

**REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2008, 6:00 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
405 PASEO DE OÑATE, ESPAÑOLA, NM**

This meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM with the following present:

Mayor: Joseph Maestas
Mayor Pro Tem: Alice Lucero
Councilors: Danielle Duran
Rosario "Chayo" Garcia
Alfred Herrera
Cecelia Lujan
Eddie Maestas
Helen Kain-Salazar (absent)
Dennis Tim Salazar

City Manager: Gus Cordova

City Clerk: Veronica Martinez
Lucas Gauthier

City Attorney: Angela Pacheco

Staff: Leroy Garcia
Julian Gonzales
Russell Naranjo

Mayor Maestas led the Pledge of Allegiance; Mayor Pro Tem Lucero led the invocation.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mayor Maestas presented the agenda for approval with the suggested changes, remove employee of month and year; guest Joe Dennis to give brief presentation on the retreat after public comments. Angela Pacheco City Attorney asked the Governing Body to consider removing the discussion item of the lease to the Chamber of Commerce.

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND INVOCATION

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

1. Budget Adjustment Request Jail Construction Renovation Project in the amount of \$250,000 (DFA Resolution 9)
2. Approval of Increased Meal Prices for Non-Seniors at the Senior Center
3. Minutes of November 19, 2007 Workshop Meeting
4. Minutes of December 17, 2007 Workshop Meeting
5. Minutes of December 20, 2007 Council Meeting

PUBLIC COMMENTS

COUNCILOR COMMENTS

MATTERS FROM THE MAYOR

6. Employee of the Month
7. Employee of the Year

ITEMS PROPOSED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

8. Request from Downtown Action Team for City to Serve as Fiscal Agent
9. Revised Scope of Work for Ball Field Improvements [Leroy Garcia]
10. Approval of City Clerk's Appointment of Precinct Boards [Veronica Martinez]

DISCUSSION ITEMS

11. 2008 Federal Legislative Agenda [Mayor Maestas]
12. Lease Agreement with Chamber of Commerce [Angela Pacheco]

**ANNOUNCEMENTS
ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Maestas announced that the annexation ordinance for Sombrillo was advertised but that it would not be heard. That it would be discussed sometime in March or April.

Councilor Salazar moved to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Councilor Lujan. Motion passed 7/0.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilor Herrera made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, Councilor Garcia seconded. Motion carried 7/0.

BUSINESS WITH VISITORS:

Mr. Joe Dennis from the Pacific Institute presented on this item. Mr. Dennis thanked the Governing Body for their time they spent during the retreat. Mr. Dennis went through evaluation forms and captured statements of participants. Mr. Dennis suggested that the Governing Body look through comments to see the unity that was established. Mr. Dennis added that not all areas had answers that they now have the foundation to make great things happen. Mr. Dennis stated that all the comments reflected a positive experience and that he looked forward to the next phase. Mr. Dennis stated that the Governing Body and management team should focus on great successes and the history that has been made should not be forgotten and it should be the beginning of more successes.

Mayor Maestas thanked all for participating and contributing to the success of the retreat. Councilor Salazar thanked for the new tools of communication. Mayor Pro Tem Lucero thanked for the report. Councilor Duran commented on all the positive comments she had heard from all the participants. Councilor Herrera commented on the progress that had taken place in such a short period of time and stated that he would like to disseminate that information of the issues addressed and worked through. Councilor Herrera stated that they would be coming in with fresh ideas to build the team to continue to move the city forward.

Councilor Duran asked where the funds for the retreat came from. City Manager Gus Cordova stated that the retreat was paid for by funds from the City Manager's Professional Services budget. Councilor Duran thanked the City Manager for his contribution.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Miro Kovacevich asked for the Governing Body's support of House Bill 146 sponsored by Speaker Lujan. Miro Kovacevich asked the Governing Body to lobby that bill because it impacts Economic Development in Española, he added that the bill would be heard before committee on January 23, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. Councilor Duran expressed her willingness to participate in the lobbying and asked Mr. Kovacevich to share more information.

COUNCILOR COMMENTS:

Councilor Garcia announced that today was Angela Pacheco the City Attorney's birthday. The Governing Body serenaded her with "Happy Birthday."

