

**CITY OF TUCUMCARI
CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
May 12, 2011**

The Tucumcari City Commission met in a regular meeting on Thursday, May 12, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers. Members present constituting a quorum were; Amiel Curnutt, Robert Lumpkin, Jimmy Sandoval, and Jim Witcher.

City staff members present were Bobbye Rose, City Manager; Mike Cherry, Assistant City Manager/Fire Chief; Christine Dougherty, City Clerk/Purchasing Agent; Dennis Dysart, Finance Director; Vicki Strand, Assistant Finance Director; Alex Madrid, Streets and Sanitation Superintendent; Yvette Fazekas, Planning and Zoning Administrator; and Jason Braziel, Chief of Police.

Mr. Leonard Lauriault gave the invocation and Mrs. Carolyn Bell led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consideration of Changes or Deletions to the Agenda

Mr. Witcher asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Ms. Rose stated that item X, A should read Project RFP Approval as apposed to Bid Approval.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to approve the agenda as amended and Commissioner Curnutt seconded the motion. Roll Call:

Sandoval	Curnutt	Witcher	Lumpkin
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Items from Commissioners

Commissioner Lumpkin thanked those in attendance for coming to the meeting. Mr. Lumpkin also said that input helps the Commission to make decisions and they appreciate citizens bringing their concerns to the Commission.

Commissioner Sandoval had no comments.

Commissioner Curnutt thanked those in attendance for coming to the meeting.

Mayor Witcher thanked those in attendance for making time to come to the meeting. He went on to say that the Great American Cleanup will be held this weekend and in conjunction with that, three projects will be held around the City. The gas station by the Paradise Motel will be painted, cleanup at the walking track will occur, and a gas station on Main Street will be painted. Mr. Witcher went on to say that a water safety class will be held at the Elks Lodge this weekend as well. Mr. Witcher encouraged any one wishing to participate to meet at the walking course at 8 a.m. on Saturday.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Lumpkin to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2011 Commission meeting and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Curnutt. Roll Call:

Curnutt	Witcher	Lumpkin	Sandoval
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Approval of Vouchers

A motion was made by Commissioner Lumpkin and seconded by Commissioner Curnutt to approve the City vouchers for payment. Roll Call:

Witcher	Lumpkin	Sandoval	Curnutt
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Items from Citizens

Mr. Gilbert Pacheco approached the podium to address the Commission. He stated that he had concerns about the recreation program. Mr. Pacheco said that when Mr. Encinias ran the recreation programs the tournaments were big and people got excited and came to Tucumcari. He added that at that time three people were employed at the Recreation Center and the tournaments were run well. Mr. Pacheco said that since Mr. Simpson has been there the five regional tournaments have not been held and now the Commission intends to increase fees to participate in Recreation Programs. Mr. Pacheco wondered how the tournament could have been lost so quickly. Mr. Pacheco also expressed concern that jobs have not been brought to the City by the Commission but the Commission is willing to raise prices for kids to participate in programs.

Mr. Gary Montano stated that he would like to request an itemized list of the current and previous years fees paid for participation in leagues. He also asked for pay to referees and umpires. Mr. Montano asked if the parents have a say in who gets to referee the games.

Mr. Witcher advised Mr. Montano to call Ms. Rose or Ms. Dougherty with a list of his requests. Mr. Lumpkin asked Mr. Montano to clarify what he was asking for. Mr. Montano responded that he is looking for the amount collected by the City for participation in each sport and a listing of who officiated games and what they were paid. He also asked that parents be allowed to choose the officials.

Ms. Rose responded that the programs will either have to be run by the City or privately run. Because the City is funding the programs for one more year, the City will run the programs for one more year including choosing the officials.

Mr. Pacheco asked why the Department Head has not arranged any tournaments. Mr. Thomas Even who was in the audience stated that he thought alcohol consumption at tournaments had become a problem. Mr. Lumpkin agreed that he had heard the same thing. Mr. Lumpkin added that a baseball tournament sponsored by the City drew 20 teams from all over the state.

Mr. Montano stated that there is drinking at the City Golf Course. Ms. Dougherty explained that the Golf Course holds a Governmental Liquor License making consumption of alcohol on the grounds allowable.

Mr. Montano suggested that the police might drive by the baseball fields more often to discourage drinking during tournaments. Mr. Montano went on to say that Santa Rosa built a multi million dollar complex where alcohol is prohibited and lots of teams and tournaments frequent. He added that there are no questions, the City backs the programs and they do well. Mr. Montano went on to say that with an overtime budget of \$70,000 in the Police Department, the Police should have time to drive by the fields making alcohol a non issue.

