

**City of Tucumcari
City Commission Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2015**

The Tucumcari City Commission met in a regular meeting on Thursday, March 12, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers, Members present constituting a quorum were: John Mihm, Ruth Ann Litchfield Robert Lumpkin, Amy Gutierrez, and Rick Haymaker.

City Staff members present were: Jared Langenegger, City Manager; Doug Powers, Assistant City Manager; Shane Warner, Fire Chief; Jason Braziel, Chief of Police; Jimmy Sewell, Airport Supervisor; Ralph Lopez, Project Manager; Vicki Strand, Community Development Director; Charlotte Marquart, Senior Center Director; Angelica Gray, City Clerk.

Invocation presented by Pastor Rick Haymaker with Agape West Church and Commissioner Gutierrez led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consideration of Changes for Deletions to the Agenda

Commissioner Mihm made the motion to approve the agenda and Mayor Pro Tem Litchfield seconded the motion. Roll Call:

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|----------|------|------------|---------|-----------|
| Haymaker | Mihm | Litchfield | Lumpkin | Gutierrez |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

Items from Commissioners

Commissioner Gutierrez wanted to acknowledge all our local basketball teams who are at the State tournaments, whether they have lost or won, they have done exceptionally well. She again thanked the businesses for donating to the legislative gift bags, Box Insurance, Del's Restaurant, KTNM/KQAY, Mesalands Community College, Tucumcari Mountain Cheese Factory, Rte. 66 Museum, Watson's Barbeque, Chamber of Commerce, Greater Tucumcari EDC, Kodiak Produce, Quay County Sun, SPC Office Supplies, Tucumcari Ranch Supply, Clovis Media, Jim Keith, Mainstreet and Roadrunner Lodge. She also thanked Kathy McClelland, Carol Keith, Toni & Rick Haymaker, Russell Braziel, Ruth Ann Litchfield, Gail Houser, Gail Sanders for attending the Governor's prayer breakfast in Santa Fe. She stated that although Patsy Gresham was unable to attend she did work very hard to put the bags together.

Commissioner Haymaker welcomed everyone for coming and thanked the listening audience tuning in tonight and he also thanked KTNM/KQAY for bringing us into the homes of the citizens. He also thanked Mesalands Community College for their hospitality at the first night of the iron pour.

Commissioner Mihm thanked everyone for attending tonight. He added the commission had a productive work session and stated there are positive things for the City employees.

Mayor Pro Tem Litchfield thanked everyone for attending tonight. She also thanked Christine and Robert, owners of Odeon Theater for opening the theater on Friday night and Saturday to watch Logan and Tucumcari play on the screen. She thinks it's a great honor to have 3 schools from Quay County represented at the State tournament.

Mayor Lumpkin mentioned that the chairperson of the Cemetery Board, Ms. Betty Cooper Coslett, has resigned. She is one of the original board members and she has worked very hard. He thanked her for all her time she put into the Board along with all the board members.

Mayor Lumpkin stated there were pictures of a possible park that would be put at Sands Dorsey after demolition. He stated the picture was not a suggestion or a request, it was just a picture. He stated the thoughts we have had are looking at some of the bricks from the building to make a small wall or decoration or possibly an archway along with electricity, plants, and tables with awnings. However, there have not been any decisions made on the design. He does not want the pictures to cause any concerns. The commission has talked about working with Mainstreet Program, State Dept. and we have looked at USDA applications for assistance.

Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Gutierrez stated that on paragraph 4, Items from Commissioners, it should state the polar plunge should be March 14th instead of March 16th.

