

**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, 2016, 6:00 p.m.**

**Present:**

Michael S. Morones, Mayor  
Cynthia Ann Bettison, District 1  
Lynda D. Aiman-Smith, District 2  
Jose A. Ray, Jr., District 3  
Guadalupe Cano, 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 Morones called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Morones said Councilor Cano was present telephonically.

**2. CEREMONIES** – None.

**3. PROCLAMATIONS** - None.

**4. PUBLIC INPUT** – Alan Mong commented that most people were not using cloth or reusable bags when shopping; that they were receiving new bags from the business. He suggested that business owners think about charging a 5 cent fee every time they gave out a bag. Rik Foxx commented about AMR water meters, petitions submitted to the Town, and he read various notices submitted to the Town, etc.

**5. COUNCIL COMMENTS** - The Council commented on the following: Happy New Year wishes; recent disturbing emails that impersonated the Town Council and were sent to the Gospel Mission's website; well wishes to the Mayoral candidates; how stricter enforcement was needed for uncovered loads going to the dump; hope that the legislators in Santa Fe would work to provide food assistance for the elderly; how Councilor Aiman-Smith would continue the program of "Conversations with Councilor" on January 20, 2016 to review questions and issues previously brought up and that an informed citizenry and respectful conversation was really dear to her heart; upcoming events in Santa Fe with legislators, etc. regarding the 30 day legislative session; how it was the first year anniversary of the plastic bag ordinance; people were encouraged to use cloth bags; how the plastic bag ordinance was good for the Southwest Solid Waste Authority with re-permitting and it reduced litter; how people should call Central Dispatch for an Animal Control Officer if they saw an animal that was single point tethered and how effective enforcement depended on witnesses reporting it; how the Mayor was looking forward to the MainStreet Project's Silco Theater that would open downtown; and thanks to the Silver City Police Department for occasionally having 2 officers in a police vehicle.

**6. CHANGES TO AGENDA** – None.

**7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Regular Meeting on December 8, 2015** - Councilor Aiman-Smith moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of December 8, 2015. Councilor Bettison seconded. Mayor Morones stated there was a motion and a second to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 8, 2015. He asked for a vote of all those in favor, and all 4 Councilors said aye. He asked if any were opposed, and there were none. Motion carried.

**8. REPORTS**

**A. Silver City MainStreet Project's Quarterly Report.** Lucy Whitmarsh, Executive Director of the Silver City MainStreet Project, reported that from October to December 2015 there were 2 new businesses added and no businesses closed downtown during the quarter; that there were private building improvements in the amount of \$10,000 and public improvements of \$26,550; that Little Toad Creek was awarded \$100,000 for the expansion of their business from Local Economic Development Act funding; and Silver City MainStreet was awarded \$15,000 from

PNM to work on the Silco Theater; that volunteers contributed 244 volunteer hours; various events and programs, including the Lighted Christmas Parade; and various long term projects. She thanked the Town's Police Department, Public Works Department, and the community for their help, support, and participation in the parade. She introduced Chris Aquino and Mary Deerheart as the operators of the Silco Theater, and they each made comments. Mayor Morones discussed how the Town had public private partnerships with the Silver City MainStreet Project and the Arts and Cultural District and that the return on their investment was wonderful. Councilor Bettison said the American Alliance of Museums did a study and the return on investment was \$7 to every \$1 of the public private partnership so public private partnerships were recommended highly.

**B. Staff reports.** Manager Brown said the Hudson Bridge was scheduled to open at the end of January and that the main set back was the weather and cold temperatures because they could not pave the lanes unless the temperatures were averaging 40 degrees. He discussed the traffic signal lights that were out at the intersection of 14th Street and Silver Heights Boulevard and that it would be a four-way stop until the lights were repaired. He also stated the new radio read water meters would be placed on Town right-of-way so they would not be trespassing, that there was no opt out option to the system, and that meters would be put where they currently had water meters everywhere. He asked the newspapers to report it because there were flyers being distributed with misinformation. Councilor Aiman-Smith requested Police Chief Reynolds to advise the traffic rules at a four-way stop, and he did so. Clerk Mackie provided information about the upcoming regular municipal election to be held on March 1, 2016.

**9. PUBLIC HEARINGS** - None.

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None.

**11. NEW BUSINESS** -

**A. Approval / Disapproval of Resolution No. 2016-01: Open Meetings.** Mayor Morones introduced Resolution No. 2016-01 and stated it was to comply with the Open Meetings Act on the state level; that it was also regarded as part of the "Sunshine Laws" since it sheds light on what government is doing. He said the Open Meetings Act allowed the electorate to be educated on what was going on by listening to their representatives or elected government so they were educated for the next election cycle and could choose who they wanted to vote for or not. Clerk Mackie stated the Resolution was adopted annually and that it was based on the Open Meetings Act. She reviewed the details of the Resolution and there was further discussion. Councilor Bettison moved to approve Resolution No. 2016-01: Open Meetings. Councilor Aiman-Smith seconded. Mayor Morones said there was a motion and a second for the approval of Resolution No. 2016-01: Open Meetings. There was further discussion about the procedures regarding Executive Sessions, etc. Mayor Morones asked for a roll call vote: Councilor Bettison voted aye; Councilor Aiman-Smith voted aye; Councilor Cano voted aye; and Councilor Ray voted aye. Motion carried.

**12. ADJOURNMENT** – Mayor Morones asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilor Bettison moved to adjourn at 6:57 p.m., and Councilor Ray seconded. Mayor Morones stated there was a motion and a second to adjourn. He asked for a vote of all those in favor, and all 4 Councilors said aye. He asked if any were opposed, and there were none. Motion carried.

/s/  
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Michael S. Morones, Mayor

Attest:

/s/  
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Ann L. Mackie, Town Clerk