

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, August 23, 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: Dan Dible, City Manager
R. David Pederson, City Attorney

Councilor Landavazo made the motion to adjourn into closed session for the purpose of discussing pending litigation with L & J Investments, Inc. and limited personnel matters concerning the City Attorney. Seconded by Councilor Wall. Roll call: Councilors Landavazo, Wall, Enfield, Garcia and Mayor McKinney all voted aye.

The Mayor and Councilors adjourned into closed session, pursuant to §10-15-1-H.(7) NMSA 1978 Comp. (as revised) and §10-15-1-H.(2) NMSA 1978 Comp. (as revised).

Following the closed session, Councilor Garcia made the motion to reconvene the Work Session. Seconded by Councilor Enfield. Roll call: Councilors Garcia, Enfield, Wall, Landavazo and Mayor McKinney all voted aye.

Mr. Dible certified for the record that the only matters discussed during the closed session was pending litigation with L & J Investments, Inc. and limited personnel matters concerning the City Attorney. The certification by Mr. Dible is made pursuant to Section 10-15-1-J of the Open Meeting Act, NMSA 1978.

The following items were presented to the Mayor and Councilors for discussion only:

1. Proposed Closure of Harold Runnels Pool – Joan Erben

Mayor McKinney advised that Ms. Erben is unable to attend the meeting. He opened the floor to discussion of the matter.

Raymond Pinto asked the Mayor and Councilors to reconsider the proposed closure of the pool. He said many people, primarily seniors and the disabled use the pool, steam room and exercise equipment for therapeutic reasons. He and residents from the surrounding communities travel to Gallup to purchase goods and to use the pool facility.

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For informational purposes, Mayor McKinney advised the members of the audience that the discussions on closing the pool were previously held during budget hearings last month; however, he and the Councilors would like to hear from the public on this matter.

Theresa Vigil said she uses the pool on a daily basis for therapeutic reasons and if it were not for Harold Runnels Pool she would not be walking. The Aquatic Center Pool cannot be used for therapy as the pool would need to be improved for handicapped patrons. She understands that the Harold Runnels Pool is losing money; however, she asked the Mayor and Councilors to consider the public's needs.

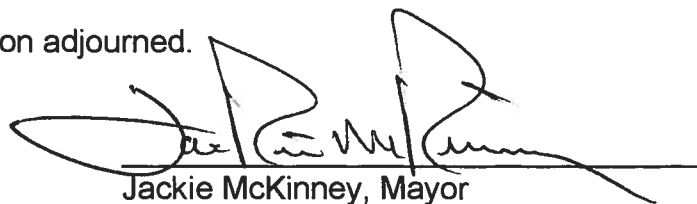
Chuck Moore said he has been a regular morning user of Harold Runnels Pool for many years. He asked if all other possibilities concerning the pool have been considered, including the formulation of partnerships with the Navajo Nation and the Gallup-McKinley County Schools. The pool is a personal quality of life issue and a clean, well-kept facility with friendly staff. Mayor McKinney said the City would welcome the assistance and input from the Navajo Nation and McKinley County concerning Harold Runnels Pool.

An unidentified person said she recently opened a nutritional club in Gallup. She spoke on behalf of her customers that utilize the pool for health and fitness reasons.

Jeff Kiely estimated that he has utilized Harold Runnels Pool about 3,000 times during the last 20 years. He understands the budgetary concerns regarding the pool; however, he expressed concerns with the loss of an adult friendly facility, such as the pool schedule, locker rooms and steam room. If the facility has to be closed, he offered his services in assisting with the transitional planning for the City to provide similar services to the public as currently provided at the Harold Runnels Pool.

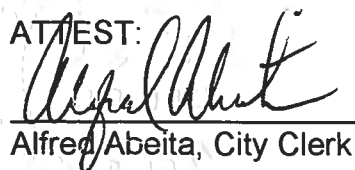
Roberta Walters said she has been using Harold Runnels Pool since the 1990's. She also uses the pool for therapeutic reasons to swim long laps which she is unable to do at the Aquatic Center. As part of her therapy, she also uses the steam room and the exercise equipment at Harold Runnels Pool two to three times per week.

Due to time limitations, the Work Session adjourned.



Jackie McKinney, Mayor

ATTEST:



Alfred Abeita, City Clerk

Approved 9/13/2011