

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING
ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO
June 22, 2021**

The City Council of the City of Artesia, New Mexico met in the City Council Chambers at City Hall on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in regular session with Mayor Raye Miller presiding, and the following present to wit:

Mayor Pro Tem Terry Hill	Raul Rodriguez
Jeff Youtsey	Kent Bratcher
Sam Hagelstein	Jarrold Moreau

Also, present:
Aubrey Hobson, City Clerk/Treasurer
Summer Valverde, City Assistant Clerk/Treasurer
Attorney Jay Francis

Absent: George G. Mullen
Ignacio Mariscal

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

New Requests for City Facilities:

None.

City Departments and Employees

Mayor Miller gave a special thanks to Commander Longway, Commander Beasley, Fire Marshal Harvey and Debbie Brazas on helping the Frazier family.

Special Reports

None.

Consent Agenda

Councilor Rodriguez moved to approve the consent agenda as written. Second by Mayor Pro Tem Hill and upon vote, the motion carried 6-0.

**CONSENT AGENDA
June 22, 2021**

1. **Approval of Minutes**

*June 8, 2021

2. **Consideration of Bids:**
 - A. *Approval of award of RFP to provide Street Maintenance Materials & Services to Constructors, Inc.
3. **Contracts, Leases and Agreements:**
 - A. *Approval of Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) with New Mexico Municipal League New Mexico Self Insurers' Fund
4. **Appointments:**
5. **Personnel Resignations, Hirings, Promotions, and Transfers:**
6. **Dates of Hearing:**
7. ***Travel and Training:**
8. **Routine Requests for City Facilities:**
9. **Routine Resolutions (to be assigned a number by staff):**
10. **Budgeted Items:**
11. **Quarterly Journal Entries:**
12. **Non-budgeted Items:**
13. ***Payment of Bills**

Public Hearings – including consideration of final passage of any ordinance as to which proper notice has been published.

None.

Period for Hearing Visitors

Shahala Knolton spoke on the LGBTQ display at the library.

Mayor Miller stated that we are always interested in what the public has to say.

Laurie Landtrip spoke on many controversial issues of not banning information in the young adult section.

Mr. Joy spoke on respecting the rights of parents on the way they raise their children.

Comments from Public Officials and Contracted Services

None.

Committee Reports:

- A. Budget and Finance – None.

- B. Personnel – None.
- C. Police and Fire – None.
- D. Planning (*Project Management, Code Enforcement, Permits and Inspections*) – None.
- E. Recreation – Councilor Rodriguez stated that the Summer programs and school programs are up and going.
- F. Infrastructure (Streets, Garage, Cemetery, Parks, Water, Wastewater, Solid Waste, Facility Maintenance) – Councilor Bratcher stated that they are meeting next Thursday.
- G. Government – None.

Personnel

Human Resources Director Sandi Countryman greeted everyone and then stood for questions.

Public Safety

Police Department:

Commander Lindell Smith greeted and thanked everyone then read the stats in the packet and stood for questions.

Fire Department:

- 1) Update on Task Force

Fire Marshal Brenden Harvey greeted the Mayor and Council and stated that they currently have about 20 active members and most recently lost one key player in their task force. Also, ATF had been involved in 26 call outs. Councilor Bratcher stated that it is good to see all the agencies working together and they appreciate the job they are doing.

- 2) Approval to ban the use of personal fireworks and grills (*excluding gas grills*) at Jaycee Park (including the parking lot area) for the 2021 July 4th Celebration

Brenden presented the approval to ban the use of personal fireworks and grills (*excluding gas grills*) at Jaycee Park (including the parking lot area) for the 2021 July 4th Celebration and then stood for questions.

Councilor Bratcher made a motion to ban the use of personal fireworks and grills *excluding gas grills* at the July 4th Celebration. Second by Councilor Hagelstein and upon vote, the motion passed 6-0.

Community Development

- A. Consideration and approval of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Greater Artesia Foundation for the Jaycee Park "Facility"

Community Development Director Jim McGuire greeted the Mayor and Council then spoke on the MOU with the Greater Artesia Foundation and Jaycee Park Facility of

the use and care of the facility, the football and soccer turf fields. The City is to provide the dumpsters and trash removal, lights, electrical and plumbing service.

Councilor Youtsey made a motion to approve the MOU as written. Second by Councilor Moreau and upon vote, the motion passed 6-0.

- B. Approval for Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem to approve initial fee schedule for the utilization of "Facility" as provided in MOU

Councilor Youtsey made a motion to grant approval for the initial fee schedule to the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem Hill and Councilor Rodriguez. Second by Councilor Hagelstein and upon vote, the motion passed 6-0.

- C. Information regarding future cannabis retail sales ordinance(s)

Jim stated they received a letter from the State and that an Ordinance can be adopted for operating times and density of shops; he then spoke on some the information provided in the letter.

Infrastructure

Infrastructure Byron Landfair greeted the Mayor and Council and discussed a couple of project updates. This week North 1st Street as far as 26th Street is partially closed to traffic for paving and striping. Valve replacement will be happening this week on Freeman Street. Byron then stood for questions.

City Attorney

None.

City Clerk

- A. Information addressing sick leave for retiring employees

City Clerk/Treasurer Aubrey Hobson presented information addressing sick leave for retiring employees.

Mayor Miller stated to look at previous years to see an actual cost.

Mayor Pro Tem Hill asked Sandy how many sick days are earned per year. Sandi replied 104 hours that rolls over and that the actual amount of 470 hours that maxes out, with firefighters earning a little bit more.

Mayor Miller directed staff to take this to the personnel and budget committees.

- B. Discussion of additional 21/22 budget considerations for Police and Fire Department salaries

Adjusting of pay-scale range for the budget was discussed with around \$100,000 in additional cost.

Mayor Miller asked if there were any additional questions.

C. Discussion of HEROES ACT Funding timetable

Aubrey stated that next fiscal year will be when we should receive the HEROES ACT Funding.

Summer presented the figures on the loss of revenue. The figures showed a loss of about 8 million dollars which exceeds our awarded amount therefore, allowing us to use the funds in the general fund.

Aubrey then stated that we just received additional information we will have to go over on the HEROES ACT.

D. Set second meeting date and time for July 2021

The second meeting date was discussed and was set for Tuesday July 27.

Councilor Bratcher made a motion to approve the second meeting date for July 27. Second by Mayor Pro Tem Hill and upon vote, the motion passed 6-0.

E. Overview of House Bill 6 – Tax Changes

Aubrey stated that changing the way GRT is going to be reported is still up in the air. He also stated that Rod Adair called about redistricting after September 30th before the next election.

Mayor

A. Executive session: In accordance with the State of New Mexico Open Meetings Act, Section 10-15-1-(H)(2)(7):

1. Pending litigation

Councilor Rodriguez made a motion to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation at 6:55 p.m. Second by Councilor Bratcher and upon rollcall vote, the motion passed 6-0.

B. Action as a result of executive session

Councilor Rodriguez made a motion at 7:10 p.m. to come out of executive session; no action was taken. Second by Councilor Moreau and upon vote, the motion passed 6-0.

New or other business from Councilors

None.


Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m. On June 22, 2021.



Raye Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:



Aubrey Hobson - City Clerk