

**CITY OF ALAMOGORDO, NEW MEXICO  
CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
6:30 P.M., COMMISSION CHAMBERS  
April 11, 2017**

**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 CITY MANAGER  
LAUREN TRUITT, 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. Clerk Hughes announced there was a quorum present. Invocation was given by Pastor Jeff Sowers and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Payne.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**PRESENTATIONS**

**1. Presentation of American Council Conference of Engineering Companies New Mexico Award to the City of Alamogordo. (*Jim Talbert, Airport Manager*)**

Airport Manager Talbert said this past Friday he attended an awards ceremony of the American Council of Engineering Companies where they awarded Delta, Airport consultants and the City of Alamogordo for excellence in the Engineering and Construction of the extension of Runway 21 at the Alamogordo Airport. He said we now have a 9,206 foot runway, which is needed for the BA146 aircraft, typically used for firefighting. This award was the only one for Airport or any kind of Airport construction. Airport Manager presented the award to the Mayor. He presented a plaque and said the teamwork between the City, the consultants and Mesa Verde made this happen.

**2. Presentation of Senior Volunteer Programs Advisory Council. (*Eldon E. Hoover, Chairmen of the Board and Brittany Clark, RSVP Volunteer Coordinator*)**

President of the RSVP Advisory Council, Eldon Hoover presented the Senior Volunteer Programs. He said the purpose of the Advisory Council is to serve in an Advisory capacity to the City of Alamogordo, and to assist the Senior Volunteer Program's Staff in planning and support. They also assist, assess, advise and suggest program and community needs and impact. He said the Senior Volunteer Program puts in many hours. He said the Foster Grandparent Program (FGP) is where they are role models, mentors, and friends to children with exceptional needs. The program provides a way for volunteers age 55 and over to stay active by serving children and youth in their communities. He said they currently have 15 volunteers at seven sites serving 36 children and tutoring five. He said Nina Walker-Saenz who is a volunteer in this program just received an award for New Mexico Exemplary Member of National Service Award. He said the Senior Companion Program (SCP) is where volunteers age 55 and over make a difference by providing assistance and friendship to adults who have difficulty with daily living tasks, such as shopping or paying bills. We help these adults remain independent in their homes instead of having to move to more costly institutional care. Senior Companions give families or professional caregivers a much needed time off from their duties, run errands, and often provide friendship for their clients. In this program we have 12 volunteers at three worksites and have 32 clients. The Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is one of the largest volunteer networks in the nation for people 55 and over. You can use the skills and talents you've learned over the years, or develop new ones while serving in a variety of volunteer activities within our community. In this program we have 326 volunteers and 71 work sites in the City of Alamogordo and Otero.

County. He recapped all of the annual projects they had last year, and went over future projected projects. He said the Senior Volunteer Program Advisory Council Board consists of 10 total positions; five positions currently occupied and five positions open. He said they Market and Recruit Board Positions through; the Alamo Senior Center announcements, the Alamo Senior Center Newsletter and the City Profile. Meetings are held monthly at the Alamo Senior Center every third Wednesday of the month at 1:15 p.m. He said everyone is welcome to attend. He said in conclusion, the SVP Advisory Council is a community-based project. As such, there must be a real sense of local ownership and a spirit of partnership among the community, and its partner organizations. The SVP Senior Advisory Council is a core group of individuals that provide broad representation geographically throughout Otero County, FGP/SCP/RSVP volunteers, and other interested community members. These individuals demonstrate their dedication to volunteerism as well as being a strong resource for the community. This Advisory Council provides support, direction and active participation with Senior Volunteer Programs. (See Blue Book for PowerPoint)

Mayor Boss said he had the privilege to deliver a Proclamation to the Senior Center for the volunteers. He said there were over one hundred thousand hours of work done in the Community. He thanked the Advisory Council and the volunteers for all the work they do. He also congratulated Nina Walker-Saenz for her award.

**3. Presentation of Alamogordo Public Library Advisory Board.** *(Karen Hutchinson, Chairman of the Library Board)*

Chairman of the Library Board, Karen Hutchinson spoke on behalf of the Advisory Board. She praised the library and said it is available to the community and the surrounding area at no cost. She said this board does function by Ordinance and the members were appointed by the City Commission. The Board serves as a public forum and they take part in policy development. We function in an advisory capacity to the Governing Board. She named the other members of the Board; Bill Dennis, Kim Lopez-Gallagher, Joel Hamilton and Gloria Vaughn. She said there are two vacancies on this Board. By Ordinance, there are two spots allocated for County residents. Those appointments get made by the County Commission. She said four or so years ago, the then County Commission chose not to fill those vacancies. She said for the majority of the meetings in 2016, they were able to conduct business because they did have a quorum. She said the previous Ordinance dictated that four members be present to conduct business. With two seats vacant, this became a challenge. The Advisory Board presented to the Commission for that verbiage to be changed to a simple majority. The Commission was able to accommodate their request. Many students take remote classes and most of the higher Institutions require that there be a Proctor for exams and our Library provides this. She briefly spoke about future projects. She discussed the statistics for the library and said this not only shows usage of certain items, but also shows what is available at the library. She said there are several databases available at the Library. She said the library allows the download of E-Books. In 2016, there were 197 physical items checked out from the library which includes: books, audio books, CDs, DVDs and playaways. There were 9,000 e-books checked out from the library. There were 20,000 database accesses and 66,000 wireless sessions. There are 18 full service computers with a reference library to help with issues. She said we are in a time where most job applications are online only, and if you are not familiar on how to do that, the reference library will help. There are few things available for check-out that you may never have thought was available. She said microscopes, telescopes, globes, and New Mexico Park passes are all available for check-out. She said this library is a true Gem and it is hard to keep up with all the advances. (See Blue Book for PowerPoint)

Mayor Boss asked if people outside of Alamogordo utilize our library. Chairman, Hutchinson said very much so. Mayor Boss said he thinks we can find two people in the County to serve on the Board. Chairman, Hutchinson said the Advisory Board has discussed her going to the County and making a presentation and making a request to fill these two vacancies. She said four years ago, when the County decided not to fill these positions, it was a different County Commission. Mayor Boss said when she does that he would be willing to go with her. Chairman, Hutchinson said she wants the blessing of this Board before she commits to doing this. She said County residents make full use of our library. Even residents from Tularosa and Cloudcroft, even though they have a library, they still make good use of this library. She said during that same time period, when the County decided not to fill these spots, they had pulled funding. That funding has now been reinstated.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

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None.

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

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Acting City Manager Maggie Paluch made the following remarks:

1. She showed a video from White Sands Construction on the Family Fun Center. The colored concrete floors have been poured. The kitchen design has been complete and they will be roughing that in next week. The structural steel has been erected. Now that the kitchen plans are completed, the RFP for the Management Company can be re-advertised in the next coming weeks. The RFP will include the updated drawings from the contractor. Our staff is still picking out the furniture for the inside, specifically for the restaurant and bar area. The outside seating area will have seating for approximately 60 people and will have a covered awning. She said White Sands Construction is posting new videos about every week on their progress. She thanked White Sands Construction for the videos and the aerials they are doing.
2. She has confirmed with staff that the pool at the Recreation Center will open on April 29, 2017. The schedule will come out shortly. She wanted to make everyone aware that the schedule for the end of April and May will be abbreviated until our lifeguards are out of school.
3. She gave several updates on projects. She said the Bonito Lake restoration project plans are 95 percent completion. The Civic Center Reroof Plans are 100 percent complete and look to go out for bid in a couple of weeks. She anticipates an award for the bid to be at a May meeting. The First and Florida Project is moving right along. This week the contractor is completing the storm drain on South Florida. They have started the electrical work for the traffic signals and the street lighting. Next week the contractor will begin construction on the retaining wall by the Civic Center. They expect to have the sub-grade work completed on South Florida and East First Street.
4. She said Prom is this weekend at the Civic Center. She reminded everyone attending Prom to please abide by the traffic control signs and the barriers in place. She has asked the Police Department to help out with extra patrols and they are more than willing to do so.
5. She thanked Ms. Hutchinson and Mr. Hoover for their updates from each of their Boards.
6. She reminded Easter in the Park is on April 15, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Alameda Park.

**REMARKS AND INQUIRIES BY THE CITY COMMISSION**

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None.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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4. Approve the minutes for the March 28, 2017 Regular meetings. *(Rachel Hughs, City Clerk)*
5. Consider, and act upon, Resolution No. 2017-12 donating two (2) older bunker gear racks to Lincoln County. *(Jim LeClair, Acting Fire Chief) (Roll Call Required)*
6. Consider, and act upon, the award of IFB 2017-04 Computer Replacement Program Item #1 to JPK Micro \$54,000 and Item #2 to Hypertec USA. *(Mark Graham, MIS Manager)*
7. Consider, and act upon, Resolution No. 2017-04 requesting approval of the Housing Authority Advisory Board Open Meetings Act. *(Evelyn Huff, Housing Authority Manager) (Roll Call Required)*
8. Consider, and act upon, Resolution 2017-05 requesting approval of HUD Form 50077-CR, Civil Rights Certification. *(Evelyn Huff, Housing Authority Manager) (Roll Call Required)*

**9. Consider, and act upon, the approval of Resolution No. 2017-10 requesting written approval from the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance & Administration, State of New Mexico for the revised budget figures computed as of March 28, 2017. (Kathy Gilsdorf, Budget Analyst) (Roll Call Required)**

**10. Consider and act upon Resolution No. 2017-11 for a grant application with EBSCO Solar for the installation of solar panels at the Alamogordo Public Library. (Sharon Rowe, Library Manager) (Roll Call Required)**

**Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez asked to remove Item # 10 from the Consent Calendar.**

**Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez moved to approve items 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 of the consent calendar.**

**Commissioner Turnbull seconded the motion.**

**Roll call was taken for items No 5, 7, 8, 9.**

**Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.**

### **ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

**10. Consider and act upon Resolution No. 2017-11 for a grant application with EBSCO Solar for the installation of solar panels at the Alamogordo Public Library. (Sharon Rowe, Library Manager) (Roll Call Required)**

Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez asked Library Manager Rowe where the solar panels will be placed. She answered they would be placed on the south facing slope of the roof. Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez asked when the last time the roof was redone. She thought it was redone in either 2011 or 2012. Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez asked if they would be making penetrations through the roof or how will they mount the panels. Library Manager Rowe said the panels will be placed on a Unirac Roof Rack System. It is almost identical to what is on the roof of City Hall.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez moved to approve.**

**Commissioner Sikes seconded the motion.**

**Roll call vote was taken.**

**Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**11. Consider and act upon supporting the New Mexico Aviation Aerospace STEM Expo 2017. (Bill Shuert, President of NMAAA)**

President of the New Mexico Aviation Aerospace Association (NMAAA) Bill Shuert spoke on the STEM Expo. He said the NMAAA is a 501 non-profit organization formed in 2012. Their mission is to promote and retain aviation and aerospace companies to New Mexico, and also foster relationships and work corroboratively with state, federal and local entities to try and keep these businesses growing within our state. He said we work with education partners throughout the State to try and build a workforce to sustain the industry and deal with the generation of baby boomers retiring. The STEM Expo is a vital part, we are trying to encourage Mid School and High School kids to come out and get a taste of what aviation and aerospace is about. He said last year's event was a huge success. It was the first year in Alamogordo and they had 2,400 plus students in attendance. This is the single largest STEM aviation program in the United States. They had National Press and AOP magazine, which has 450,000 members that get the email everyday. Last year's event had 82 exhibits and 28 aircraft. He said Congressman Steve Pearce attended last year's event and is a supporter of the event. He said most importantly they had a lot of students that were very motivated and excited about being there. This year's STEM Expo will be October 12, 2017 at the White Sands Regional Airport. He said so far they have 144 Mid School and High School to invite. This is pretty much the whole southern half of the State plus a few schools in El Paso. We also have numerous

schools in Albuquerque and four of Reservations interested in coming down here. We are going to tag on a different program this year and have a robotic STEM competition the following day. If they have a robotics team we are going to try and have them stay the night here in Alamogordo. We are going to try and pay 100 percent transportation for these students. We are working with the Chamber of Commerce to build a bigger program to get more economic impact to Alamogordo. He said they are projecting a \$35,000 cost for this year's event. This is all done on donations and contributions. We are looking to ask the City of Alamogordo for \$10,000 to help us put this event on and help promote Alamogordo. (See Blue Book for PowerPoint)

Vice Chairman of the Airport Advisory Board, Manny Gonzales said we believe this project, not only promotes the White Sands Regional Airport and causing economic impact for the community, but also provides a significant education opportunity. Regardless of our sense of the perception or reality about the reputation of Alamogordo Public Schools, we have received a clear signal from the Air Force community about their expectations, and their expectations are high. They expect us to provide the highest education platform that we can for their dependants, our students. As a Military community we understand that their culture often involves deployment, family separation, and transfers from one duty station to the next. They have a special sensitivity about schools that under perform and over perform. This science, technology, engineering and math event is one of the ways that we can demonstrate our commitment to a unique and powerful education initiative in this community.

NMAAA President, Bill Shuert said he is a 34 year Air Force Retiree and knows what it takes in these communities. He said it's tough to move your families and come into a small, but great town. The 1,800 kids from the Alamogordo Public Schools are more motivated than the Albuquerque Public School kids that came to our event. We received these comments back from the Aviators and Scientists that came down. This year we want to make it the biggest, best event that we can. We need your help and support.

Mayor Boss said he supports this project 100 percent. If we have one of our kids come out of school as an Aircraft Maintainer, I would think it was worth it. He was concerned with the City flips the entire bill. He said we have some time to look at this and try to include the Public Schools and the County to contribute to this program. He wanted to delay a decision until we have had an opportunity to see if these other entities would be willing to do so. He said we are certainly not saying that we are not going to give some funds to the project. We are under a tight budget, and everyone knows what is going on in Santa Fe and we do not know what to expect this year. We have to be very careful and we also have our events to run in the City.

Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez asked if we could use some Lodger's Tax money. Acting City Manager Paluch stated this would come from Fund 20; this is the other portion of the Lodgers tax. This is not Fund 16 for the promotions for 60 miles outside of the City. This is in the Civic Center's budget. Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez was supportive of this. He said if we can get some help from some other entities that would be great, but if not, I would be in support of this 100%. Mayor Boss said we can talk to the County and try to convince them, this would be beneficial to them and their kids. Mayor Boss reiterated this is certainly not saying no. Last year we did not have any time, we had to make a quick decision, this year we have time.

**No Action was taken.**

**12. Consider and act upon Ordinance No. 1536 creating a law prohibiting Public Affray. (Lauren Truitt, City Attorney) (Roll Call Required)**

City Attorney Truitt said this would create a Municipal Ordinance penalizing Public Affray. She introduced Assistant City Attorney Petria Schreiber who is also the Prosecutor for Municipal Court. Assistant City Attorney Schreiber said our City Criminal Code is adopted from the State Ordinances. She said unfortunately our Municipal Code does not have a Public Affray Ordinance. This has come to my attention from several officers. This behavior is already criminalized by State Statute, so we are not adding a law, we are simply it is bringing it into City Ordinance as well.

Acting City Manager Paluch asked Assistant City Attorney Schreiber to detail what Public Affray is, why it is good to have it and how we are citing it currently. Assistant City Attorney Schreiber said Public Affray is two or more persons voluntarily or by agreement engaging in any fight using any blows or violence towards each other in an angry or quarrelsome manner in any public place to the disturbance of others. She said there has been some question about the people sword fighting in the park. She said it is not being cited now, it is

not going to start to be cited. That obviously is not an angrily or quarrelsome manner, it does not meet that level of the Statute. Currently it is being cited, just not being cited into our Municipal Court, it is going to the State Court.

**Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez moved to approve.**

**Commissioner Payne seconded the motion.**

**Roll call vote was taken.**

**Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.**

**13. Adjourn into Executive Session in compliance with Section 10-15-1(H), NMSA 1978 (as amended), to discuss PSAP. (Roll Call Vote required)**

**Commissioner Turnbull moved to adjourn at 7:21 p.m.**

**Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez seconded the motion.**

**Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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ATTEST  
  
City Clerk Rachel Hughes

  
Mayor Richard Boss

(Prepared by Eric Barraza, Deputy City Clerk)  
Approved at the Regular Meeting held on April 25, 2017.