

ALAMOSA CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Agenda

Alamosa City Council Chambers
300 Hunt Avenue, Alamosa, CO
December 3, 2014

As a full service municipal government, our mission is to enhance the quality of life for our residents, visitors, and businesses. We strive to provide balanced business, employment, recreational, and residential opportunities.

Any person needing reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in a public meeting, please contact the Alamosa City Clerk's office by telephone (719) 589-2593, by email cityclerk@ci.alamosa.co.us, in person at 300 Hunt Avenue, or by mail at POB 419, Alamosa, CO 81101.

LINK TO COUNCIL CALENDAR

7:00 p.m. – Regular Meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

II. ROLL CALL

III. AGENDA APPROVAL

IV. CITIZEN COMMENT

Alamosa City Council welcomes your comments. Citizens wishing to speak up to three minutes may obtain and complete a speaker card through the City Clerk at the start of the meeting.

A. Audience Comments

B. Follow-Up

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR A

The Consent Calendar allows multiple actions with one motion. Consent Calendar A contains routine items which have been recommended for action by staff or advisory boards. Council may remove a consent calendar item for separate consideration.

C. 7. a. Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting November 19, 2014

VII. REGULAR BUSINESS

B. Presentations from Outside Agencies

1. Great Sand Dunes National Park & Preserve, Superintendent Lisa Carrico.

Topic: Proposal to change entrance fees at Great Sand Dunes

C. Business Brought Forward by City Staff

8. City Manager/Legal

a. Consideration of Closure of Unimproved Cottonwood Drive.

D. Committee Reports

E. Staff Announcements

COUNCIL COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT

Alamosa City Council Meetings and Events

Updated 11/25/2014

All events are held in Alamosa Colorado unless otherwise noted

CITY HALL IS LOCATED AT 300 HUNT

Date	Time	Event	Location	Additional Information
December 17, 2014	6:15 p.m.	Work Session - Policy Review	Council Chambers	*
December 19, 2014	6:30 p.m.	Christmas Light Parade	Main Street	***
January 30 and 31, 2015	All Day	Alamosa Ice Fest	Downtown	***

* Work sessions are informal Council meetings for the purpose of discussion among Council members. No action is taken. The public is invited to attend, but public comment is generally not received unless otherwise noted.

**Sponsored by outside entity. Council members have been invited to attend. Please check with originating entity for registration information

*** Citizens are encouraged to attend this community event

**** This is a purely social event and not open to the public

ALAMOSA CITY COUNCIL
Wednesday, November 19, 2014
Minutes of the Meeting

The Regular Meeting of the Alamosa City Council was called to order on the above date by Mayor Josef Lucero at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Present at roll call: Mayor Lucero, Councilors Greg Gillaspie, Jan Vigil, Rusty Johnson, Michael Stefano, Ty Coleman and Charles Griego. A quorum was declared. Also present: City Manager Heather Brooks, Acting City Attorney Helen Sigmond, and Deputy City Clerk Holly Martinez.

AGENDA APPROVAL. It was moved by Councilor Griego and seconded by Councilor Gillaspie to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT

A. Audience Comments.

Chet Choman spoke regarding weed control in the Cottonwood subdivision.

John Brownell also spoke in regards to the weed control.

Farris Bervig spoke on behalf of his neighbor regarding the Foote annexation.

Leslie Martinez spoke in regards to a Christmas Toy Drive Event, requesting turkey vouchers.

Melissa Jiron addressed concerns of stop lights on Highway 160 and Washington Street.

B. Follow up.

Heather Brooks stated the noxious weed concerns will be addressed during the presentation that Heinz Bergann will be giving, and the concerns regarding the annexation can be discussed during the public hearing. She also addressed that turkey vouchers is not something that the City has but will do follow up regarding the discussion of the rental of the Inn of the Rio.

Councilors Griego and Gillaspie informed Ms. Martinez that there are many groups that do help and they will get her their information.

CEREMONIAL ITEMS

A. Proclamation – Diabetes Awareness Month – presented to Monica Wolfe, Program Administrator of South Central Colorado Seniors.

Mayor Lucero read the proclamation and Council presented it to Monica Wolfe, proclaiming November as Diabetes Awareness Month.

B. Proclamation – National Family Care Giver – presented to Lacrechia Smith, ADRC Coordinator of South Central Colorado Seniors

Mayor Lucero read the proclamation and Council presented it to Lacrechia Smith, proclaiming November as National Family Care Giver month.

CONSENT CALENDAR A. It was moved by Councilor Vigil and seconded by Councilor Johnson to approve Consent Calendar A as presented. The motion carried unanimously. Items:

- C. 2. a. Receive October 2014 Expenditure Report
- C. 7. a. Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting November 5, 2014
- C. 8. a. Receive October 2014 Monthly Reports

REGULAR BUSINESS

B. Presentations from Outside

- 1. Presentation from Dr. Simone, Trinidad State Jr. College

Dr. Simone gave Council an update on Trinidad State Jr. College and the changes that they have begun and will be happening in the future.

C. Business Brought Forward by City Staff

1. Public Works

- a. Public Hearing, Ordinance No. 15, 2014. An Ordinance approving the annexation of the 2014 Foote Annexation for the annexation of a tract of land located in the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter (SE1/3NE1/4) Section 4, township 37 north, range 10 east, New Mexico Principal meridian, Alamosa County Colorado.

Mayor Lucero opened the hearing at 8:06 p.m. and asked for those wishing to speak on the matter.

Farris Bervig spoke on behalf of his neighbors that are adamantly opposed to this annexation.

Dan McCann spoke in favor of a way to be able to subdivide the property.

There being no one else wishing to speak, the hearing closed at 8:11 p.m.

Councilor Johnson moved, seconded by Councilor Stefano that Ordinance No. 15, 2014 be finally adopted contingent on agreement with the applicant that the top of the levee be dedicated as a public access easement for pedestrian use when public access is obtained on either adjoining property. The motion carried 5 to 2 with Councilors Griego and Vigil casting the no vote.

- a. Public Hearing, Ordinance No. 16, 2014. An Ordinance amending sections 21-1, (concerning definitions) and 21-97 Schedule A (concerning use groups and permitted uses) and adding a new section 21-121 specific to the conditions and design standards to be considered during the evaluation of applications for approval of permitted use by special review for the erection, maintenance and operation of telecommunications facilities.

Mayor Lucero opened the hearing 8:26 p.m. and asked for those wishing to speak on the matter.

Dan McCann spoke in favor of the Ordinance.

There being no one else wishing to speak, the hearing closed at 8:29 p.m.

Councilor Gillaspie moved, seconded by Councilor Vigil that Ordinance No. 16, 2014 be finally adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Parks/Recreation/Library

a. Update on Ranch Activity and Noxious Weed Plan

Heinz Bergann updated Council on the Ranch activity and the noxious weed management plan. The city's direction is to develop a plan to address the City's grounds keeping and weed management needs to enhance the City's appearance for residents and visitors alike.

He stated that the 2015 Goals are for a majority of the funding to be spent on herbicide, to clearly identify our most prevalent noxious weeds, finalize overall weed management plan, and to set up a method for the public on the City website to report possible noxious weeds.

Mr. Bergann gave Council an overview of the Alamosa Ranch from 2012-2014 and the prioritized projects for 2015-2016.

E. Committee Reports

Councilor Coleman reported on the San Luis Valley Council Governments and San Luis Valley Development Resource Group.

Councilor Gillaspie reported on the Library Board.

F. Staff Announcements

Heather Brooks advised Council that there will be recommendations to the agreement at the golf board meeting and that they hope to bring the discussion back at a December meeting.

She also reminded everyone that City offices will be closed next Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving holiday.

LOCAL LIQUOR LICENSING AUTHORITY ACTIONS

B. Liquor Licensing Item – Potential Hearing

- B.1. Special Event Permit Application: Fighting for a Cause, MMA Event on December 6, 2014, at the Alamosa Family Recreation Center.

Councilor Johnson removed himself from discussion due to the applicant being a relative and has abstained from the voting.

Jason Gonzales gave an overview of the event that is going to be happening on December 6, 2014. The event is a sports like event that he hopes to have an audience of about 400+ attendees. He has gone through all the steps and procedures he needs to and any liability is covered. There will be both police and security on duty for this event, and will have an ambulance on stand-by. All proceeds from this event will be donated to the local organization Valley Girl Nation.

Councilor Gillaspie moved, seconded by Councilor Vigil, to determine that no hearing was needed, and to approve the Special Events Permit application submitted by Fighting for a Cause for the MMA event. The motion carried 5 to 1 with Councilor Stefano casting the no vote and Councilor Johnson abstaining.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Councilor Johnson informed Council of his new employment that causes him to be unable to serve on the Tree Board and Parks and Rec Board. Council discussed and Councilor Stefano will be the Primary on the Tree Board and Councilor Griego to be the alternate. Councilor Vigil will take over as the alternate on the Parks and Rec Board.

Councilor Griego addressed to Council concerns of a constituent regarding semi vehicles going down through 10th street and would like staff to look into possibly putting up a sign to not allow such vehicles on that street.

Councilor Coleman addressed expenditures and reminded the community to try to shop locally during this holiday season.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to CRS § 24-6-402(4)(b) for a conference with the City's attorneys to receive legal advice concerning MCDC self-reporting window.

It was moved by Councilor Griego and seconded by Councilor Johnson to enter into Executive Session (9:37 p.m.) pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)(b) for a conference with the City's attorneys to receive legal advice concerning MCDC self-reporting window. The motion carried unanimously.

When back in Regular Session, Mayor Lucero confirmed that the Executive Session was held solely for the stated purpose.

ADJOURNMENT. The meeting adjourned immediately following the Executive Session.

Holly Martinez, Deputy City Clerk

Josef P. Lucero, Mayor

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: December 3, 2014	AGENDA NO.	SUBJECT: Consideration of Closure of Unimproved Cottonwood Drive
Department Head:		
City Manager: Heather Brooks		
PRESENTED BY: Heather Brooks		

Recommendation

Staff recommends that City Council consider the request to close the unimproved section of Cottonwood Drive.

Background

Staff has been approached by Mr. and Mrs. Atencio regarding their desire to close the unimproved section of Cottonwood Drive. They have expressed concerns related to vehicles traveling too fast for a dirt road, extreme behavior such as mudding, and suspicious vehicles. They will be present at the meeting to review their concerns. Staff has evaluated their request and has recommended that the road remain open to the public. The City has erected Road Closed signs on each end of the unimproved section. Additionally, the Police Department monitors the area during times that extreme behavior is more likely to occur and has advised residents to call immediately if any issues arise.

Surprisingly, that section of unimproved road is used in a lawful manner. Staff has observed visitors bird watching or simply enjoying a peaceful lunch. It is staff's opinion that a barrier could be erected to close the section, but that would only prevent the lawful use and those who we are attempting to keep out will find an alternate entrance.

Issue Before the Council

Does Council wish to close the unimproved section of Cottonwood Drive?

Alternatives

- Council can direct staff to close the unimproved section.
- Council can direct staff to keep the unimproved section open.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact to close the section would be fairly small.

Legal Opinion

The City Attorney will be present for any comments.

Conclusion

This is an item that has been of great concern to Mr. and Mrs. Atencio. Previous changes to address their issues have not alleviated their concern.