

**CITY OF TUCUMCARI  
CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
May 10, 2012**

The Tucumcari City Commission met in a regular meeting on Thursday, May 10, 2012, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers. Members present constituting a quorum were; Amiel Curnutt, Daniel Lopez, Robert Lumpkin, Dora Salinas-McTigue, and Jimmy Sandoval.

City staff members present were Doug Powers, City Manager; Christine Dougherty, City Clerk/Purchasing Agent; Dennis Dysart, Finance Manager; Jessica Elebario, Convention Center and Senior Programs Director; Vicki Strand, Human Resources Director; Patricia Smith, Accounts Payable/Receivable Clerk; Alex Madrid, Streets and Sanitation Superintendent; and Jason Braziel; Chief of Police .

Mr. Mark Lake, Reverend of St. Michaels Episcopal Church gave the invocation and Mr. Powers led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Consideration of Changes or Deletions to the Agenda**

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

|          |         |       |         |                 |
|----------|---------|-------|---------|-----------------|
| Sandoval | Curnutt | Lopez | Lumpkin | Salinas-McTigue |
| Yes      | Yes     | Yes   | Yes     | Yes             |

**Items from Commissioners**

Mayor Curnutt explained that in the work session that preceded this meeting each Commissioner was going to discuss their goals for the City but time did not allow for each of them to do this. The Mayor stated that a request was made for each Commissioner to be able to detail their goals in this meeting. The Mayor said if each Commissioner wished to do so, now is the time.

Commissioner Lumpkin said there are so many things he would like to set as goals but his main priorities include; resolution of the Ute Lake water issues, cleaning up the City and the parks, promote businesses in Tucumcari particularly in renewable energy, re-surfacing of the streets downtown as they have a concrete undercoating making the job very expensive, and all the streets in the City.

Commissioner Lumpkin also thanked Mr. Powers, the staff and the Fire Department for their quick action getting the Sands Dorsey building safe after the recent fire.

Commissioner Lumpkin also said he attended a Cemetery Advisory Board meeting and said that there are lots of equipment needs at the Cemetery. He also reminded citizens that any vegetation planted in the mowing lanes will be mowed over.

Commissioner Salinas-McTigue welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming to the meeting. She said her goals include; getting the lights working on Tucumcari Boulevard, tearing down the Sands Dorsey building, buying tools for the City mechanic and making the garage better, hiring another City mechanic, getting Veronica Sandy to enforce the City Codes upon property owners, and getting DOT to fix the I-40 bridges and exits through the City.

Commissioner Sandoval said it was nice to see everyone at the meeting and his goals include; developing Tucumcari Lake for tourism and dealing with the eye soar of the Sands Dorsey Building.

Commissioner Lopez said his goals include; paying Doug Quarles with Lodgers' Tax money to paint a mural on every corner, the City and County work together to receive formal recognition of a State mural, make the Rail Depot building the Main Street office, annex the property surrounding I-40 into the City, hire a liaison between the City management and the Commission who is also responsible for promoting the City, work with west Texas business people to warehouse their products in Tucumcari to avoid Texas inventory taxes, develop a Citizens of the Month award, re-establish a Probation and Parole office in the City, and resolve the landlord/tenant issues regarding water billing.

Mayor Curnutt thanked everyone for coming and said his goals include; assuring the water needs on the East side of town for future Racino development, tear down the Sands Dorsey, annex property along I-40, clean up zoning and sub-division codes, remediate lighting issues, Commission work better with other groups, beef up Hospital and medical services, improve procedures at the City, improve human resources procedures, review City insurance policies, ensure preventive maintenance is done on City vehicles, keep the parks clean and watered, review the contracts with the water cooperatives, clean up the City shop, review the City grants and bonding abilities, have a master cleanup and beautification project in the Route 66 corridor to include Highway 54, First Street and Main Street, tear down dilapidated properties, repair streets, develop green areas, and work with the citizens and chamber.

