

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, March 9, 2011.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Jackie McKinney.

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

Mayor:	Jackie McKinney
Councilors:	Mike Enfield Cecil Garcia Allan Landavazo E. Bryan Wall
Also present:	R. David Pederson, City Manager & City Attorney

Mayor McKinney said he will abstain from voting on the items presented during the next Regular Meeting at 7:00 P.M. He thanked former Mayor Harry Mendoza for his graciousness in meeting with him this morning. He also said Mayor Mendoza asked him to take the Oath of Office, which occurred at 4:00 P.M. today, in order to preside over the current Work Session and the next Regular Meeting.

The following item was presented to the Mayor and Councilors for discussion only:

1. Scheduling of the 2012 Gallup Inter-Tribal Indian Ceremonial and Red Rock Park Facility Improvements – Louie Bonaguidi, Chairman, Gallup Inter-Tribal Indian Ceremonial Board

Mr. Bonaguidi introduced the members of the Ceremonial Board: Gloria Underwood; Teri Fraizer, Executive Director; Lisa Rodriguez; Larry Linford; Steve Priest; Nancilee Howes and Justin Winfield. Mr. Bonaguidi said former Mayor Mendoza asked the Board to reschedule next year's Ceremonial due to the scheduling of the work of the pending improvement project at Red Rock Park. Mr. Bonaguidi said the Ceremonial has always been held during the second week in August and the Board felt that rescheduling next year's Ceremonial would create a hardship for the Board itself and the participants of the Ceremonial, including the performers and artists.

Mr. Priest said the Ceremonial experienced a 23% drop in revenue and a significant drop in attendance when the Board changed the date of the Ceremonial to the month of July in 2006. He said it also requires two to three weeks to prepare Red Rock Park for the Ceremonial.

Ms. Fraizer said the restructuring and marketing efforts for the Ceremonial depend on

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the traditional date of holding the Ceremonial during the second week of August. She realizes the need for the improvements to be made at Red Rock Park; however, she asked the Mayor and Councilors to consider the overall aspects of the matter and to consider an amicable resolution for both the City and the Ceremonial Board. By changing the date of Ceremonial, she also said many dance groups have expressed concerns with conflicting schedules.

Ms. Howes said 47% of the Ceremonial's volunteers are employees of the Gallup-McKinley County School District that would not be available at any time other than the second week in August.

Ms. Underwood expressed concerns with the amount of time it takes to prepare the exhibit hall for Ceremonial. She provided an overview of the preparation and the operation of the exhibit hall and the work that is performed by out-of-town volunteers that have already scheduled their time for the second week in August.

Councilor Enfield asked how the scheduling conflict originated. Councilor Landavazo also said the Mayor and Councilors have not been presented with the scope of the improvement project at Red Rock Park. Mr. Pederson said the improvement project at Red Rock Park is the fourth project to be conducted with the proceeds from last year's bond issue. Due to the cost and magnitude of the project, the City elected to proceed with the project in 2012. In keeping with the perennial events that take place at Red Rock Park, City officials wanted to hold all of next year's events by July 4, 2012 and to proceed with as many improvements to the Park until the winter. The project would resume during the spring of 2013 with the annual events taking place as early as June 2013. Mr. Pederson said plans for handling next year's events are not written in stone as City officials wanted to provide advanced notice to all of the affected event organizers that utilize Red Rock Park. Councilor Enfield asked when the planning and design phase for the project will be completed. Stan Henderson, Executive Director, Public Works Division, said the planning and design of the project should be completed this coming fall. Councilor Enfield said the planning and design of the project will gauge the amount of time required for the project and recommended refraining from making a decision on next year's events until the planning and design work is completed. Mr. Pederson said the planning and design work may reveal extended amounts of work to be done over several months which may require the cancellation of events. Councilor Enfield said the project can be phased in a way to show the United States Department of Justice that the City is actively working on the ADA compliance issues at the Park, even if the time frame for the project has to be extended. Councilor Landavazo agreed and recommended scheduling the work of the project during the months of September

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to May; proceeding with the regular summer events schedule from May to September and to continue the project from September until the completion of project.

Mr. Bonaguidi said the Board normally plans the Ceremonial four years in advance for advertising purposes and the date for next year's Ceremonial has to be determined as soon as possible. Mr. Pederson said if the improvement project for Red Rock Park is completed in phases, he wants to ensure that there will be a usable facility for all of the events until the project is completed. Mr. Pederson said the City could work with the engineers and contractors of the project to complete the improvements in phases that would allow the Park to be used for events, including the Ceremonial.

Following discussion, Mayor McKinney said the Ceremonial Board will have the City's commitment to hold the Ceremonial at Red Rock Park during the second week of August next year.

The following items that will be considered during the next Regular Session were presented to the Mayor and Councilors for discussion only:

1. Ordinance C2011-1; An Ordinance Concerning Vending Within the City of Gallup Corporate Limits – Clyde (C.B.) Strain, Planning Director

Mr. Strain presented an overview of the proposed ordinance which would regulate civic, charitable, educational, commercial, mobile/non-permanent, prepared food, produce and temporary vendors. Currently the City has an ordinance which only regulates itinerant vendors that are permitted to sell their goods from place to place and does not address the wide range of vending that is desired by many vendors. The proposed ordinance includes definitions, license fees and the regulations or exemptions for each type of vendor conducting business within the city limits.

2. Ordinance C2011-2; An Ordinance Concerning Utility Billing and the Collection of Payments for Services – R. David Pederson, City Manager/City Attorney

Mr. Pederson presented a summary of the proposed ordinance, including additional material to address serious or chronically ill persons, customers with legitimate financial hardships, and the inclusion of technical amendments for the overall billing procedures for utility services. He said the purpose of the ordinance is for the City to create a more efficient process in the billing of its customers, including the handling of delinquent utility accounts. He recommended tabling the proposed ordinance until the

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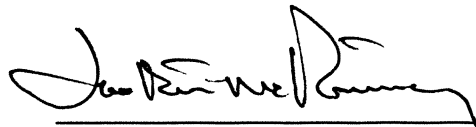
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Regular Meeting of March 22, 2011 to provide time for Mayor McKinney and Councilor Garcia to review the material.

Councilor Enfield asked if the City will be able to address the seven day requirements that are specified in the proposed ordinance. Mr. Pederson responded yes since the City has added additional personnel to improve the automation of its billing functions.

Councilor Landavazo said Section 7(C) of the proposed ordinance concerning the filing of collection suits within four years of the date of the last payment on the account is too lenient. He recommended that the City file such suits within 90 to 120 days of the last payment made on delinquent accounts and such accounts need to be reported to the major national credit reporting agencies. Mr. Pederson said Section 7(C) of the proposed ordinance provides for the statute of limitations under state law for unpaid utility account balances as City staff will aggressively address delinquent accounts in a timely manner. Councilor Landavazo recommended amending the proposed ordinance to include language to shorten the time frame allowed on filing collection suits. Mr. Pederson recommended including the language in the form of a policy rather than in the proposed ordinance. Mr. Pederson said there needs to be flexibility depending upon the availability of personnel to handle the collection functions on delinquent accounts as the City has spent a great deal of time to collect small amounts on very old accounts. Councilor Landavazo recommended drafting a policy to address the filing of collection suits within 90 to 120 days.

Due to time limitations, the Work Session adjourned.



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Mayor Jackie McKinney

ATTEST:



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Alfred Abeita, City Clerk

Approved 4/12/2011