

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SILVER CITY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
GRANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER, 1400 HWY. 180 E., SILVER CITY, NM
April 8, 2008 – 7:00 p.m.

Present: James R. Marshall, Mayor
A. Judith Ward, District 1
Thomas Nupp, District 2
Simon Wheaton-Smith, District 3
Steve May, District 4

Also Present: Alex C. Brown, Town Manager-Finance Director
Edward D. Reynolds, Police Chief
Peter Russell, Community Development Director
Robert Scavron, Town Attorney
Yolanda C. Holguin, Acting Town Clerk

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Mayor Marshall called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

CEREMONIES – None

PROCLAMATIONS – “Golden Apple Foundation of New Mexico Tribute to Teacher Excellence Day” on April 11, 2008 – No one was present to receive the proclamation. “World Parkinson’s Disease Awareness Day in the Town of Silver City” on April 11, 2008 - No one was present to receive the proclamation. “Fair Housing Month” during April 2008 - Mayor Marshall read the proclamation and presented it to Mike Eley, Planner, with the Community Development Department. Mr. Eley explained the purpose of the proclamation and the programs that the Town participates in.

PUBLIC INPUT – The Mayor reminded everyone of the time frame of five minutes to speak. Luis Perez commented on the Bataan Death March article in the paper. He stated that the names of two survivors, Felix Salas and Paul Gutierrez, were inadvertently left out. He gave a short history of the wooden sign at the Silver City Museum and the signs at the unit at the Santa Clara Armory. He asked the Council to erect a sign or memorial in a prominent place in Silver City and commented how important it was to remember and honor our veterans. He stated that patriotic organizations would be willing to help defer the cost. Councilor Nupp stated that he would champion the cause.

Mike Babuski agreed with Mr. Perez’s comments. He stated that it would be a great civic pride to honor and remember our veterans. He stated that each one was a precious name on that list. He also asked the Council to approve the request of the memorial.

Terry Timme, Chairman of the Town’s Recycling Advisory Committee, invited the Council to celebrate Earth Day on April 19th at Penny Park. He encouraged everyone to recycle and reviewed a list of what could be recycled.

Chuck Wenzel, commander of Silver City American Legion Post 18, stated that he supported Mr. Perez’s proposal and that the Town of Silver City should not let the memory die of the people that gave their lives so that we could be here.

COUNCIL COMMENTS – The Council commented on the Literacy Alive 2nd Annual Event, bio-diesel bus; the Glitter and Chalk Exhibit at the Museum; the first pitch to open the little league season; the Code of Ordinance Project; cost cutting plans for the future; an assistant for the Town Manager; time line for the ground breaking ceremony at the Skate Park; the Youth Conservation Corp Project beginning date; complaints on the Highway 180 Project; the fund raiser for the Primavera Event at Gila Regional Medical Center; and the rabies clinic that would be held on Saturday. The Council encouraged everyone to get their pets vaccinated.

Leon Redman, New Mexico Game and Fish, discussed the meetings and a work session that had taken place to address the rabies situation with local, state and federal agencies. He discussed the Department of Health’s presentation on rabies in detail and expressed how important it is to have pets, horses and prize livestock vaccinated. He addressed questions that the Council had.

Delfina Jimenez, mother of the latest fox-bite victim, commented that the communication in administering the vaccine needed to be clear and precise; the importance of having ample supply of the vaccine on hand; and the importance of awareness and education not only for Grant County residents, but also for the sheriff and police departments. Ms. Jimenez stated that the need to respond to stray animals should be a priority. Fred Jimenez explained the incident with his daughter. He stated that the attack was very vicious and that the public needs to be aware of that.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA – None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –March 25, 2008, Regular Council Meeting. Councilor Ward made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilor Nupp seconded the motion as stated, all were in favor, motion passed.

REPORTS – Leo Montoya, NM Department of Transportation, reported on the road construction on U. S. Highway 180. Mr. Montoya, Project Manager, and Ralph Vigilante, Superintendent, described the progress of the project and concerns of bottleneck areas, left turns, and signs of merging. Mr. Montoya talked about the public meetings to inform the public and to hear concerns. Manager Brown offered to Mr. Montoya the Town’s “Around Silver City” article, published weekly in the Silver City Daily Press, to advertise the project’s updates or schedule. Mr. Montoya answered questions that the Council had and made his office and cell number available. Chief Reynolds discussed ways to calm traffic and avoid accidents.