Commissioner Lumpkin said he forgot to mention a few things. Mr. Lumpkin congratulated staff on being awarded a \$50,000 CDBG planning grant, a \$1,590,000 Drinking Water grant, and a \$157,000 grant for the Rail Road Depot. Commissioner Lumpkin said he is proud of the staff.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Commissioner Lumpkin to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2012 Regular Commission meeting and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Salinas-McTigue.  
Roll Call:

|                 |          |         |       |         |
|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|---------|
| Salinas-McTigue | Sandoval | Curnutt | Lopez | Lumpkin |
| Yes             | Yes      | Yes     | Yes   | Yes     |

**Approval of Vouchers**

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

|         |                 |          |         |       |
|---------|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|
| Lumpkin | Salinas-McTigue | Sandoval | Curnutt | Lopez |
| Yes     | Yes             | Yes      | Yes     | Yes   |

**Items from Citizens**

Mr. Don Schutte approached the podium and stated that he is a Main Street business owner. Mr. Schutte said he would like to express his appreciation to the City and Mike Cherry for fighting the recent Sands Dorsey building fire. Mr. Schutte said his building is adjacent and sustained minimal damage. Mr. Schutte also expressed appreciation to the City Commissioners that came to the scene; Commissioner Lumpkin spent most of the day at the scene and Commissioner Sandoval stopped by to express his concern. Mr. Schutte said he appreciated Mr. Powers’s leadership when he stepped up when he took responsibility and took action to make the building safe.

**Ordinances and Resolutions**

Ms. Dougherty presented Ordinance 1103 for the final reading. Ms. Dougherty explained that this ordinance is necessary due to the fact that the City adopted the State of New Mexico Uniform Traffic Code some time ago and this ordinance adopts an amendment to that Code regarding bicyclists on the roadways.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to approve Ordinance 1103 Adopting the Amendment to the Uniform Traffic Code and Commissioner Salinas-McTigue seconded the motion. Roll Call:

|       |         |                 |          |         |
|-------|---------|-----------------|----------|---------|
| Lopez | Lumpkin | Salinas-McTigue | Sandoval | Curnutt |
| Yes   | Yes     | Yes             | Yes      | Yes     |

Ms. Jessica Elebario presented Resolution 2012-16, Designating Signatories for the Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs. Ms. Elebario explained the signatories need to be changed to herself and the new Mayor.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-16, Designating Signatories for the Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs and Commissioner Sandoval seconded the motion. Roll Call:

|         |       |         |                 |          |
|---------|-------|---------|-----------------|----------|
| Curnutt | Lopez | Lumpkin | Salinas-McTigue | Sandoval |
| Yes     | Yes   | Yes     | Yes             | Yes      |

Mr. Powers presented Resolution 2012-17, Determining Obsolete Equipment for Public Sale by Competitive Bid. Mr. Powers explained that he wants the City to lead by example and clean up its properties.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to approve Resolution 2012-17, Determining Obsolete Equipment for Public Sale by Competitive Bid and Commissioner Salinas-McTigue seconded the motion. Roll Call:

|          |         |       |         |                 |
|----------|---------|-------|---------|-----------------|
| Sandoval | Curnutt | Lopez | Lumpkin | Salinas-McTigue |
| Yes      | Yes     | Yes   | Yes     | Yes             |

**City Manager’s Report**

Mr. Powers thanked Ms. Fazekas and Mr. Charlie Sandoval for helping with the Drinking Water grant application. He also thanked Ms. Fazekas and Ms. Gulley for their work on the CDBG Planning Grant. Mr. Powers thanked Mr. Lake for his work attaining the grant funds for the Depot.

On May 17 Mr. Powers said there will be a meeting at the I-40/Highway 54 interchange regarding the engineering for the lighting project.

Mr. Powers said that as she has resigned her position, this is Ms. Dougherty’s last Commission meeting. Mr. Powers thanked Ms. Dougherty for her help since he has been in the City Manager position.

Mr. Powers thanked everyone that stepped up and helped with the Sands Dorsey fire and demolition. He said he is proud to be affiliated with the City and glad that this issue is getting resolved.

Commissioner Lumpkin explained that the City has never turned its back on the Sands Dorsey building, but has experienced many difficulties in dealing with the issue. Mr. Lumpkin suggested that the use for the GRT taxes currently collected for Ute Lake water infrastructure could be changed temporarily to be used to remediate the Sands Dorsey Building. Mr. Powers said he spoke to construction industries, the NM Environment Department, the US Environment Department and OSHA today regarding the Sands Dorsey.

