

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SILVER CITY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

Grant County Administration Center, 1400 Hwy 180, Silver City, NM

January 12, 2010 – 7:00 P.M.

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

Also Present: Alex C. Brown, Town Manager-Finance Director
Ann L. Mackie, Town Clerk
Robert L. Scavron, Town Attorney
Ed Reynolds, Police Chief

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Mayor Marshall called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. CEREMONIES – None.

3. PROCLAMATIONS – None.

4. PUBLIC INPUT – Tara Rose, representative of the A.C.L.U., commented on the municipal elections. Jon Swapp of the U.S. Census commented on the upcoming census beginning on April 1, 2010, and answered questions from the Council.

5. COUNCIL COMMENTS – The Council commented on the following: recently attended events; thanks were given to the Streets Division for their work on 12th Street and West Street; the recent power outage for 9 hours and how the 911 service was in service the entire time; how major overhauls were scheduled for the Virginia Street Park in the spring; drivers were asked to dim their headlights when there was oncoming traffic; how recycling pickups had not been done due to the holiday schedule differences between the Town and the County; how the operation of the Senior Center was run by the County, but the Town owned the building; the upcoming 25th anniversary celebration of the New Mexico MainStreet program, and how the Town of Silver City was the first community to join the MainStreet program; how Secretary Mondragon had previously promised Mayor Marshall that the 25th Silver Anniversary of the New Mexico MainStreet program would be held in Silver City; and thanks were given to Police Chief Reynolds and the other agencies for working together to provide service to the public during the recent power outage.

6. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA – None.

7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Special Meeting – December 17, 2009: Councilor May made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Councilor Bettison seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

8. REPORTS – Manager Brown introduced Roberta “Bobbi” Hall, coordinator for Gila Economic Development Alliance (E.D.A.) contracted by the Grant County Economic Development Coalition for Progress to respond to P.R.O.’s (Potential Recruitment Opportunities). Ms. Hall reported that Gila E.D.A. had some big projects; how they were in the process of re-forming and getting the board together; how she was working on their first P.R.O.; and how she was working daily with the State to bring business to Grant County, etc. She answered questions from the Council.

Manager Brown reported that the Town was working with Grant County on a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the Senior Center. He also reported that the New Mexico Environment Department came to Silver City that day for a site visit on the old landfill at Scott Park to discuss and resolve groundwater and methane issues. Police Chief Reynolds commented that Central Dispatch did an outstanding job during the power outage. He stated that he would like to present medals of valor to several police officers during the first Town Council meeting in February for their outstanding job during a recent structure fire on Memory Lane. He also reported on preliminary statistics for 2009’s number of citations, accidents, and criminal incidents. Town Clerk Mackie provided information on the upcoming Municipal Election to be held on March 2, 2010. She reported the names of the

certified candidates; how voter registrations and the correction of voter registrations would need to be taken care of at the County Clerk's office by February 2nd; how Absentee voting would begin at City Hall on January 26th and Early voting on the vote tabulator machine would begin at City Hall on February 10th; and how the placement of the candidates' names on the ballot were determined by an impartial and fair drawing.

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

A. Approval / Disapproval of Ordinance No. 1161: An Ordinance to adopt a Gas Franchise Agreement between the Town of Silver City and New Mexico Gas Company, Inc. Manager Brown requested approval of Ordinance No. 1161 and stated New Mexico Gas Company, Inc. had no problem with the requested changes that were made when it was presented as Notice of Intent Ordinance No. 1161 during the December 8, 2009 Town Council Meeting. Councilor Bettison made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 1161. Councilor Nupp seconded the motion. There was further discussion. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilor Bettison – aye; Councilor Nupp – aye; Councilor Wheaton-Smith – aye; and Councilor May – aye. Motion passed.

11. NEW BUSINESS –

A. Approval / Disapproval of Resolution No. 2010-01: Open Meetings. Town Clerk Mackie requested approval of Resolution No. 2010-01 for the Town's annual resolution on open meetings and stated the only change was the list of dates of the Town Council meetings. Councilor Bettison made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2010-01. Councilor Nupp seconded the motion. There was further discussion about the amplifier and acoustics of the meeting room, and the notice requirements for emergency and closed meetings. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilor May- aye; Councilor Wheaton-Smith – aye; Councilor Nupp – aye; and Councilor Bettison – aye. Motion passed.

B. Approval / Disapproval of March 2, 2010 Election Workers. Town Clerk Mackie requested approval of the list of election workers. She stated the workers assigned to Districts 1 through 4 and Absentee had been trained previously for the Town of Silver City's Municipal Elections and had worked the elections before, and the list of alternates had a mix of people who were trained and some that were new. She stated that she would conduct election training to all of the workers on February 25th. Councilor May made a motion to approve the Town Clerk's recommendation for election workers for the Municipal Election on March 2, 2010, and gave thanks to all of them. Councilor Wheaton-Smith seconded the motion as stated. There was no further discussion. All were in favor, motion passed.

C. Appointment of one member to the Museum Board. Mayor Marshall received the Council's consensus to appoint Ida Caffey to the Museum Board.

D. Appointments of five members to the Cemetery Board. Mayor Marshall received the Council's consensus to re-appoint Dana Nupp, Edward Alvo, Carl Scholl, and Rider South, and to appoint Elizabeth Miller to the Cemetery Board.

12. ADJOURNMENT – Councilor Wheaton-Smith made a motion to adjourn at 7:59 p.m. Councilor May seconded the motion. There was further discussion with Police Chief Reynolds regarding the number of domestic disturbances for 2009. Councilor Wheaton-Smith reaffirmed his motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Councilor May reaffirmed his second. All were in favor, motion passed.

/s/

James R. Marshall, Mayor

Attest:

/s/

Ann L. Mackie, Town Clerk