Commissioner Mihm made the motion to approve the February 26, 2015, commission work session notes as amended and Commissioner Haymaker seconded the motion. Roll Call:

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|------------|----------|-----------|------|---------|
| Litchfield | Haymaker | Gutierrez | Mihm | Lumpkin |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

Ordinances and Resolutions

Resolution 2015-08, Participation in the 2015-2016 Municipal Arterial Program – Ralph Lopez presented this item to the commission. He stated that on behalf of the City, The planning office is working on the application to apply for the 2015/2016 NM DOT MAP funds. They are applying for funds to work on Second Street starting on Main Street and going as far south as possible. His cost projection is \$330,000 for two blocks, which does not include the water lines. We need the resolution for the DOT stating that we have the capacity and the capability to do our share of the paperwork and the matching funds, which are \$86,000.00.

Commissioner Mihm made the motion to approve Resolution 2015-08 and Commissioner Gutierrez seconded the motion. Roll Call:

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|---------|-----------|------------|----------|------|
| Lumpkin | Gutierrez | Litchfield | Haymaker | Mihm |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

Resolution 2015-09, Participation in the 2015-2016 Cooperative Agreement Program – Ralph Lopez presented this item to the commission. He stated they are applying with NMDOT for the Coop grant. They are applying for funding to work one block of Lake Street south of Whitmore.

Mayor Pro Tem Litchfield made the motion to approve Resolution 2015-09 and Commissioner Mihm seconded the motion. Roll Call:

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|----------|---------|------|-----------|------------|
| Haymaker | Lumpkin | Mihm | Gutierrez | Litchfield |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

City Manager's Report

Mr. Langenegger stated he received requests to draft letters of support for projects that he will be moving forward with, as long as there isn't an overwhelming objection. He stated he received a request from the Energy Conservation and Management Division for a letter of support for their application to the US Department of Energy to improve local government's energy efficiency at wastewater plants. He stated what they are doing is applying to the Department to get grant funding to help municipalities reduce their energy use and be more energy efficient at wastewater plants.

He stated Del's Restaurant is applying to the National Park Service Rte. 66 Corridor Preservation program for a grant. This grant allows them to match one for one money they have for programs on Rte. 66. This grant will help the restaurant replace their windows.

He stated he was approached by Main Street for the possibility of using a Metropolitan Redevelopment Area Grant to help with our downtown. He stated Gail Houser found an old designation report and is looking through it. He is asking for our support to ask the State to revise the report, which will allow us to apply for funding and allow with other options to help redevelopment the downtown area.

He stated Mayor, Mr. Powers, the Housing Authority staff and himself met with the USDA Housing Department. The Department gave us a great training on the different grant and loan opportunities they provide for citizens with low to moderate-low income. They also trained our housing staff on how to apply and the opportunities available. In addition, we will be working with our staff to set up a day where we can be available for citizens of Tucumcari to come in and learn about those programs and help them fill out applications that will be submitted to the USDA and get funding for people who need assistance in making their homes safe and making repairs or people who are trying to buy a new house, they can apply and possibly receive a low interest loan.

He stated there will be a meeting on March 18th reviewing a watershed protection plan which is being developed by Canadian River Soil and Water Conservation District. They sent us information and giving our input on how it can impact the City. He stated our wastewater does discharge into the waters of the US and anytime they work with that it could impact the requirements that are set forth on the City.

He thanked everyone who participated in our tourism meeting on Monday night. He stated this group formed three committees' one oversight committee, arts and culture committee; and research on how we can develop a tourism website. If there are others who are interested we will meet again next month.

He stated we met with Steel Electric and our community development staff. They are working on fixing the street lights that are off Highway 54 interchange on the west side of town. He thanked Mr. Powers and Chris Gries for their work.

He received a phone call from David Stratton who is a professor in history at Washington State University. Mr. Stratton was born and raised in Tucumcari. He has written an article for the NM Historical Review on the Jewish founding fathers of Tucumcari. We made copies of the article for the commissioners and asked that they review it and respond. Mr. Stratton is working on a new

book and he would like to title it “Tucumcari Tonite Railroads and Rte. 66 and the life western town”. He stated this book will be a case study of the influence of the transportation development nationally on a western town. Mr. Stratton would like permission to use “Tucumcari Tonite”. Mr. Langenegger thinks the phrase is trademarked and owned by the City of Tucumcari. Once we find out if it is trademarked we may ask the commission for approval to allow Mr. Stratton to use it.

