

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, October 11, 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 George Kozeliski, City Attorney

Mayor McKinney welcomed the newly appointed City Attorney, George Kozeliski.

Councilor Garcia made the motion to adjourn into closed session for the purpose of discussing bargaining strategy preliminary to collective bargaining negotiations and the purchase, acquisition or disposal of real property or water rights. Seconded by Councilor Wall. Roll call: Councilors Garcia, Wall, Enfield, Landavazo and Mayor McKinney all voted aye.

The Mayor and Councilors adjourned into closed session, pursuant to §10-15-1-H.(5) NMSA 1978 Comp. (as revised) and §10-15-1-H.(8) NMSA 1978 Comp. (as revised).

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

Mr. Dible certified for the record that the only matters discussed during the closed session were bargaining strategy preliminary to collective bargaining negotiations and the possible sale of City property to another governmental entity. 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. Severn Trent Environmental Services (STES) 2011 Annual Report – Keith Greenberg and Dennis Wing, Severn Trent Environmental Services

Mr. Greenberg provided an overview of the report. During the last year, STES has treated approximately 920,000,000 gallons of wastewater at a 99.5% compliance rate with the exception of one fecal violation. There are currently three level 1 operators,

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two level 4 operators, one certified lab technician and one operator with a water certification. STES has increased its energy efficiency by reducing the overall power consumption at the plant from 49,000 kilowatts per million gallons treated to 43,000 kilowatts per million gallons treated. The odors at the plant have been reduced; however, the odor problems have not been completely resolved as STES will address the Mayor and Councilors concerning the problem during a Work Session in November 2011. In addressing the odor issues, STES has increased its use of the liquid injection for the sludge disposal, improved the digester operation and posted a hotline for the public to report odor issues. Since the hotline was established, STES has only received two phone calls; one call was a wrong number and the second call from a person outside of the service area. STES has effectively implemented efficient process automation measures at the plant, continued its maintenance and repair projects of the equipment and the plant facility, developed a computerized maintenance management system, increased the testing capability of the laboratory, upgraded its health and safety training program, purchased hydrogen sulfide monitors for its employees, and developed hydrogen sulfide site-specific exposure control standard operating procedures.

Councilor Garcia asked when the hotline was posted in the newspaper. Mr. Greenberg said the hotline was published on September 17 & 24, 2011 on page two of the newspaper. Councilor Garcia said he met with a constituent at the Skywest area at 1:45 p.m. today and that the odor that was emanating from the waste water treatment plant was very bad. Mr. Greenberg said he also noticed an odor of hydrogen sulfide when he drove in from Albuquerque during the same time period. Mr. Greenberg said there are multiple sources where the odors originate at the plant which will be addressed during STES's presentation in November 2011. Councilor Garcia said the odor from the plant has been an issue for over twenty years and needs to be addressed.

Councilor Landavazo asked about the waste water treatment plant's capacity for the amount of waste water being treated. Mr. Wing said the plant is rated for treating 3.5 million gallons of waste water per day as the plant is currently treating about 2.5 million gallons of waste water per day, 2.2 million gallons being discharged into the Rio Puerco and the remaining amount of waste water being used for irrigation. Councilor Landavazo asked if fish could live in the treated waste water in a man-made lake. Mr. Wing responded yes based on the standards being accomplished by STES for the receiving stream.

Councilor Wall said he obtained information at the Municipal League Conference about Azzuro, Inc., a company based in Scottsdale, Arizona, concerning the company's specialty in eliminating odors. He will forward the material to STES for their information.

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Councilor Wall also asked if the treated waste water could be used for agricultural purposes. Mr. Greenberg said the waste water treatment facilities he managed in Phoenix, Arizona sold excess effluent water for the purpose of growing cotton and alfalfa. The waste water solids were tilled into the ground and were used as fertilizer. Councilor Wall said the City should consider marketing the effluent water and the waste water solids for agricultural purposes. Mr. Greenberg said STES will work with the City in considering such options. Councilor Wall said the odor problem at the plant has greatly improved since STES assumed operation of the plant.

Mayor McKinney asked about the responsible party for absorbing the costs for electrical service at the waste water treatment plant. Mr. Greenberg said STES pays for the electrical services at the plant. Mayor McKinney recommended including the hotline information in the City's utility bills as the newspaper ads may not be sufficient. Mr. Wing said the ads were placed on page 2 of the Gallup Independent on two consecutive Saturdays as the ads were limited in size. If the ads were to be larger in size, the ads would have been placed in the sports page of the newspaper. Mayor McKinney recommended placing public service announcements in all of the newspapers in town as well as the local radio stations. Mayor McKinney said the odor problem is a tremendous burden at restaurants on the west side of town and presents a bad image for tourists traveling through Gallup.

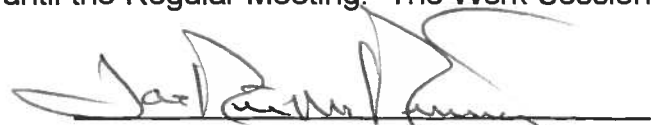
Mr. Greenberg said the number to the hotline is 505-728-2179.

The following item that will be considered during the next Regular Meeting was presented for discussion only:

1. Appointments to the National Junior High Finals Rodeo Event Board – Mayor Jackie McKinney

Mayor McKinney asked for the Councilors ratification at the next Regular Meeting to appoint Dudley Byerley, Walt Eddy, George Munoz, Tony Tanner, George Kozeliski and himself to the Board.

Since the presentation of Item 2 of the Regular Meeting Agenda was advertised for 7:00 p.m., Mayor McKinney called for a recess until the Regular Meeting. The Work Session adjourned.



Jackie McKinney, Mayor

ATTEST:



Alfred Abeita, City Clerk

Approved 10/25/2011