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Down Town Action Team Request for the City to Act as Fiscal Agent:

Miro Kovacevich presented on this item, a request for the City to act as the fiscal agent for the Down Town Action Team of Española (D.A.T.E). Mr. Kovacevich stated that this had come to council twice for consideration, but that there were issues that have now been addressed. Mayor Maestas stated that the Governing Body needed to have a talk about adopting a policy for serving as fiscal agent including the fee structure, etc. Mayor Maestas added that those rules have not been put into writing and recommended that they do so. Mayor Maestas stated that they should adopt an administrative fee tied to funding, and policy guidance regarding whether or not we should be a fiscal agent, for example, if the project was not on the ICIP or if the ICIP should be the policy on what should be supported for fiscal agency.

Mayor Pro Tem Lucero stated that she felt the D.A.T.E was working hard and projects would benefit the City, adding that it was a win-win situation for the community.

Mayor Pro Tem Lucero made a motion to approve the Down Town Action Team's request for the City to act as fiscal agent, seconded by Councilor Lujan and Councilor Herrera. Motion carried 7/0.

Ball Park Improvements:

Leroy Garcia Community Services Director presented on this item. Mr. Garcia stated that the item was presented at the last workshop. Mr. Garcia stated that there had been a change in the scope of work from repairing all of the City's ball fields to just the Valdez Park ball fields only with \$110,000 awarded. Mr. Garcia stated that B² Engineering was consulted and they tried to lobby and raise the balance of \$80,000. Mr. Garcia stated that due to the lack of funding it was his recommendation to the Governing Body to use the \$110,000 for improvements to the Valdez Park ball fields. Mr. Garcia added that the improvements to the Valdez Park fields alone would cost about \$150,000 and suggested that it would be best done incrementally.

Councilor Duran moved to approve, seconded by Councilor Lujan.

Under discussion, Councilor Herrera asked if there was money to help with the repairs in the budget. Mr. Cordova answered no, but at the last meeting the council recommended during mid-year review that we could identify some funds to use for this project.

Motion carried 7/0.

City Clerk's Appointments for 2008 Municipal Election Precinct Boards:

City Clerk Veronica Martinez presented on this item. Ms. Martinez stated that the proposed members were names of individuals who had indicated their willingness to work the polls when they registered to vote. Ms. Martinez requested the Governing Body's approval.

Councilor Garcia made a motion to approve the members as presented, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Lucero.

Under discussion, Councilor Herrera asked why there were blank lines on the list. Ms. Martinez explained that she had an ideal number of workers, but there were not enough positive response to fulfill the list; she indicated that she had more than the minimum required and would supplement poll workers if necessary.

Motion carried 7/0.

Legislative Agenda:

Mayor Maestas presented on this item stating that there needed to be a discussion on tweaking the Federal Legislative Agenda. Mayor Maestas asked if the council would like to create a new committee or just add or revisit the old agenda. Councilor Duran stated that she thought that the Legislative Committee should be reconvened to discuss a new agenda.

Mayor Maestas listed the members of the Legislative Committee including himself, City Manager Gus Cordova, Councilor Duran, Councilor Herrera and Mayor Pro Tem Lucero. The members discussed and agreed to meet on January 29 at 4:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Councilor Duran stated that it was Greater Española Valley Day at the Legislature on Saturday, January 26, 2008, at 8:00 AM to be followed by a reception at the Lodge in Santa Fe at 6:00 PM.

Mayor Pro Tem Lucero stated that on Saturday, January 26, 2008 at 6:00 PM the Española Valley Chamber of Commerce would be holding its annual banquet at Okay Owingeh Conference Center, and invited all to attend and buy a ticket.

Mr. Cordova stated that he had been requested by the NMML for a name or names of those to participate in leadership NM. Mr. Cordova stated that the cost was \$500 plus meals. Mr. Cordova stated that he wanted the Governing Body to agree on one or two participants from the council. Mr. Cordova stated that it would be two 2-1/2 day sessions, and that he needed to know so he could set aside funds during the mid year budget review. Mayor Pro Tem Lucero asked if there were Scholarships available. Mr. Cordova stated that there probably were and he would apply as soon as he had names of the participants. Councilor Duran stated that she had done the classes after her election and that she thought the classes were fantastic. Judge Salazar commented that the program was good and that he was able to do a lot of networking. Councilor Garcia volunteered and Mayor Pro Tem Lucero volunteered, Councilor Herrera offered himself as a back up if needed.

There, being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Passed, approved and adopted this 26th day of February 2008.

Electronic copy – Signatures on file