



CITY OF GRANTS WORKSESSION  
CITY COUNCIL  
Wednesday, August 24, 2022  
3:00 PM  
MINUTES



**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm by Mayor Erik Garcia.

**ROLL CALL**

Present:

- Mayor Erik Garcia
- Councilor Beverly Michael
- Councilor George Garcia
- Councilor Fred Rodarte
- Councilor Zachery Gutierrez

Absent:

None

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion: Fred Rodarte                      Second: George Garcia                      Ayes: 4                      Nays: 0**

**CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL**

**1. Discussion of Charter Compliance/Public Comment**

**Charter Compliance**

No citizens wished to address the Council about Charter Compliance.

**Public Comment**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion and Roll call vote to go into Executive Session and that, pursuant to New Mexico State Statute Section 10-15-1, only the following matters will be discussed in closed session:**

Council proceeded into closed session at 3:05 PM.

**Motion: Beverly Michael                      Second: George Garcia                      Ayes: 4                      Nays: 0**

Pursuant to Section 10-15-1 (H) the following matters may be discussed in closed session:

- b. Personnel 10-15-1 (H) (2)
  - 1. City Manager - Personnel Concerns
  - 2. Mayor - Personnel Concerns

**Motion and Roll Call Vote to Return to Regular Session**

Regular Work Session resumed at 3:50 PM.

**Motion: Fred Rodarte                      Second: Zachery Gutierrez                      Ayes: 4                      Nays: 0**

**Motion and Roll Call Vote that Matters Discussed in Closed Session were limited to those specified In**

**Motion for Closure, and that no Final Action was Taken, as Per New Mexico State Statutes Section 10-15-1**

Motion that Matters Discussed in Closed Session were limited to those specified In and that no Final Action was Taken, as Per New Mexico State Statutes Section 10-15-1 was made by Councilor George Garcia.

**Motion: George Garcia                      Second: Beverly Michael                      Ayes: 4                      Nays: 0**

**DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

**2. Discussion - Public Hearing Transfer of Ownership of Dispenser Liquor License No. 0928 to Gilbert Savedra**

City Clerk, Frances Salas, explained the State Statutes of the Public Hearing process to the Council.

**3. Discussion - Appointment of Tommy Simpson to Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board**

Tommy Simpson presented himself to the Council.

**4. Discussion - Appointment of New Mexico Municipal League (NMML) 2022 Annual Conference Voting Delegate**

Frances Salas, City Clerk, explained the designated voter process to the Council stating they had the authority to appoint a voting delegate at the NMML Conference.

Fred Rodarte asked if the appointed delegate would have to attend meetings.

Clerk Salas replied, stating no and the delegate would only have the authority to vote at the annual meeting.

**5. Discussion - City of Grants Domestic Water System 2021 Consumer Confidence Report**

Mark Teshima, Manager of Grants Waste and Water Treatment Plant (WWTP), explained the City of Grants Domestic Water System Consumer Confidence Report. Mr. Teshima went over what water tests are completed at the City's wells.

Councilor Beverly Michael asked why earlier dates were on the report.

Mark Teshima answered, stating the state was behind on testing.

Councilor Beverly Michael asked about the deficiencies in the report.

Mark Teshima replied, pointing out that the deficiencies were communication issues that were resolved.

**6. Discussion - Emergency Repair of the WWTP Air Header Pipe**

Mark Teshima, WWTP Manager, explained the repairs needed are urgent.

Councilor George Garcia asked if the repairs needed to be done before the City can find out if the parts are under warranty.

Councilor Beverly Michael pointed out the system was brand new.

City Manager, Donald Jaramillo, stated the system is expensive therefore the repairs are expensive as well, and then explained the funds will be drawn from Go Bonds.

**7. Discussion - Proposed City of Grants Redistricting Plans A & B**

Brad Morrison, Research & Polling Representative, was available by phone.

Councilor Fred Rodarte pointed out Brad Morrison has provided the Council sufficient information regarding the redistricting process.

Brad Morrison then explained the differences in the proposed plans.

Councilor Beverly Michael questioned the population of eligible voters on the statistics provided.

Mr. Morrison replied, stating the number of eligible voters is the total number of people counted in the recent census.

**8. Discussion – Grants High School (GHS) Flags**

Councilor Zachery Gutierrez stated he was informed the local high school would like to hang "Pirate Flags" on the City's light poles. He explained the only obstacle would be to find a bucket truck to hang up the flags.

Councilor George Garcia questioned who the light poles belong to.

Donald Jaramillo, City Manager, answered, stating the light poles belong to the City.

**9. Discussion – Presentation: Grants MainStreet Quarterly Update FY 2021/2022**

William Yarborough, Grants MainStreet, presented the Council with the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Report. Mr. Yarborough showed the projects that MainStreet led such as "Light Up Cibola", a "Route 66" welcoming committee, and "Caboose Restoration Project".

**10. Discussion - Grants MainStreet MOU**

William Yarborough explained the MOU to the Council.

Councilor Beverly Michael questioned Mr. Yarborough about MainStreet's services outlined on the MOU to assist Grants with Arts and Cultural District and Native American Communities.

Mr. Yarborough stated the services Councilor Beverly Michael was questioning are the services MainStreet can offer.

Councilor Beverly Michael then asked if Mainstreet still had plans for walking paths.

Mr. Yarborough replied, saying the Metropolitan Development Area plan might be what the councilor was referring to, and he will look into the program to answer her questions.

Councilor Beverly Michael inquired about the contract service payments.

Mr. Yarborough commented the amount the City was funded versus the services would have to be revisited.

**11. Discussion - Resolution No. 22-1776 Support of Grants MainStreet Project**

William Yarborough explained how the MOU tied into Resolution No.22-1776.

**12. Discussion - Mainstreet Petition Update: Changing Name of "Santa Fe Avenue" to "Route 66"**

William Yarborough explained his initiative to change the street name of Santa Fe Avenue to "Route 66," in order to attract more tourism. He then explained the process of his petition and the qualifications an individual has to meet in order to sign the petition.

**13. Discussion - Presentation: Legacy Speedway Inc.**

No presentation was made due to no representative present.

**14. Discussion - Presentation: Golf Course Advisory Board**

Advisory Board Member Paul Pena presented the Council with an assessment of Golf Course terrain. He then discussed problems the board felt needed to be addressed, such as labor and mechanic positions that did not get refilled.

Councilor George Garcia asked if the positions spoken about were budgeted.

City Manager, Donald Jaramillo, responded, stating he inherited the issues, could not justify a full-time mechanic, and that specialized equipment must be sent to a different shop.

Councilor George Garcia questioned the legitimacy of the City running a full-sized golf course.

Paul Pena replied, stating the golf course has been up and running for thirty years and does not see why it has to be changed.

City Manager, Donald Jaramillo, then pointed out the City is reviewing the addition of employees and increasing the cost. He then stated contrary to beliefs, the finances of the facility have been doing better than in the past.

Councilor Beverly Michael stated she understood that the golf course was doing better financially, but the course's condition needed to be addressed.

Paul Pena then pointed out the Golf Course has lost all of its tournaments due to the condition of the Golf Course.

Beverly Michael then made a motion to take a five-minute recess.

**15. Discussion - Wilson & Company Update on City of Grants Projects**

Chris Perea presented the council with a presentation of completed and pending City projects such as the 1st St. Pond & Pump, 1st St. Phase II, Street projects, Sakelares Phase I, and Regional Partnerships.

**16. Discussion - Smith Engineering Update on City of Grants Projects**

Cody Sykes presented the Council with project updates including six (6) projects currently being implemented such as Well upgrades and the Waste Water Treatment Plant Sludge Drying Beds.

**17. Discussion - Health Council Small Purchase Contract**

City Manager, Donald Jaramillo, stated the County had been collaborating to start the Health Council back up and that Laura Jaramillo will be running the program.

Laura Jaramillo then approached the bench and explained the Health Council Coordinator's duties, such as facilitating coordination of community needs, collecting data on community health issues, and creating a Resource Guide. She then gave examples of past Health Council initiatives.

Laura Jaramillo pointed out the City's contract with the Health Council and that the State will fund the expenses for this program.

Councilor George Garcia asked if the amount was budgeted.

City Manager, Donald Jaramillo, stated no it was not budgeted for.

**18. Discussion - Grants Fire Department Purchase: Artesia Fire Equipment \$45,010.00**

Fire Chief, Robert Hays, presented the potential purchase of equipment for the Fire Department.

**19. Discussion - Grants Fire Department Purchase: 2022 Ram Crew Cab for \$60,495.00**

Agenda Item presented as Item #16, with the rest of the Item #'s shifted down.

Chief Robert Hays presented the Council with the potential purchase of a Dodge Ram to be utilized by the Fire Department.

He also stated the Fire Department has the funding to purchase the vehicle.

**20. Discussion - Resolution No. 22-1779 NMDOT LGRF Agreement Control Number L600210**

Shannon Devine, Projects Manager, explained to the Council the expenses of the project.

**21. Discussion - Resolution No. 22-1780 NMDOT Roadway Lighting NM 547 & 1st St. Maintenance Agreement**

Shannon Devine, presented the Resolution, explaining the Lighting on the Street will be maintained by the City.

**22. Discussion - Resolution No. 22-1777 Application for Assistance and Approval for Economic Development Plan (NM53/I-40 & NM 117/I-40)**

Shannon Devine, Projects Manager, presented the Resolution to the Council which helps the City with the process of increasing economic development.

**23. Discussion - Resolution No. 22-1778 - Application for Assistance and Approval for Comprehensive Plan Development**

Shannon Devine, Projects Manager, explained to the Council that the Application would assist with the development of trails.

Mayor Erik Garcia pointed out that originally the City wanted to make a Master Trail Plan that coincided with the Master Drain Plain.

**24. Discussion - Resolution No. 22-1775 City Charter Advisory Committee**

Mayor Erik Garcia stated that he would like to see the previous Mayor, Modey Hicks, lead the City Charter Commission.

Frances Salas, City Clerk, explained the purpose of the Resolution which will implement a City Charter Commission to recommend changes to the Charter. The amended Charter would then be up to the citizens to vote upon at the next election.

Councilor Beverly Michael pointed out changes that were made in the past by Ordinance and not taken to be voted upon by its citizens.

**COMMENTS**

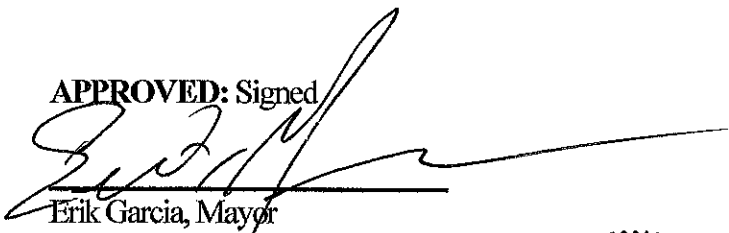
Councilor Fred Rodarte pointed out the recent proactive activity at the City Council Meetings.

Councilor Beverly Michael commented on the last increase in Cemetery Plots, which were approved by the last Council. She then spoke about the recent talk about combining law enforcement entities and citizens' concerns regarding an "elected official" being in charge of local law enforcement.

**ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 by Mayor Erik Garcia.

**APPROVED:** Signed

  
Erik Garcia, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
Frances Salas, City Clerk

