



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR RATON CITY COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2023 AT 6 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster 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 (via conference call) and 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, Public Works Director Jason Phillips and 13 visitors.

III. MAYOR PRO-TEM LINDE' SCHUSTER 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, September 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.**
- **Notice of Potential Quorum: A Quorum of the Raton City Commission May Attend the 66th Annual New Mexico Municipal League Conference August 29 - September 1, 2023 at the Farmington Civic Center**
- **All City Offices Will Be Closed Monday, September 4th in Honor of Labor Day**

V. Items from Citizens Present:

Dennis Bouman addressed the Commission about an issue he brought up at the August 8, 2023 Commission meeting and asked the Commission if they had planned to address it. Mayor Pro-tem Schuster asked Mr. Bouman if he had filed a police report in order to follow the proper procedure. Mr. Bouman stated several reasons of dislike for the Raton Police Department in the reasoning of not filing a report. Mayor Pro-tem Shuster suggested he make a police report in order to get results. No action was taken.

Ken Ryan, Ken Chapin, Marggie Ferrendelli, and Anna Ryan spoke about the Smithsonian Exhibition-Crossroads Exhibit that will be hosted in Trinidad, Colorado for six weeks beginning in December. He wanted to invite local non-profits and artists to attach themselves to the event. He noted that he will be meeting with Roger Sanchez from the Raton Museum for an interview on Raton's History, Sandy Solano with Solano's Boot & Western Wear to interview her about the retired hat collection they have on display in the store and also that he has interviewed Kayvan Khalatbari who has properties in the City of Raton as well as

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in Trinidad, Colorado. He noted that they will also have thirteen Rail Organizations at the event as well as a Rail Job Fair. The Commission was pleased to hear of all that will be taking place and stated they look forward to the collaboration. No action was taken.

Laura Brewer addressed the need for public transportation and asked the Commission to visit the possibilities. The Commission agreed with the need and stated it is something that can be looked into further. No action was taken.

VI. Committee Reports from Commissioners:

Commissioner Lori Chatterley reported she will be attending the North Central NM Economic Development District meeting on Thursday, she will be attending the NM Municipal League Annual Conference in Farmington, NM from August 31 – September 2, 2023 and will be in Eagle Pass, Texas September 13 – 15, 2023 for the Ports to Plains Annual Conference.

Commissioner Donald Giacomo attended the RPS Board of Directors meeting, along with Mayor Neil Segotta, on July 24th where they reviewed and approved financials, budget adjustments, the FY24 Final Budget, and the bid award for Frontage Road Lighting. He also reported that the unit flashcard went down on the backup generator and that they have been waiting on the replacement part to bring the generator back up.

Commissioner Ronald Chavez attended the Financial Advisory Committee meeting on August 17th where they reviewed and approved the financials to be presented at this meeting.

Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster attended the Raton Water Works Board of Directors meeting, along with Commissioner Ronald Chavez, on August 15th and reported Lake Maloya is three-quarters of a foot below spilling, the contractor working on the Cimarron water line repairs is making great progress, the 2.5 Million Gallon Treatment Plant Raw Water Tank was cleaned and inspected by a contractor and that the new Water Works General Manager is Lloyd Wakefield. She also attended the Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board Meeting on August 16th but didn't go into detail due to the recommendations being an item on this agenda.

Mayor Neil Segotta attended the RPS Board of Directors meeting on July 24th and will be attending the NM Municipal League Annual Conference in Farmington, NM from August 31 – September 2, 2023. He commented on the need for Public Transportation and stated that it is definitely something that has been discussed and can be looked into further.

VII. 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 August 8, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes and the August 14, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes*

A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve the August 8, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes, with one minor correction and the August

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14, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Giacomo and carried 5-0 with all voting “aye”.