Old Business

Mayor Lumpkin acknowledged the Lodgers’ Tax Advisory Board Minutes from February 4, 2015; Finance Board Minutes from February 24, 2015; and Senior Center Advisory Board Minutes from February 3, 2015.

New Business

Requesting Approval of Law Enforcement Protection Fund – Chief of Police, Jason Braziel presented this matter to the commission. He stated this is a yearly grant provided for the state. The grant is 100% and based on the population of the town and number of officers in the City. He stated this year the Police Department will receive \$26,000.00. He stated this grant is usually used for the purchase of a new vehicle.

Commissioner Gutierrez made the motion to approve the Law Enforcement Protection Fund and Mayor Pro Tem Litchfield seconded the motion. Roll Call:

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|------|------------|---------|-----------|----------|
| Mihm | Litchfield | Lumpkin | Gutierrez | Haymaker |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

Requesting Approval to Contract Amendment #15-624-4000-0086-0 (Senior Companion Program) – Charlotte Marquart presented this item to the commission. She stated this amendment is a decrease of funding for \$7,020.00 for the current fiscal year. She stated the reason is due to the fact that we’ve had a problem recruiting both senior companions and clients and will not be utilizing the allotted hours this year.

Commissioner Haymaker made the motion to approve the Contract Amendment and Commissioner Gutierrez seconded the motion. Roll Call:

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|----------|------|------------|---------|-----------|
| Haymaker | Mihm | Litchfield | Lumpkin | Gutierrez |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

Requesting Approval for Lodgers’ Tax funding for Latin Comedy Jam for \$1,750 – Ms. Gray presented this item to the commission. She stated this application was approved by the Lodgers’ Tax Board during the January meeting. She stated the event has taken place.

Mayor Pro Tem Litchfield made the motion to approve the Lodgers’ Tax Board funding the Latin Comedy Jam for \$1,750 and Commissioner Mihm seconded the motion. Roll Call:

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|------------|----------|-----------|------|---------|
| Litchfield | Haymaker | Gutierrez | Mihm | Lumpkin |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

Requesting Approval for invoices submitted through March 2, 2015 for Rockabilly on the Route 2015 totaling \$10,773.93 – Ms. Gray presented this item to the commission. She stated Lodgers’ Tax Board approved paying for invoices prior to the event. The invoices total \$10,773.93 leaving a balance of approximately \$9,000.00.

Commissioner Mihm made the motion to approve the invoices submitted by Rockabilly on the Route 2015 totaling \$10,773.93 and Commissioner Haymaker seconded the motion. Roll Call:

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|---------|-----------|------------|----------|------|
| Lumpkin | Gutierrez | Litchfield | Haymaker | Mihm |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

Requesting Approval of the new Lodgers’ Tax Funding request for use on all new funding requests Mr. Langenegger presented this item to the commission. He stated this form makes it more clear to the Lodgers’ Tax Advisory Board that the funds are being used appropriately. He stated it has been reviewed by the city attorney and he has approved it. He thanked David Brenner, John Dugger, Yvette Peacock, Rekha Patel and Matt Bednorz for their time and hard work.

Commissioner Mihm made the motion to approve the new Lodgers’ Tax Funding request for use on all new funding and Commissioner Gutierrez seconded the motion. Roll Call:

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|----------|---------|------|-----------|------------|
| Haymaker | Lumpkin | Mihm | Gutierrez | Litchfield |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

Requesting Approval of City Manager’s Per Diem – Mr. Langenegger presented this item to the commission. He stated he traveled to Santa Fe for Municipal Day and stayed at La Fonda Hotel. He said although it may not be required, he did want to get the commission’s approval on reimbursement for the hotel expense in the amount of \$114.04. In addition, he stayed at La Posada Hotel during his Leadership Conference and he wishes to get reimbursed for that stay as well in the amount of \$324.84.

