



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR RATON CITY COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 9, 2023 AT 6 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER:

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

II. ROLL CALL/ATTENDANCE:

Answering roll call was: Mayor Neil Segotta Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster. Commissioners: Ronald Chavez, Donald Giacomo, and Lori Chatterley. Also present were City Manager Scott Berry, City Clerk Desire'e Trujillo, City Treasurer Michael Anne Antonucci, and about 17 visitors.

III. MAYOR NEIL SEGOTTA LED EVERYONE IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

- Next Regular Commission Meeting Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
- All City Offices will be Closed Monday, May 29, 2023 in Observance of Memorial Day
- Proclamation: National Public Works Week, May 21-27, 2023
- Proclamation: National Police Week, May 14-20, 2023
- Proclamation: National EMS Week, May 21-27, 2023

V. Items from Citizens Present:

Niko Ibanez was present to discuss holding a Pride Festival in the City of Raton. Niko spoke about the many benefits that the festival will bring, not only for the participants, but the City of Raton. The Commission discussed the safety aspects involved and invited a meeting to further discuss the event. No action was taken.

Carlos Lopez with Fishers Peak Outfitters was present to discuss the possibility of him bringing fly anglers to Lake Dorothy. The Commission explained that the current agreement between the City of Raton and Colorado Parks & Wildlife prohibits third party outfitters from making a profit utilizing the City of Raton, Lake Dorothy property. No action was taken.

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VI. ACTION ITEMS/ PUBLIC HEARINGS/ORDINANCES/ RESOLUTIONS/ CITY MANAGER’S REPORT- The City Commission may discuss and/or take actions on the following agenda items:

A. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Approval of April 25, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes*

A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve the April 25, Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronald Chavez and carried 5-0 with all voting “aye”.

B. *PUBLIC HEARING/REVIEW AND DISCUSSION – FY24 Draft Interim Budget*

City Treasurer Michael Anne Antonucci stated the City of Raton has held a Public Meeting and a Special Commission Meeting over a course of several weeks which has proved to be very helpful in drafting the FY24 Interim Budget. She reviewed the General Fund Budget Revenue Comparison, General Fund Budget Expense Comparison by Department, Municipal Budget Recap, General Budget Revenues and Expenses, General Fund Gross Receipt Tax Comparison and Breakdown, and the Personnel Schedule Breakdown. The Commission commended Treasurer Antonucci for her great work putting the FY24 Draft Interim Budget together. The Commission discussed possible ways to fund the desired upgrades to the city parks and outdoor recreation. No action was taken.

C. *PUBLIC HEARING/DELIBERATE AND ACT on Ordinance No. 1022 Authorizing the Lease of the Coors Building Real Estate to Moss Adventures, LLC as authorized by the New Mexico Metropolitan Redevelopment Code; NMSA Chapter 3, Article 60A, 1 through 48(inclusive), and the 2015 Raton Downtown Master Plan/MRA Designation Report*

City Manager Scott Berry stated Ordinance No. 1022 was introduced two meetings ago in regard to the Downtown Revitalization and the RFP was issued under the Metropolitan Redevelopment Code. This is the first MRA Project the City of Raton has had. Moss Adventures, LLC proposed a multi-purpose adventure center, screen-printing shop and a hostel-style accommodation and were selected unanimously by the proposal committee. He noted that the City of Raton is actively trying to locate grant funds for building improvements. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve Ordinance No. 1022 Authorizing the Lease of the Coors Building Real Estate, amending from Moss Adventures, LLC to Raton Adventures, LLC as authorized by the New Mexico Metropolitan Redevelopment Code; NMSA Chapter 3, Article 60A, 1 through 48(inclusive), and the 2015 Raton Downtown Master Plan/MRA Designation Report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Giacomo and carried 5-0 with a unanimous roll-call vote of “yes”.

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D. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Premises Lease Agreement – Exhibit A to Ordinance No. 1022*

City Manager Scott Berry stated the lease agreement is for a five-year period commencing May 15, 2023 and expiring May 14, 2028 with an annual lease rate of \$100 per year. After the five-year term the lease may be renewed for another five-year term with a lease rate at fair market value. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve the Premises Lease Agreement – Exhibit A to Ordinance No. 1022. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronald Chavez and carried 5-0 with a unanimous roll-call vote of “yes”.

E. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Public Celebration Permits*

- ***Left Turn Inc. for the Run to Raton scheduled for July 20-22, 2023***

City Manager Scott Berry stated there were two public celebration permits for the Run to Raton event that the City of Raton is quite familiar with. He noted that the Alcoholic Beverage Control Division requires the City Commission take action on the permits. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve the Public Celebration Permits for Left Turn Inc. for the Run to Raton scheduled for July 20-22, 2023. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronald Chavez and carried 5-0 with all voting “aye”.

F. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Dispatch Agreement Between the City of Raton and the Town of Springer*

City Manager Scott Berry stated the agreement is for Raton Police Department services, Raton Fire Department services, and Raton Emergency Services. It's a one-year agreement for \$32,004 to be paid in two equal payments of \$16,002 on the first day of January and the first day of July. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve the Dispatch Agreement between the City of Raton and the Town of Springer. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Giacomo and carried 5-0 with all voting “aye”.

G. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Lodgers' Tax Non-Promo Funding Requests*

- ***Raton Arts Humanities & Council, Inc.***

City Manager Scott Berry stated the Raton Arts & Humanities Council, Inc. has requested funding in the years past similar to this request. Executive Director Brenda Ferri stated the Raton Arts & Humanities Council, Inc. was requesting \$18,000 for the full time Executive Director position for fiscal year 2023-2024, which would amount to \$1,500 a month. After some discussion on the various programs, art shows, performances, educational opportunities, and various public attractions that are organized by the Raton Arts & Humanities Council, Inc, a motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster to approve the Raton Arts & Humanities Council, Inc Lodgers' Tax Non-Promo Funding Request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronald Chavez and carried 5-0 with all voting “aye”.

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- ***Raton Museum***

Colfax County Society of Art History and Archeology President Kathy McQueary stated the funding request is the same as last year. The request was for \$30,000 for fiscal year 2023-2024 to assist with the funding and support of the facility, which would amount to \$2,500 a month. After some discussion on the various exhibits displayed attracting tourists, researchers, students and residents, a motion was made by Commissioner Ronald Chavez to approve the Raton Museum Lodgers' Tax Non-Promo Funding Request. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lori Chatterley and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

H. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on GrowRaton Budget Proposal*

GrowRaton Treasurer David Wentling stated the request was for \$25,000 for fiscal year 2023-2024 in order to continue and also to expand the various business development services for economic development they provide to small businesses and entrepreneurs. The Commission commended Treasurer Wentling and GrowRaton for the services they provide which has been a great benefit to the community. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster to approve the GrowRaton Budget Proposal from the economic development fund. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Giacomo and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

I. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Award of RFP for Banking Services*

City Manager Scott Berry requested this item be postponed to the May 23rd Commission meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to postpone the Award of RFP Banking Services. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Giacomo and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

J. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Agreement Between the City of Raton and Better City, LLC*

City Manager Scott Berry stated the City of Raton issued an RFP for economic development services receiving two proposals with Better City, LLC unanimously selected as the most qualified firm by the evaluation committee. He noted that Better City helped develop the City of Raton's Economic Development Strategic Plan, has good knowledge of the City of Raton and will have a full-time employee in Raton. The agreement is for a monthly fee of \$8,000. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve the Agreement between the City of Raton and Better City, LLC. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

K. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Negotiated Settlement Agreement for Horse Racing Real Property*

City Manager Scott Berry stated the City of Raton entered into an agreement for horse racing and a casino putting forth 341.73 acres of land, stipulating that if for any reason the track and casino weren't built the property would be returned to the city. NM Tax & Revenue Department sold the property tax deed to Jim Franken for \$32,000. The City Commission felt it was in the best

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interest of the City of Raton to avoid a drawn out litigation process and to reach a settlement agreement. The settlement agreement was for \$32,000 to be paid to Franken Construction Company, Inc which would deed the property back to the City of Raton with a clean title. A motion was made by Commissioner Donald Giacomo to approve the Negotiated Settlement Agreement for Horse Racing Real Property. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lori Chatterley and passed 5-0 with a unanimous roll-call vote of “yes”.

L. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on NENMEF dba Center for Community Innovation Notice of Subcontract Termination for Services Provided under CYFD Agreement 21-690-3200-20841-04*

City Treasurer Michael Anne Antonucci stated an RFP was publicized at the beginning of last year soliciting a Subcontractor to provide direct youth services and was awarded to NENMEF dba Center for Community Innovation. The Center for Community Innovation submitted a letter of intent to terminate their contract on April 27, 2023 stating their final date will be June 5, 2023. City Treasurer Antonucci will advertise an RFP and bring a recommendation to the Commission for approval in June 2023 in order to have a contract in place by July 1st for the new fiscal year. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve the NENMEF dba Center for Community Innovation Notice of Subcontract Termination for Services Provided under CYFD Agreement 21-690-3200-20841-04. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Giacomo and carried 5-0 with all voting “aye”.

M. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Resolution 2023-27: Budget Adjustment #15 FY23*

City Clerk Michael Anne Antonucci went over the budget adjustments request in the General Fund, Special Revenue Fund, Economic Development Fund, and the Sanitation/Recycling Fund. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve Resolution 2023-27: Budget Adjustment #15 FY23. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Giacomo and carried 5-0 with all voting “aye”.

N. *CITY MANAGER REPORT*

- City Manager Berry reported Senator Ben Ray Lujan’s staff notified him that the East 10th Street Bridge Congressionally Spending Request was assigned to Senate Appropriations, which would require House and Senate approval in FY24/25.
- City Manager Berry reported the Sugarite Avenue Reconstruction Project, and the City-wide Chip Seal Pavement Preservation Project is showing strong progress and cautioned the public to drive attentively and slowly in those areas.

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O. *CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION Pursuant to Section 10-15-1 H(2)*

A motion was made by Commissioner Ronald Chavez to go into Closed Executive Session Pursuant to Section 10-15-1 H(2) Personnel – City Manager. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Giacomo and carried 5-0 with a unanimous roll call vote of “yes” by each Commissioner. The Commission took a 5-minute recess.

P. *CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION*


The City Commission returned from closed session at 8:57 p.m. and City Manager Berry read the Certification of Closed Session stating the only business discussed was Personnel – City Manager. Mayor Neil Segotta, Mayor Pro-tem Linde’ Schuster, Commissioner Ronald Chavez, Commissioner Donald Giacomo and Commissioner Lori Chatterley all agreed with the statement by signifying “yes”.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

CITY OF RATON


James Neil Segotta Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Desire'e Trujillo, City Clerk

