

**CITY OF TUCUMCARI
CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
September 22, 2011**

The Tucumcari City Commission met in a regular meeting on Thursday, September 22, 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; Jason Braziel, Chief of Police; Dennis Dysart, Finance Director; and Jessica Elebario, Senior Programs and Convention Center Director.

Mr. Rich Haymaker, Pastor of Agape West Church gave the invocation and Mr. Tom Even led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consideration of Changes or Deletions to the Agenda

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

Lumpkin	Sandoval	Curnutt	Witcher
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Items from Commissioners

Commissioner Lumpkin stated that in the news recently it was reported that local restaurateurs, Yvonne Braziel and Yvette Peacock were given an award from the NM Restaurant Association for restaurants of the year. The sisters own Del's, Kix on 66 and Rockin Y's restaurants. Mr. Lumpkin said he is very proud of these local business women as they had to compete with the entire state of NM. Mr. Lumpkin went on to say that if he misses giving credit to any businesses receiving awards, please call him. Commissioner Lumpkin went on to say that the Cemetery Committee worked very hard to revise the ordinance governing the Cemetery. He explained that staff is now ensuring that paperwork procedures are reviewed and included correctly in the ordinance. The Cemetery Advisory Board will then review the ordinance and vote to send it on to the Commission or not. Mr. Lumpkin stated that he feels the changes are very good.

Commissioner Curnutt had no comments.

Commissioner Sandoval stated that he spoke with Representative Dennis Roch regarding redistricting plans that suggest splitting Quay County into four pieces. Mr. Sandoval said that if Mr. Roch needs any help, he is willing to assist. Commissioner Sandoval stated that he feels everyone is attacking Tucumcari for what we are trying to do and he feels we need to concentrate on education, jobs and the welfare of our citizens. Commissioner Sandoval went on to say that he felt the meeting Xcel Energy held with the Commission

and with the public went very well. He stated however, that he was disappointed by the weeds at the Del Norte building.

Mayor Witcher thanked everyone in attendance for coming to the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Lumpkin to approve the minutes of the September 8, 2011 Commission meeting and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Curnutt. Roll Call:

Sandoval	Curnutt	Witcher	Lumpkin
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:

Curnutt	Witcher	Lumpkin	Sandoval
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Items from Citizens

Mayor Witcher asked if there were any citizens wishing to address the Commission. Ms. Betty Coslett approached the podium and thanked Commissioner Lumpkin for his diligence in keeping people informed about the Cemetery ordinance. Ms. Coslett asked that the people be kept informed regarding the ordinance in order to maintain open government.

Ordinances and Resolutions

Mr. Powers presented Resolution 2011-52, A Resolution to Adopt the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP). Mr. Powers explained that this ICIP plan is for the years 2013 through 2017 and is basically a list of projects for the future. Mr. Powers explained that at the work session just before this meeting, the plan was reviewed and now he asks for approval so it can be sent to the state. Mr. Witcher added that this document assists the City in obtaining grant funding.

Commissioner Curnutt made a motion to approve Resolution 2011-52, A Resolution to Adopt the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan and Commissioner Lumpkin seconded the motion. Roll Call:

Witcher	Lumpkin	Sandoval	Curnutt
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

City Manager's Report

Ms. Rose began her report by referencing the paperwork and photos in the Commissioners packets regarding the property at 1313 South Sixth Street. Ms. Rose explained that this was the piece of property recently donated to the City which has been cleaned up. There was quite a bit of mesquite growing on the property and the cost to the City to remediate was \$1900. However, Ms. Rose stated she feels now the property is valuable.

Regarding other dangerous and/or dilapidated properties; Ms. Rose stated that 1910 East Aber and 423 West High have been identified as the first two properties that will be abated. Ms. Rose also explained that there are many other properties in need of attention and she will ask the Commission to approve moving funds from the infrastructure tax fund to clean up properties. She also explained that there are eight court dates slated for other property owners to explain how they plan to remediate their own properties.

Ms. Rose reported that on September 12 the audit entrance meeting was held with Griego Professional Services, LLC who will perform the City and Housing Authority audit.

Ms. Rose informed the Commission that Dennis Riley of Travelers Insurance conducted a meeting with Department Heads and Supervisors regarding workman's compensation insurance. Mr. Riley helped everyone understand their roles in ensuring safe workplaces.

Ms. Rose stated that she felt the community meeting regarding the Del Norte building with Xcel Energy went well. Ms. Rose commended the Community Development Department for having the zoning information ready ahead of time. Ms. Rose stated that some expressed that they did not want to see the Del Norte building used for purposes other than community rental. However, when she suggested that perhaps a similar size room at the Convention Center could be used at a reduced rental rate, most were satisfied.

Ms. Rose reported that she will be in attendance at the next Interstate Streams Commission meeting on September 27.

Ms. Rose informed the Commission that a planning committee meeting for Airport renovations will be held on September 28 at 10 a.m. Ms. Rose encouraged all those interested to attend.

Ms. Rose stated that she received a wonderful letter from the State Agency on Aging praising our Senior Centers for improving their standing with the State to good. As a reward, the State has allocated an additional \$7700 to the programs.

