

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
HELD ON WEDNESDAY MARCH 9, 2016 AT 5:30 P.M. IN THE CITY
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

MAYOR: Alfonso E. Ortiz, Jr.
COUNCILORS: Tonita Gurule-Giroñ
Vince Howell
Joey Herrera
David L. Romero - Absent

ALSO PRESENT: Elmer J. Martinez, City Manager
Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk
Dave Romero, City Attorney
Juan Montano, Sergeant at Arms

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

Mayor Ortiz Jr. advised Councilor Romero's absence was due to his recovery.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Ortiz Jr. asked for a moment of silence to reflect on how blessed we all are and to continue to help each other to make the community better.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Manager Martinez advised there were no changes requested on the agenda.

Councilor Howell made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilor Casey seconded the motion.

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

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|---------------------|-----|---------------|-----|
| Tonita Gurule-Giroñ | Yes | Barbara Casey | Yes |
|---------------------|-----|---------------|-----|

Vince Howell

Yes

David L. Romero Absent

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

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS/REPORTS

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. stated there were no appointments at this time. Mayor Ortiz Jr. reported that progress is continuing to be made with all the projects that are ongoing throughout the City. The City is close to acquiring the old State Police building, once the Governor signs the process will be complete.

MAYOR'S RECOGNITION/PROCLAMATION

There were no recognitions or proclamations at this time.

PUBLIC INPUT

Mr. Bruce McAllister spoke to the Governing Body and expressed that when he moved to Las Vegas ten years ago water was a big issue, now it is not and he thanked the Governing Body for their efforts to improve the water situation.

Lourdes Dominguez spoke to the Governing Body regarding a serious issue of sewage backups into people's homes. Her mother's home has suffered sewage backups six times and each time has been caused by City lines. Ms. Dominguez advised this issue is ongoing throughout the community and needs to be addressed and measures need to be taken to remedy the issue.

Ron Doss spoke to the Governing Body expressing support and to an item on the agenda regarding acquiring property located next to the Commerce Soccer field. He stated that currently there are over three hundred community youth involved in the soccer league and feel there is not enough space to accommodate the growing league. Mr. Doss expressed support for the acquisition of the property and jointly along with the league would like to partner with the City to develop the area by way of grants and volunteer work to create a safe location for our area youth.

Shelby Curtis thanked the Governing Body for their past and continued support of the soccer league and would appreciate the consideration of acquiring the adjoining property to allow further growth of the league and create a safe environment for the children of the community.

CITY MANAGER'S INFORMATIONAL REPORT

City Manager Martinez advised that Community Development would be presenting the marketing campaign that would be coming out in April.

Event Planner/Film Liaison Velarde invited the Governing Body to the marketing campaign reveal that will be taking place April 7, 2016. The event will demonstrate the new ad campaign, how businesses are advertised and how the website and social media will appear.

City Manager Martinez advised the City will be going out for bid on the equipment that Public Works presented at a previous meeting and hopefully the equipment can be purchased before summer. City Manager Martinez advised he has met with members of the acequias and advised they will be presenting to the Governing Body during the March 16th meeting. City Manager advised there is a movie that will be filming the end of March.

City Manager Martinez advised the City's budget is due to DFA the first of June and a proposed calendar will be presented to the Governing Body and will begin working on holding budget hearings with departments. City Manager Martinez advised the Governing Body that all local municipalities received a letter from the Director of the Department of Finance Administration regarding their upcoming budgets and what impacts may take place with the anticipated decrease in Gross Receipt Tax. City Manager Martinez advised the City will be starting negotiations with the Union Boards.

Councilor Howell asked if Council could attend the budget hearings.

City Manager Martinez advised the department budget hearings are administrative and if there were questions regarding the budget, Council was welcome to contact his office. City Manager Martinez advised there needed to be a separation from the administrative and the legislative process.

Councilor Casey advised she feels the Governing Body should not be involved in the department budget hearings and participation would be considered micro-managing and the Governing Body should trust City Manager Martinez to conduct the process and then present to the Council.