Mr. Powers then asked Mr. Bill Curry to give the Friends of the Depot Report. Mr. Curry explained the group supports the restoration of the building and the development of a rail museum. Mr. Curry said the goal is to create an asset that is self-supporting. The theme developed by the group is “Tracks through Time.” Mr. Curry said that the group will secure a diesel locomotion simulator for the museum and has solicited support via a direct mail campaign. Mr. Curry added that \$1.4 million has been spent so far on the project.

Mr. Powers asked if a feasibility study has been completed by Mr. Tennent. Mr. Lake responded that an initial business plan is being re-worked and should be complete by mid-summer.

Commissioner Lopez asked if the ultimate goal is to give the depot to Main Street. Mr. Lake responded that Main Street plans to sustain the building and generate funds for the City. Mr. Lake said the City owns the building and always will.

Mayor Curnutt asked if there will be any expense to the City associated with the Museum. Mr. Curry responded in the negative.

Commissioner Lumpkin said the group has done good work and expressed his appreciation. Mayor Curnutt and Commissioner Salinas-McTigue concurred.

**Bids and Contracts**

Mr. Dysart presented the audit contract. Mr. Dysart explained this is an annual requirement and this is the second year renewal of the contract with Griego Professional Services.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to approve the Audit Contract with Griego Professional Services and Commissioner Sandoval seconded the motion. Roll Call:

|                 |          |         |       |         |
|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|---------|
| Salinas-McTigue | Sandoval | Curnutt | Lopez | Lumpkin |
| Yes             | Yes      | Yes     | Yes   | Yes     |

Ms. Elebario presented the ALTSD Foster Grandparent Program Contract Amendment. Ms. Elebario explained that this amendment provides additional funding from the State for the 55 and older seniors that are placed in the schools with children in need of additional attention. Ms. Elebario stated there is no match for these funds.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to approve the ALTSD Foster Grandparent Program Contract Amendment and Commissioner Salinas-McTigue seconded the motion. Roll Call:

|         |                 |          |         |       |
|---------|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|
| Lumpkin | Salinas-McTigue | Sandoval | Curnutt | Lopez |
| Yes     | Yes             | Yes      | Yes     | Yes   |

Mr. Powers presented the Main Street Depot Space Lease Proposal. Mr. Powers explained that this is a one year lease for the space west of the breezeway in the Depot building. Mr. Powers said Main Street will pay \$150 per month, which is about half the insurance premium for the building, and pay the utilities. Mr. Powers explained this will assist in the development of the museum there.

Mr. Lake said that Main Street will eventually move out of the building when the museum gets staffed. Ms. Salinas-McTigue asked that wording be included in paragraph five that if sub-leasing or reassignment occurs, the City Manager will be contacted.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to approve the Main Street Depot Space Lease Proposal and Commissioner Salinas-McTigue seconded the motion. Roll Call:

|       |         |                 |          |         |
|-------|---------|-----------------|----------|---------|
| Lopez | Lumpkin | Salinas-McTigue | Sandoval | Curnutt |
| Yes   | Yes     | Yes             | Yes      | Yes     |

Ms. Dougherty presented the Plateau Land Lease Agreement Extension. Ms. Dougherty explained this is a lease for property on Eleventh Street that Plateau has leased for ten years and

wishes to extend for another ten years. Mr. Powers added that the tower Plateau has on the property provides a place for the City dispatch antennas to be placed free of charge.

Commissioner Lumpkin expressed some concern over the lease as there has been talk that Plateau is going to see their tower.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to table the Plateau Land Lease Agreement Extension and Commissioner Salinas-McTigue seconded the motion. Roll Call:

|         |       |         |                 |          |
|---------|-------|---------|-----------------|----------|
| Curnutt | Lopez | Lumpkin | Salinas-McTigue | Sandoval |
| Yes     | Yes   | Yes     | Yes             | Yes      |

**Old Business**

Mayor Curnutt acknowledged reading the minutes of the April 6 and April 20, 2012 Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board.

Mr. Skylar Kaye of the Lodgers' Tax Board then presented the Lodgers' Tax proposal for funding to the Wheels on 66 event to be held in June. Mr. Kaye stated that several significant Route 66 authors have been secured for the event and will sign their works during the event. Mr. Kaye also said a vehicle from the Unser Museum has been secured for display at the Convention Center during the event. Mr. Kaye said the Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board voted to recommend \$3100 in assistance for this event.