Proclamations, Memorials, or Petitions

Mayor Witcher Proclaimed the first week in May as Youth Week in the City of Tucumcari at the request of Elks Lodge Number 1172.

Ordinances and Resolutions

Ms. Rose presented the second and final reading of Ordinance 1088 Amending City Code Section 13.16, Garbage Collection. Ms. Rose explained that this modifies trash pick up to occur one time per week for residential customers and twice per week for commercial customers.

Commissioner Curnutt made a motion to approve the final reading of Ordinance 1088, Amending Section 13.16 of the Tucumcari Municipal Code, Garbage Collection and Commissioner Lumpkin seconded the motion. Roll Call:

Lumpkin	Sandoval	Curnutt	Witcher
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Ms. Rose then presented Resolution 2011-25 Establishing New Recreation Fees. Ms. Rose explained that this resolution increases the fee to participate in recreation programs by \$10 per sport, per child.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-25 Establishing New Recreation Fees and Commissioner Curnutt seconded the motion. Roll Call:

Lumpkin	Sandoval	Curnutt	Witcher
Yes	No	Yes	Yes

City Manager's Report

Ms. Rose stated that Ms. Cathy Estrada reported that we had the free dumping on May 6 and 7. We had 19.5 tons or 39,000 pounds of trash taken to the landfill.

Kids from Head Start Program planted flowers at City Hall the past two days. There were 36 kids and 28 adults participating. Shirts, bags, goodies as well as 160 plants were donated.

There will be a clean-up this Saturday in which Cathy is asking for volunteers to help clean the fitness course, Carol Keith will be working on parks, and Main Street will be painting another gas station. Volunteers are making a difference and we thank each of you.

Ms. Rose received a letter from a couple commending Officer Martinez on his job. They had about 35-40 stray cats in their neighborhood. Mike responded immediately to their call and they caught over 20 cats. The note was signed by a grateful older couple that can finally get a good nights sleep.

Ms. Rose also received a thank you from the Empty Saddle RV Park for getting the lights turned on the east side of Tucumcari Boulevard.

Commissioner Sandoval asked at the last meeting about our recycling program for metal. We have the same company that picks up the metal from Garza take off our metal from the recycling bins. We do not get any money and do not pay for the removal. Anyone can take their metal to Garza and sell it there.

The RFP's that are out now are as follows:

RFP #2011-001 for Fleet Maintenance and Lubrication Services

Due Date Tuesday, May 24, 2011 at 2 pm

Inquiries taken until May 19, 2011 with answers posted on web by May 20, 2011

RFP #2011-002 for Emergency Ambulance Service

Due Date May 31, 2011 at 2 pm

Inquiries taken until May 23, 2011 with answers posted on web May 23, 2011

RFP #2011-003 for Copiers and Maintenance Service

Due Date May 24, 2011 at 2 pm

Inquiries taken until May 23, 2011 with answers posted on web May 24, 2011

We have sent our current copier contract to our attorney to see if it can be broken and we know we can save about 50% in this area.

We are also bidding out the scales for the landfill, I approved quotes for a scale house and Alex is working to get the septic in place. Doug is working on the electrical line. I will

be sending out a 90 day notice of closure soon and then we have 160 days to get the old landfill closed and approved.

At the Water Reuse Project, the Contract Agreement and Right of Way Agreement for the Water Re-use Project at NM State University Agricultural Science Center will be on the next agenda. NMSU has approved the contract and this is a great project that shows that Tucumcari has utilized its resources well.

In the Main Street project, the Depot project is going well, the roof is going on, demolition is occurring inside, and the windows, doors and landscaping are coming very soon.

Mr. Lumpkin asked about the company that picks up metal for recycling from the City recycling dumpsters. Ms. Rose explained that metal can be deposited in the City recycling bins and then a Clovis company picks up the metal at no charge to the City. Mr. Lumpkin asked if Mr. Garza was contacted for this project. Ms. Fazekas explained that when she wrote the grant for this program, she had to find a vendor that would haul the recyclables to a recycling center at no charge. Ms. Fazekas further explained that the grant says that in exchange for the funds to purchase the bins, the City will provide free recycling service for the community. Mr. Lumpkin said that he is working to do business locally as much as possible. He asked that Mr. Garza be contacted to see if he could provide these services. Ms. Rose replied that she would do this.

Bids and Contracts

Ms. Fazekas presented the Project RFP approval for the MAP Project. She explained that she recommends approval to enter into contract negotiations for engineering services for the MAP project. Ms. Fazekas pointed out that the committee scores on the responses to this RFP were close, but the high score was earned by Wilson and Company. Ms. Fazekas asked for permission to contract Wilson and Company.

