

ALAMOSA CITY COUNCIL
Wednesday May 21, 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 Jan Vigil, Rusty Johnson, Charles Griego and Michael Stefano. Councilors Coleman and Gillaspie previously requested to be excused. A quorum was declared. Also present: Finance Director Amanda McDonald, City Attorney Erich Schwiesow, and City Clerk Kristi Duarte.

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

CITIZEN COMMENT

A. Audience Comments

Venetta Burns spoke requesting a change in the city policy regarding the time frame that artificial flowers can be put at the cemetery.

Leroy Powers also spoke in regard to the time frame that people are allowed to have artificial flowers at the cemetery. He also would like to have the city policy changed.

Don Thompson thanked Council for Historic Preservation Month Proclamation that was passed at the last Council meeting.

B. Follow-Up

Heinz Bergann advised that the policy on the cemetery has been in place for the past 30 years. He will have the Recreation Advisory Board review the policy to see if anything should be updated.

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

C. 2. a. Receive April 2014 Expenditure Report

C. 7. a. Approve Minutes of Regular Meeting May 7, 2014

C. 7. b. Resolution No. 6, 2014, A Resolution Rescheduling the June 18, 2014 Regular Meeting of the Alamosa City Council to be Held concurrently on July 2, 2014.

C. 8. a. Receive April 2014 Monthly Reports

REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Presentations from Outside Agencies

1. Trinidad State Jr. College GED Program, Anna Mae Lindsey, Ann Stanford and Bonnie Ortega.

Staff from the GED Program presented Council with information about losing grant funds for the GED program for the upcoming school year. Without these funds the GED program cannot function. They would like to have the support of Council, in the form of a letter, to send to the Department of Education explaining how important this program is to our community.

It was moved by Councilor Griego to have staff prepare a letter of support for the GED Program. Seconded by Councilor Vigil. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Business Brought Forward by City Staff

1. Public Works

a. Ramirez Lot Line Adjustment and Right-of-Way Dedication

Pat Steenburg presented the information regarding the Lot Line Adjustment.

It was moved by Councilor Johnson, seconded by Councilor Stefano, to approve the lot line adjustment as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

b. First Reading Ordinance No. 5, 2014, An Ordinance Providing for the Designation of Blanca Vista Pond as Youth Fishing Lake.

Pat Steenburg presented the information to council regarding the Blanca Vista Lake to be used as a youth fishing area. Acting cooperatively with the local chapter of Trout Unlimited and the Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife, it has been determined that the Blanca Vista Lake is capable of sustaining a youth fishery. Based on the data obtained during a survivability study conducted throughout the winter, the Colorado Department of Parks and Wildlife has offered to stock a catchable population of trout in the pond and maintain that population for the foreseeable future, free of charge, if the lake is designated as a youth fishing area, meaning youth under 15 can fish at this Lake.

It was moved by Councilor Griego, seconded by Councilor Johnson, to approve Ordinance No. 5, 2014, on first reading and set it for public hearing thereon on Wednesday, June 4, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard. The motion carried unanimously.

8. City Manager/Legal

a. First Reading Ordinance No. 4, 2014, An Ordinance Granting a Franchise to Public Service Company, of Colorado, its affiliates, successors and assigns the right to use the streets within the City to furnish, sell, transmit and distribute electricity and natural gas to the City and to all residents of the City, granting the right to acquire, construct, install, locate, maintain, operate and extend into, within and through the city all facilities reasonably necessary to furnish, sell, transmit and distribute electricity and natural gas within and through the City of Alamosa.

Counselor Schwiesow explained that the City has had a gas and electric franchise agreement with Public Service Company for 25 years. That agreement expired in January of 2014. Public Service is now owned by Xcel Energy. There has been a change in the formatting and some of the provisions of the franchise agreement being used by Public Service currently, but for the most part the terms and conditions remain unchanged. The agreement is for 20 years, running from January 21, 2014 (the termination date of the existing agreement) to January 20, 2034.

It was moved by Councilor Griego, seconded by Councilor Stefano, to approve Ordinance No. 4, 2014, on first reading and set it for public hearing thereon on

Wednesday, June 4, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Committee Reports

Councilor Johnson gave an update on the Marketing Board.

Councilor Vigil was not able to make the BOE meeting on Monday and will be meeting with Erica Romeo regarding the meeting with the BOA.

F. Staff Announcements

Amanda McDonald gave an update to the progress of the software upgrade with Incode. She advised that Phase I should be finished by the end of the month.

COUNCIL COMMENT

Councilor Johnson thanked Don Thompson and Rhonda Borders for the Historic Tour this past weekend. Councilor Johnson also gave an update on the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee.

Councilor Griego talked about the CML Spring outreach meeting that was on Monday, May 19th.

ADJOURNMENT. The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Kristi Duarte, City Clerk

Josef P. Lucero, Mayor