CITY OF ALAMOGORDO, NEW MEXICO
CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
6:30 PM, DONALD E. CARROLL COMMISSION CHAMBERS
July 14, 2026

SHARON MCDONALD, MAYOR
JOSHUA RARDIN, MAYOR PRO-TEM
BAXTER PATTILLO, COMMISSIONER
STEPHEN BURNETT, COMMISSIONER
WARREN ROBINSON, COMMISSIONER
AL HERNANDEZ, COMMISSIONER
MARK TAPLEY, COMMISSIONER
ROBERT STOCKWELL, CITY MANAGER
VACANT, CITY ATTORNEY
RACHEL HUGHS, CITY CLERK

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor McDonald called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Roll Call was taken by the City Clerk. All the Commission was in attendance, and City Clerk Hughs announced that a quorum was present.

INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Invocation was given by Pastor Kelly Sen of Berean Independent Baptist Church, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Burnett.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor McDonald stated that Item 7 would be removed and brought to the next meeting.

Commissioner Robinson moved to Approve as amended.
Commissioner Rardin seconded the motion.
Motion Passed with a vote of 7-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Wendy Urquidez, representing 100% Otero, invited the community to participate in a survey to prioritize needs for a housing bill that would be submitted to the legislature in Santa Fe. She noted the survey addressed vacant homes and community facelifts and could help bring money into Otero County for housing assistance.

2. Kim Murillo spoke about retaliation regarding the hiring process of the city manager. She asked the Commission to reverse retaliation by forgiving alleged uncollected funds assessed against a citizen.

3. Johnny Powell, President and CEO of the International Space Hall of Fame Foundation, thanked the city for the successful fireworks show at the museum. He noted that while there were initial struggles, the event was well-executed.

4. Susan Payne addressed her inclusion on the city's "write-off list" for uncollectible accounts. She said she was stunned to learn she owed money, yet had written a check for $537 without understanding the charges. She challenged Mayor Pro-Tem Rardin to pay a $1,600 waterline bill he had incurred in 2021.

5. Jerry Martinez spoke on the topic of transparency and encouraged the Commission to work together and move the city forward. He also highlighted the "First Nations Second Chance" program, which aimed to assist the unhoused, veterans, and victims of domestic violence.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

1. City Manager Robert Stockwell reported that he had been on the job for fourteen days and had spent time meeting with city employees and directors. He stated that staff members were well-informed and dedicated to their roles.

2. He highlighted the success of retention ponds built around Bonito Lake, noting they had successfully prevented mud, fire debris, and ash from entering the lake during recent heavy runoff.

3. He clarified that all correspondence from city staff, including emails and documents, should be treated as open to the public unless they fall into a small category of confidential items. He is committed to being as open as possible with the citizens and community.

REMARKS AND INQUIRIES BY THE CITY COMMISSION

Mayor McDonald thanked Austin Harris for his input on installing park benches and trash cans at the monument. She reported throwing out the first pitch for a baseball league. She noted that signups were available for the District 5 citywide cleanup on Saturday, July 18. She stated that seven dumpsters would be available across various locations.

Mayor McDonald asked for clarification regarding weed maintenance responsibility for a resident on Post Avenue. She said she had seen a resident hacking down weeds taller than herself and wanted to ensure the city addressed the area outside the property line. City Manager Stockwell stated that staff would go by to check the situation.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approve the minutes for the Regular Commission Meeting on June 23, 2026. *(Rachel Hughs, City Clerk)*

2. Approve the statements related to the Executive Closed Session of the Regular Meeting held on June 23, 2026. *(Rachel Hughs, City Clerk)*

3. Consider, and act upon, Resolution 2026-24 to dissolve the Senior Volunteer Programs Advisory Council. *(Eileen Flint, Community Services Director and Magdalena Morales, ASC Manager)* (Roll Call Vote Required)

4. Consider, and act upon, Resolution No. 2026-25, accepting a Municipal Arterial Program Cooperative Agreement, L200738, from the New Mexico Department of Transportation in the amount of $325,000.00; with NMDOT's share totaling $243,750.00, and the City's share totaling $81,250.00, for rehabilitation of a portion of 1st Street. *(Jimmy Vargas, Public Works Director)* (Roll Call Vote Required)

5. Consider, and act upon, grant funding from the Non-Metro Area Agency on Aging FY27 contract for Direct Purchase of Services for senior programs. The total amount budgeted is $565,246.00 *(Eileen Flint, Community Services Director and Magdalena Morales, ASC Manager).*

6. Consider, and act upon, the approval of an agreement with the New Mexico Economic Development District, Non-Metro Area Agency on Aging for the Nutrition Service Incentive Program. The total amount budgeted is $44,161.00 *(Eileen Flint, Community Services Director and Magdalena Morales, ASC Manager).*

Commissioner Robinson moved to Approve.
Commissioner Burnett seconded the motion.
Motion Passed with a vote of 7-0-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7. Consider, and act upon, Ordinance 1724 for adoption and final publication, an Ordinance repealing Chapter 22, Subdivision Requirements, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Alamogordo, New Mexico, and adopting updated Subdivision Regulations in Chapter 20, Land Development Code. *(Shelley Dowhanik-Baron, Community Development Director, Liz Treat, Planner, Bohannan Huston)* (Roll Call Vote Required)

Item 7 was removed from the agenda during the Approval of the Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

8. Consider, and act upon, Resolution 2026-21 requesting approval of the FY 2027 Rates & Fees Document at the Alamogordo-White Sands Regional Airport. *(Troy Orr, Airport Manager)* (Roll call vote required)

Community Services Director Flint and Airport Manager Orr, presented the annual review of rates and fees for the airport. They noted the document was reviewed and approved by the Airport Advisory Board in April to ensure rates kept up with inflation.

Mayor McDonald asked how many times the Commission had seen an agenda item to raise these rates. Community Services Director Flint stated this was the second time. Mayor Pro-Tem Radin asked which specific rates were increasing. Community Services Director Flint stated that lease rates were increasing by 2.7% (CPI) and commercial landing fees were being raised from 30 cents to 40 cents to be concurrent with what the Federal government pays. Commissioner Hernandez noted he had attended the advisory board meeting the previous week and confirmed the board was fine with the changes.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Burnett moved to Adjourn.
Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion.
Motion Passed with a vote of 7-0-0.

Sharon McDonald
Mayor Sharon McDonald

ATTEST:

Rachel Hughs
City Clerk Rachel Hughs

(Prepared by Rachel Hughs, City Clerk)
Approved at the Regular Meeting held on July 28, 2026.