



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR RATON CITY COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2020 AT 6PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Segotta called the meeting of the Raton City Commission to order at 6:00 pm.

II. ROLL CALL/ATTENDANCE:

Answering roll call was Mayor Neil Segotta, Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster, Commissioners: Ron Chavez and Don Giacomo. Commissioner Lori Chatterley was not present. Also present were City Manager Scott Berry, Deputy Clerk Robyn Osborn and approximately 11 visitors.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

IV. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS, CITIZEN OF THE MONTH AND/OR PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION, SERVICE AWARD, CONGRATULATIONS, CONDOLENCES, HOLIDAY SCHEDULES AND CITY/MUNICIPAL EVENTS:

- **Notice of Potential Quorum of City Commissioners may attend the 31st Annual Municipal Day to be held in Santa Fe at the La Fonda Hotel located at 100 E. San Francisco St. A reception will be held Thursday evening February 6th at 5:30 p.m. and the Municipal Day session will be 10a.m.-12 p.m. on February 7, 2020.**
- **Next Regular Commission Meeting Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.**
- **City Offices will be closed on Monday, February 17, 2020 in observance of President's Day.**
- **Recognition: Frank Mahannah, Recipient of the Lions Club International Melvin Jones Fellow Award**

V. COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC:

No Comments.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Giacomo stated that he attended the RPS meeting held on January 22, 2020 and reported that there was an election of officers. He also attended the Library Board meeting held on January 21, 2020 and reported that the financials and statistics were presented and approved.

Commissioner Chavez stated that he along with Mayor Pro-tem Schuster attended the Raton Water Board meeting held on January 21, 2020. Considered and acted on the Open Meetings Resolution and the approval of financials. He reported that Lake Maloya is slowly rising and is approximately 3 feet below the spillway. A

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copy of the 40 year plan has been received from the state. The Lift Station and the Filter Plant are progressing and on schedule. He stated that the water line along I25 North of Hereford has been completed. Budget adjustments and financial reports from 2019 were also approved.

Mayor Pro-tem Schuster reported that she attended the Housing Authority Board meeting also held at noon on January 21, 2020. The Utility Allowance calendar for 2020 was reviewed and adopted it through Tier Resolution 561. Also reviewed Flat Grants for the calendar year 2020 and adopted it through Resolution 562. She also reported that there are 21 units with remodeled bathrooms. The Center for Community Innovation is working very hard to get the Super Cross track up and running and have targeted the date of July 11th for the first race. Geoff Peterson was present to provide further information. He reported the location will be at the Jim Young Rodeo area and the area will be expanded and new lighting will be installed. He also stated that there will be a new Rodeo coming in June and this race will be in between the rodeo and the balloon rally. He noted that this will be a sanctioned race and should bring in a lot of people to town. Mayor Pro-tem Schuster noted that the Center currently has 5 students working on GEDs.

Mayor Segotta attended the New Mexico Municipal League Legislative session. Listened to the Governor's State of the State Address. Governor Lujan-Grisham has two areas of focus which are the PERA Budget and the legalization of recreational marijuana. He stated that the Governor would like to see tougher penalties on human, drug and gun trafficking. She would also like to increase the State Police Force by 60 officers. He also said she wanted to see free college education through scholarships and increases in teacher salaries. Mayor Segotta gave an abbreviated Senior Center report on behalf of Commissioner Chatterley. He stated that they have two RFPs out over the next two years. They are applying to operate Raton, Cimarron, Mora, Springer and Wagon Mound with these. No additional funding was received therefore still at the 15% cut that was taken 3 years ago. With the minimum wage increase that is to take effect January 2020 this will cost the Center \$25,000 in salaries. Which means reduction of hours, staff and loss of services.

VII. ACTION ITEMS/PUBLIC HEARINGS/ ORDINANCES/ RESOLUTIONS/ CITY MANAGERS REPORT – The City Commission may discuss and/or take actions on the following agenda items:

A. Approval of the January 14, 2020 Commission Meeting Minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Chavez to approve the January 14, 2020 Commission Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Giacomo and carried 4-0 with all voting "aye".

B. Presentation by Capital Agronomics, Biz Core, LLC on Hemp Processing Operation

City Manager Scott Berry introduced Ben Romero, Damion Thomas and Adrian Valdez. Mr. Romero began by giving a brief overview of their business operations. He quickly pointed out that this is a Hemp operation and not marijuana. Currently their operation consists of 240 acres near Springfield Colorado and have been in production for approximately one

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year. The processing of the hemp is done in Trinidad and they are wishing to move to Raton. The group of owners are all New Mexico natives from the Albuquerque-Bernalillo areas and would like very much to bring this back to New Mexico. The city owned Armex building would be a perfect location and is much bigger than the processing facility in Trinidad. Mr. Romero stated the plan would be to start out with nine employees and work up to 20 over the next three years. He stated that the harvesting process takes a special skill set and would like to bring this technology to Raton. Hemp has a variety of issues and the New Mexico Governor Lujan-Grisham is very pro Hemp. Mr. Romero told the Commission that there are still many details to be worked out and data is still being compiled, but would like to have the backing of the Commission once all details are worked out. Economic Development Coordinator Jessica Barfield was present and stated that Biz Core has been completely transparent in all discussions. She feels that this would be a great opportunity for Raton and she has also talked with the State Economic Development office. Ms. Barfield stated that she is working on a proposed lease agreement.

C. Deliberate and Act on Personnel Board Appointments.

City Manager Berry stated that three applications had been received for reappointments to the Personnel Board. Terry Baca, Lance Romero and Kerry Medina have been on the Board since 2016 and all terms are expiring. City Manager Berry stated that he recommends approval of all three appointments. Mayor Pro-tem Schuster made a motion and was seconded by Commissioner Chavez to reappoint Terry Baca, Lance Romero and Kerry Medina to the Personnel Board. No further discussion took place and the motion carried 4-0 with all voting "aye".

D. Deliberate and Act on Resolution 2020-05: FY20 2nd Quarter Financial Reports

City Manager Berry reported on behalf of City Clerk Michael Anne Antonucci who was not present. He reviewed the General Fund balance and expenditures. It was noted that the City is operating within budget and that GRT revenues were 3.37% above projection. City Manager Berry indicated a negative note that there has been a steady 10% decline in GRT revenues over the last 18 months. City Manger Berry stated that the best thing that needs to be done is to build a tax base. He also discussed possible revenues from online sales. The report stated that the City is still anxiously awaiting the Small Cities Assistance which is usually distributed after the legislative session. It was also noted that there was a reconciling issue at month end due to payroll checks being run on December 31st and payroll expenses not posting to general ledger until January 2nd. This was in order to meet direct deposit requirements. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Schuster and seconded by Commissioner Chavez to approve Resolution 2020-05; FY20 2nd Quarter Financial Reports. and carried 4-0 with all voting "aye".

E. Deliberate and Act on Resolution 2020-06: Budget Adjustment #6.

City Manager Berry presented the resolution noted that the City of Raton was awarded a planning grant to cover the full cost of updating the Comprehensive Plan. He noted that the City will pay and then be reimbursed by the grant.

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The City currently has \$25,000 set aside for this purpose so some of those funds will now be used for the updating of the zoning map. City Manager Berry then discussed the paving project for the depot. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Schuster to approve Resolution 2020-06: Budget Adjustment #6. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chavez and carried 4-0 with all voting "aye".

F. *City Manager's Report*

City Manager Berry reported that he had met with the Raton Planning & Zoning Board to discuss rezoning of a parcel. He stated that the required process of posting the public hearing and notification of area property owners will begin. City Manager Berry met with the State Legislative Delegation and stated that 4 requests have been submitted. The requests include \$300,000 for three new Police vehicles, \$500,000 for asphalt recycling and street resurfacing, \$250,000 for drainage repairs in the downtown area and \$700,000 for Economic Development building. He stated that the City will apply for more funding from the NM Department of Transportation once the call for projects has been released. City Manager Berry informed the commission that he is working with Retha Shiplet on the new personnel policy manual. He reported that the Traffic Safety report for the Frontage Road off of I25 has been reviewed and that there are plans and specs in process for a lighting project at the airport.

G. *Closed Executive Session Pursuant to 10-15-1H(5) Collective Bargaining Between the City of Raton and Raton Police Officers Association*

Mayor Pro-tem Schuster made a motion at 6:55 p.m. to go into Closed Executive Session Pursuant to 10-15-1H(5) Collective Bargaining Between the City of Raton and Raton Police Officers Association. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chavez and carried 4-0 with a unanimous roll call vote of "yes" by each Commissioner.

The Commission took a 5 minutes recess.

H. *Certification of Closed Session (10-15-1J)*

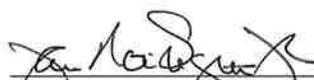
The meeting returned to open session at 7:13 p.m. and Deputy Clerk Robyn Osborn read the following statement: "The minutes shall state the matters discussed in closed session were limited only to those specified in the motion to go into closed session and also as advertised. No action was taken." The Commission then approved the statement by signifying they agreed by voting "yes" 4-0.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

ATTEST:


Michael Anne Antonucci, City Clerk

CITY OF RATON


James Neil Segotta Jr., Mayor