CITY OF ALAMOGORDO, NEW MEXICO
CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
6:30 P.M., COMMISSION CHAMBERS
SEPTEMBER 13, 2016

RICHARD BOSS, MAYOR
JASON BALDWIN, COMMISSIONER
NADIA SIKES, COMMISSIONER
JENNY TURNBULL, COMMISSIONER
SUSAN PAYNE, COMMISSIONER

AL HERNANDEZ, MAYOR PRO-TEM
ERICA MARTIN, COMMISSIONER
MAGGIE PALUCH, ACTING CITYMANAGER
CANON STEVENS, INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY
NANCY JACOBS, 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. Clerk Jacobs announced there was a quorum present. Invocation was given by Rev. Dwight Harp and the Pledge of Allegiance and Pledge to the New Mexico Flag were led by Commissioner Baldwin.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Clerk Jacobs asked to withdraw Item 4 from the agenda, stating the minutes for the August 23, 2016 City Commission meeting had not yet been completed. She noted they would be added to the September 27, 2016 Agenda.

Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez moved to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Baldwin seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Mayor Boss made a statement concerning Officer Clint Corvinus who was killed in the line of duty on September 2, 2016:
"On September 2, 2016, this community lost one of its own. Alamogordo Police Department Officer Clint Corvinus was shot in the line of duty. Officer Corvinus was 33 years of age and leaves behind a 14 year old daughter, his mother and father, and a girlfriend. Clint had been with the police force for 4.5 years. We will all miss our beloved officer.
On behalf of myself and this Commission, we express our sincere condolences to the family and girlfriend of Officer Corvinus. We all have Officer Corvinus and his family in our prayers.
We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to all of the law enforcement agencies and other communities across the country that have offered their condolences and support. A very special thanks to owners of businesses in Alamogordo, Albuquerque and other cities that are using their business to raise needed funds for the family of Officer Corvinus. Thank you for your service to our community.
We also want to thank Fire Chief Mikel Ward and all of the first responders who took care of our officer and secured the crime scene, as well as provided unprecedented support during this very difficult time. We appreciate their dedicated service.
I have to mention a special thank you to the Patriot Guard for your display of honor and protection of our fallen officer during this past week.
The city was so appreciative of the support from Cities and Law enforcement from all over the country. We had representative officers at the memorial from as far away as New York and Chicago. We were honored that Gov. Susanna Martinez, US Attorney Damon Martinez and Rep. Steve Pearce honored and comforted the family at the memorial service.
And lastly, we are so proud of our Police Chief Daron Syling, Deputy Police Chief Roger Schoolcraft and Capt. Michael Lawrence. You have displayed superb leadership skills and a love of our officers and community. Alamogordo is blessed to have you and all the members of our police force. This Commission and this community thank all of you for the safety and service you provide us."

There was a standing ovation.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation of Proclamations to Miss Alamogordo Staesha Gentry, Miss Otero County Ryleigh Murphy, Miss Alamogordo Outstanding Teen Dallas Collins, and Miss Otero County Outstanding Teen Sage Drake. (Richard Boss, Mayor)

Mayor Boss presented proclamations to the above individuals.

2. Presentation related to multiple road closures of New York Ave. between 8th and 9th Streets. (Tresa Van Winkle, presenter)

Mrs. Tresa Van Winkle gave a Power Point presentation stating her concerns of the frequent street closures of New York Ave. between Eighth and Ninth Streets (see Agenda Book for Power Point presentation). She noted the agenda item was incorrect and should say 'between 9th and 10th Streets'.

After the presentation, Commissioner Payne asked if Ms. Van Winkle was opposed to any street closures, and Ms. Van Winkle said she was opposed to so many of them and not being notified about them. Commissioners Martin and Payne noted there were no longer any Farmers Market events downtown.

Acting City Manager Paluch made it clear that at this time, there are no street closures. City Staff was aware of the issue on New York Ave. and was working to update an ordinance to address this. Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez asked to have this ordinance completed quickly.

Commissioner Sikes was disappointed this had come to this point and felt it reflected on the MainStreet organization. She hoped all would work together to develop a practical and acceptable solution.

