

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING
ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO
June 23, 2009**

The City Council of the City of Artesia, New Mexico met in the City Council Chambers at City Hall on Tuesday, June 23, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in regular session with Mayor Phillip Burch presiding, and the following present to wit:

Manuel Barragan	Raul Rodriguez
George Holmes	J.B. Smith
Terry Hill	Antonio Torrez
Raye Miller	

The following were absent:

Nora Sanchez

Also present:

Aubrey Hobson, City Clerk-Treasurer
John Caraway, City Attorney

It was determined that a quorum was present. The invocation was given by Councilor Rodriguez, and all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Request for City Facilities

City Clerk Aubrey Hobson presented the request of Artesia Student Ministries for the use of Roberts Park and MLK Recreation Complex on Saturday, July 11, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. for "Breaking Down the Walls – 2009", a skateboarding presentation/contest and concert. They have also requested the closure of streets through the park, bleachers, power supply, barricades, cones, extra dumpsters and lights. Mayor Pro tem Holmes moved to approve this request. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rodriguez and upon vote, the motion passed.

Mr. Hobson presented the request of the Artesia Chamber of Commerce to use MLK Recreational Complex on Saturday, July 4, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. to dark for the Annual July 4th Celebration Volleyball and Basketball Tournaments. Mayor Pro tem Holmes moved to approve this request. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hill and upon vote, the motion passed.

Mr. Hobson presented the request of the Artesia Chamber of Commerce to use Jaycee Park on Saturday, July 4, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. for the Annual July 4th Celebration – Fireworks demonstration. They have also requested the closure of both entry gates for the entire day (excluding handicap accessibility at 7:00 p.m.). Councilor Torrez moved to approve this request. The motion was seconded by Councilor Barragan and upon vote, the motion passed.

Mr. Hobson presented the request of the Artesia Chamber of Commerce to use Central Park on Saturday, July 4, 2009 from 7:00 a.m. to dark for the Annual July 4th Celebration – Firemen's Olympics. They have also requested the closure of Quay Avenue between 7th and 8th Streets for one hour. Mayor Pro tem Holmes moved to approve this request. The motion was seconded by Councilor Smith and upon vote, the motion passed.

City Departments and Employees

The following employees were recognized for their years of service:
Becky Maldonado (Street Department) – 5 years

Consent Agenda

Councilor Torrez moved to approve the Consent Agenda as written. The motion was seconded by Councilor Miller and upon vote, the motion passed.

The Consent Agenda includes:

1. Approval of Minutes: * June 9, 2009 - Regular meeting
2. Consideration of Bids:
3. Contracts, Leases and Agreements:
4. Appointments:
 - A. Approval of appointment of Michael Whatley to the (GAEDC) Greater Artesia Economic Development Corporation (*term to expire March 23, 2011*)
5. Resignations:
6. Dates of Hearing:
7. *Travel and Training:
 - A. Police – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Introduction to Crime Analysis for Analysts and Officers in Smaller Jurisdictions in Rochester, NH. Request actual expenses.
 - B. F&A – Ratification of Mayor Burch's approval for one (1) employee to attend the NMDOT ARRA Project software training in Las Cruces, NM. Request actual expenses.
 - C. Planning – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the 2009 NM Mechanical Inspectors Summit in Albuquerque, NM. Request actual expenses.
 - D. Police – Permission for two (2) employees to attend the Basic Crime Scene and Bloodstain Pattern Analysis training in Roswell, NM.
 - E. Police – Permission for three (3) employees to attend the 2009 Sex Offender Awareness and Educational conference in Albuquerque, NM. Request actual expenses.
8. Use of Facilities (*approval contingent upon receipt of all applicable fees, license(s) and dept approvals*):
 - A. Artesia Police Department has requested a dedicated ambulance on Friday, June 26, 2009 from 5:00 pm – 11:30 pm for the Michael Salgado concert at Jaycee Park.
 - B. Eddy County Fair has requested the use of six (6) bleachers and six (6) dumpsters for the 2009 Eddy County Fair to be held the week of July 27th through August 1st. They have also requested a standby ambulance from 7:45 pm – 10:30 pm on Friday, July 31st and Saturday, August 1st.
9. Budgeted Items:
10. Non-budgeted Items:
11. *Payment of Bills

Period for Hearing Visitors

Oscar and Arcilia Grado requested an extension on the condemnation of structure at 805 W. Washington. After discussion, it was recommended that a sixty day extension be granted for the Grados' to show progress on the structure, with consideration for a six-month extension. Councilor Miller moved to grant a sixty-day extension on the condemnation of 805 W. Washington, with a progress report at the end of that period. The motion was seconded by Councilor Torrez and upon vote, the motion passed.

