

Minutes of the Work Session of the Gallup City Council, City of Gallup, New Mexico, held in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 110 West Aztec, at 6:00 P.M. on Tuesday, July 13, 2010.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Harry Mendoza.

At such meeting, the following were present, constituting a quorum:

Mayor: Harry Mendoza

Councilors: John J. Azua  
Mike Enfield  
Allan Landavazo  
E. Bryan Wall

Also present: R. David Pederson, City Manager &  
City Attorney

Presented to the Mayor and Councilors were the following discussion items:

1. Establishment of a Quiet Zone – Charlie Chavez and Martin Neal

Mr. Neal asked the Mayor and Councilors to address the noise pollution problem caused by train operators blasting their horns at the railroad crossings at Second Street, Third Street, Allison Road and Mentmore Road. He said there train operators blasting their horns more than the required number of times especially during the night when people are sleeping. He recommended working with the BNSF Railroad and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) to establish a quiet zone in Gallup for all four railroad crossings. The establishment of a quiet zone would address quality of life issues for nearby residents and economic issues for local businesses.

Councilor Enfield asked about the process and the costs for establishing a quiet zone. Mr. Pederson said the FRA and the BNSF Railroad will need to be contacted regarding the City's intent to establish the quiet zone. Mr. Pederson said he does not see why a quiet zone cannot be established in Gallup when quiet zones have been established in other communities. Mr. Neal asked the Mayor and Councilors to view a video at their convenience on a website link on the internet concerning the Beaver Street crossing in Flagstaff, Arizona which is located in an established quiet zone.

Councilor Landavazo asked how the existing equipment at each of the railroad crossings will be effected by implementing the quiet zone. Mr. Neal said the costs will be minimal for the Second Street and Third Street crossings since most of the equipment is already in place; however, there will be increased costs for the Allison and Mentmore crossings. Mr. Neal also said additional signage as well as pedestrian gates will need to be installed at the crossings. Discussion followed concerning additional warning devices to be considered for installation for the proposed quiet zone.

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Mayor Mendoza said formal action to establish the quiet zone could not be taken since this matter was presented as a work session item. Mr. Pederson said formal action by the Mayor and Councilors is not required at this time since the City will contact the FRA and the BNSF Railroad concerning its intentions of establishing a quiet zone in Gallup. Mr. Pederson said the City of Gallup could obtain additional information on the matter by contacting other cities that have implemented quiet zones in their communities. Mr. Pederson also said Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) issues may need to be taken into consideration due to the pedestrian traffic at the Second Street and Third Street crossings. Mayor Mendoza said an un-gated crossing located north of Earl Restaurant and east of the Panz Alegre Restaurant needs to be taken into consideration.

2. Update on the Business Improvement District (BID) – Bill Keeler, Gallup BID, Inc. and R. David Pederson, City Manager/City Attorney

Mr. Keeler presented the financial statements of the BID and a list of projects that are currently underway or being considered by the BID Board of Directors. He said the first five projects on the list were being funded with \$150,000 in State Legislative allocations that were not clawed back by the state. The way-finding kiosks will be set-up at the Gallup Cultural Center and the Downtown Walkway and should be completed within the next two months. The bronze plaques for the historical properties in the BID district will be completed within the next two months as well as the purchase and installation of benches. The BID Board will also continue its contract with DePauli Engineering for engineering services for the installation of the kiosks, benches and other projects. The remaining projects, such as the billboards on Interstate 40 (I-40), the I-40 exit ramp signs and the Route 66, will be funded with the BID assessments.

Councilor Landavazo asked about the message or the theme that will be displayed on the billboards. Mr. Keeler said four of the City's billboards will be used in the following manner: one billboard east of Gallup is currently being used for the nightly Indian dances, one billboard for the downtown restaurants, one billboard for the downtown businesses and one billboard west of Gallup for both the downtown restaurants and businesses. Mr. Pederson said the BID will use four of the City's eleven major highway billboards with the City continuing to pay the base fee for the lease of the billboards and the BID paying for the vinyl covers.

Mr. Keeler said the BID Board met with representatives of the New Mexico Department of Transportation concerning improvements for Route 66. The BID Board also met with representatives of the Visitors Center concerning the distribution of downtown walking maps in an effort to attract tourist to the downtown area.

Councilor Enfield asked if the BID Board met with the State concerning the possibility of

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hanging banners across Route 66 to advertise local events. Mr. Keeler said hanging banners across Route 66 and Second Street is a difficult task since both roadways fall under the jurisdiction of the Federal Highway Administration. Mr. Keeler and Mr. Pederson recommended hanging banners across the remaining streets downtown since the streets are under the City's control.