Communication concerning street closures/events – when and how – was discussed. Ms. Van Winkle said this was important because she had to schedule patient appointments months in advance.

The Executive Director of MainStreet, Cam Wilde came forward to address the Commission. He remarked street closures were Downtown Merchants Association (DMA) projects, not MainStreet projects. MainStreet would not advocate the permanent closure of any street. He said events were great as long as everyone was happy and the events were not excessive. He noted the state MainStreet organization looked at FaceBook and saw what was going on in Alamogordo concerning this debate. Commissioner Sikes remarked there seemed to be an overwhelming number of people in support of these events and a very few taking a negative stance. Mr. Wilde pointed out the state MainStreet could send someone to mediate in these situations.

Acting City Manager Paluch expressed the desire to schedule a meeting, perhaps at the Civic Center, for all to come and talk this out; come to a consensus. She hoped to do this in the near future. Cam Wilde agreed and said that with enough notice he could notify someone with the state organization and they would come to help.

3. Presentation concerning the NM Aviation Aerospace Career Expo on October 6, 2016. (Bill Shuert, President NMAAA)

Mr. Bill Shuert gave a Power Point presentation (see agenda book). Mayor Boss pointed out some audience members in attendance in support of the Expo to be held in Alamogordo at Holloman Air Force Base (HAFB) – State Senator Ron Griggs & State Representative Yvette Harrell.

Mr. Shuert offered the City the opportunity to partner with the NMAAC in this endeavor by committing $15,000 or to pay for the busses need to transport students in the area to the event – approximately $10,000 - $13,000. Alamogordo Public Schools had committed quite a few students to this event.

Commissioner Baldwin asked Mr. Shuert that if the City contributed $15,000 to this event, would we be the biggest single contributor, and Mr. Shuert told him yes. Commissioner Baldwin then asked if we could sign a two – three year contract for this, and Mr. Shuert told him yes. Mr. Baldwin also noted this kind of an event would fit in with our branding: Discover – Explore – Launch, and he was in favor of City Staff working in conjunction with the people involved in the Discover – Explore - Launch campaign to get this up and going as soon as possible.

Acting City Manager Paluch asked if the City would be considered a co-sponsor in the event if funds were contributed, and Mr. Shuert told her yes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Sanchez commented on the following:
Mr. Sanchez said he also follows social media and he only saw a couple of people complaining about the street closures on New York Ave. He endorsed having a Public Meeting concerning this issue. He was in support of Art Walk and any other event because it benefits other businesses besides those on New York Ave.

Jana Carstaedt commented on the following:
Ms. Carstaedt, president of the Alamogordo Downtown Merchants Association (DMA) passed out a handout (see Agenda Book). She read the handout which said the DMA had restarted in 2013 after more than 10 years of inactivity, with extreme vacancy in the district in an effort to attract more businesses and revitalize downtown. To date there are nine businesses on the 800 block of New York Ave., three of which were new within the last 18 months. The 900 block of New York Ave. had 26 businesses, eight of which were new. The businesses choose their locations because of the activity on the street. The DMA has 35 street closures a year; two are full day on Saturdays – Olde Fashioned Christmas and Alamo Aeon Adventure: Cosplay Festival. There are 12 monthly art walks which don't close the street before 5:00 p.m. The Farmer's Market ran until about 10:20 on Saturday mornings, but the start time was changed to 8:30 a.m. so that the street would reopen by 9:45, in order to accommodate 10:00 a.m. business openings. Wednesday evening Farmer's Market events were publicized via email to community businesses, and New York Ave. would be open for this market. There was a Trick or Treating event from 3:00-5:00 p.m., and the 900 block of New York was closed for those two hours. She said the DMA had made every effort to accommodate any request made to them within reason – safe escorts for anyone with disabilities, ADA street ramps left accessible, and no ADA law was violated. For the three businesses that scheduled appointments, anyone who stated they had an appointment were afforded safe passage through barriers and their privacy was respected. DMA had at no time suggested or requested a permanent pedestrian zone. She noted the DMA had always complied with the City Clerk's office, and felt the events made a positive impact to the downtown district and the community.

