

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2024 AT 5:30 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

MAYOR: David Romero

COUNCILORS: Barbara Casey
Michael L. Montoya
David Ulibarri

ALSO PRESENT: Tim Montgomery, Interim City Manager
Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk
Caleb Marquez, Sergeant at Arms

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Romero called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Councilor Casey asked for a moment of silence to reflect on the citizens who have passed away recently. Councilor Casey asked to keep Janet Remenyik who passed away in our thoughts and prayers.

Councilor Montoya asked for prayers and condolences for the family of Tony Martinez Jr., who also passed away.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Romero asked to amend the agenda by removing the Nomination of Mayor Pro Tem until they have a Councilor in Ward 4, and to move Business Item 1 after Presentations, Executive Session after Business Item 1 and Business Items 9 and 10 after executive session.

Councilor Montoya advised that the Nomination of Mayor Pro Tem should stay on the agenda.

Mayor Romero advised that his suggestion was so they have a full Council.

Councilor Montoya advised that they didn't have a full Council when they appointed a Mayor.

Mayor Romero advised it wasn't possible to have a Councilor at that time.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to approve the agenda with the recommendations of moving Executive Session, and Business Items 1, 9 and 10 and the Nomination of Mayor Pro Tem remain on the agenda. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion.

Mayor Romero advised for clarification, after presentation it would be Business Item 1, Executive Session, Business Item 9 and Business Item 10. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Barbara Casey	No	David Ulibarri	Yes
Michael L. Montoya	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

NOMINATION OF MAYOR PRO TEM

Councilor Ulibarri nominated Councilor Montoya for Mayor Pro Tem. Councilor Montoya seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David Ulibarri	Yes	Michael L. Montoya	Yes
Barbara Casey	No		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Councilor Montoya thanked the maker of the motion for the nomination.

PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

MAYOR’S APPOINTMENTS/REPORTS AND RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Romero advised that he did not have any appointments or recognitions at the time. Mayor Romero advised that the Governing Body would continue to be open and transparent and asked that they go to him should there be any issues and that they continue to work together.

COUNCILORS’ REPORTS

Councilor Ulibarri thanked the Streets department for keeping the streets clean during the snowstorm.

Councilor Montoya thanked Public Works Director Arnold Lopez and his staff for all the beautification they did during Christmas and for the decorations on the Gallinas River. Councilor Montoya advised that they need to look at the compensation for the Public Works Director and staff when they work during snow delays or holidays. Councilor Montoya thanked Dan, Benny and Jake for helping him decorate his property on 12th Street, which brought a lot of smiles.

Councilor Casey thanked the Public Works department for being out at 3 in the morning scraping the ice off the streets. Councilor Casey advised that they have wonderful employees that don't complain about being out in the cold and working long hours and advised that people should thank them any chance they get.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Interim City Manager Tim Montgomery discussed the following;

- Addressing those who don't get time off during snow days/holidays
- Welcomed new staff to the City of Las Vegas
- Meetings with FEMA
- Working on Water Rights agreement
- Capital Appropriations and Grants
- Completed Mid-Year budget review sessions
- Bi-weekly meetings with Directors
- Meetings will all Directors as a group
- Water department worked late during the weekend of New Years on a water leak on 7th Street
- Solid Waste worked late on Washington Street
- Expectations for employees
- Strategic Planning
- 2025 Budget/Organizational Chart
- Master Plan, Policies and Procedures used daily

Mayor Romero asked Interim City Manager Montgomery to discuss the Procurement Code and procedures for accepting bids.

Councilor Ulibarri asked Interim City Manager Montgomery to look into why the Skating Rink was not installed.

Councilor Montoya mentioned that Interim City Manager Montgomery's report was good and shows the type of leadership he wants for the City of Las Vegas and employees. Councilor Montoya asked if there was any information regarding the hail damage done to City buildings and vehicles.

Interim City Manager Montgomery advised that the quotes are coming in regarding how much damage was done. Interim City Manager Montgomery advised that there were about 35 vehicles damaged and they are trying to come up with the total of what the payout from insurance will be so they could determine which vehicles should be declared fully damaged and written off/replaced versus repaired. Interim City Manager Montgomery further advised that he has not gone through the damaged buildings yet.

HR Director Darlene Arguello advised that they're looking at 32 total vehicle losses and are still assessing the buildings but there was quite a bit of damage.

Councilor Montoya asked about the funding for Rodriguez Park.

Interim City Manager Montgomery advised he would have to look into it.