Mayor Lumpkin stated he appreciates Mr. Langenegger’s making this so transparent.

Mayor Pro Tem Litchfield made the motion to approve City Manager’s per diem and Commissioner Mihm seconded the motion. Roll Call:

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|------|------------|---------|-----------|----------|
| Mihm | Litchfield | Lumpkin | Gutierrez | Haymaker |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

Requesting Approval of Compensation Plan – Mr. Langenegger stated that this was presented at the work session. He stated the conversation was to approve the compensation plan and reevaluating the evaluation portion at a later date but before the next fiscal year.

Commissioner Haymaker made the motion to approve the compensation plan with the stipulation that next year’s evaluations would be under further review at a later time and Commissioner Mihm seconded the motion. Roll Call:

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|----------|------|------------|---------|-----------|
| Haymaker | Mihm | Litchfield | Lumpkin | Gutierrez |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

Requesting Approval to proceed with Airport Advisory Board – Mayor Lumpkin stated these boards are usually initiated by people having questions or people wanting to help and be involved. Mayor Lumpkin stated his suggestion would be to advertise it and if we have people who are interested, then we will organize.

Mr. Langenegger stated he is asking the commission to approve proceeding with advertisement. He stated he did visit with the Airport Manager who feels it is an acceptable board and did not have any problems with it.

Commissioner Mihm made the motion to approve proceeding with the Airport Advisory Board and Commissioner Gutierrez seconded the motion. Roll Call:

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|------------|----------|-----------|------|---------|
| Litchfield | Haymaker | Gutierrez | Mihm | Lumpkin |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

Public Comments

Dr. Thomas Newsom – He stated he was at the tourism meeting and he thanked Mr. Langenegger for his desire to improve our City. He also wanted to thank our police, fire chief and EMT. He stated they have had minor incidences at the College and the response time has been fantastic and the service they have provided has been short of amazing.

He also extended an invitation to the Open Ceremony of the iron pour at 11:30 a.m. on March 13th it will and run for 13 hours.

Chief Jason Braziel – He gave the commission of an update on the K-9 purchased from Crime Stoppers. He stated Officer Tyler Marney and Aries have completed their second week of training with four more weeks to go. He thanked the commission for approving the grant.

Items from Commissioners

Commissioner Mihm thanked everyone for coming out tonight.

Mayor Pro Tem Litchfield stated that in referring to her comment about staying positive, she stated we are on the road to taking Sands Dorsey down. She is asking everyone to give us a chance and think positive and we are making progress and we plan on making something nice.

Commissioner Gutierrez wants to recognize the Rodeo Team who took second in the men’s bull riding team. In addition, the Polar Plunge is on March 14th at 2:00 p.m.

Commissioner Haymaker thanked everyone for coming tonight and listening at home. He thanked David Berkan who comes here every year with college students from Rockford, IL. He met Mr. Berkan and the students with Doug Quarle’s, who were painting with him. They have done work on the Rte. 66 Museum, Dinosaur Museum and Historic Museum this year. He also thanked Quay County Sun for informing the people. He also thanked all the presenters tonight.

Mayor Lumpkin thanked everyone for coming tonight. He thanked Mesalands and the citizenship they furnish for the City of Tucumcari. He stated we are proud of the Rattlers and the area teams, coaches, bus drivers and everybody who puts an effort.

Adjournment

Mayor Lumpkin asked for a motion to Adjourn. Commissioner Mihm made the motion to adjourn and Commissioner Gutierrez seconded the motion. Roll Call:

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|---------|-----------|------------|----------|------|
| Lumpkin | Gutierrez | Litchfield | Haymaker | Mihm |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

Meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Robert C. Lumpkin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Angelica M. Gray, City Clerk