Bernice McRae commented on the following:
Ms. McRae supported Art Walk and did not belong to the DMA, nor did she have a business on New York Ave. She did participate with her home-based business at the Art Walks, and felt it was a nice family event.

Hank Hangsleben commented on the following:
Mr. Hangsleben owned a business at 908 New York called Clay Time Pottery and Ceramics. He came to Alamogordo from Hawaii because it was a friendly and artsy place. He felt the Art Walks had grown, but since the Art Walks had ended his business was hurting. He said he had a petition with almost 200 names stating they wanted the Art Walks to continue. He said only a couple of businesses said they were having problems because of this, but the rest were not and they pay also pay taxes.

Larry Van Winkle commented on the following:
Mr. Van Winkle reiterated that the business owner needs to sign the street closure document, not an employee of the business. He did not think email correspondence was a reliable way to communicate.

He asked the City why they had taken the Farmer's Market out of the park. He felt the biggest problem was lack of communication concerning events. He said his wife was on the phone helping people 24 hours a day to help the community. Mayor Boss asked which was the bigger problem – communication/notification or the Art Walk times. Mr. Van Winkle said it was not the Art Walk; it was other street closures and not being told when they would be. Commissioner Payne asked which method of communication would be preferred. Mr. Van Winkle told her face-to-face, walking down the block and telling them. Commissioner Payne wanted to make sure the communication issue was settled in the new ordinance.

Acting City Manager Paluch reminded all that this could be discussed at a future Community Meeting, and Mr. Van Winkle agreed. Tresa Van Winkle said City email communication would be best.

Pat Galea commented on the following:
Ms. Galea said the individual complaining about the street closures was not listed as the owner of his business, his wife was. She felt she should be the one complaining and not him. She wondered if someone had something against women, because most of the businesses in this area were owned by women. Her other comment was she trusted the Commissioners' decision making.

Rob Hahn commented on the following:
Mr. Hahn felt he was the center of all the animosity. He stated his support for the Art Walks, just not how often they are held. He said his sign had stated business hours, but he had regular customers who came at all hours and he needed to accommodate them so they would shop in Alamogordo. Mr. Hahn remarked he was on the first committee to start the MainStreet program and he wanted to see the town grow. He agreed everyone needs to sit at the table and talk this out, and create an ordinance that works for everyone. He reiterated he would like to see the Art Walks held fewer times a year.

Jana Carstaedt commented on the following:
Ms. Carstaedt said Mr. Hahn had attended the last DMA meeting, but it was never suggested there be 12 individual renamed Art Walks. She said there were 20 vendors at the last Art Walk, and DMA kept records of this. She created a quarterly DMA newsletter and sent it to all area businesses. When asked how the businesses wanted to be contacted, they told her email, and most email correspondence that had been sent had been responded to.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Acting City Manager Maggie Paluch made the following remarks:
1) Ms. Paluch complimented Police Chief Syling and Deputy Police Chief Schoolcraft for leading their department with empathy, compassion and strength during this past week. The support and time they put in was incomparable.
2) The acting city manager congratulated Fire Chief Ward for being awarded the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Award program from FEMA. The total award was $69,000 which would be used for five self-contained breathing apparatus (PPE), and 10 communication radios.
3) She thanked the APSOA and AFSCME unions and city staff for their joint efforts to come to resolution on the two agreements. She thanked these people personally.

REMARKS AND INQUIRIES BY THE CITY COMMISSION

Mayor Boss made the following comments:
He explained he would be presenting a proclamation to the family of Sgt. Willie Estrada on September 22, 2016. Sgt. Estrada was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his heroism while serving in Korea in 1952.