Councilor Howell advised he feels that the Council should be able to have a better understanding of the budget and how it's developed.

Brief discussion took place on how the budget is created and why the Governing Body should not be involved in the department budget hearings.

Councilor Gurule-Giron asked questions regarding the letter received by DFA.

Finance Director Gallegos advised the City will be looking at the cash revenue and will start formulating the department budgets while taking the letter and recommendations into consideration.

Discussion took place regarding Public Safety and the Enterprise funds and how they are diligent in their budget to ensure they can meet their needs.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Out of State Travel to Huntsville, Alabama April 2-8, 2016.

Chief Montano advised the 32nd International Symposium on Abuse offers conferences that address all aspects of child maltreatment, including, but not limited physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, exposure to violence, poly-victimization, exploitation, intervention, trafficking and prevention. Commander Eric Padilla would be attending with all expenses being paid by the Taos Child Advocacy Center. The only expense would be for Commander Padilla's meals.

Council Casey advised every year in January there is a training conducted in collaboration with several groups on child abuse, neglect, substance abuse and many others that may be encountered while on the streets and she hopes that next year the Police Department could send more officers to attend this beneficial training.

The Governing Body agreed to place the item as a consent agenda item.

2. Agreement for donation of property owned and controlled by JKS Holdings LLC, located at 601 East University Avenue.

Code Enforcement Officer Lujan advised the property located at 601 East University Avenue has several dilapidated structures that create a safety issue and the City has looked into having the property donated, cleaning the property and developing the area for youth recreational activities in hopes of encouraging more youth of the community to get involved in the youth soccer league.

Community Development Director Valdez advised the department has worked along with Mr. Doss of the Soccer League and Mr. Ross the owner of the property to explore ways to improve the area. Mr. Doss and the league have made impacts in the overall appearance of the soccer field and surrounding area.

Code Enforcement Officer Lujan gave an overview of the proposed agreement to include the City considering supplying one water tap, as well as a possible tax write off of the remaining balance after abatement has been completed.

Councilor Gurule-Giroñ asked questions regarding the proposed agreement and the cost to the City if granting the water tap and what expenses Mr. Ross would be paying.

City Manager Martinez gave more detail as to how the item was developed.

Utilities Director Garcia gave an explanation of the line extension and tap in question.

Councilor Casey advised she had questions regarding the appraisal of the property and what the estimated cost of cleaning up of the property might be.

Discussion took place on the options for cleanup that have been explored by the department and environmental impact regarding the storage tanks.

Mayor Ortiz Jr. asked Mr. Ross if he would be willing to pay for the line extension if the cost of the cleanup exceeded the appraisal of the property.

Mr. Ross advised he feels the property is worth more than the \$19,000 appraised fee and that he could have the property cleaned and sold for a considerable higher amount. Mr. Ross advised that he used to have a document that stated he would be allowed a water tap if he did not protest the placement of the transfer station as his property is located by the transfer station. Unfortunately he doesn't have the document and it was signed by Matt Martinez at the time. He feels that donation of the property in exchange for the water tap was a reasonable trade.

The Governing Body agreed to place the item as a consent agenda item.

3. Resolution 16-14 authorizing submission of a completed application for financial assistance and project approval to the New Mexico Finance Authority.

Community Development Director Valdez advised the City of Las Vegas and MainStreet de Las Vegas adopted a Las Vegas Downtown Action/MRA Plan in December 2010. This plan needs to be updated and adopted as a Metropolitan Redevelopment Area (MRA) Plan. A Downtown MRA Plan defines a community's vision for the core commercial area and identifies priority catalytic projects to revitalize that area, determined through a dynamic community participation process. The Downtown MRA Plan becomes a living document that guides MRA revitalization and public and private sector investment for several years.

Questions were asked if there was a list of the districts that are included in the MRA Plan.

Community Development Director Valdez advised when the plan was developed the boundaries included a large area and the proposal of this update is to reduce the boundaries.