Ms. Dougherty brought up her concern that statute states the funds are to be used only for the advertising and promotion of events that promote tourism. Ms. Dougherty questioned if paying for transport of the Unser car to and from Albuquerque and rent for the use of the Convention Center are an allowable expenditures from these funds.

Ms. Elebario suggested that the rent for the Convention Center could be discounted and perhaps a surplus of funds in her contractual services line item could be used to pay for the transport of the vehicle.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to approve the Lodgers' Tax proposal for funding to the Wheels on 66 event in the amount of \$2300 with approval from the attorney. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lopez. Roll Call:

|          |         |       |         |                 |
|----------|---------|-------|---------|-----------------|
| Sandoval | Curnutt | Lopez | Lumpkin | Salinas-McTigue |
| Yes      | Yes     | Yes   | Yes     | Yes             |

Mayor Curnutt acknowledged reading the February 16, 2012 minutes of the Cemetery Advisory Board.

**New Business**

Mr. Phillip Griggs presented the Independence Day Celebration Funding Request from BPOE #1172. Mr. Griggs said that fireworks prices took a big jump this year and the cost of the display this year will be \$6100. Mr. Griggs reminded the Commission that in years past the cost of the display has been split between the City and the Elks.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to approve the Independence Day Celebration Funding Request from BPOE #1172 and Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion. Roll Call:

|                 |          |         |       |         |
|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|---------|
| Salinas-McTigue | Sandoval | Curnutt | Lopez | Lumpkin |
| Yes             | Yes      | Yes     | Yes   | Yes     |

**Items From Commissioners**

Commissioner Lumpkin thanked Ms. Dougherty for her work and said she has done a great job. Mr. Lumpkin told Ms. Dougherty to go be happy. Commissioner Lumpkin also stated that the public address system in the Chamber needs some technical adjustment and asked that it be looked at. He also thanked everyone for attending the meeting and said any input is good input.

Commissioner Salinas-McTigue thanked everyone who came for their attendance and encouraged them to continue coming to the meetings. She said she'd like to see a chamber full of people with ideas.

Commissioner Sandoval told Ms. Dougherty to enjoy her vacation. He added that the Commission is going to wear Mr. Powers down.

Commissioner Lopez had no comments.

Mayor Curnutt thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and thanked Don Schutte and Bill Curry for their presentations this evening.

**Executive Session**

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to convene in closed session to discuss matters as provided for under New Mexico Statutes 1978 Pertaining to Open Meetings Referencing Section 10-15-1 H (7) for the discussion of threatened or pending litigation and Commissioner Salinas-McTigue seconded the motion. Roll Call:

|         |                 |          |         |       |
|---------|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|
| Lumpkin | Salinas-McTigue | Sandoval | Curnutt | Lopez |
| Yes     | Yes             | Yes      | Yes     | Yes   |

Time noted was 7:37 p.m.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to re-convene in open session after executive session where the only matters discussed were as provided for under New Mexico Statutes 1978 Pertaining to Open Meetings Referencing Section 10-15-1 H (7) for the discussion of threatened or pending litigation and Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion. Roll Call:

|       |         |                 |          |         |
|-------|---------|-----------------|----------|---------|
| Lopez | Lumpkin | Salinas-McTigue | Sandoval | Curnutt |
| Yes   | Yes     | Yes             | Yes      | Yes     |

Time noted was 8:05 p.m.

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to approve the lease with Ricoh for copiers contingent upon attorney review and Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion. Roll Call:

|         |       |         |                 |          |
|---------|-------|---------|-----------------|----------|
| Curnutt | Lopez | Lumpkin | Salinas-McTigue | Sandoval |
| Yes     | Yes   | Yes     | Yes             | Yes      |

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Lumpkin made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Salinas-McTigue seconded the motion. Time noted: 8:07 p.m. Roll Call:

|          |         |       |         |                 |
|----------|---------|-------|---------|-----------------|
| Sandoval | Curnutt | Lopez | Lumpkin | Salinas-McTigue |
| Yes      | Yes     | Yes   | Yes     | Yes             |

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Amiel Curnutt, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Patricia Smith, Deputy City Clerk