

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
HELD ON THURSDAY JULY 9, 2014 AT 5:30 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL
CHAMBERS**

MAYOR: Alfonso E. Ortiz, Jr.

COUNCILORS: Tonita Gurule-Giroń
Vince Howell
Joey Herrera
David L. Romero

ALSO PRESENT: Elmer Martinez, Acting City Manager
Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk
Dave Romero, City Attorney
Eugene Garcia, Sergeant at Arms

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Ortiz Jr. asked for a moment of silence in gratitude for the citizens and City employees and state visitors for the community festivities and encourages everyone to continue to have a positive outlook on life.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Acting City Manager Martinez recommended the removal of Item 3: Professional Services Contract with Frank Padilla while the department finalizes the first phase of the contract before entering into contract for the second phase.

Councilor Howell made a motion to approve the agenda with recommendation to remove Item 3. Councilor Romero seconded the motion.

Mayor Ortiz Jr. asked for a roll call. Roll call was taken and reflected the following.

Joey Herrera	Yes	Tonita Gurule-Giroń	Yes
David L. Romero	Yes	Vincent Howell	Yes

City Clerk Casandra Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Ortiz Jr. advised he had no appointments at this time but reminded members of the Governing Body to submit recommendations for the Charter Committee to Mayor Pro-Tem Herrera.

MAYOR'S RECOGNITION/PROCLAMATION

None at this time.

PUBLIC INPUT

No one at this time.

Mayor Ortiz Jr. did inform the public that while the governing body cannot limit the topic of discussion during that time, City Attorney Romero will inform the public if statements they make pose a liability.

CITY MANAGER'S INFORMATIONAL REPORT

Acting City Manager Martinez reported that the 4th of July Fiestas went very smoothly and thanked the planning committee and staff that participated; there will be a follow-up meeting on Friday to discuss some of the minor issues that occurred behind the scenes and what can be done next year to make it a greater success.

Acting City Manager Martinez advised rules and procedures are being created in regards to public input, behavior and what can and cannot be said during public input.

Acting City Manager Martinez advised that as published in the Open Meetings Act, the Housing meeting will only take place once a month and while there are some items on the Work Session Agenda, one of the Housing Commission members is not present therefore Housing Items will no longer be placed on the Work Session agenda and a will be addressed at the regular Housing Commission meeting. Acting City Manager briefly discussed the meeting with the HUD representative.

Acting City Manager Martinez advised that there has been in-house training with staff to improve customer service and implementing training tools that are available.

Comments were made regarding the "Bless the USA" sign that was hung above Bridge Street for the Fiestas.

Councilor Howell asked if a financial analysis would be made available by next month's Council meeting.

Acting City Manager Martinez advised he would look into compiling a report for the Governing Body.

Questions and discussion took place regarding public input and free speech.

Questions and discussion took place regarding the revenue, expenditures and attendance of the 2014 fiestas.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Replacement Housing Factor Funds (RHFF) Budget.

Housing Director Marrujo advised the City Housing Authority is developing budgets for RHFF grants obtained by HUD. Each budget is an individual grant that will be obligated to pay for the 7 unit remodel in March along with other capital improvements.

Questions were asked about the grant amounts and how they were being utilized.

Councilor Gurule-Giroñ asked questions about the asbestos removal and the units affected and status of improvements in the Apache area.

The governing body agreed to place the item as a consent agenda item.

2. Resolution 14-44 Declaring Uncollectable Accounts.

Housing Director Marrujo advised the Housing Authority is requesting to write off the uncollectable accounts receivable over one year old off the books thru June 30, 2013. Outstanding amounts remain on a national database that all Federally Funded programs use so that if a tenant leaves a balance at Las Vegas Housing Authority; they must pay outstanding debt off before being accepted at another housing authority.

Questions were asked if any individuals had tried to obtain housing through the City while owing a balance.

The governing body agreed to place the item as a consent agenda item.

4. Recommending approval for out of state travel for three (3) officers to attend a Defensive Tactics instructor course to become certified instructors held in Arlington, TX, August 11-15, 2014.

Deputy Chief Garcia advised the Las Vegas Police Department respectfully requests permission to send three officers to Defensive Tactics Training with funding provided through the 2014 Justice Assistance Grant. This training is very beneficial and the department was very lucky to find the training close to New Mexico.

Questions were asked once the officers were certified will they be able to train other officers.

Deputy Chief Garcia advised the officers will be able to certify officers once completing the course and no City funds will be used for the training, the funds are allocated within the JAG grant for training. Deputy Chief Garcia explained any overtime costs would be paid through City funding.

Discussion took place regarding the overtime cost.

Questions were asked about the additional information attached to the agenda item regarding the purchase of laptop computers.

Deputy Chief Garcia advised the information attached did not pertain to the training request.

Councilor Gurule-Giroñ advised she could not agree to place the item onto a consent agenda without actual financial numerical description.

5. Memorandum of Understanding between City of Las Vegas and San Miguel County and San Miguel County Officer of Emergency Management in support of the Communications Center upgrade.

Deputy Chief Garcia advised the Police Department was awarded a grant through Homeland Security in the amount of \$122,858.66. The City of Las Vegas approved a resolution to support the Communications Center upgrade in the amount of \$146,045.42. At this time Police Department is requesting an MOU between San Miguel County and City of Las Vegas to transfer the amount of \$130,000.00 to San Miguel County to be used secondary and in conjunction of the Homeland Security Grant for the Communications Center upgrade. Any remaining funds will revert back to the City of Las Vegas.

Communications Supervisor Stephanie Romero clarified the grant amount and City funding that had been set aside for the upgrade.

Questions and discussion took place on regarding San Miguel County contributing any funds as they will benefit from the upgrade as well.

Communications Supervisor Romero explained that the department does not have adequate ability to dispatch to areas of San Miguel County and feel they are not in the position to ask for funding contributions while not being able to fully support their communications needs for 911.

Discussion took place regarding the communications upgrade, working with area agencies and ownership of the property.

Questions and discussion took place on the language of the MOU determining the ownership of the property.

Questions were asked about the delay in bringing the item to the governing body and discussion that took place with the previous City Manager regarding funding.

6. Resolution 14-41 to enter into agreement with the State of New Mexico Office of the State Engineer for capital appropriations.

Utilities Director Garcia advised the City of Las Vegas was awarded 4 million dollars during the 2014 State Legislative Session. This grant funding is to plan, design, construct and expand Bradner Dam.

The governing body agreed to place the item on the consent agenda.

7. Resolution 14-42 to enter into agreement with the State of New Mexico Office of the State Engineer for capital appropriations.

Utilities Director Garcia advised the City was awarded six million dollars during the 2014 State Legislative session. This grant funding is to plan, design, construct and expand the Bradner Dam.

The governing body agreed to place the item as a consent agenda item.

8. Resolution 14-43 assigning official representatives and signatory authority for the four million and six million dollar grant agreements with the New Mexico Office of the State Engineer.

Utilities Director Garcia advised the resolution is required by the funding agency to assign representatives and signatory authority for the grant agreements.

Councilor Gurule-Giron asked that a successor for Mr. Garcia be named so there is not one single point of contact in the event of termination of employment.

Acting City Manager Martinez advised as per the City Charter the City Manager has the authority to appoint an interim director should there become a vacancy and including the language of successor of a director will eliminate the single point of contact.

Acting City Manager Martinez advised he had some matters to discuss in Executive Session regarding land acquisitions and personnel matters.

Councilor Gurule-Giroñ made a motion to go into Executive Session. Councilor Herrera seconded the motion.

Mayor Ortiz Jr. asked for a roll call. Roll call was taken and reflected the following.

David L. Romero	Yes	Vincent Howell	Yes
Tonita Gurule-Giroñ	Yes	Joey Herrera	Yes

City Clerk Casandra Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilor Herrera made a motion to go back into regular session and disclosed only matters related to land acquisition and personnel matters were discussed and no action was taken. Councilor Gurule-Giroñ seconded the motion.

Mayor Ortiz Jr. asked for a roll call. Roll call was taken and reflected the following.

Vincent Howell	Yes	Joey Herrera	Yes
David L. Romero	Yes	Tonita Gurule-Giroñ	Yes

City Clerk Casandra Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

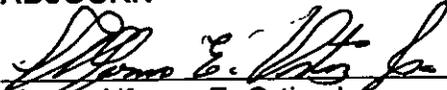
Councilor Gurule-Giroñ made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Howell seconded the motion.

Mayor Ortiz Jr. asked for a roll call. Roll call was taken and reflected the following.

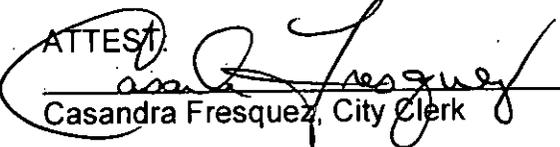
Tonita Gurule-Giron	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes
Joey Herrera	Yes	Joey Herrera	Yes

City Clerk Casandra Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

ADJOURN



Mayor Alfonso E. Ortiz, Jr.

ATTEST


Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk