

**CITY OF ALAMOGORDO, NEW MEXICO
CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
6:30 P.M., VIRTUAL MEETING
June 23, 2020**

**RICHARD BOSS, MAYOR
SHARON McDONALD, COMMISSIONER
JOSH RARDIN, COMMISSIONER
DUSTY WRIGHT, COMMISSIONER
SUSAN PAYNE, COMMISSIONER**

**NADIA SIKES, MAYOR PRO-TEM
JASON BALDWIN, COMMISSIONER
BRIAN CESAR, CITY MANAGER
PETRIA BENGOCHEA, CITY ATTORNEY
RACHEL HUGHS, CITY CLERK**

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Boss called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Roll Call was taken by the City Clerk. City Clerk Hughs announced there was a quorum present. Invocation was given by City Clerk Hughs and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Rardin.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Attorney Bengoechea asked to remove item 9, at this time the Medlin's are going a different way.

Commissioner Rardin moved to approve the agenda.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sikes seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation on 8cantwait, www.8cantwait.org. (*Tanja Burns*)

Ms. Burns said she appreciates their work in the City. She requested the adoption of eight policies to keep spreading magic over the City and GO cashing. She read a letter from a citizen of Alamogordo asking for adoption for the following eight policies to reduce police violence. These policies reduce police violence, according to research adoption of these policies results in better outcomes in terms of police officer safety and they have no impact on crime rates, give 72 percent reduction in police involved killings compared to departments where none of these policies are in place. She said it is a win-win for all those reasons and costs nothing. Crime rate, one way or another will help police officers. The policies are as follows, banning choke holds, requiring de-escalation, require warning before shooting, duty to intervene to stop other officers using excessive force, require use of force continuum, and require comprehensive reporting. The adoption would benefit the citizens of Alamogordo and the brave officers of Alamogordo. She stated more information can be found at www.8cantwait.org. She requested they post current use of force policies police in an easy to find location as she could not find them on the police department website, she believes transparency is important to building community and trust. She asked, when is it to be or not to be, the adoption of these policies. She asked how many other submissions similar to 8cantwait have been received by the City, what internal processing to date, and how do we proceed from here.

Mayor Boss let her know this is not a decision they would make tonight; this is a presentation. This is something they can consider on some other day and bring back to take action on. If we decide as a Commission or the City Manager to put this as an agenda item, which could happen and there would be a vote by the Commission.

City Attorney Bengoechea clarified that rules and regulations for the Alamogordo Police department are done by the Chief of Police and the City Manager by ordinance, so the Commission does not set that policy.

Ms. Burns and Commissioner Baldwin lost power during the rainstorm. City Attorney Bengoechea said she would call Ms. Burns tomorrow and explain. Mayor Boss said let us do that.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

1. He said they asked staff to look at cutting their budget by of 20 percent in the General Fund and funds that are funded by lodger's tax and look at how that would impact them. We are not implementing these cuts, it is to take a closer look at the budget and until we get the gross receipts, we do not know where things are going. The meetings started this morning and will continue until Wednesday.
2. He said the Chambers of Commerce are looking to build a new complex north of Zoo and Alameda Park. He said the Sheldon Trust is putting a million dollars towards this new Chamber building. They are seeking out grants and had discussion on how that will be structured.
3. He said from the clean-up electric did in the median areas, electric challenged Mesa Verde to fill some potholes, and Mesa Verde competed it. They challenged two other local companies to do work around the community.

REMARKS AND INQUIRIES BY THE CITY COMMISSION

Mayor Pro-Tem Sikes made the following comments:

She read a statement from the Alamogordo MainStreet. They are expressing their continued support of item six of the consent agenda along with accepting the new MOU of New Mexico MainStreet. The Alamogordo Mainstreet, with their new president Cindy Boylan and Executive director Cam Wilde would have be present at this meeting to express their appreciation for their partnership and support. Alamogordo Mainstreet continues to support the businesses in the district with positive initiative, including their most recent grant program. Starting with the \$2,500 grant available to all MainStreet district businesses, Alamogordo MainStreet initiated a grogram for participating businesses to receive extensive training, support guidance, and promotion of individual GO fund me campaigns. Six small business applied and \$18,500 to date has been raised for these participating businesses. The result was a sizable amount of money that was raised in this community and will stay in this community. Since entering into the MainStreet program in 2016, Alamogordo MainStreet has been busy and proactive, providing free workshops, fund development for the District 6 businesses, provided promotion, training for the businesses and are still working on beatification projects throughout the MainStreet district. All with the motivation and hope that together our strong partnership will continue to enhance, beautify, and economically develop Alamogordo's historic district with respect to heritage and culture.

Mayor Boss made the following comments:

He asked City Attorney Bengoechea to be sure she gets back in touch with Ms. Tanja Burns and explain to her that they did not cut her off and what the procedure will be. City Attorney Bengoechea said yes.

CONSENT AGENDA

2. Approve the minutes for the June 9, 2020 Regular meeting. *(Rachel Hughs, City Clerk)*
3. Consider, and act upon, final publication of adoption of Ordinance 1613 to amend the Food Vendor Ordinance. *(Jim LeClair, Fire Chief and Rachel Hughs, City Clerk)* (Roll Call Vote Required)
4. Consider, and act upon, revisions to City of Alamogordo Utility Lien Policy originally approved by the City Commission on November 17, 2015. *(Evelyn Huff, Finance Director and Mark Threadgill, Customer Service Manager)*
5. Consider, and act upon, Resolution No. 2020-24 removing uncollectible and unsecured Utility, Library, Public Housing Authority, returned checks and other miscellaneous accounts from the City's accounts receivable. *(Sue Ashe, Accounting Manager)* (Roll Call Vote Required)

6. Consider, and act upon, approval of Resolution No. 2020-26, expressing continued support of Alamogordo MainStreet, along with acceptance of new MOU from New Mexico MainStreet and agreement with Alamogordo MainStreet. (*Debbie Osborne, Grant Coordinator*) (Roll Call Vote Required)

7. Consider, and act upon, Resolution 2020-27 requesting written approval from the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance and Administration, State of NM for the revised budget numbers computed as of June 23, 2020. (*Evelyn Huff, Finance Director*) (Roll Call Vote Required)

Commissioner Rardin moved to approve item 2,3,4,5,6,7 of the consent calendar.

Commissioner Wright seconded the motion.

Roll Call vote was taken.

Motion carried with a vote of 6-0-0.

City Clerk Hughs stated Commissioner Baldwin is no longer in the meeting. City Manager Cesar said he received a text message from Commissioner Baldwin stating he lost power.

NEW BUSINESS

8. Consider, and act upon, VFW request for Temporary Expansion of Licensed Premises at 700 US HWY 70 W., Alamogordo, NM. (*Gary Townsend*)

Mr. Townsend said it is a request that must be signed by local authority. Just expanding their patio area in the back, giving them a little more room, a little bigger number on their 25 or 50 percent once they can open. Down the road they are going to try to make it permanent and try to move all the smoking out there.

Commissioner Payne moved to approve.

Commissioner Rardin seconded the motion.

Motion carried with a vote of 6-0-0.

9. Consider, and act upon, Ordinance No. 1618 Approving a local economic development project for secured financial assistance proposed by Medlin Ramps. (*Laurie Anderson, OCDEC Director*)

Withdrawn during approval of Agenda.

Commissioner Rardin moved to adjourn at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Payne seconded the motion.

Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0

ADJOURNMENT




City Clerk Rachel Hughs


Mayor Richard Mayor Boss