Mayor Romero advised that the Skating Rink was not installed due to the lack of preparation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve the minutes from December 13, and December 20, 2023. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked if all were in favor. All were in favor, except Councilor Montoya who abstained due to him being absent on December 13, 2023.

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS

Desiree Vega Garcia with Sunny505 gave a lengthy presentation and discussed the following:

- Created a new website specific for tourism (July 2023)
- Tourism Rebranding logo
- Worked with State Tourism dept., on video and photo assets
- Public Relations
- Print and Digital advertising
- Upcoming
 - Additional Print and Digital advertising
 - Television advertising
 - Facebook, Instagram & YouTube ads
 - Finalize the new tourism branding

Deda Austin with Sunny505 gave a lengthy presentation and discussed the following:

- The color palette for Las Vegas
- Tagline (¡Bienvenidos! Las Vegas New Mexico)

Councilor Casey advised that she was unable to read the dark brown tagline with blue letters, and asked to remove a notice on the tourism page regarding the Lodgers Tax Board accepting applications for advertising, promoting events, publicizing attractions and infrastructure.

Councilor Montoya asked how many meetings Sunny505 has had with organizations, if their presentation was the outcome from those meetings, when the website started, how many visitors they've had and if there have been any pamphlets or literature.

Ms. Vega Garcia advised they've had six meetings in town and four online meetings and yes, the logo was the outcome of all those meetings. Ms. Vega Garcia advised that the website started in July 2023 but she did not have information regarding how many visitors they had but she would get it. Ms. Vega Garcia advised that they did a reprint of the Trail guide they did for the Balloon Fiesta but have not created new pamphlets yet.

Councilor Montoya asked how many times they've met with the City Manager and where they were with their budget.

Ms. Vega Garcia advised they've met with the City Manager about half a dozen times and they're about a third of the way through with about \$130,000 left in their budget.

Councilor Montoya asked what the plan was for this year.

Ms. Vega Garcia advised they plan to facilitate the tourism grant, and produce digital and regional television advertising.

Councilor Montoya asked that City Manager Montgomery look at the scope of work for the Sunny505 contract to make sure it's being done and to make sure there is still money in their budget.

Mayor Romero advised that he felt there wasn't enough public participation and asked who was involved in choosing the tagline.

Ms. Vega Garcia advised there were eight individuals in their marketing group, and they had three logo options and three different tags in which they narrowed it down based on the vote from the marketing group. Ms. Vega Garcia advised that nothing is finalized.

Mayor Romero advised that there needs to be more public participation/input.

Councilor Casey advised that the word Bienvenidos was a beautiful word but there are a lot of tourists that come to New Mexico that don't know what it means. Councilor Casey asked if there was a way to add how Bienvenidos feels to people because it would make the message more beautiful and more inviting.

Mayor Romero advised that he would be putting an item on the agenda for Review and Action regarding direction on what they want to give to the City Manager and Sunny505.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Conduct a Public Hearing and request adoption of Ordinance No. 24-05 amending the Official Zoning Map from an R-A (Residential Agricultural Zone) to a C-3 (General Commercial Zone) for property located at 2446 N. Grand Avenue, Las Vegas, NM 87701.

Councilor Casey made a motion to enter into a Public Hearing for Business Item 1. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Michael L. Montoya	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
David Ulibarri	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

City Clerk Fresquez swore in Community Development Director Lucas Marquez, Joseph Rivera and contracted City Attorney Geno Zamora.

Community Development Director Lucas Marquez advised there was a Planning and Zoning meeting held on September 25th in regards to a zone change to Mr. Rivera's property from an R-A Residential Agricultural zone to a C-3 General Commercial zone. Community Development Director Marquez advised that the surrounding properties that are in the area are also C-3 zoned. Community Development Director Marquez advised that there are portables on the property.

Councilor Casey asked if they change the property from Residential Agricultural to General Commercial, would the property be in compliance.

Community Development Director Marquez advised with the intentions Mr. Rivera has, yes it would bring the property into compliance because currently his intentions with the property is not in compliance.

Councilor Casey asked if Mr. Rivera's intentions for the property changed since the last time.

Community Development Director Marquez advised that his first intentions started off as being a car wash and then to a bed and breakfast and currently there are vacant buildings on the property.

Councilor Casey asked Mr. Rivera if they approve the change then are his intentions to make it into a bed and breakfast.

Mr. Rivera advised yes.

Councilor Casey asked if he had a timeline.

Mr. Rivera advised maybe within six months or maybe longer but everything is in motion. Mr. Rivera advised that last time he needed a landscape plan and a parking plan, which he's done including the renderings. Mr. Rivera advised that he's been compliant with all the necessary surveys, topographies and CID.

Councilor Montoya advised that the request was only for the zone change and that there are other issues that are not in compliance. Councilor Montoya asked if there were permits in place for the buildings.

Mr. Rivera advised that he had permits for all buildings but there was a mixup because he emailed everything to Maria Perea.

Councilor Montoya advised Mr. Rivera to keep in mind that he needs to apply for a business plan, there are ordinances in place and every structure would need to have their own separate meter for gas, water and sewer. Councilor Montoya asked that Mr. Rivera provide Community Development Director Marquez with the permits for all the buildings on his property.

Mayor Romero asked contracted City Attorney Geno Zamora if he had any input regarding the item.

Mr. Zamora advised that he reviewed the application, did legal analysis and reviewed the code as it relates to the Residential Agricultural zoning. Mr. Zamora advised that Mr. Rivera was doing a good job following the process. Mr. Zamora advised that he spoke with Community Development Director Marquez regarding keeping three steps distinctly separated such as the annexation of the property which was already completed, getting the zoning in place so Mr. Rivera could be in compliance and then step three would be to bring the business plan back at a future meeting. Mr. Zamora stated that he believed everything was in place regarding the zone change.

Councilor Montoya asked if the surrounding neighbors were notified.

Community Development Director Marquez advised yes.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to close the Public Hearing and reconvene into regular session. Councilor Casey seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David Ulibarri	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
Michael L. Montoya	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

1. Conduct a Public Hearing and request adoption of Ordinance No. 24-05 amending the Official Zoning Map from an R-A (Residential Agricultural Zone) to a C-3 (General Commercial Zone) for property located at 2446 N. Grand Avenue, Las Vegas, NM 87701.

Councilor Montoya thanked Community Development Director Marquez and his staff for working on this item, which has been a complicated issue, and advised that they are there to work with the business community.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to approve the adoption of Ordinance No. 24-05 amending the Official Zoning Map from an R-A (Residential Agricultural Zone) to a C-3 (General Commercial Zone) for property located at 2446 N. Grand Avenue, Las Vegas, NM 87701. Councilor Casey seconded the motion.

Ordinance 24-05 was presented as follows: *Due to the length of the document, a complete copy may be obtained from the City of Las Vegas, City Clerk's Office.*

Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Michael L. Montoya	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
David Ulibarri	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilor Casey made a motion to convene into executive session for the purpose of discussing Limited personnel matters, as permitted by section 10-15-1(H)(2) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, Discussion regarding renewing the City Clerk’s Professional Contract and Discussion and Review of applications submitted for Police Chief. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Michael L. Montoya	Yes	David Ulibarri	Yes
Barbara Casey	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Councilor Casey made a motion to exit executive session and reconvene into regular session after being in executive session for the purpose of discussing Limited personnel matters, as permitted by section 10-15-1(H)(2) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, Discussion regarding renewing the City Clerk’s Professional Contract and Discussion and Review of applications submitted for Police Chief, no other items were discussed and no action was taken. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David Ulibarri	Yes	Michael L. Montoya	Yes
Barbara Casey	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

- 9. Request approval of a Professional Contract with City Clerk, Casandra Fresquez through December 31, 2025.

Mayor Romero advised that the City Clerk was an appointed position and her contract was due to expire in March of this year. Mayor Romero recommended that they extend her contract through the end of his term in 2025.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve a Professional Contract with City Clerk, Casandra Fresquez through December 31, 2025. Councilor Montoya seconded the

motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Barbara Casey	Yes	Michael L. Montoya	Yes
David Ulibarri	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

City Clerk Fresquez thanked Mayor and Council.

Mayor Romero thanked City Clerk Fresquez for all she does and for all her knowledge.

City Clerk Fresquez advised that she appreciated that.

Councilor Montoya also thanked City Clerk Fresquez for the awesome job she and her department do and stated that she is a role model for the whole City of Las Vegas. Councilor Montoya advised that they have never had problems with her department and she has stepped into the office of City Manager when needed. Councilor Montoya advised that they have one good employee with a lot of knowledge/experience and they appreciate her.

10. Discussion of hiring a Police Chief and Review of applications submitted by five (5) applicants.

Mayor Romero advised that the Police Chief position was posted and they had five applicants that qualified for review. Mayor Romero advised after reviewing the applicants he was not confident in giving two names. Mayor Romero advised that his intent was to inform that the position would be reposted. Mayor Romero advised that he would provide two candidates by March and Caleb Marquez would continue as Interim. Mayor Romero advised that section 5.06 stated, "The Mayor shall provide a list of not less than two (2) qualified candidates for the position of Chief of Police for the Council to review".

CONSENT ITEMS

City Clerk Fresquez read the Consent Agenda (1-3) into the record as follows:

1. Request approval of Addendum #3 to Contract #3717-21 with James, Cooke & Hobson, Inc. for flygt pump maintenance services.
2. Request approval of Addendum #3 to Contract #3721-21 with AGM Konstruction & Environmental Services, Inc. for hazardous material clean up services.
3. Request approval to formally open up negotiations with the Las Vegas Police Officers Association (LVPOA).

Councilor Montoya made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda (1-3). Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Barbara Casey	Yes	David Ulibarri	Yes
Michael L. Montoya	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

BUSINESS ITEMS (Continued)

2. Request approval to accept edits to the Samaritan House contract.

Community Development Director Lucas Marquez advised there were proposed edits to the contract for the Samaritan House and Mr. Lyon approached him after the initial contract was approved by Council. Community Development Director Marquez discussed the following edits on pg.4, letter A of the current contract which stated, “sleeping accommodations from 1700 hours to 0830 hours”, Mr. Lyon wanted the time changed to 1900 hours to 0830 hours, complete removal of letter E which stated, “open a day program to provide breakfast and lunch, laundry and computer access, open from 1000 hours to 1200 hours Monday thru Friday”.

Mayor Romero asked that Mr. Lyon present the changes since they were requested by him.

Councilor Casey advised that they forgot to mention that letter D was also reworded.

Mr. Lyon advised that there are certain things the amount of the grant won't cover. Mr. Lyon advised that they currently have a Day Services program on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 to 12 that provides lunch, snacks, showers, shaves, computers and other things for individuals, which was in existence prior to them coming to the City. Mr. Lyon advised that they could not afford to have the Day Services program open Monday thru Friday. Mr. Lyon advised that the Samaritan House is governed by the temperature; if the temperature drops below 40 degrees, they are naturally open until it goes back up to 40 degrees. Mr. Lyon advised that they had five COVID individuals that needed to be separated and isolated so they wouldn't contaminate the rest of the community and they didn't anticipate the constant cold weather. Mr. Lyon advised that they need more funding to run the Day program more efficiently.

Councilor Montoya asked what the original amount of the contract was.

Community Development Director Marquez advised that it was \$50,000.

Councilor Montoya asked how much it would require to open up the Day Services during the day.

Mr. Lyon advised that the population is more addicted to fentanyl and other substances which makes them rowdy, so they need to add a security guard for their protection and the community's protection. Mr. Lyon advised that they are asking for \$40,000 more.

Councilor Montoya asked if it would be until it warms up or until July.

Mr. Lyon advised that the Day Services goes through the summertime because there is still a need for it. Mr. Lyon advised that they also assess the individuals if they allow them to and direct them into treatment.

Councilor Montoya asked if he would be asking for the same amount from the County.

Mr. Lyon advised that he had been asking and emailing to try to get on their agenda. Mr. Lyon advised that they identified where the individuals are coming from, with 50 percent from Las Vegas, San Miguel County, Mora and other surrounding areas.

Councilor Montoya asked if they were waiting on direction from Mayor and Council regarding Mr. Lyons request for \$40,000 more.

Community Development Director Marquez advised they were presented with the request this week and he still needed to meet with City Manager Montgomery.

Mayor Romero asked if a Fire inspection was done.

Mr. Lyon advised that they had all agencies come and visit them during the previous administration. Mr. Lyon advised that he tried calling the Fire department but no one responded.

Discussion took place regarding the business license and Fire inspection for the Samaritan House being up to date until March and their 2024 business license would be up for renewal in March.

Mayor Romero asked why the language was added regarding having a Fire inspection conducted by Las Vegas Fire Department annually to ensure fire codes are up to date.

Community Development Director Marquez advised that the language was added the last time they brought the contract for approval to ensure they were in compliance.

Mayor Romero advised that they are providing services up to \$50,000 and anything more than \$60,000 would need to follow the RFP process.

Mr. Lyon advised that his request for \$40,000 more would be a different contract and it was submitted at the same time as the first contract and he was advised to reapply because the City had gotten an influx of funding.

Mayor Romero asked who said there was an influx of funding.

Mr. Lyon advised that he couldn't remember.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to approve the edits to the Samaritan House contract and thanked Mr. Lyon for all he's done.

Mayor Romero advised there was a motion on the floor and called for a second.

Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David Ulibarri	Yes	Michael L. Montoya	Yes
Barbara Casey	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Mayor Romero asked that Mr. Lyon provide the Mayor and Council with their monthly report outlining expenses paid for with City funding in a line item budget format as stated in their contract.

3. Request approval to reconstruct the Community Development Department/Transportation Division Organizational Chart by adding a Transit Supervisor position.

Transportation Manager Marcelino Roybal advised that they went through a compliance review and there were concerns regarding not having a backup for the Transit Manager.

Councilor Montoya asked when the audit was done.

Transportation Manager Roybal advised in September.

Councilor Montoya asked that they provide the report monthly to the Mayor and Council so they could address things right away. Councilor Montoya advised that they should move an employee from within the City instead of advertising it.

HR Director Darlene Arguello advised that they would like to continue following the hiring process to make it fair and open for everybody. HR Director Arguello advised that it's a grant funded position and it would be a 50/50 split.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to approve to reconstruct the Community Development Department/Transportation Division Organizational Chart by adding a Transit Supervisor position. Councilor Casey seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Michael L. Montoya	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
David Ulibarri	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

4. Request approval of Resolution No. 24-01 accepting a grant offer administered by the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) Aviation Division.

Public Works Director Arnold Lopez advised the grant offer amount was for \$160,000 to purchase a mower to be utilized at the airport.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve Resolution No. 24-01 accepting a grant offer administered by the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) Aviation Division. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion.

Resolution 24-01 was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION 24-01
City of Las Vegas

A RESOLUTION FOR THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS TO ACCEPT A GRANT OFFER ADMINISTERED BY THE NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION(NMDOT) AVIATION DIVISION

WHEREAS, the City of Las Vegas and the New Mexico Department of Transportation Aviation Division will enter into a joint and coordinated effort.

WHEREAS, the total cost of the project will be \$160,000.00 to be funded in proportional share by the parties hereto as follows:

- a. New Mexico Department of Transportation’s Aviation Division share shall be \$160,000.00 or (100%)
- b. City of Las Vegas proportional matching share shall be \$0 or (0%)

TOTAL PROJECT COST IS \$160,000.00

City of Las Vegas shall pay all costs, which exceed the total amount of \$160,000.00.

Now therefore, be it resolved in official session that the City of Las Vegas determines, resolves, and orders as follows:

That the project for this agreement is adopted and has a priority standing.

The agreement terminates on _____ and the City of Las Vegas incorporates all the agreements, covenants, and understanding between the parties hereto concerning the subject matter hereof, and all such covenants, agreements and understandings have been merged into the written agreement.

NOW therefore, be it resolved, by the City of Las Vegas to enter into an Agreement for Project Number LVS-24-01 with the New Mexico Department of Transportation Aviation Division for the year 2024-2025 for the purchasing of a mower and mowing equipment for the City of Las Vegas Municipal Airport within the control of the City of Las Vegas in Las Vegas/San Miguel County, New Mexico.

David Romero, Mayor

ATTEST:

Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk

Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David Ulibarri	Yes	Michael L. Montoya	Yes
Barbara Casey	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

5. Request approval to award RFB 2024-10, Las Vegas Airport Airfield lighting and Signage project to Electric Horseman in the amount of \$126,360.46, excluding NMGRT.

Public Works Director Arnold Lopez advised that the RFP was advertised in the Albuquerque Journal, the Optic and the City website on September 29, 2023 and there was only one bidder.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to approve RFB 2024-10, Las Vegas Airport Airfield lighting and Signage project to Electric Horseman in the amount of \$126,360.46, excluding NMGRT. Councilor Casey seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Barbara Casey	Yes	David Ulibarri	Yes
Michael L. Montoya	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

6. Request approval of Addendum #1 to Contract #3951-23 with Souder Miller & Associates (SMA) for professional engineering services for the water distribution system.

Utilities Director Maria Gilvarry advised the RFP was awarded to two engineering firms, Souder Miller and Molzen Corbin. Utilities Director Gilvarry advised that they do split the work between both firms.

Discussion and questions took place regarding the services that both engineers provide, what projects are being done and the amount being based on task orders.

Mayor Romero discussed setting a cap on open ended contracts.

Utilities Director Gilvarry advised that there's two sides to projects; the planning & design side and the construction side. Utilities Director Gilvarry advised that she would keep Mayor and Council updated on all the engineering services they're providing.

Discussion took place regarding how it would affect the Utilities department if they put a cap on projects and being careful when discussing a department's budget.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to approve Addendum #1 to Contract #3951-23 with Souder Miller & Associates (SMA) for professional engineering services for the water distribution system. Councilor Casey seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David Ulibarri	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
Michael L. Montoya	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

7. Request approval of Addendum #1 to Contract #3948-23 with (SMA) Operations LLC for water and waste water treatment plant management.

Utilities Director Maria Gilvarry advised that Souder Miller was the only proposer and she had reached out to Jacobs to see if they would propose but they said they would gladly take over the City of Las Vegas Water and Wastewater facilities as long as it was 100% their staff but they wouldn't work with any City staff.

Utilities Director Gilvarry discussed the following stats for the Water treatment plant; in 2020 SMA staff worked 3,937 hours with a cost of \$518,000 for the year, in 2021 SMA staff worked 3,980 hours with a cost of \$496,000 for the year, in 2022 SMA staff worked 5,980 hours with a cost of \$719,000 for the year due to the fires and they received a reimbursement of \$200,000 from FEMA, in 2023 SMA staff worked 6,210 hours with a cost of \$825,000 for the year due to the fires and they are seeking a reimbursement of \$300,000 from FEMA and currently SMA staff worked 2,000 hours with a cost of \$286,000.

Utilities Director Gilvarry discussed the following stats for the Wastewater treatment plant; in 2020 SMA staff worked 5,000 hours with a cost of \$464,000 for the year, in 2021 SMA staff worked 800 hours with a cost of \$121,000 for the year, in 2022 SMA staff worked 1,700 hours with a cost of \$197,000 for the year, in

2023 SMA staff worked 2,900 hours with a cost of \$257,000 and currently SMA staff worked 1,000 hours with a cost of \$109,000.

Councilor Casey asked how many Souder Miller staff and City employees were at the Water Treatment plant.

Utilities Director Gilvarry advised on a daily basis 2 Souder Miller employees and 3 City employees.

Discussion took place regarding what is being done to bring in students from Dona Ana County who have their level II, talking to students from schools in Las Vegas, and advertising on a national level.

Mayor Romero asked why Souder Miller staff was cutting trees.

Utilities Director Gilvarry advised that they have them doing that work because she doesn't have the staff to do general maintenance.

Mayor Romero suggested putting a cap on the contract.

Utilities Director Gilvarry advised that they need to be cautious when putting a cap because if something happens when Souder Miller staff are not there, that could create more problems for the City. Utilities Director Gilvarry advised that the more they use Souder Miller staff the actual hour per cost goes down.

Councilor Montoya advised that he wasn't convinced that they should do a cap since there is funding available and budgeted. Councilor Montoya asked why there was an increase in hours worked.

Utilities Director Gilvarry advised it was due to the increased turbidity resulting in filter beds shutting down and an aging system.

Councilor Montoya asked if all the money that was budgeted would be used.

Utilities Director Gilvarry advised there's a chance of having money left over at the end of the year.

Councilor Casey voiced her concerns regarding paying Souder Miller a lot of money and the City being stuck due to the lack of having certain level certifications. Councilor Casey advised she didn't agree with a cap at this time.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve Addendum #1 to Contract #3948-23 with (SMA) Operations LLC for water and waste water treatment plant management. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Barbara Casey	Yes	David Ulibarri	Yes
Michael L. Montoya	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

8. Request approval of a Professional Services Agreement for Consulting Services with ARCH Consulting not to exceed \$60,000.00.

Interim City Manager Montgomery advised that the item was updated to stay within the procurement code and it would go out for an RFP instead of three quotes. Interim City Manager Montgomery advised it would come back to Council once they receive proposals.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to proceed with an RFP. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David Ulibarri	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
Michael L. Montoya	Yes		

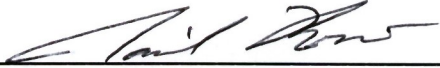
City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

ADJOURN

Councilor Casey made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Ulibarri seconded the motion. All were in favor.

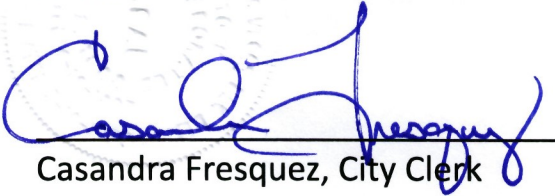
City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:26 pm.



Mayor David Romero

ATTEST:



Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk