

**CITY OF ALAMOGORDO, NEW MEXICO
CITY COMMISSION BUDGET HEARING WORKSHOP MINUTES
5:30 PM, DONALD E. CARROLL COMMISSION CHAMBERS
May 5, 2025**

**SUSAN PAYNE, MAYOR
SHARON MCDONALD, MAYOR PRO-TEM
CRYSTAL GUTHRIE, COMMISSIONER
STEPHEN BURNETT, COMMISSIONER
WARREN ROBINSON, COMMISSIONER**

**JOSHUA RARDIN, COMMISSIONER
MARK TAPLEY, COMMISSIONER
STEPHANIE HERNANDEZ, ACTING CITY
MANAGER
ASHLEY SMITH, CITY ATTORNEY
RACHEL HUGHS, CITY CLERK**

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Payne called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Roll Call was taken by the City Clerk. City Clerk Hughes announced there was a quorum present. Commissioner Robinson was absent.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Invocation was given by Mayor Payne, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Pro-Tem Sharon McDonald.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Pro-Tem McDonald moved to approve the agenda.

Commissioner Tapley seconded the motion.

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

WORK SESSION

1. Budget Workshop Departmental Presentations. (*Judge Overstreet, Municipal Judge; Veronica Ortega, Community Services Director; Belinda Bass, Parks and Recreation Director; David Kunihiro, Police Chief; Jerry Ramirez, Fire Chief; Jimmy Vargas, Public Works Director; David Nunnelley, Utilities Director*)

Acting City Manager Hernandez and Community Services Director Ortega honored Senior Center Manager Morales for thirty-five years of service.

The Judge, Directors, Managers, Fire and Police Chiefs gave presentations on the services they provide and the work they do to keep the City running. The Police and Fire Chief provided statistics on calls.

Commissioner Guthrie asked Tourism Specialist Flint when the new Visit Alamogordo website would launch. Tourism Specialist Flint said within the next few weeks.

Mayor Pro-Tem McDonald asked Library Manager Underwood how long some books stay in circulation. Library Manager Underwood said if something is not circulating, it will eventually be weeded, but they are usually here for months, if not years. Mayor Pro-Tem McDonald asked how long it takes when you reach out to other libraries for materials. She answered that with interlibrary loans, it may take a week, but it depends on the library from which we get it. Mayor Pro-Tem McDonald asked if they knew what other libraries had in their collections. Library Manager Underwood said we have that ability through OCLC, which is a platform to see what other libraries have.

Mayor Payne asked Animal Control Manager Martinez how much spaying and neutering costs. He replied it was \$135 to \$220 for dogs. She asked how much it costs to euthanize. He said they do not do that for the public, but it was anywhere from \$80 to \$100 for a veterinarian. If we do it, it is roughly \$110 because of medication.

Mayor Payne asked CIT Clinical Director Borunda when does a call become a crisis, when it was handled, and if it was a referral. CIT Clinical Director Borunda said we could go out and help. Other times, we have to do some assessment on the next steps. Sometimes, people call in directly and state they want the Mobile Crisis Team, but we still need to send an officer to ensure it is safe for us to go out. Mayor Payne said I am trying to understand when the determination is made to call you in. It sometimes seems inconsistent. Maybe I do not understand it. CIT Clinical Director Borunda said anytime the officer on scene feels we are needed, we are called. Mayor Pro-Tem McDonald

asked CIT Clinical Director Borunda what she felt was most critical in Alamogordo. CIT Clinical Director Borunda said there is a need for prevention and follow-up to ensure people have the resources they need.

Mayor Payne asked Code Enforcement Manager Sides if the one thousand, six-hundred and seventy-five cases taken were for this year. He said to date in this fiscal year.

Mayor Payne asked Police Chief Kunihiro if we had anyone with the White Mountain Task Force. He said we do.

2. Presentation of the Preliminary FY2026 Budget. (Evelyn Huff, Finance Director)

Finance Director Huff presented a preliminary Budgeting Finance 101 Course that explained the five parts of a budget: Beginning Cash, Revenues, Transfers In/Out, Expenditures, and Ending Cash. The Preliminary FY2026 Budget will be presented on Tuesday, May 6, 2025.

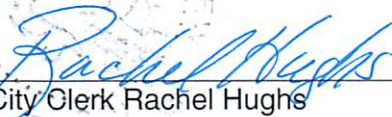
ADJOURNMENT

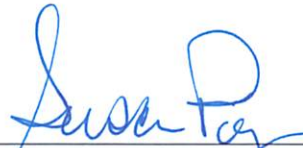
Mayor Pro-Tem McDonald moved to adjourn at 9:31 PM.

Commissioner Burnett seconded the motion.

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

ATTEST:


City Clerk Rachel Hughes


Mayor Susan Payne

(Prepared by Dylan Aleshire, Deputy Clerk)

Approved at the Regular Meeting held on May 27, 2025.