

ALAMOSA CITY COUNCIL
Wednesday, April 7, 2009
Minutes of the Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Alamosa City Council was called to order on the above date by Mayor Kathy Rogers at 7:02 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Present at roll call: Mayor Rogers, Councilors Greg Gillaspie, Charles Griego, Rusty Johnson, Josef Lucero, and Leland Romero. Councilor Marcia Tuggle previously requested to be excused. A quorum was declared. Also present: City Manager Nathan Cherpeski, Acting City Attorney Helen Sigmund, and City Clerk Judy Egbert.

AGENDA APPROVAL. It was moved by Councilor Griego and seconded by Councilor Lucero to approve the agenda as presented and to excuse Councilor Tuggle. On the roll call the vote was ayes six, nays none. The motion carried.

CITIZEN COMMENT

A. Audience Comments

Dorothy Brandt, representing the San Luis Valley Museum, told Council that she would like to present a request for funds in May to complete the phase two room. This request will be in the amount of \$15,000 to \$20,000.

Don Thompson, City resident, reported on the HPAC meeting last night and upcoming events.

Leon Moyer, County resident, commended staff for the minutes from the last meeting and said that street construction and sweeping is not being done correctly.

Dennis and Cheryl O'Dowd, owners of Beer Keg Depot, requested that Council consider an ordinance to allow tastings in liquor stores. Samantha Valdez of Terry's Liquor was in attendance as well in support of this request.

B. Follow-Up

Mayor Rogers responded to Ms. Brandt saying that Council has a policy regarding how it hears budget requests, and asked Council if there was desire to consider action outside that policy. After discussion, Council agreed by consensus to explore options for the City to provide in-kind landscape services and to allow Ms. Brandt to present the funding request in May.

Judy Egbert briefed Council on the structure allowed for liquor store tastings. Council directed staff to prepare an ordinance for consideration at the next meeting.

CEREMONIAL ITEMS

B. National Child Abuse Prevention Month, April 2010

Jessica Durtsche of Alamosa County Department of Human Services described the focus of this effort. Mayor Rogers read the proclamation and presented it to Ms. Durtsche.

C. National Volunteer Week, April 18 - 21.

Mayor Rogers read the proclamation and presented it to hospital volunteers.

A. Introduction of Tammy Brubacker, Administrative Assistant, Police Department.

Chief John Jackson introduced Ms. Brubacker, who was welcomed by Council.

D. Alcohol Awareness Month, April 2010

Adam Vasquez presented a video regarding the Coalition's mission. He told Council of the "Did You Know" campaign for students and other efforts to reduce alcohol access to youth. He welcomed Council members to attend the coalition meetings on the second Wednesday of each month from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. at the SLV Mental Health Center. Mayor Rogers read the proclamation and presented it to Mr. Vasquez.

CONSENT CALENDAR A.

Mr. Koskelin responded to questions regarding the concrete replacement program. Ms. Egbert noted a correction to the March 17 minutes to reflect the baseball court rather than basketball.

It was moved by Councilor Griego and seconded by Councilor Gillaspie to approve Consent Calendar A with the minutes as corrected. On the roll call the vote was ayes six, nays none. The motion carried. Items:

- Concrete replacement program bid award to Elite Construction in the amount of \$92,282.92
- Minutes of Regular Meeting March 17, 2010.

REGULAR BUSINESS

C. Business Brought Forward by City Staff

1. Public Works

b. Clark Street Easements

In the early 1990's the Carroll family granted the City an Easement Deed for the extension of Clark Street to the west of Craft Drive and for the placement of sewer lines and a sewer lift station on the west end of the Clark Street extension. This was necessary at the time for the planned construction of our wastewater treatment plant and to extend sewer services to the trailer parks and the Villa Mall which was required by the State of Colorado. The sewer line was redesigned in such a way that the sewer lift station was no longer needed. The right of way extension for Clark Street was sixty feet wide. Jane Carroll Martin has requested that the City vacate the easement for the lift station which is approximately 125' x 150' and that the sewer line easement running north from Clark be moved to the west to align with the property boundary rather than splitting the lot. She has agreed to provide the City with an additional ten feet of width on Clark Street which will align the north boundary of the right of way with the section just west of this property. Since the City has not developed the property for the lift station for the purpose for which the easement was granted and since a new lift station was provided farther to the west when Wal Mart developed that property, this subject easement is no longer needed by the City. Legal work will be needed to effect the change.

Council agreed by consensus to pursue this action, and directed staff to development documents necessary and return it to Council for final decision..

8. City Manager/Legal

a. Resolution No. 5, 2010, A Resolution Making Supplemental Appropriations and Authorizing Expenditures in Excess of Amounts Budgeted For the City of Alamosa in Ordinance 11, 2009, and Known as the 2nd Budget Amendment

This budget amendment recognizes auction revenues and allocates funds in accordance with Council's rolling stock policy. It also recognizes revenues and expenditures associated with the library grant.

It was moved by Councilor Lucero and seconded by Councilor Romero to adopt Resolution No. 5, 2010. On the roll call the vote was ayes six, nays none. The motion carried.

E. Committee Reports

Councilor Johnson reminded Council that the Tree Board is working on Arbor Day projects and the opportunity to donate toward trees in parks.

Councilor Griego reported on the Economic Development meeting regarding the URA and downtown. The ACLC continues to meet.

Mayor Rogers reported attending the HPAC meeting last night.

F. Staff Announcements

Mr. Cherpeski reminded Council of the city facility bid opening tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. He also reported that the railroad is moving forward with the depot relocation.

Ms. Egbert reported that April Gonzales and Mike Gibson have submitted a referendum petition form requesting repeal of Ordinance No. 4, 2010. The first step in this process is that the Clerk reviews and approves the form of the petition. The proponents then collect signatures and submit the completed petition. The deadline for responding to approve or reject the form is Monday April 12; the deadline for a completed petition to be submitted is Friday April 16. One hundred-ninety-one registered voter signatures are needed in order to be valid.

If the petition is determined to be valid, Council will have the option of repealing the ordinance or setting the matter for a special election. A special election is to occur between 60 and 150 days from the date the petition is submitted.

Council discussed the issues that surround this including:

- A delay will cost a minimum of \$1 million more from changes in interest rates and bid prices.
- The cost of a special election is estimated to be between \$20,000 and \$30,000.
- If the project does not move forward, the issues with the current facilities still need addressed. These issues include ADA compliance, deferred maintenance, and lack of customer service availability.
- This does not involve a tax increase, and as such did not require an election.
- It is impossible to set aside money for capital construction because construction prices rise faster than the value of the money invested.
- It is critical that voters understand the implications of this action. Council asked staff to explore options to accomplish this.

- The City has invested about \$250,000 on the planning for this project, not including staff time.
- There are still issues that need addressed separate from new construction.

Council set a public meeting April 12, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. to reach out to citizens on this issue.

Ms. Egbert reminded Council of the CML Spring Outreach meeting Monday May 17; and the need to complete CML Conference registrations. She also reported on the Census March to the Mailbox event.

Mr. Bergann reported that the ramadas at the Ranch are nearly complete; and that the City was designated as Tree City again for 2009.

LOCAL LIQUOR LICENSING AUTHORITY ACTIONS

A. Consent Calendar B

It was moved by Councilor Romero and seconded by Councilor Johnson to approve Consent Calendar B as presented. On the roll call the vote was ayes five, nays none. Councilor Griego abstained as the spouse of a liquor license holder. Items:

- Beer & Wine License Renewal – May-Wa
- Hotel/Restaurant License Renewal – SLV Pizza

COUNCIL COMMENT

In response to a question from Councilor Griego, Amanda Valdez said that water bills are mailed out on the 5th of each month, and due on last day of month. Late fees are not added until the next bill is prepared. Those on the senior citizen rate are not subject to late fees.

In response to a question from Councilor Gillaspie, Mr. Cherpeski said that the golf course plan has been shown to the golf board, and Counselor Schwiesow is still working on the water rights.

Mayor Rogers thanked Helen Sigmund for serving as city attorney tonight.

ADJOURNMENT. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Judy A. Egbert, City Clerk

Kathleen J. Rogers, Mayor