

**CITY OF TUCUMCARI
CITY COMMISSION**

**Work Session Notes
April 11, 2013**

The Tukumcari City Commission met in a work session on Thursday, April 11, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers. Members present were Mayor Amiel Curnutt, Robert Lumpkin, Jimmy Sandoval, Ernest Dominguez and Ms. Dora Salinas-McTigue.

City staff members present were Doug Powers, City Manager, Dennis Dysart, Financial Director; Vicki Strand, HR Director and Angelica Gray, City Clerk, and Patrick Vanderpool, Economic Development Director.

Tucumcari Cheese Factory Expansion

Mr. Powers stated he met with Chuck Kraus from the Cheese Factory and he informed him he wanted to meet with his partners before he proceeds. He wants to put a 100 x 100 gable type building, which would face east/west. Mr. Kraus asked for the City's help to put up the building and/or foundation. He would turn the property over to the City and go into a lease/purchase agreement. Mr. Kraus informed Mr. Powers that he hired 4 new employees this week.

Mr. Sandoval asked who the grant writer for the City. Mr. Sandoval's priority is the library.

Mr. Lumpkin stated that if we can help Mr. Kraus and can afford it, it would be an investment for the City.

Ms. Salinas-McTigue stated her concern is if they sell the business they would have to complete the lease or a security bond to protect the City.

Signage at Rte. 66 Museum

Mayor Curnutt asked if they will be able to come in through the front entry. Mr. Powers stated that by design it looks like they would be able to come into the lobby and that's not what was presented to the Commission.

Mr. Powers stated we need to limit the access.

Mr. Lumpkin commented that it would be difficult remove a sign off the building. He does not think we need a sign on the arches at the front entrance. He also feels we don't need a sign from the patio.

Ms. Salinas-McTigue suggested a free standing sign that directs them to the back of the building. She suggested a sign at the marquee, one in the parking lot, and one inside the lobby.

Mr. Lumpkin stated the fewer entrances the less damage by population.

Ms. Salinas-McTigue stated we need to start thinking about this in terms of when the Museum finds their permanent facilities.

Mr. Lumpkin stated the free standing sign could be moved. If they want to use the lobby we could put the signs at the front of the building in the event we have an open house, and a sign in the back, along with a sign on the building where Mr. Vanderpool's office is located.

Mr. Lumpkin confirmed that free-standing signs are the best option; one in the parking lot and one that can be moved inside the building with the side being the only entrance. He suggested we can put a sign at the front door if it's a free-standing sign.

The Mayor asked if the decision needs to go back to the Rte. 66 Museum board. Mr. Powers confirmed that the commission is okay with the sign on the side of the building and something inside the building, can be sit in the lobby, a couple of free standing signs either utilizing the existing one and locating another one.

Mayor Curnutt asked if a door will be at the hallway to the kitchen. Mr. Powers commented that it was discussed to put locks on the doors. He reminded the Commission that Mr. Frost stated that if doors are going to placed it will not cost the City a cent.

As for the Rock-a-Billy function scheduled on June 6, 7, and 8, 2013, Mr. Powers stated that Ms. Elebario rented the entire building.

Ms. Salinas-McTigue inquired about the liability insurance for damage, what plans have they made for additional security, fire department, and what provisions have they made for cleaning up. She asked Chief of Police, Jason Braziel and he stated that Ms. Elebario usually calls him for security.

Insurance Employee

Ms. Strand stated that right now if the employee's net salary is less than \$25,000 the employee pays 10% and the City pays 90%. If the employees net more than \$25,000 the employee pays \$20% and the City pays 80%. Mr. Powers stated that an insurance committee was formed.

Ms. Powers stated the State insurance will increase by 15% and the insurance the City currently has, will increase by 10%.

Mr. Powers stated that we are working on preparing the budget for 2013-2014.

Mr. Lumpkin stated that he does not want the employee to pay more than they have to but not less quality insurance. He thinks if they are paying 80/10 or 90/10 he wants them to have the same option.

Mr. Powers stated we have 112 full time employees and with the State plan we would need 75% sign up which would be 84 employees. Right now we have 74 employees and we would be short. He stated that in the future he would like to contact the employees who don't have insurance and ask why they don't have insurance.

Mayor Curnutt thinks the City needs to stay with Meritain Insurance for another year.

2013-2014 Budget

Mr. Dysart stated the budget is \$10,000,000 operating and \$6,000,000 is salary and insurance. He does not see any downside. He thinks we have been very conservative. He stated that we are \$50,000 short on gross receipts tax versus \$110,000, which is what he originally thought.

Ms. Elebario stated she has not received her state allocation. When she receives it she will put it together and deliver it the City.

Mr. Lumpkin stated when he became a commissioner, over eight years ago, we had 140 full time employees so it shows that we are becoming more efficient.

The work session ended at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Angelica M. Gray, City Clerk