



MINUTES OF THE REGULAR RATON CITY COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 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 Rick Mestas, City Clerk Desire'e Trujillo, City Treasurer Michael Anne Antonucci, Public Works Director Jason Philips and 10 visitors.

III. MAYOR 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 24, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
- 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 at 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the City Commission Chambers located at 224 Savage Avenue, Raton, NM 87740.
- **Proclamation:** Recognizing the Efforts and Contributions of Congresswoman Teresa Leger-Fernandez in the Kearney Film Production and Workforce Facility Development Project

V. Items of Citizens Present:

County Commission Chairman Si Trujillo was present, and he stated that the County had a great working relationship with City Manager Scott Berry which he wanted to continue with City Manager Rick Mestas. He also stated the County is interested in collaborating with the City of Raton for the NMNCEDD housing grant opportunities.

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:

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR RATON CITY COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023 (Cont.)

A. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Approval of September 26, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes*

A motion was made by Commissioner Ronald Chavez to approve the September 26, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lori Chatterley and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

B. *INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE: Authorizing the City of Raton ("Borrower") To Enter into a Loan Agreement with the New Mexico Environment Department ("NMED") for the Purpose of Obtaining Project Loan Funds in the Principal Amount of \$150,000 Plus 1% Accrued Interest and Loan Subsidy Grant Funds in the Amount of \$50,000; for a Total Funding Amount of \$200,000*

City Manager Rick Mestas stated this is to purchase a solid waste sanitation truck and that the City of Raton currently has a \$50,000 grant. Public Works Director Jason Phillips stated this is the continuation of the process with more documentation to come. The estimated cost of the truck is about \$272,000 with \$72,000 coming from the sanitation fund, \$50,000 from a grant and the financing of \$150,000. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster to approve the Introduction of Ordinance: Authorizing the City of Raton ("Borrower") To Enter into a Loan Agreement with the New Mexico Environment Department ("NMED") for the Purpose of Obtaining Project Loan Funds in the Principal Amount of \$150,000 Plus 1% Accrued Interest and Loan Subsidy Grant Funds in the Amount of \$50,000; for a Total Funding Amount of \$200,000. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lori Chatterley and carried 5-0 with a unanimous roll-call vote of "yes".

C. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Resolution 2023-65: Acceptance of NMDOT Grant Agreement for Local Road Project*

City Manager Rick Mestas stated this is for the replacement of three small bridges. Two bridges are located on Railroad Avenue, and one is located on Shuler Street. The total cost of this project is \$531,325.25 with the NMDOT share being \$504,758.99 and the City of Raton share being \$26,566.26. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve Resolution 2023-65: Acceptance of NMDOT Grant Agreement for Local Road Project. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

D. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Resolution 2023-66: Authorizing the Assignment of Authorized Officer(s) and Agent(s)*

City Manager Rick Mestas stated this is authorization for Mayor Neil Segotta, City Manager Rick Mestas and City Treasurer Michael Anne Antonucci to have signatory authority for NMDOT Loan Agreement RIP 0045 for the solid waste sanitation truck purchase. A motion was made by Commissioner Lori Chatterley to approve Resolution 2023-66: Authorizing the Assignment of Authorized Officer(s) and Agent(s). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronald Chavez and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR RATON CITY COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023 (Cont.)

E. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Resolution 2023-67: Approving Vacation of a portion of Property on Lester Avenue and Davis Street*

City Manager Rick Mestas stated the Planning & Zoning Commission is recommending to the City Commission that 15' of City property on a portion of Lester Avenue and a portion of Davis Street be vacated and deeded to James & Erika Eveskcige so they may sell they're property. Planning & Zoning Officer Kevin Nolin stated all the proper procedures were carried out with a public meeting held and that there was no opposition regarding this action. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster to approve Resolution 2023-67: Approving Vacation of a portion of Property on Lester Avenue and Davis Street. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lori Chatterley and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

F. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Approval of Application 23-ZH5048-66 Funding Agreement between the City of Raton and Department of Finance and Administration for Law Enforcement/Support Positions*

City Manager Rick Mestas stated this appropriation of \$393,750 is to help fill the vacancies in the Raton Police Department that will be disbursed in a three-year time period. City Treasurer Michael Anne Antonucci stated she felt the amount awarded was very generous and that due to the positions already being included in the 2024 budget, this will free up some funds for other necessities. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster to approve Application 23-ZH5048-66 Funding Agreement between the City of Raton and Department of Finance and Administration for Law Enforcement/Support Positions. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Giacomo and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

G. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Authorization to Redeem Library Building Fund Certificates of Deposit from New Mexico Bank & Trust*

City Manager Rick Mestas stated this is the transfer of matured certificates of deposit. City Treasurer Michael Anne Antonucci stated that the two CD's will mature as of October 8, 2023 and due to the banking transition, it's felt that it would be best to redeem and deposit in the city's INBANK account. She noted that there will be some further discussion at the next Financial Advisory Committee meeting about the best way to reinvest the funds. A motion was made by Commissioner Ronald Chavez to approve the Authorization to Redeem Library Building Fund Certificates of Deposit from New Mexico Bank & Trust. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Donald Giacomo and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

H. *DELIBERATE AND ACT on Tascosa/Canon Equipment Lease for the Raton Police Department*

City Manager Rick Mestas stated this is a lease agreement between the City of Raton and Tascosa Office Machines for a canon copier at the Raton Police Department. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Linde' Schuster to approve the Tascosa/Canon Equipment Lease for the Raton Police Department. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lori Chatterley and carried 5-0 with all voting "aye".

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR RATON CITY COMMISSION
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023 (Cont.)

I. CITY MANAGER REPORT

- City Manager Rick Mestas reported the city government is making great progress on several projects including the Civic Plaza site, Coors building rehabilitation, Kearney Schol Film Production Project and the proposed Pickleball Project.
- City Manager Rick Mestas commended Treasurer Antonucci for the successful appeal to the NM Department of Finance regarding a finding by the 2021-2022 audit which would have required the City of Raton to hire a fiscal agent for grant funding management.
- City Manager Rick Mestas reported the Entrance Meeting for the 2022-2023 audit will be on October 16th.
- City Manager Rick Mestas reported the “Big Rocks” are the City Treasurer working on the upcoming audit and grant management, the Police Department working on recruitment of Police Officers and Dispatch, the Fire Department working on rehabilitation and possible demolition of Station 4, the Public Works Department paving of Frontage Road and various rehabilitation projects, the Kearney School bid proposals and implementation of grant funding for the pedestrian tunnel on 1st Street, the City Clerk taking on oversight of the new web-site and obtaining her City Clerk Certification, and the Economic Development Summit on Friday, October 13th.
- City Manager Mestas reported Parks Foreman Eddie Romero retired after 25 years of dedicated service, Adrian Mendez was promoted to Roving/Parks Foreman, Randy Trujillo was promoted to Parks Foreman, Public Works Superintendent David Gallegos recently returned to work after an extended leave, Leonard Zamora did an excellent job on the City Hall Renovation Project, and City Clerk Desire’e Trujillo performed her first “oath of office”.
- City Manager Mestas thanked the City of Raton for a great welcome to his new position as City Manager also recognizing City Manager Scott Berry for sharing his expertise.
- Commissioner Lori Chatterley stated she may not be able to attend the next Commission meeting.

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

CITY OF RATON


James Neil Segotta Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:


Desire’e Trujillo, City Clerk

