to being away on vacation.

Also present were City Manager Finzen and Planner Dyjak.

6 members of the public and 2 members of the press were also in attendance.

Approved: July 1, 2015

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

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

Mike (Orman) from Elephant Butte spoke in support of Ordinance #154 regarding the limited keeping of chickens in certain zoning districts.

### **PRESENTATIONS**

Rick Harrison of Elephant Butte spoke on behalf of Friends of Elephant Butte Lake State Park, informing the Council of events that will take place during the July 4<sup>th</sup> Boat, RV & Sports Show. A sandcastle competition will be taking place on the corner of Warm Springs & Butte Boulevard. TV and radio advertisements will be made soon to promote the event. Amazon Camper Force has signed as a sponsor for this event. Water Street will remain open for this event. The hospital bus will have a route running through the State Park and to the event.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Kent asked for a motion to approve the Agenda as submitted.

**→ Councilor Rogers made a motion to approve the Agenda as submitted. Councilor Lafont seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

### **MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS**

Mayor Kent relayed information from an email she received about a Jazz Trio that is performing tonight (June 17) from 7-10pm at the Sierra Del Rio Golf Course. Mayor Kent and the Council were invited to and attended an event at the American Legion on Sunday. In addition, Mayor Kent and Councilors assisted with putting up and taking down flags on Sunday for Flag Day.

Councilor Trager had nothing to report at this time.

Councilor Rogers reported on the Sierra County Regional Dispatch Authority meeting from Thursday, June. Only Elephant Butte and Truth or Consequences provided recommendations regarding a new Joint Powers Agreement at this meeting. Everyone agreed upon these recommendations. SCRDA Board Meeting was held on June 10<sup>th</sup>, where the JPA was tabled. SCRDA board did agree on budget for the coming year. Councilor Rogers reminded everyone that Elephant Days is coming up at the end of August and is on the committee setting up the Car Show. Volunteers are always wanted to assist with these events.

Councilor Lafont attended an RPO meeting this morning and was informed that the state Roads Department did not have significant funding, cautioning that sufficient planning and foresight should be used when addressing roads concerns in the coming years.

### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Approved: July 1, 2015

City Manager Finzen noted that he and Clerk-Treasurer Rieth had met with an analyst from the Department of Finance this week who looked over the City budget and assisted with financial operations. A workshop on the City's final budget for Fiscal Year 15-16 will be held at 1pm on July 15<sup>th</sup>. The July 15<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting will be open for public comment regarding the final budget. The Council will hold a special meeting on July 29<sup>th</sup> for specific purposes of approving year-end closeouts and approving the final budget.

City Manager Finzen is working on updating the City's administrative handbook and hopes to be completed by July 15<sup>th</sup>.

City Manager Finzen noted that resolutions on LGRF and the Open Meetings Act will be brought to Council on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

City Manager Finzen provided an update on the Phase 4A Waste Water Project, which started on Monday. Sierra Valley Contractors are starting on Nambe Loop first. The project must be completed in 120 days, which puts completion date in October.

City Manager Finzen provided an update on the Booster Pump Station project, which has until August 8<sup>th</sup> to be completed, though full completion will likely come by the end of June.

City Manager Finzen said he will be working on going out to bid for street maintenance and open-ended engineering services.

#### **PLANNER'S REPORT**

City Planner Dyjak was contacted by one of the contractors from the South Central Regional Transportation District who asked about reinstating a bus stop at City Hall.

City Planner Dyjak noted that there would be a special meeting for Planning & Zoning next week regarding conditional use.

The Sherriff recommended to hold off on any three-way stop discussion at Butte and Warm Springs Boulevard.

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

Clerk-Treasurer Rieth discussed work done when the DFA Analyst came in on June 8-9. The analyst assisted with some budget closeout issues dating back to 2012.

Clerk-Treasurer Rieth said the Mayor, City Manager and herself will meet with a local analyst from the IRS to ensure compliance with past issues.

#### **CONSENT ITEMS**

Mayor Kent asked for a motion to approve the Consent Items

- Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting, June 3, 2015
- ➔ **Councilor Rogers made a motion to approve the Consent Item(s) as submitted. Councilor Lafont seconded.**

**A Roll Call vote was held:  
Councilor Lafont voted yes.  
Councilor Rogers voted yes.**

Approved: July 1, 2015

**Councilor Trager voted yes.  
Motion carried.**

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **ORDINANCE 153: REPEALING ORDINANCE 150 – LOAN ORDINANCE**

City Planner Finzen explained Ordinance 153, which repeals Ordinance 150 and allows the City to use a loan from NMFA rather than revenue bonds.

→ Mayor Kent asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 153.

**Councilor Rogers made a motion to approve Ordinance 153 repealing Ordinance 150.**

**Councilor Lafont seconded the amended motion.**

**A Roll Call vote was held:  
Councilor Lafont voted yes.  
Councilor Rogers voted yes.  
Councilor Trager voted yes.  
Motion carried.**

### **ORDINANCE 154: AMENDING CHAPTERS 91 & 155 ALLOWING FOR THE LIMITED KEEPING OF CHICKENS IN CERTAIN ZONING DISTRICTS**

City Planner Dyjak explained Ordinance 154, which pertains to the keeping of chickens in certain zoning districts. City Planner Dyjak noted that this is becoming a national trend to approve chicken keeping, and current City ordinances do not allow for it. This ordinance would allow for the keeping of up to five (5) chickens under certain provisions.

Toby Boone of 217 Superior Drive spoke in favor of the ordinance. He noted that cities such as Rio Rancho, Albuquerque and Las Cruces all have ordinances permitting chicken keeping and in fact the Ordinance presented today goes above and beyond those ordinances.

→ Mayor Kent asked for a motion to approve Ordinance 154.

**Councilor Rogers made a motion to approve Ordinance 154 allowing for the limited keeping of chickens in certain zoning districts.**

**Councilor Trager seconded the motion.**

**A Roll Call vote was held:  
Councilor Lafont voted yes.  
Councilor Rogers voted yes.  
Councilor Trager voted yes.  
Motion carried.**

## **REGULAR ITEMS**

Approved: July 1, 2015

**RESOLUTION 14-15-342: A RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS TO SPECIFIC LINE ITEMS WITH TRANSFERS OUT OF THE GENERAL FUND BALANCE**

City Manager Finzen explained Resolution 14-15-342, which is a housekeeping measure to get the 214 Lodgers Tax fund and 298 Land & Structures Fund back to a zero balance, whereas they were previously overdrawn.

→ Mayor Kent asked for a motion to approve Resolution 14-15-342.

**Councilor Rogers made a motion to approve Resolution 14-15-342: Inter-fund Year-end Transfers**

**Councilor Lafont seconded the motion.**

**A Roll Call vote was held:  
Councilor Lafont voted yes.  
Councilor Rogers voted yes.  
Councilor Trager voted yes.  
Motion carried.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

→ Councilor Lafont made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Rogers seconded. The meeting adjourned at 3:02pm

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**Minutes adopted at the Regular meeting on July 1, 2015**

  
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Karen Rieth, City Clerk -Treasurer

Approved: July 1, 2015