CONSENT AGENDA

4. Approve the minutes for the August 23, 2016 Regular Meeting. (Nancy Jacobs, City Clerk) WITHDRAWN FROM AGENDA

5. Approve the statements related to the Executive Sessions held on August 23, 2016 and August 29, 2016. (Nancy Jacobs, City Clerk)

6. Consider, and act upon, award of RFQ No. 2016-05 Engineering Design Services for FY2017 Street Maintenance Program. (Edward Balderrama, Project Manager)

7. Consider, and act upon, the Lodger's Tax Expenditures for Tourism & Travel. (Jan Wafful, Special Events Manager)

8. Consider, and act upon, final publication of Ordinance No. 1527 amending Section 11-05-070 of the City of Alamogordo Code of Ordinances regarding Concealing Identity. (Lauren Truitt, Asst. City Attorney) (Roll Call Vote required)

10. Consider, and act upon, approval of an across the board pay increase for Non-Represented staff members. (Katie Josselyn, Human Resources Director) (Roll Call Vote required)

Mayor Boss asked to remove Item #9 from the Consent Calendar.

Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez moved to approve items 5, 6, 7, 8 & 10 of the consent calendar. Commissioner Baldwin seconded the motion. Roll call was taken for items No. 8 & 10. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

9. Consider, and act upon, approval of the FY2017 - FY2020 American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 3818 MOU, and the Alamogordo Public Safety Officers Association (APSOA) contract for FY2017 - FY2020. (Katie Josselyn, Human Resources Director) (Roll Call Vote required)

Human Resources Director Katie Josselyn pointed out to the Commission two changes for clarification in the APSOA agreement that had been made today. City Clerk Jacobs put the information on the monitors for all to see: Page 17, subsection b., last sentence: "The current pay for this level of service in the frozen step plan is Step 6, **which is P-6 for Police,** under Section 27.B Financial Package, Wages/Salary."; Page 17, subsection c., third sentence: The current pay for this level of service in the frozen step plan is Step 6, **which is F-6 for Firefighters,** under Section 27.B. Financial Package, Wages/Salary."; Page 24, Section 28., seventh paragraph, last two sentences: "The Police Physical Fitness test will be developed by mutual agreement of the Police Chief and Association, **and shall include 6-8 testing stations. Should an agreed upon test not be accomplished prior to January 1, 2017, the testing standard shall revert back to the testing elements previously provided for in this agreement."**

Human Resources Director Josselyn stated the unions and the City were both in agreement with these changes. Commissioner Baldwin asked who determined the testing, and she told him both the Police and Fire Chief would work with the unions to establish that. Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez asked if the testing was for additional pay or to keep their job, and Acting City Manager Paluch said it was for additional pay.

Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez moved to approve the FY2017 - FY2020 American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 3818 MOU, and the Alamogordo Public Safety Officers Association (APSOA) contract for FY2017 - FY2020. Commissioner Sikes seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Acting City Manager Paluch informed everyone the contracts were for four years.

Mayor Boss asked to take a five minute break at 8:35 p.m. Mayor Boss reconvened the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11. Consider, and act upon, approval of a City Manager employee contract for Robert Stockwell. (Katie Josselyn, Human Resources Director) (Roll Call Vote required)

Commissioner Turnbull wanted to meet one more time in Executive Session before voting. Acting City Manager Paluch asked the interim city attorney if this could be done, or if we had to proceed in open discussion.

Interim City Attorney Canon Stevens said that was correct; tonight's discussion was simply whether the Commission wanted to hire Mr. Stockwell, or not. Ms. Paluch said there was a preliminary, proposed offer on the table.

Commissioner Sikes asked to hear from the audience before deciding anything. Mayor Boss agreed.

Paul Sanchez made the following comments:
Mr. Sanchez said he had seen a lot of comments on social media both for and against Mr. Stockwell. He felt the acting city manager was doing a great job and should be considered for the position.

Bill Dennis made the following comments:
Mr. Dennis said he was here when Mr. Stockwell was here before, and he had been fired and received six months of severance pay when he left. He was surprised that he was even being considered. Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez stated he had been the one that made the motion to terminate Mr. Stockwell, and he had been the one to call him to encourage him to apply. Mr. Dennis hoped the Commissioners would give this careful consideration.

Roger Powell made the following comments:
Mr. Powell noted he was a former city commissioner and had served with Mr. Stockwell. He felt Mr. Stockwell was an honest, Christian man. The City made many changes during that time and worked well with both the commission and staff. He was in support of hiring him.

Kim Messer made the following comments:
Ms. Messer said she had been born and raised here and then moved away. She and her husband returned in 1993 and found it looking very good and cleaned up. After Mr. Stockwell left in 1997, she felt the City had gone downhill again. She wondered why it was so difficult to keep our town looking nice; she felt he had done a good job of doing this while here.

Sandra Eaton made the following comments:
Ms. Eaton told the Commission she had saved a full page ad from the Alamogordo Daily News dated 1995, taken out by a local bank. It was a salute to the City of Alamogordo for their progress; Dan King was Mayor, Don Carroll was Mayor Pro-Tem and Bob Stockwell was City Manager. It listed the many projects the City had achieved – capital, recreational, and infrastructure projects. She felt Mr. Stockwell had done a lot for the City and would make a difference in the City again.

Maria Martin made the following comments:
Ms. Martin felt we shouldn't bring something back from the past. She had grown up here and thought someone new would be better.

Commissioner Turnbull moved to table Item 11. Commissioner Martin seconded the motion.

Commissioner Sikes felt we wouldn't gain anything by postponing.

Interim City Attorney Stevens said the problem was we are at the point where there had been a contract and we have to decide whether he would be hired or not. She felt this had to be done in an open meeting.

Commissioner Baldwin said we had moved forward in good faith to offer the contract, and the Commission had done their due diligence in reference to vetting this candidate. Mr. Stockwell had been asked a series of questions concerning his past time with the City, and Mr. Baldwin felt he had answered to his satisfaction. Commissioner Baldwin said he had been through the process of hiring a city manager many times. He felt Mr. Stockwell's management and mentoring styles were best for the community, at this time, and it was time to move forward. He expressed his appreciation for all Ms. Paluch had done in the position of acting city manager.

Commissioner Payne stated she was on the opposite side of the issue; she was not comfortable with this for many reasons. She was not comfortable with Mr. Stockwell's understanding of where we are at this time. Ms. Payne felt the City needed someone new and fresh, and to rehire someone from 20 years ago who had a mindset from 20 years ago would be going backwards. She was not in support of hiring Mr. Stockwell.

Commissioner Turnbull withdrew her motion, and asked to move forward with the vote.

Mayor Boss had received many negative phone calls concerning Mr. Stockwell and he agreed with Commissioner Payne. He was in favor of going back out to start the process of hiring again.

Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez said the decision of the Commission was to continue on the original path of the city manager job search, and we had to ability to stop the process at any time. He noted Mr. Stockwell had been offered the job, he accepted it, and we were here tonight to formally accept the contract. His concern was how the City would be viewed in the future if we went back out to hire.

Commissioner Sikes asked Interim City Attorney Stevens what might happen if we rescinded the job offer, and was told we could definitely be sued. Ms. Stevens said a letter had been sent to Mr. Stockwell which encouraged him not to come down, buy a house, not do anything trying to mitigate any kind of damages, just in case the vote was not yes. She went on to say anyone could sue, but the contract does say 'contingent on the vote of the City Commission', which she thought would protect us. It would probably be settlement vs liability in a full trial, but we made that very clear as well, in the letter we sent him.

Commissioner Sikes said she had received numerous negative and numerous positive calls and emails. She felt we needed stability right now because it seemed we were running in place. Mr. Stockwell's reputation might help us move forward; his experience would help with all the projects the City had going. Mayor Boss felt the City was moving forward.

Commissioner Turnbull noted the reason she brought this up was because she had an overwhelming number of citizens in her district call, and she felt it important to let them be heard.

Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez moved for approval of a City Manager employee contract for Robert Stockwell. Commissioner Baldwin seconded the motion. Roll Call was taken. Motion failed with a vote of 3-4-0. Commissioner Turnbull, Commissioner Martin, Commissioner Payne, and Mayor Boss voted nay.

Mr. Ken Eaton made the following comments:
Mr. Eaton felt the Commission gave their word, had a deal, and then backed out. He was embarrassed this had happened, just as he was 20 years ago when Bob Stockwell was terminated. Mayor Boss interrupted to say the decision had been made. Mr. Eaton continued saying Mr. Stockwell had made enemies, made some tough decisions and wouldn't play politics.