Councilor Landavazo asked if the downtown walking tours will be brought back. Mr. Keeler said the possibility of bringing back the tours has been discussed by the BID Board which may include the involvement of the Southwest Indian Foundation (SWIF) since SWIF has been included as a "friend of the BID."

Councilor Wall said he was impressed with the workings of the BID Board of Directors and mentioned the possibility of having workers from CARE 66 to clean the downtown area including the alleyways. Mr. Keeler said he met with representatives of CARE 66 and is awaiting a proposal to be submitted on the services to be provided.

Mayor Mendoza thanked Gallup BID for their contribution for the Saturday in the Park event.

### 3. Recap of the Party in the Park and Bands on the Plaza Events – Pete Kelly, Economic Development Director

Mr. Kelly provided an overview of the Bands on the Plaza/Saturday in the Park Event which took place on July 3, 2010 at the Courthouse Square. There is an estimate of about 1,100 to 1,200 people that attended the event at one point or another during the twelve hour event. The event consisted of eleven local bands providing a wide variety of music, which also featured an appearance by Bo Diddley's son, Bob, performing with two of the bands towards the end of the event. The cost for the event was about \$9,500 with the City and County each paying \$3,300 and the BID Board contributing \$2,000 towards the event. A debriefing on the event will be conducted as City officials are considering of having at least one musical event per month during the summer months. Mr. Kelly thanked Dario Chioda and Jim Bierly for their work in organizing the event.

Mayor Mendoza said he attended the event twice during the day and received one complaint concerning the lack of vendors at the event. Mr. Kelly said the organizers preferred to have the attendees of the event patronize the downtown businesses. Mr. Kelly also said he will check with various downtown business owners to see if the event had any significant impact on the businesses. Councilor Azua said he also attended the event and enjoyed himself. Councilor Azua said he did not receive any negative comments concerning the event. Councilor Wall said he attended the event and recommended allowing vendors to sell their arts and crafts during future events.

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Overall, Mr. Kelly said the event was successful as there were no major incidents and asked the Mayor and Councilors for their suggestions for hosting similar events in the future.

Ben Welch, Executive Director, Parks and Recreation Division, provided a summary of the Party in the Park event which is now known as the Stars and Stripes Celebration, which took place on Independence Day. The event, which was co-sponsored by Clear Channel Radio, attracted large amounts of people locally and from nearby communities. There were about 50 vendors for the event and the fireworks display was outstanding. Overall, there were no major incidents and he recommended the use of tents to provide shade for next year's event.

Mr. Pederson said there were no events held in Window Rock during the Independence Day weekend. If the City is interested in encouraging residents from neighboring communities to come to Gallup for events he suggested hosting an event similar to the previous Native American Appreciation Day Celebration during the month of June, an event with a public fireworks display during the Independence Day holiday in July, and a third event towards the end of August following the Inter-Tribal Indian Ceremonial.

Due to time constraints, Mayor Mendoza said Work Session Item 5 will be discussed at this time.

5. Recap of the 2010 World Changers Program – Ben Welch, Executive Director, Parks and Recreation Division

Mr. Welch provided a summary of the improvements made to public and private property through this year's World Changers Program. Low and moderate income families were eligible to apply for exterior home improvements through the World Changers Program. There were improvements made to 3 homes in Councilor Azua's district and 4 homes in Councilor Enfield's district. To offset the solid waste tipping fees for the project the volunteers of the program performed improvements to the following City-owned parks and recreational facilities: Fitness Center, Sports Complex, Fr. Dunstan Park and the TDFL/Tom Saucedo Park.

Mayor Mendoza thanked the volunteers of the World Changers Program and Pastor Jay McCollum of the First Baptist Church for his work with the program. Pastor McCollum asked about the City's commitment for next year's program. Mayor Mendoza said the City should be able to commit to next year's program under the same conditions as this year's program. Mr. Pederson said the City should be able to contribute more to the program next year since the tipping fees assessed to the City for the program was less than \$3,000. Pastor McCollum said he will seek funding assistance for materials for future projects and will work with Habitat for Humanity in the

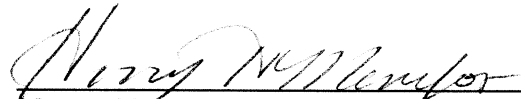
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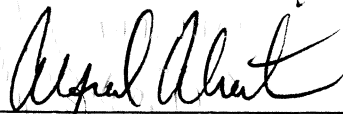
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building of homes for low and moderate income families. Pastor McCollum said the availability of City facilities, tools and equipment for the volunteers is helpful for the program. Pastor McCollum thanked the Mayor, Councilors, Mr. Pederson and Mr. Welch for their assistance with the program.

Due to time limitations, the Work Session adjourned.

  
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Mayor Harry Mendoza

ATTEST:

  
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Alfred Abeita, City Clerk

Approved 7/27/2010