Councilor Wheaton-Smith made a motion to recess at 8:14 p.m.. Council May seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed. Mayor Marshall called the meeting back to order 8:26 p.m.

Leroy Holguin, U.S. Forest Service, reported on the prescribed fire schedule for the upcoming season and highlighted the projects within Grant County. Mr. Holguin, District Fire Manager, gave an update of the Gila and Silver City Districts, dates of scheduled burns and resources, and manpower and equipment that would be on site. He explained minimization of smoke impact of the burn, broadcast and brush piles. He answered questions the Council had on smoke coming down the canyon, and how a fire would be handled by Emory Pass.

Peter Russell, Community Development Director, reported on Town owned properties. Mr. Russell gave the details of a map prepared by David Lawrence, Mapping Technician, showing Town owned properties and assigned uses. He discussed property identity, description, and access to Town property through State forest and private lands. He also discussed the ordinance passed last year in reference to essential and non-essential Town property. Manager Brown stated that the landfill property was still in the Town’s name but that the Town was working on getting the title changed. Mr. Russell answered questions that the Council had on Town properties.

Manager Brown stated that the Town was allocated \$430,000 in CDGB funding for street and drainage improvements in the Chihuahua Hill area. Councilor Ward requested that the Council receive copies of the downtown parking plans. Manager Brown stated that the bike rack by Javalina’s was working well and was being used by many. Councilor Wheaton-Smith stated that bicyclists needed to be included in the plans. The discussion continued on diagonal parking downtown.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS -

Selection of President Pro Tempore- Councilor May stated that it was with great pleasure that he motioned to nominate Councilor Judy Ward as President Pro Tempore. Mayor Marshall commented how he enjoyed working with Councilor Ward. Councilor Wheaton-Smith seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

Approval of Resolution No. 2008-12: 2008 Fair Housing Policy – Councilor Wheaton-Smith made a motion to approve Resolution 2008-12 Fair Housing Policy. Councilor May seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

Approval of Resolution No. 2008-13: 2008 Citizen Participation Plan - Councilor Wheaton-Smith made a motion to approve Resolution 2008-13 Citizen Participation Plan. Councilor May seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

Approval of Resolution No. 2008-14: 2008 Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan - Councilor Wheaton-Smith made a motion to approve Resolution 2008-14 2008 Anti-Displacement and Relocation Plan. Councilor Ward seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

Approval of Resolution No. 2008-15: 2008 Section 3 Policy - Councilor Wheaton-Smith made a motion to approve Resolution 2008-15 2008 Section 3 Policy. Councilor Nupp seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

Approval of Resolution No. 2008-16: 2008 CDBG Procurement Policy - Councilor Wheaton-Smith made a motion to approve Resolution 2008-16 2008 CDBG Procurement Policy. Councilor Ward seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

Approval of Bid 07/08-5: Janitorial Services for the City Hall Annex – Manager Brown requested that the item be postponed so that further information on the bids could be given to the Council and stated that the item was not time sensitive. Councilor Ward made a motion to postpone the item. Councilor Wheaton-Smith seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

Approval of the disposal of broken down un-recyclable computer equipment – Manager Brown requested that the item be postponed so that the Information Technician could look further into rehab of the computers and that the item was not time sensitive. Councilor Nupp made a motion to postpone the item. Councilor Wheaton-Smith seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

Appointments to the Building Inspection Program Advisory Task Force – Mr. Scavron discussed and gave a brief update on CID, and coming up with a solution. He stated that no one knew what CID's agenda was and that no one was getting an explanation. Mr. Scavron suggested working closely with the Town's building inspector. After further discussion, Councilor Wheaton-Smith made a motion to postpone the item. Councilor May seconded the motion, motion passed.

Appointments to the Library Board – There were three applications. The Council gave consensus to appoint Brandon Perrault to the Library Board. The Council expressed their appreciation to community members who apply for board openings. The Mayor stated that he had spoken to the County Commission about their opening on the board.

ADJOURNMENT – Councilor Wheaton-Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:18 p.m. Councilor Ward seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

/s/

James R. Marshall, Mayor

Attest:

/s/

Ann. L. Mackie, Town Clerk