Ms. Rose has been in communication with Representative Roch regarding House Bill 39 regarding redistricting. She said she does not want the bill to pass as it will divide Quay County into four districts. Ms. Rose said she drafted a letter for the Mayor to sign opposing this bill and would like for the rest of the Commission to sign it as well.

Regarding the Sands Dorsey building, Ms. Rose stated that the NMED has approved the plan for phase two of the remediation project. This phase will involve asbestos abatement.

Ms. Rose informed the Commission that the Senior Center and a City van parked there were vandalized by gunshots. She also informed the Commission that she is having the City carpenter construct a security wall at the cashier windows at City Hall.

Mr. Lumpkin asked if the City does not sell the Del Norte Center to Xcel Energy, will they choose not to build the new plant. He also inquired if the building can be leased to Xcel only while they need office space.

Commissioner Lumpkin stated that regarding House Bill 39, he wanted to thank Betty Coslett for working hard to acquire the list of committee members working to pass that bill. Mr. Lumpkin said that he received a return phone call from Mary Helen Garcia who sits on the committee who stated that due to population loss, redistricting is required. Mr. Lumpkin explained that he is opposed to dividing up small communities.

Ms. Rose then asked Mr. Dysart to give a finance report. Mr. Dysart explained that he provided the Commission the packet for August and year-to-date figures. Mr. Dysart also informed the Commission that the auditor will be sending each of them letters that require responses from them. Mr. Dysart stated that it is very important that each Commissioner respond promptly to the auditor.

Mr. Dysart explained that page one of the financial report shows actual expenditures in columns five and six. Page two shows trends from month to month and page three shows details by fund. Mr. Dysart stated that the budget is on track for the fiscal year with normal operations and functioning.

Commissioners Curnutt and Lumpkin thanked Mr. Dysart for his report.

Bids and Contracts

Mr. Tom Even, President of the Lodgers' Tax Board reported that there are three billboard advertising contracts up for renewal. Mr. Even stated that the Lodgers' Tax Board recommends approval of these renewals as well as approval of one more billboard advertising the City. With these contracts, Sun Vista Advertising will give the City an additional billboard on Interstate 25 just south of Albuquerque at no cost.

Commissioner Lumpkin asked if these billboard leases would be paid for out of lodgers' tax funds. Mr. Even responded in the positive.

Commissioner Curnutt made a motion to approve the three contract renewals with Sun Vista for billboards, and to approve the additional board contract. Commissioner Lumpkin seconded the motion. Roll Call:

Lumpkin	Sandoval	Curnutt	Witcher
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Ms. Jessica Elebario presented the Nutrition Service Incentive Program Contract. She explained that this grant funding is ear marked for raw foods only that are grown in the United States. Ms. Elebario reported that the program will receive \$5000 more than anticipated.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to approve the Nutrition Service Incentive Program Contract and Commissioner Curnutt seconded the motion. Roll Call:

Lumpkin	Sandoval	Curnutt	Witcher
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Ms. Rose then presented the easements with property owners for the re-use water project. Ms. Rose stated that the easements for property owners Brockman, Cosner and Moya were provided in the Commissioners packets and minor changes have been provided on their desks this evening.

Mr. Lumpkin asked if Mr. Moya agreed to the terms of the easement. Ms. Rose said that Mr. Moya agreed but wants a guarantee of water. Ms. Rose stated that the City cannot guarantee anyone re-use water.

Commissioner Curnutt made a motion to approve the water re-use easements with property owners Brockman, Cosner and Moya. Commissioner Lumpkin seconded the motion. Roll Call:

Sandoval	Curnutt	Witcher	Lumpkin
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

New Business

Mayor Witcher set the time for the Special Meeting to be held Thursday, September 29 at 9 a.m.

Items from Commissioners

Commissioner Sandoval had no comments.

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

Commissioner Lumpkin thanked Mr. Garcia from the newspaper for calling regarding House Bill 39.

Mayor Witcher thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Executive Session

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to convene in Executive Session to discuss matters as provided for under New Mexico Statutes Pertaining to Open Meetings Referencing Section 10-15-1 H (2) 1978, related to limited personnel matters, specifically the City Manager and Commissioner Curnutt seconded the motion. Roll Call:

Lumpkin	Sandoval	Curnutt	Witcher
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Time noted was 6:34 p.m.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to re-convene in Regular Session after Executive Session where the only matters discussed were as provided for under New Mexico Statutes Pertaining to Open Meetings Referencing Section 10-15-1 H(2) 1978, limited personnel matters, specifically the City Manager and Commissioner Curnutt seconded the motion. Roll Call:

Sandoval	Curnutt	Witcher	Lumpkin
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Time noted was 7:02 p.m.

Mayor Witcher requested that another Executive Session regarding limited personnel matters, specifically the City Manager be scheduled after the September 29 Special Meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Lumpkin and seconded by Commissioner Curnutt. Time noted 7:04 p.m. Roll Call:

Witcher	Lumpkin	Sandoval	Curnutt
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

James L. Witcher, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Christine Dougherty, City Clerk