Mr. Sandoval asked where the responders were from. Ms. Fazekas responded that all the responders businesses are located in Albuquerque except for Engineers, Inc. which is located in Tucumcari. Mr. Lumpkin stated that the Commission is faced with a choice in this situation to take the employee recommendation or not. He added that he has faith in the employees.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to approve the Project RFP for the MAP Project and Commissioner Curnutt seconded the motion. Roll Call:

Sandoval	Curnutt	Witcher	Lumpkin
No	Yes	Yes	Yes

Chief Jason Braziel then presented the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program. Mr. Braziel explained that this grant is for the 100 Days and Nights of Summer traffic law enforcement program. He stated that the program runs June through September and this 100% grant will pay for over time for officers to enforce traffic laws.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to approve the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program and Commissioner Curnutt seconded the motion. Roll Call:

Sandoval	Curnutt	Witcher	Lumpkin
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Old Business

Mr. Tom Even then addressed the Commission in his capacity as Chair of the Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board. Mr. Even explained that monies in the Lodgers' Tax fund must be allocated within two years from the end of the fiscal year in which they were collected. Mr. Even said that there are funds that must be allocated by the end of June or they will be forfeited. Mr. Even explained that the Chamber has been doing a great job and organizing many projects. He explained that the Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board recommends allocating the funds to the Chamber of Commerce so that they are not lost. Mr. Even explained that the state statute allows for lodgers' tax to be used to fund tourist related entities and due to tight budget situations, the board feels this is the best use of the funds.

Mayor Witcher asked Mr. Even how much money he is talking about. Mr. Even explained that it is \$26,000. Ms. Rose explained that as lodgers' tax is ear marked for only specific uses; this allocation will not impact the City budget.

Mr. Lumpkin asked if the Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board still awards funds to different entities to promote tourist related events. Mr. Even responded in the positive adding that those applications will be reviewed at the next meeting of the advisory board. Mr. Lumpkin stated that he appreciates the efforts of the advisory board.

Commissioner Curnutt made a motion to approve amending the allocation to the Chamber of Commerce from the Lodgers' Tax fund in the amount of \$26,000 in the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Commissioner Lumpkin seconded the motion. Roll Call:

Curnutt	Witcher	Lumpkin	Sandoval
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

New Business

Mr. Witcher explained that the Interim 2011-2012 Budget in their packets is exactly the same budget as was discussed at the budget work session.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Interim Budget and Commissioner Curnutt seconded the motion. Roll Call:

Witcher	Lumpkin	Sandoval	Curnutt
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Mr. Phillip Griggs of the Elks Lodge Number 1172 then approached the podium to request funds from the Commission. Mr. Griggs thanked the Commission for the Proclamation they read earlier in the meeting regarding Youth Week. Mr. Griggs then explained that for many years the Elks have put on a public fire works display in celebration of Independence Day. He added that for years, the price of the fireworks has been split between the Lodge and the City. Mr. Griggs stated that the bill this year is \$5650; making half \$2825. He added that the show will be the same size as last year.

Mr. Lumpkin stated that only \$2500 is in the budget for this endeavor. He asked if it would be possible to find \$325 to pay for this. Ms. Rose said she felt it would be possible.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to approve providing \$2825 to the Elks Lodge to provide a public fireworks display in celebration of Independence Day and Commissioner Curnutt seconded the motion. Roll Call:

Lumpkin	Sandoval	Curnutt	Witcher
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Mr. Lumpkin thanked the Fire Department and the Elks Lodge for putting on a nice show every year. He also thanked the Elks for their assistance with the Recreation Programs.

Mr. Griggs added that on Saturday, May 14 at 11 a.m. there will be a Water Safety Training at the Elks Lodge for youth and adults.

Items from Commissioners

Commissioner Sandoval had no comments.

Commissioner Curnutt thanked everyone for coming.

Commissioner Lumpkin thanked everyone for their attendance and stated that the Commission strives to make things as clear as possible.

Mr. Montano asked Mr. Lumpkin to clarify that the passing of the resolution this evening would increase the fee for participation in each sport. Mr. Lumpkin responded in the positive.

Mayor Witcher thanked everyone for their attendance.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Curnutt and seconded by Commissioner Lumpkin. Time noted 6:48 p.m. Roll Call:

Lumpkin
Yes

Sandoval
Yes

Curnutt
Yes

Witcher
Yes

James L. Witcher, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Christine Dougherty, City Clerk