Comments from Public Officials and Contracted Services

Bob Johnson, representing the Artesia Drug & Crime Coalition, reported on recent and upcoming events for the organization.

Committee Reports

Planning

Code Enforcement Officer Cheryl Hinkle reported on her recent visit to Lometa School. Ms. Hinkle reported that the structure is in good shape and is not in dilapidated condition, and that the Artesia Schools have ordered metal to cover the windows.

Personnel

Councilor Barragan moved to consider Agenda item 16-B (Executive session regarding limited personnel matters) at this time. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rodriguez and upon roll call vote, with the following votes recorded:

Aye: Barragan, Rodriguez

Nay: Hill, Holmes, Miller, Smith, Torrez

the motion failed.

Councilor Hill moved, upon recommendation of the Mayor, to hire Randy Gilchrist to the position of Garage Department Apprentice Mechanic I, at \$1,892 per month (CA11), subject to the successful completion of required pre-employment testing. The motion was seconded by Councilor Smith and upon vote, the motion passed.

Councilor Torrez moved, upon recommendation of the Mayor, to promote Kevin Hope to the position of Fire Department Division Chief of Operations, at \$4,647 per month (CA35), subject to the successful completion of required pre-employment testing. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hill and upon vote, with Councilors Barragan and Rodriguez voting "nay", the motion passed.

Councilor Miller moved, upon recommendation of the Mayor, to hire Nathan Worley to the position of Lifeguard at \$8.75 per hour, subject to successful completion of required pre-employment testing. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hill and upon vote, the motion passed.

Public Safety
Police

Chief Raley distributed the statistics for May 2009.

Councilor Miller moved to approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the New Mexico Attorney General's Office Internet Crimes against Children for equipment. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro tem Holmes and upon vote, the motion passed.

Chief Raley presented an amended contract for animal shelter operation with Paws and Claws. The previously approved contract included language in Article 5 that was incorrect. The correct language would require the contractor to provide all food and cleaning supplies. Councilor Miller moved to approve the amended contract for Animal Shelter operation and Animal Care Services with Paws and Claws. The motion was seconded by Councilor Smith and upon vote, the motion passed.

Fire

Chief Hummingbird reported that with the recent rains, Resolution 1341 restricting the sale and use of fireworks, will be allowed to expire on Friday.

Community Development Director

Community Development Director Tina Torres reported that there were nine general contractors at the pre-bid meeting for the Public Safety Complex.

Infrastructure

Infrastructure Director Robert Forrest reported on current public work projects and department activities.

City Clerk

City Clerk Aubrey Hobson distributed information about a prescription card program for city residents through the National League of Cities. It was requested that staff pursue this program and report back to the Council.

Mr. Hobson presented a proposal to re-organize the structure at the Airport. Councilor Smith moved to refer this proposal to the Personnel Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rodriguez and upon vote, the motion passed.

Mr. Hobson reported that the City would receive approximately \$841,000 in stimulus funds for the bridge construction at 20th and Eagle Draw, \$100,000 from the DOT MAP program for South 26th Street, and \$47,000 in DOT Co-op funds for the Mill Road Railroad Crossing.

Mayor

Mayor Burch presented a request to cancel the Council meeting scheduled for July 7th. The Mayor reported that the meeting had been moved in anticipation of awarding the bid for the Public Safety Complex, but that would now be handled at the meeting on July 21st. Councilor Miller moved to cancel the meeting scheduled for July 7th. The motion was seconded by Councilor Smith and upon vote, the motion passed.

Mayor Pro tem Holmes moved that in accordance with 10-15-1-H(2), the Council and Mayor go into executive session regarding limited personnel matters: a) Discussion of a Fire Department Administrative employee's performance and b) discussion of assignment of Airport personnel. The motion was seconded by Councilor Barragan and upon vote, the motion passed.

Council recessed to executive session at 8:23 p.m.
Council reconvened at 9:37 p.m.

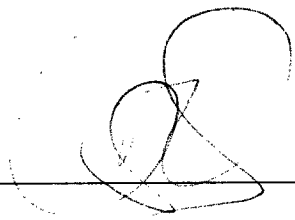
Mayor Pro tem Holmes moved that the only matters discussed in executive session pertained to limited personnel, and no action was taken. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rodriguez and upon vote, the motion passed.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m., June 23, 2009.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk