



THE CITY OF ELEPHANT BUTTE

FEBRUARY 2026 COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Upcoming Office Closures

Monday, February 16, 2026 – President’s Day Observed

Online services for payments will be available as well as our two convenient drop boxes. www.cityofelephantbutte.com



Elephant Butte Community Center

Contact City Hall to view the newly renovated community center. Since the renovation the Community Center has stayed consistently reserved for various events. Rental agreements are available on our website as well as in person. We look forward to being a part of your next memorable event!

Staff Highlights

Happy Birthday to, Gavin McClintock Gamboa and Bowen Clark!

City of Elephant Butte
103 Water Avenue PO Box 1080
Elephant Butte, New Mexico 87935
(575)744-4892

GOVERNING BODY

Mayor Richard Holcomb
Councilor Cathy Harmon
Councilor Skylar Arnold
Mayor Pro Tem Kim Skinner
Councilor Mike Williams
City Manager Janet Porter-Carrejo

PUBLIC MEETINGS

Public Utility Advisory Board –
Tuesday, February 10, 2026,
10:00am

City Council – Wednesday,
February 11, 2026, 2:00pm

Special City Council – Friday,
February 20, 2026, at 2:00pm

BOARD VACANCIES

The Lodgers’ Tax Advisory Board is seeking one (1) board member to be filled by an owner/manager of a tourism related industry. Meetings are held quarterly with a minimum of four (4) meetings a year.

The Zoning Commission has one (2) Fulltime Commissioner seats and two (2) Alternate Commissioner seats that are vacant. The positions will be filled with a two-year term each. This is a volunteer position for the City of Elephant Butte. Meetings are the first Tuesday of every month.

Please submit letters of interest to:
PO Box 1080 Elephant Butte, NM
87935

Attn: Mayor/City Manager and
state which position is your
interest.

Lodgers’ Tax Grant Applications FY2026-2027

The applications for the Lodgers’ Tax Grant Funding are now available in person and on our website. The deadline to submit these applications is April 1st, 2026, by 5:00pm.

JANUARY UPDATE FROM MAYOR RICHARD HOLCOMB

Greetings from Elephant Butte City Hall! Transparency was a key campaign promise, so let's get started!

Prior to my assuming office, as well as earlier this month, many leaders graciously took time to meet with me, including the following:

- Sierra County Sheriff Josh Baker regarding our City's contract law enforcement. I was pleased to learn the significant number of hours dedicated to our city.
- One-on-one with City of EB Council Members to discuss priorities. I am truly looking forward to working closely with our council to effect positive change in our community.
- T or C Mayor Rolf Hechler, Williamsburg Mayor Deb Stubblefield, and County Commission Chair Jim Paxon, all of whom helped me gain insight into their challenges as well as how we can work together.
- City Manager Janet Porter-Carrejo and Mayor Mortensen, who met with me several times between December 10th and January 1st to brief me on various city initiatives and challenges. These meetings gave me an opportunity to ask questions and gain valuable insight to help make the mayoral transition smooth and seamless.
- Clinton Nicely of the New Mexico Municipal League, who drove to EB from Santa Fe to introduce himself and make me aware of the services his organization has to offer.

On January 7th, I conducted my first City Council meeting. Thanks to the encouragement and guidance of our City Councilors, I made it through with only a "few" errors and some humor as well! I'm pleased to announce that going forward, our meetings will be carried "live" via Zoom to give all of you the opportunity to attend the meeting. The Zoom link will be included in the council meeting notice on the City website.

On Monday, January 12th, City Manager Janet Porter-Carrejo and I met with Acting Secretary of Tourism, Lancing Adams, in Santa Fe for an update on the Tourism Department plans for 2026 and a 2025 recap. In that meeting, I spoke with the Secretary about visiting Sierra County to share tourism information as well as to provide an update regarding Elephant Butte Lake's water level issues. The requested meeting has been scheduled. The Mayors of Truth or Consequences and Williamsburg as well as the County Commission Chair are co-sponsoring the event.

From January 13th through the 15th, I attended the Municipal League's "newly-elected officer training" in Santa Fe, which proved to be immensely valuable in understanding my role and responsibilities as Mayor.

I have officially moved into an office in City Hall. If you wish to talk with or meet with me, please call or stop by City Hall or call to arrange a time to meet. If you have something on your mind, please share. Transparency works best when it goes in both directions! You can reach me at:

575.740.7964 --- or --- r.holcomb@cityofebnm.gov

COMING SOON to the City of Elephant Butte website, Mayor Holcomb's Monthly Updates!