City Manager Martinez recommended that the item not be placed as a consent agenda item and further discussion take place at the regular meeting including the map of the 2010 adopted plan to include the boundaries.

Council Casey requested that for future meetings all related documents and information should be included in the packet for review.

4. Disposal Agreement between GGH Wagon Mound, LLC and the City of Las Vegas Solid Waste Department for one year as per Section 8 of the agreement (Terms of Agreement) with no amendment.

Solid Waste Director Griego advised this is the second year of the contract with GGH Wagon Mound, LLC as there is no roll over clause in the contract and annual approval is required of the Governing Body.

Discussion took place regarding the notice requirement for termination. Mayor Ortiz Jr. advised he felt there needed to be more of a commitment then a 30-90 day termination notice.

City Manager Martinez advised there is a 90 day notice of termination.

Councilor Casey provided to Solid Waste Director Griego a copy of all the errors of the contract and advised she would not vote to approve a document that was legally binding that contained the number of errors she found and requested that all errors be corrected by the next meeting.

The Governing Body agreed not to place the item as a consent agenda item and have the corrections made prior to the meeting.

5. Award request for proposal No.2016-22 for on call services for maintenance/emergency repairs to the natural gas transmission line to DUB-L-EE and enter into negotiations.

Utilities Director Garcia advised the proposal allows for the Gas Division to have on call services readily available for maintenance and repairs as needed to the natural gas transmission line. The department would like to award the proposal to and enter into negotiations with DUB-L-EE because they submitted all documents as requested in the proposal including certifications for each employee.

Project Manager Cordova advised the City is in need of on call services as the current repairs and maintenance is done by City staff.

Questions were asked about their emergency response time as the company is located in Albuquerque and would it be beneficial to the City to have staff certified versus using an outside company.

Questions were asked regarding how the pricing rate was developed in the proposal.

The Governing Body agreed to place the item as a consent agenda item.

6. Award request for bids #2016-23 for liquid aluminum sulfate for the Water Treatment Plant to Chemtrade.

Utilities Director Garcia advised that Liquid Aluminum Sulfate is required to ensure proper filtration of the water supply. The current supplier is Chemtrade at a cost of \$420.00 per dry ton. There was a cost increase with this current bid.

Questions were asked why the cost was different for a wet ton versus a dry ton.

The Governing Body agreed to place the item as a consent agenda item.

7. Award request for bid #2016-24 for portable flame ionization survey for the Gas Division to Heath Consultants.

Utilities Director Garcia advised a portable flame ionization survey is necessary to check the natural gas lines for leaks. This is a requirement of the Public Regulation Commission Pipeline Safety Bureau. DUB-L-EE was the lowest bidder but did not provide all of the necessary information required in the bid. Therefore the department is requesting to award to Heath Consultants at a cost of \$13,566.00 plus portal to portal travel at \$71.40 per hour.

Questions were asked as to the documents that were left out by DUB-L-EE in their bid documents.

Utilities Director Garcia advised they omitted the notarized campaign contribution form that is a standard requirement therefore they were disqualified.

The Governing Body agreed to place the item as a consent agenda item.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

City Manager Martinez advised there were no items for Executive Session.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń asked what new business items were anticipated for the Regular Meeting.

City Manager Martinez advised the renewal of the Auditor contract, zone change for property located on Dahlia Street and renewal of the Ambulance Contract.

Councilor Howell hoped that there will be follow up on the public input regarding sewer backups.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń 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.

Barbara Casey
Tonita Gurule-Giroñ

Yes
Yes

Vince Howell
David L. Romero Yes
Absent

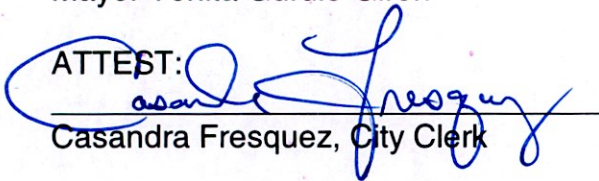
City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

ADJOURN



Mayor Tonita Gurule-Giroñ

ATTEST:



Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk