



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR RATON CITY COMMISSION  
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 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 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, and 23 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, October 10, 2023**
- **Notice of Potential Quorum: A quorum of the Raton City Commission, Planning & Zoning Commission, and the Extra Territorial Commission May Attend the Zoning 101 and Commission Workshop on Wednesday, October 18, 2023 from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers located at 224 Savage Avenue, Raton, NM 87740.**
- **Proclamation: Domestic Violence Awareness**
- **Recognition: Raton Fire Department Chief Anthony Burk**

**V. Committee Reports from Commissioners:**

Commissioner Lori Chatterley attended the NCNMEDD Board of Directors Meeting on August 24<sup>th</sup> where they approved new board members, a AAA plan Amendment, budget adjustments, and the purchase of a new building. She also attended the NMML Annual Conference and the NMML Annual Business Meeting August 29<sup>th</sup>-1<sup>st</sup> in Farmington, NM where she attended sessions on conflict and civility, parliamentary procedure, the economic growth story of Farmington, communicating through crisis, and the annual business meeting where she was the voting delegate. She attended the Ports-to-Plains Alliance Annual Conference and Board Meeting September 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> in Eagle Pass, TX where they discussed decided to continue services with Hance Scarborough LLP for Federal and State lobbying efforts, approved the 2024 budget, and were given updates on the Texas I-27, Theodore Roosevelt Expressway and the Heartland Expressway.

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Commissioner Donald Giacomo attended the RPS Board of Directors Meeting on September 25<sup>th</sup> where they approved financials and transfers and acknowledged the FY24 Budget approval from NMDFA. He also attended the AJML Board Meeting on September 19<sup>th</sup> and reported the Annual State Report was filed on August 8<sup>th</sup>, the 2024 GO Bond was received, fines paid, donations made, copies made, and programs held.

Commissioner Ronald Chavez attended the RWW Board Meeting on September 15<sup>th</sup> and reported they approved the resolution for the freshwater tank, Lake Maloya is 2' below spilling and that the City of Raton water is currently running 70% on the Cimarron System and 30% on the Lake Maloya System.

Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster reported she visited the Stockholm, Sweden City Hall where they award the Nobel Prize. She expressed her desire to recognize Paul Madrich who was awarded this honor and was a Raton High School graduate. She and local photographer Frank Mahannah met with Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham in honor of Mr. Mahannah's photos, which will be hung in the lobby at the Santa Fe Roundhouse. She attended the NMML Annual Conference where she attended the Housing Workshop where they discussed available funding to increase local homes. She also attended the Gate City Music Festival and the Rainbow Alliance Pride Festival and commended the event organizers on a job well done.

Mayor Neil Segotta attended the NCNMEDD Board of Directors Meeting, NMML Annual Conference, NMSIF Board Meeting, and the RPS Board of Directors Meeting. He reported the Photovoltaic Solar Power Project is up and running and the peak power produced has been 6.1 kilowatts. He met with the Pickleball Association and will be at the NMED Strategic Planning Meeting the next two days and the NMML Board Meeting next Friday.

**VI. Items from Citizens Present:**

Ann Theis invited the citizens to the Economic Development Summit on October 13<sup>th</sup> at the Raton Convention Center, Spaghetti & Western Fest on October 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> and the Election Forum at the Raton Convention Center on October 17<sup>th</sup>. She also extended her appreciation to City Manager Berry, on behalf of El Raton Media Works, for all his hard work in obtaining funding to bring the video production industry to Northern NM.

Sandra Young with Moss Adventures extended her appreciation to City Manager Berry for all he has done in bringing outdoor recreation funding to the City of Raton.

Geoff Peterson spoke on behalf of the Huerfano World Journal and invited the election candidates to have their platforms printed free of charge.

**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 September 12, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes***

Commissioner Lori Chatterley made a motion to approve the September 12, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes with one minor correction. The motion was

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seconded by Commissioner Ronald Chavez and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

**B. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Corrections to Resolution Numbering from the September 12<sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting 55-56 were used and should have been 58-59***

City Clerk Desire'e Trujillo stated she mistakenly used resolution numbers 55-56 which had already been used for resolutions previously approved at the Special Commission Meeting that she did not attend. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve the Corrections to Resolution Numbering from the September 12<sup>th</sup> Commission Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Giacomo and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

**C. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Center for Community Innovation SkillSharp Subcontractor Agreement***

Executive Director Patricia Duran and SkillSharp Admin Bianca Patterson gave a presentation on the proposed expansion of skilled trades that they offer to business owners, employees, and students. The program partners with Luna Community College offering certification skilled trade classes and workshops free of charge. The proposed term of the contract is one-year for a total amount of \$36,000. Executive Director Duran stated she is currently applying for grants to assist with the funding. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster to approve the Center for Community Innovation SkillSharp Subcontractor Agreement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lori Chatterley and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

**D. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board Recommendations***

- **Clash at Colfax Disc Golf Tournament by Moises Ortiz**  
City Manager Scott Berry stated the Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board met on September 20<sup>th</sup> and recommended \$2,800 be awarded to the Clash at Colfax Disc Golf Tournament for advertising, course maintenance, trophies/prizes, t-shirts, and players packets/extras from the annual events fund. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve the Clash at Colfax Golf Tournament recommendation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronald Chavez and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".
  
- **Correction/Clarification to Lodgers' Tax Request Form the Rainbow Alliance Pride Festival**  
The Commission discussed their concerns with adjusting the previously approved funding request from the Rainbow Alliance for the Pride Festival, due to not wanting it to cause an audit finding. After a very serious discussion a motion was made by Commissioner Donald Giacomo to deny the request for Correction/Clarification. 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 Event Forms***

- **Raton MainStreet Safe Trick-or-Treat October 31, 2023**
- **Domestic Violence Awareness Walk/Run October 7, 2023**

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City Manager Scott Berry stated the City of Raton is very familiar with both events due to them being conducted for a number of years. The city staff previously reviewed and signed off on the event forms. A motion was made by Commissioner Ronald Chavez to approve both event forms. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

***F. DELIBERATE AND ACT on Resolution 2023-60: Corporate Authorization to Change INBANK Signature Cards***

City Treasurer Michael Anne Antonucci stated this change was made just a couple of months ago but due to City Manager Berry retiring and recent staff changes at City Hall, it needs to be updated. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve Resolution 2023-60: Corporate Authorization to Change INBANK Signature Cards. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Giacomo and carried 5-0 with a unanimous roll-call vote of "yes".

***G. DELIBERATE AND ACT on Resolution 2023-61: Disposal of Surplus Property – Electronic Waste***

City Manager Scott Berry stated this equipment has been in storage and is obsolete and in order to dispose of it, it requires the Commission's approval. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve Resolution 2023-61: Disposal of Surplus Property – Electronic Waste. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronald Chavez and carried 5-0 with all voting "yes"

***H. DELIBERATE AND ACT on Resolution 2023-62: August Financial Report***

City Treasurer Michael Anne Antonucci went over the ending cash balance as of August 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 also went over the year-to-date Lodgers' Tax Comparison, Gas Tax Comparison, and Cannabis Excise Tax. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster to approve Resolution 2023-62: August Financial Report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lori Chatterley and carried 5-0 with all voting "

***I. DELIBERATE AND ACT on Resolution 2023-63: FY24 Budget Adjustment #2***

City Treasurer Michael Anne Antonucci went over the budget adjustment requests in the General Fund, Special Revenue Fund, Pooled Capital Projects Fund, and the Sanitation Fund. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve Resolution 2023-63: FY24 Budget Adjustment #2. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronald Chavez and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

***J. DELIBERATE AND ACT on Resolution 2023-64: INCODE FY23 Final End of Year Close Adjustments***

City Treasurer Michael Anne Antonucci stated that during fiscal year 2022-2023 the City of Raton was assessed bank fees on NM Bank and Trust accounts which were not previously set up with line items for bank fees. The

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requested line-item adjustments were for the Payroll Clearing Fund, Municipal Court Bond Fund, and Municipal Court Fund. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster to approve Resolution 2023-64: INCODE FY23 Final End of Year Close Adjustments. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lori Chatterley and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

***K. DELIBERATE AND ACT on City of Raton Backup Generation Assessment – Engineering Services Proposal***

City Manager Scott Berry stated the City of Raton, Raton Water Works and Raton Public Service Company have no backup generator to utilize for power outages. He noted how concerning this is for the server and data. The assessment will consist of a site observation and review of the existing electrical service and generator system, making recommendations as needed. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve the City of Raton Backup Generation Assessment – Engineering Services Proposal contingent upon Raton Water Works and Raton Public Service Company paying 25% and the City of Raton covering 50%. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

***L. DELIBERATE AND ACT on Bid Award for Aquatic Center One Time Repairs and Maintenance***

City Manager Scott Berry stated sealed bids were solicited with a bid opening held on September 21, 2023. The project work is mainly in the shower rooms and will consist of replacing the remaining faulty shower piping, replacement of shower heads, controls and associated plumbing at five showers, patch walls, installation of access panels at the same five showers, replace toilet partitions at five stalls, and replace a toilet flush valve. One bid was received from Mosark with a bid amount of \$92,398.46 including NMGRT. A motion was made by Commissioner Ronald Chavez to approve the Bid Award for Aquatic Center One Time Repairs and Maintenance. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

***M. DELIBERATE AND ACT on Bid Award for Shuler Theater Loading Dock***

City Manager Scott Berry stated sealed bids were solicited with a bid opening held on September 21, 2023. The project work will mainly consist of the removal and replacement of steel ramp decking, alter the welded steel guardrail and weld new aluminum ramp extension. Two bids were submitted with the low bid coming from Mark Honeyfield dba Farmers & Ranchers Welding with a bid amount of \$26,837.23 including NMGRT. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve the Bid Award for Shuler Theater Loading Dock. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Giacomo and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

***N. CITY MANAGER REPORT***

- City Manager Berry reported the Sugarite Avenue Reconstruction Project is substantially complete with a completion date scheduled for mid-October.
- City Manager Berry reported Robert Loftis will be in Raton on September 28<sup>th</sup> to inspect the El Portal Civic Plaza Site in order to prepare a development plan.


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- City Manager Berry reported the City of Raton was awarded \$65,748 from the NM Outdoor Recreation Division for the rehabilitation of the pedestrian tunnel that resides under the railroad tracks on First Street. The award requires \$34,000 in local matching funds.
- City Manager Berry reported the City of Raton was awarded \$393,750 in Law Enforcement Recruitment Funds which will be received over a three-year period. He commended Treasurer Antonucci for all her hard work in attaining the funding.
- City Manager Berry reported he, City Manager Mestas, and City Engineer Welch attended the State Transportation Commission Meeting on September 21<sup>st</sup> where they discussed the planning of Interstate 27 corridor and the development of the 451 Interchange Project.
- City Manager Berry reported that he will be officially retiring and that Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> would be his last day as City Manager. He acknowledged the City Commission's efforts and stated it was an honor and a privilege to work with them, noting that they were the best Commission he's seen since 1986. He commended the entire city staff for all their hard work as well as City Treasurer Michael Anne Antonucci, Public Works Director Jason Phillips and City Clerk Desire'e Trujillo who worked with him in City Administration since day one. The Commission commended City Manager Berry's expertise, dedication and tireless hard work and wished him all the best.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

**CITY OF RATON**

  
James Neil Segotta (Jr.), Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
Desire'e Trujillo, City Clerk

