

CITY OF TUCUMCARI
CITY COMMISSION
Special Work Session Notes
July 23, 2015

The Tucumcari City Commission met in a special work session on Thursday, July 23, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers. Members present were John Mihm, Robert Lumpkin, Rick Haymaker, Ruth Ann Litchfield and Amy Gutierrez.

City staff members present were: Jared Langenegger, City Manager; Doug Powers, Assistant City Manager; and Angelica Gray, City Clerk.

Discussion of Nuisance Ordinance

Mayor Lumpkin stated he asked for this meeting regarding the nuisance ordinance. He mentioned this to Jared and he visited with Las Vegas municipality and others. He looked at the properties and at that time he did not understand the mesquite portion of the ordinance. It would be very difficult to get the place cleaned up to match the ordinance. However he visited with Jared and he informed him that it does not really say the mesquite has to be removed but rather “tended”. He stated the City will help people comply, if a person refuses to comply we could initiate the hard line.

Mr. Langenegger stated that regarding mesquite we are not changing the language from the previous ordinance; it will remain the same. The ordinance currently states “the untended growth of mesquite is not allowed”.

Mayor Pro Tem Litchfield stated that before we start telling people what needs to get done the City must clean their own properties. Mr. Langenegger stated this ordinance is set for a second reading, what he asks for is we pass the ordinance and allow a phase in time line and do not enforce until January. This will give us time to clean our properties and allows us to make public announcements and make the public aware that this is coming. Mr. Langenegger stated if someone is working on their property we will work with them.

Mayor Lumpkin stated if this is approved we have a property behind the rodeo, the City currently allows dumping there. He asked if there is some way we could let people cut the wood. Mr. Langenegger stated that if we sell a permit we would not be giving it away.

Commissioner Mihm stated the ordinance is necessary. He thinks people would volunteer to help each other.

Mayor Lumpkin inquired about the cost to replace the roof at Princess Theater. Mr. Langenegger stated that Mr. Gries, received a quote for \$140,000.00. Mr. Langenegger stated we would have to decide if it’s worth us putting the work into it or tear it down, which is an expense either way. Mayor Pro Tem Litchfield inquired about selling it. Mr. Langenegger stated we could go through a bid process and take the highest bid.

Mr. Langenegger stated whether it be the City, private owners, or business owners, they all need to be responsible for their own properties. We are in a position with Sands Dorsey where the City has taken

on the private property using taxpayer money to fix a private issue and the City cannot continue to afford this. He stated as the City we will have to make decisions of our own.

Mr. Powers stated there are things in the old building next door. The roof is leaking terribly and has caused mold. Mayor Lumpkin would like an estimate on how much it would cost to repair the roof for the building next door.

Mayor Lumpkin stated we can reach our goal by being flexible and accommodating to meeting people's needs. Commissioner Mihm stated the City needs to establish a protocol for the citizen's that are attempting to resolve the issue. Mr. Langenegger stated that is allowed however we cannot allow unsafe conditions but he thinks the goal is to clean up as much and as quickly as we can.

Mr. Langenegger stated as we enforce this, there will be unhappy people, however; we have to be firm to make this happen. He does see the vacant building and abandoned buildings as a hindrance to Tucumcari's growth.

Commission adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

Submitted by:

Angelica M. Gray
City Clerk