Commissioner Sikes asked if we needed a motion to continue with the hiring process, and it was decided to give Staff direction. It was decided to have a Special Meeting as soon as possible in order to decide what to do.

12. Consider, and act upon, options for pool coverings for the Family Recreation Center. (Veronica Ortega, Community Services Director and Edward Balderrama, Project Manager)

Community Services Director Ortega said a bubble for the existing pool would cost approximately $500,000 with all appurtenances; this amount did not include HVAC or additional electrical figures because we would need to go out to bid on that. She remarked Mr. Eugene Knight from NM Environmental Department – Aquatic Program Manager was in the audience to answer any questions. There had to be an HVAC system so we could guarantee a 45% - 55% air quality level, removing humidity from the bubble.

Project Manager Edward Balderrama pointed out the aerial view showing Option A – North side and South side of existing pool (See Agenda Book for all aerials and attachments). The North side showed a new pool (natatorium) to the north of the existing pool, and also that the old pool was not an issue because it was under the existing parking lot. The South side showed a parking lot where the existing Girl Scout Hut was, and would create about 80 parking spaces. His estimate for Option A was $2.1 million. It was possible a new bath house would need to be constructed to accommodate an increased occupancy load.

Mr. Balderrama next displayed the aerial showing Option B – new pool (natatorium) on the South side of the existing Rec. Center and additional parking of 40 spaces. This option estimate was $1.9 million, and also, might need a new bath house. Currently, there is an RFP with Lee Gromowsky for this project, if the Commission chooses to move forward.

Acting City Manager Paluch reminded all about reoccurring costs and said the cheaper option was to go with the bubble. If the Commission wanted a year-around, enclosed pool, the reoccurring costs would be much higher than putting a bubble on the existing pool.

Mayor Boss reminded all of the State deficit we would be facing.

Ms. Paluch said this project was funded through bond refinancing and since NM Mortgage and Finance Authority (NMFA) had to approve the cover for the pool, we would need to go back to NMFA with a new project for approval. Our bond counsel did not think this would be an issue. She said we would have to go out for bid on the bubble and HVAC system, and we could possibly have the project completed by mid-December or early January. She reminded everyone the pool would not be heated to the level most are used to during this time.

Commissioner Sikes asked how a new bubble would differ from the old bubble. Ms. Ortega told her the difference would be $24,000, 20 year warrantee. Acting City Manager Paluch said it was a UV protectant which would cost $49,900. Commissioner Sikes asked if the bubble would be taken down each year or left up year round, and she was told it would be taken down and put back up each year. It would cost about $60,000 a year to have the company do this. Commissioner Sikes asked about new storage for the bubble. Community Services Director Ortega told her the company claimed we would have to use the heater and air blower for three days to dry it out before it was to come down. Commissioner Sikes asked more about the HVAC system and Ms. Ortega said it would have to be researched further.

Commissioner Baldwin asked Staff which option they would prefer, and Acting City Manager Paluch said the main issue was staff injuries incurred while putting up/taking down the bubble. The Yeadon company said they could do this with 15 people – people they would hire in our community, not their own staff. She felt Staff was not concerned with the bubble as long as they did not have to take it down/put it up. Commissioner Baldwin liked the bubble idea as long as NMFA was good with the idea. He wanted to see a plan of how any left-over monies would be used, for example, Parks and Rec. Department needs. He wanted to be assured the money would be used as it was meant to be used. The acting city manager said any left-over money would have to be used for capital expenses and not for reoccurring costs. There were many projects at the Rec. Center that needed to be done.

Ray Vincent, president of the Parks and Recreation Board made the following comments:
He said a new pool was certainly out of the question, because it would not have met the needs of the community. Mr. Vincent used to coach swimming teams, and a bubble didn't afford much deck space. The Parks & Recreation board voted for a permanent cover with retractable doors in order to afford more deck space – a permanent metal building that would alleviate the need to take the cover down/put up each year. He hoped the Commission would consider this.

Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to proceed with planning for a bubble for the existing pool with all considerations discussed. Commissioner Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS

13. Consider, and act upon, award of Public Works Bid No. 2016-001 to Smithco Construction, Inc. related to the Snake Tank Well 5 Equipment & Monitoring Wells project, in an amount not to exceed $1,143,471.74, including tax. (Brian Cesar, Public Works Director)

Public Works Director Brian Cesar explained the item and asked for Commission approval.

Commissioner Baldwin moved to approve award of Public Works Bid No. 2016-001 to Smithco Construction, Inc. related to the Snake Tank Well 5 Equipment & Monitoring Wells project, in an amount not to exceed $1,143,471.74, including tax. Commissioner Sikes seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

14. Discussion related to City Parks maintenance and effluent water use. (Veronica Ortega, Community Services Director & Brian Cesar, Public Works Director)

Commissioner Baldwin moved to table discussion related to City Parks maintenance and effluent water use, and place it on a future agenda. Commissioner Turnbull seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

15. Consider and act upon drainage issues on New York Avenue between 1st and 10th Street. (Brian Cesar, Public Works Director)

Commissioner Baldwin moved to table drainage issues on New York Avenue between 1st and 10th Street, and place it on a future agenda. Commissioner Turnbull seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

16. Consider and act upon, sewer service issue at 1417 Cuba. (Brian Cesar, Public Works Director)

Commissioner Baldwin moved to table sewer service issue at 1417 Cuba, and place it on a future agenda. Commissioner Turnbull seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

17. Consider, and act upon, the removal of the traffic signal at 1st & Canyon Road and the installation of a new traffic signal at 10th & Scenic. (Brian Cesar, Public Works Director)

Public Works Director Cesar remarked the Commission directed review of the traffic signal at First St./Canyon Rd. This had been looked at in May of 2015 as part of the First St./Washington Realignment project. The report said this intersection met only one of the warrants for a signalized intersection - #6 Coordinated Signal System. If the Commission chose to have this signal removed, additional costs would be for removal of the stub-out going into Washington Park, as well as re-striping. This cost would be approximately $17,000. We would have to do a budget revision because this is not a funded project.

Mr. Cesar then talked of a possible traffic signal at 10th/Scenic Dr. This had been examined in July of 2011 and the recommendation had been for the City to install a traffic signal at this intersection within a 10 year time frame. The traffic signal at First St./Canyon Rd. could not be used at 10th/Scenic Dr. because the two areas didn't match. Estimated cost to install this signal would be $280,000. This was not a funded project, but it could be funded through Fund 109 (Street Maintenance). There is enough balance to definitely fund both projects.

Commissioner Sikes asked how soon the First St./Canyon Rd. signal could be removed, if approved tonight. Acting City Manager Paluch told her the Public Works crews were currently helping with the demolition of the old bowling alley. Public Works Director Cesar said Facilities Maintenance could take down the signals.

Commissioner Baldwin moved to remove the traffic signal at 1st & Canyon Road, and put the installation of a new traffic signal at 10th & Scenic on a future project list. Commissioner Turnbull seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

18. Appointments to Boards and Committees. (Richard Boss, Mayor)

Mayor Boss read the openings and reappointed Raymond Vincent to the Parks and Recreation Board, and Karen Hutchison to the Public Library Board. No one was opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioner Baldwin commented on the following:
He said that even though he had not voted for Item 11, he would stand behind the Commission vote and was excited to move forward.

Commissioner Payne commented on the following:
Ms. Payne said her daughter considered Police Chief Syling the quintessential leader of the Police Department, because of his demonstration of leadership this past week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez moved to adjourn into Executive Session in compliance with Section 10-15-1(H), NMSA 1978 (as amended), to discuss purchase, acquisition or disposal of real property (Scenic Dr. extension); and purchase, acquisition or disposal of real property (First/Florida realignment) at 10:17 p.m. Commissioner Payne seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Commissioner Martin left the meeting at 10:18 p.m. and did not attend the Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Richard Boss
Mayor Richard Boss

ATTEST:

Nancy E. Jacobs
City Clerk Nancy E. Jacobs

(Prepared by Nancy Jacobs, City Clerk)
Approved at the Regular Meeting held on September 27, 2016.