B. *REPORT on Explore Raton Analytics by the Center for Community Innovation*

CCI Executive Director Patricia Duran reported on the Explore Raton Website Analytics, Google Analytics, and Social Media Analytics. She also went over the Google Ads Grant, noting that due to constant changes in their policy requirements she has to continually conduct updates in order to remain compliant, and the Explore Raton domain and what she’s been doing since the city purchased the site. She also stated she has recruited some local non-profit groups with talents in graphic design, videography and photography to assist her with the site content. No action was taken.

C. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Appointment to the Planning & Zoning Commission*

City Manager Scott Berry stated long time Planning & Zoning Commission Member Christopher Candelario has stated he can no longer serve on the board. City Manager Berry recognized his many years of service. He noted that the only stipulation to serving on the board is a requirement of being a property owner within the city limits. Tim Curry has turned in an application of interest and is a property owner. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve the Appointment to the Planning & Zoning Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronald Chavez and carried 5-0 with all voting “aye”.

D. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on LT Advisory Board Recommendations*

City Manager Scott Berry stated the Lodgers’ Tax Advisory Board met on August 16th and recommended \$40,000 be awarded to the Center for Community Innovation for Google Ads Management and Media Management from the Explore Raton Management Fund and the Media Management Fund. A motion was made by Commissioner Ronald Chavez to approve the LT Advisory Board Recommendations. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Giacomo and carried 5-0 with all voting “aye”.

E. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Purchase of Tractor and Mower from U.S. Tractor Harvest Utilizing NM NASPO Price Agreement 10-00000-20-00037*

Public Works Director Jason Phillips stated this equipment is for the general operations of the Municipal Airport for snow removal and mowing. This equipment will be replacing a fifteen-year old unit. The City of Raton received a grant from the NM State Aviation Division which would cover 90% with a 10% City of Raton match. The total purchase price for the equipment is \$169,965.96. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve the Purchase of Tractor and Mower from U.S. Tractor Harvest Utilizing NM NASPO Price Agreement 10-00000-20-00037 authorizing City Manager Berry to sign. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronald Chavez and carried 5-0 with all voting “aye”.

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F. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Resolution 2023-52: Approval of July 2023 Financial Report*

City Treasurer Michael Anne Antonucci went over the ending cash balances as of July 31, 2023 in the General Fund, Special Revenue Fund, Capital Projects Fund, Debt Service Fund, Solid Waste Fund, Trust & Agency Fund, and the Landfill Trust Fund. She noted that the City of Raton has started a new fiscal year and the gross year-to-date GRT compared to last year is down -6.78%, however the General Fund GRT revenues year-to-date are 2.54% above GRT FY24 budgeted projections. Due to the various ongoing construction projects, it is expected that the City of Raton will meet its projected budget. Treasurer Antonucci also went over the Lodgers' Tax Comparison and stated she hasn't received the Cannabis Report or the Gas Tax Report as of yet. A motion was made by Commissioner Donald Giacomo to approve Resolution 2023-52: Approval of July 2023 Financial Report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lori Chatterley and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

G. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Resolution 2023-53: Disposal of Surplus Property and Transfer of 2004 Chevy Tahoe to Raton Public Service Company*

City Treasurer Michael Anne Antonucci stated the 2004 Chevy Tahoe is the Public Works Director's old unit which has recently been replaced. She noted that the unit was originally purchased for the Raton Fire Department in 2004 from the fire fund and that if it should ever be sold the proceeds will be required to return to the fire fund. City Manager Berry stated the unit is still in fair to good shape and can still be utilized in house. A motion was made by Mayor Neil Segotta to approve Resolution 2023-53: Disposal of Surplus Property and Transfer of 2004 Chevy Tahoe to Raton Public Service Company. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronald Chavez and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

H. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Resolution 2023-54: Application to NM MainStreet for Funding from the Capital Outlay Program*

City Manager Scott Berry stated the application process for NM MainStreet Capital Outlay Public Infrastructure funding is currently open with a submittal deadline of August 31, 2023. The City of Raton has a scope of work from Wayne Lloyd & Associates for the Railroad Depot Facility Restoration dated July 28, 2023. The proposed project funding request is for bidding and constructing building renovations consisting of structural repairs and stabilization, building exterior and interior improvements, utility system improvements, roofing and window replacement in the amount of \$1,000,000 with a required pledge of \$250,000 in local matching funds. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve Resolution 2023-54: Application to NM MainStreet for Funding from the Capital Outlay Program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Giacomo and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

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I. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Cost Proposal Service Contract from MRWM for Civic Plaza Project*

City Manager Scott Berry stated the City of Raton was awarded \$25,000 for the plan and design process at the former El Portal site. He noted that this is the firm that helped design the Great Blocks Project. The services they would be providing are the project start-up/project kick off, site visit & initial stakeholder/public meeting, conceptual design, public outreach, schematic design and engineering support for the total amount of \$25,023.98 including NMGRT. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve the Cost Proposal Service Contract from MRWM for Civic Plaza Project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Giacomo and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

J. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Recreation Centers/Quality of Life Grant Application*

City Manager Scott Berry stated the NM Department of Finance & Administration Department currently has \$40,000,000 available for project appropriations. There has been several discussions as well as public meetings on potential projects that would be beneficial to the City of Raton. City Manager Berry requested the Commission decide what projects they would like to submit for funding requests. After a lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve submitting the Recreation Centers/Quality of Life Grant Applications for Goat Hill & Iridium Layer, an Amphitheater & Dog Park, Romero Park to refurbish the tennis courts and a walking trail, the Gabriele Field band stand, and the slide at the Aquatic Center. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Giacomo and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

K. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Task Order Wayne Lloyd & Associates Final Design, Plans, and Specs for Railroad Depot Project*

City Manager Scott Berry stated the City of Raton has \$250,000 of unspent grant funds for a portion of the construction. The project is to restore the train depot back to its original state. The fee for the schematic design, design development, construction documents, procurement and some construction is \$115,000 not including NM GRT. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve Task Order Wayne Lloyd & Associates Final Design, Plans, and Specs for the Railroad Depot Project authorizing City Manager Scott Berry to execute. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronald Chavez and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

L. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Reconstruction of Taxiway B Design FY2023 AIP Grant No. 3-35-0033-026-2023*

City Manager Scott Berry stated this is a grant offer from the Federal Aviation Administration under their Airport Improvement Program for the reconstruction of Taxiway Bravo. The amount of the grant is \$109,934 which covers 90% of the design phase. Upon approval the additional funding will come from local funds and the State Aviation Division. The reconstruction phase of Taxiway Bravo is anticipated to cost over \$2,000,000, which will be brought back to the City Commission when grant funding is approved. A

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motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve Reconstruction of Taxiway B Design FY2023 AIP Grant No. 3-35-0033-026-2023 authorizing City Manager Scott Berry and City Attorney Ray Floersheim to execute. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronald Chavez and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

M. CITY MANAGER REPORT

- City Manager Berry reported the NM State Game Commission Meeting will be held in the City of Raton at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, August 25, 2023 in the City Commission Chambers.
- City Manager Berry reported there was discussion between the City staff and our structural engineer on the needed structural repairs at the Coors Building and the Municipal Building. He noted that he submitted a grant application for the Creative Industries program under the NM Economic Development Department.
- City Manager Berry reported the pavement restoration will commence on the Sugarite Avenue Project and will cause some traffic delays and road closures. He requested the public be patient and vigilant during this time.
- City Manager Berry reported the Photovoltaic Solar Project has been producing electricity for the last fourteen days which can be viewed at the Sunny Portal website.
- Commissioner Chatterley stated that the Proposed New School Bond information is on the Raton Public School website, and she encouraged the support of the public due to the dire need of a new facility.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

CITY OF RATON


James Neil Segotta Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:


Desire'e Trujillo, City Clerk

