

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING
ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO
January 12, 2016**

The City Council of the City of Artesia, New Mexico met in the City Council Chambers at City Hall on Tuesday, January 12, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in regular session with Mayor Phillip Burch presiding, and the following present to wit:

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| Jose Luis Aguilar | Bill Rogers |
| Manuel Madrid Jr. | Nora Sanchez |
| Raul Rodriguez | Jeff Youtsey |

The following were absent:

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| Kent Bratcher | Terry Hill |
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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.

City Departments and Employees

Wastewater Supervisor Jerry Whitehead introduced Jay Oh, Wastewater Technician who has achieved his Level IV Wastewater certification as well as his Level II Lab Certification.

Consent Agenda

Councilor Rodriguez moved to approve the Consent Agenda as written. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rogers upon vote, the motion passed.

The Consent Agenda includes:

1. Approval of Minutes: *December 8, 2015
2. Consideration of Bids:
3. Contracts, Leases and Agreements:
 - A. *Approval of MOU with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Police
4. Appointments:
 - A. Approval of re-appointment of Gary Sims to the P&Z Commission (term to expire 2017)
 - B. Approval of re-appointment of Dean Chumbley to the P&Z Commission (term to expire 2017)
 - C. Approval of re-appointment of Steve Moreno to the P&Z Commission (term to expire 2017)
 - D. Approval of re-appointment of Aleene Ivy to the P&Z Commission (term to expire 2017)
 - E. Approval of re-appointment of Paul Alvarez to the P&Z Commission (term to expire 2016)
 - F. Approval of appointment of Jerry Terpening to the Woodbine Cemetery Board (term to expire 2018)
5. Resignations:
 - A. Accept the resignation of Michael Garcia, Water Technician, effective December 2, 2015
 - B. Accept the resignation of Melissa Bejarano, Detention Officer, effective December 29, 2015
6. Dates of Hearing:

7. *Travel and Training:
- A. Police – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Basic SWAT training in Carlsbad, NM
 - B. Executive – Permission to attend the 2016 Legislative session in Santa Fe, NM in support of the City of Artesia’s capital outlay request for funding the City’s Jaycee Park Water Tower
 - C. Executive – Permission to attend the Artesia Chamber of Commerce/Eddy County legislative reception in Santa Fe, NM
 - D. Executive – Permission to attend the NMML 2016 Municipal Day in Santa Fe, NM
 - E. Streets – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Paving & Transportation conference in Albuquerque, NM
 - F. Police – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Back Country Tactics and Tracking Training Program at Washington Ranch, NM
 - G. Police – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Buckle Up 2016 in Albuquerque, NM
 - H. Executive – Permission to attend the NLC Congressional City Congress in Washington DC
 - I. Police – Ratification of Mayor Burch’s approval for one (1) employee to attend the Domestic Violence Instructor course in Las Cruces, NM
 - J. Police – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Taser Instructor training in Clovis, NM
 - K. Library – Permission for one (1) employee to participate in the online training Adult Services & Digitization Librarian
 - L. Police – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the NM Police Chief’s Association meeting in Santa Fe, NM
 - M. Fire – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the 2016 Annual Safety Forum in Scottsdale, AZ
 - N. Fire – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the National Fire Academy Executive Fire Officer 4 – Executive Leadership conference in Emmitsburg, MD
 - O. Legislative – Permission to attend the NMML Municipal Day in Santa Fe, NM. Request actual expenses and mileage
 - P. Legislative – Permission to attend the Legislative Reception in Santa Fe, NM. Request actual expenses and mileage
 - Q. Finance – Permission for two (2) employees to attend the Tyler Connect conference in Phoenix, AZ
 - R. Wastewater – Permission for (1) employee to attend the NMWWA Short School and Testing in Las Cruces, NM
 - S. Police – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Buckle Up 2016 in Albuquerque, NM
8. Routine Requests for City Facilities:
9. Budgeted Items:
10. Non-budgeted Items:
11. *Payment of Bills

Public Hearing

Mayor Burch declared the meeting open for public hearing for the following:

1. Consideration and approval of an ordinance amending Section 1-6B-5, Salary of Municipal Judge, Artesia Municipal Code.

This ordinance would raise the salary of the municipal judge from \$36,000 annually to \$44,000 annually.

No public comment was received.

Councilor Rogers moved to adopt the increase to the municipal judge's salary, Ordinance No. 990. The motion was seconded by Councilor Youtsey and upon roll call vote, with the following votes recorded:

Aye: Aguilar, Madrid, Rodriguez, Rogers, Sanchez, Youtsey

Nay: none

the motion passed.

ORDINANCE NO. 990

2. Consideration and approval of an ordinance amending Section 1-5-3, Elected Officials Salary, Artesia Municipal Code.

The request would raise the Councilor salary from \$600 per month to \$900; the Mayor Pro tem salary from \$700 per month to \$1,000; and the Mayor salary from \$800 per month to \$2,000.

No public comment was received.

Councilor Rogers stated that he could not support the ordinance in the current form.

Councilor Rodriguez supported raising the Mayor's salary, because the position is worth more than \$800 per month.

Councilor Madrid stated that he served for the love of community. He would support an increase for the Mayor however he thought that the Council salaries could be lowered.

Councilor Sanchez concurred with Councilor Madrid and stated that the city had to make budget cuts this year, so it didn't make sense to raise elected officials salaries.

Mayor Burch stated that he would serve as Mayor for less. He felt the job of Mayor was important in getting people to do better things for the city. In addition, the departments had been asked cut their budgets this year.

Councilor Aguilar moved to approve the increase for elected official salaries, Ordinance No. 991. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rodriguez and upon roll call vote, with the following votes recorded:

Aye: Aguilar, Rodriguez

Nay: Madrid, Rogers, Sanchez, Youtsey

the motion failed

Personnel

Councilor Rogers moved, upon recommendation of the Mayor, to hire Thomas Frazier to the position of Police Corporal, at a salary of \$4,290 per month (CA35), subject to the successful completion of required pre-employment testing. The motion was seconded by Councilor Madrid and upon vote, the motion passed.

Councilor Rogers moved to approve the resolution for the amendment and restatement of the City of Artesia Money Purchase Pension Plan with Transamerica, Resolution No. 1600. The motion was seconded by Councilor Madrid and upon vote, the motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 1600

Human Resources Director Sandi Farley distributed the safety statistics for December.

Public Safety

Police

Chief Raley distributed the department statistics for December.

Fire

Chief Hummingbird distributed the department statistics for December.

Community Development

Community Development Director Jim McGuire presented the department statistics for December.

Infrastructure Department

Infrastructure Director Byron Landfair distributed the department statistics for December.

City Clerk

Councilor Aguilar moved to approve a resolution releasing the Housing Authority from payment in lieu of taxes (PILT) for the period from July 2015 to June 30, 2016, Resolution No. 1601. The motion was seconded by Councilor Youtsey and upon vote, the motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 1601

City Clerk Aubrey Hobson requested that the agenda item to adopt the new bylaws for the Library Board of Trustees be pulled for additional work.

Mr. Hobson reported that the annual records destruction had been conducted and that the certificate of destruction would be recorded in the minute book.

Mayor

Councilor Rodriguez moved that in accordance with 10-15-1-H(7), the Council and Mayor go into executive session regarding threatened or pending litigation. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rogers and upon roll call vote, with the following votes recorded:

Aye: Aguilar, Madrid, Rodriguez, Rogers, Sanchez, Youtsey

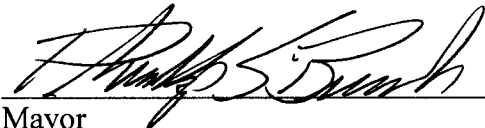
Nay: none

the motion passed.

Council recessed to executive session at 7:32 p.m.
Council reconvened at 9:38 p.m.

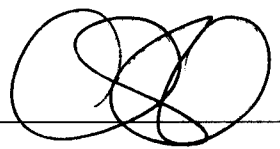
Councilor Rodriguez moved that the only matters discussed in executive session pertained to pending or threatened litigation and no action was taken. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rogers and upon vote, the motion passed.

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m., January 12, 2016.



Mayor

ATTEST:



City Clerk