

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING
ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO
June 9, 2020**

The City Council of the City of Artesia, New Mexico met in the City Council Chambers at City Hall with limits in place for the public attendees because of the coronavirus pandemic and the Governor's executive order with Mayor Raye Miller presiding, on Tuesday, June 9th, 2020 at 6:00 p.m., and the following present to wit:

Jeff Youtsey
Kent Bratcher
Ignacio Mariscal
Raul Rodriguez

Sam Hagelstein
Jarrod Moreau
George G. Mullen
Mayor Pro Tem Terry Hill

Also, present:
Aubrey Hobson, City Clerk-Treasurer

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

New Requests for City Facilities:

***New Requests for City Facilities:**

- A. Artesia Chamber of Commerce – request permission to hold the 4th of July Fireworks. Contingent on the Governor's Orders, Insurance certificate from the Firework Company, no use of City Services or Facilities (excluding Firework Company's access to Jaycee Park). Request waiver of fees

Hayley Klein from Artesia Chamber of Commerce spoke to promoting a 4th of July family friendly event to celebrate our Country. The fireworks display will be an aerial show only with the park closed. The community can watch from their back yards or where they may be. The Artesia Chamber of Commerce is working with the Professional Firework League which has the insurance certificate and is the same team they have been working with for the last five years. The display will be choreographed with music and a lot of Independence Day material will be put out bringing it back to the basics promoting the holiday with celebrating our Country. Everything will be done to promote safety and social distancing. Hailey stated that they hope everyone is comfortable with what is presented; advertising will be done with the radio station, newspaper, Focus website, social media and billboards as well. They will be working with the police and other city departments.

Mayor Miller stated if the Governor changes things that we may be able to modify the limitations with approved changes.

Mayor Miller stated that we have a motion by Councilor Bratcher and a second by Councilor Rodriguez. The Mayor also mentioned he attended a meeting in Carlsbad last Wednesday with the County Manager, Carlsbad Mayor and City Manager. It was mentioned that Carlsbad is cancelling their firework display. The County Commissioners are considering offering fifteen thousand dollars to the City of Carlsbad to have fireworks.

Mayor Miller stated that he appreciates County Manager Davis suggest that if they contribute fifteen thousand to Carlsbad that they should also consider doing it for the City of Artesia, and if the Count does contribute to Artesia, we will probably earmark it for the Chamber's July festivities. Also, he appreciates the Counties support and the private funds contributed to the event.

Mayor Pro Tem Hill made a motion to amend the motion with a request to waiver of fees. Second by Councilor Bratcher. Upon vote, the motion passed 8-0.

Motion of approval of firework display by Councilor Bratcher. Second by Councilor Rodriguez. Upon vote, the motion passed 8-0.

City Departments and Employees

None.

Special Reports

None.

Approval of Consent Agenda

The consent agenda for June 9, 2020 was presented for passage with a motion by Councilor Rodriguez, as written. Councilor Hagelstein provided a second. Upon vote, the motion passed 8-0.

CONSENT AGENDA June 9, 2020

1. **Approval of Minutes** *May 26, 2020
2. ***Consideration of Bids:**
 - A. Approval of award of RFP for Financial and Compliance Audit Services to Beasley, Mitchell & Co., LLP
 - B. Approval of award of RFP to provide Indigent Attorney Services to Sanders, Bruin, Coll & Worley P.A.
3. ***Contracts, Leases and Agreements:**
 - A. Approval to sign contract for Audit Services to Beasley, Mitchell & Co., LLP
 - B. Approval to transfer Police Department surplus vehicle (2012 Chevrolet Tahoe VIN#0603) to Dexter Police Department, Dexter, NM
 - C. Approval of Service Agreement Number A-20-54 with Eddy County
4. **Appointments:**
5. **Personnel Resignations, Hirings, Promotions, and Transfers:**
 - A. Accept the resignation of Chance Carter, Cemetery Equipment Operator, effective June 5, 2020
6. **Dates of Hearing:**
 - A. *Approval to set a public hearing on June 23, 2020 for consideration to adopt a resolution adopting amendments to the Affordable Housing Plan
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

None.

Comments from Public Officials and Contracted Services

None.

Committee Reports:

- A. Budget and Finance – None
- B. Personnel – None
- C. Police and Fire – Councilor Mullen had a meeting yesterday and will be forwarding information to Budget and Finance
- D. Planning (*Project Management, Code Enforcement, Permits and Inspections*) – None.
- E. Recreation – Councilor Rodriguez will have a meeting Thursday in the aquatic center at 4:30 to open discussion and communication on recreation plans depending on the Governors orders.
- F. Infrastructure (Streets, Garage, Cemetery, Parks, Water, Wastewater, Solid Waste, Facility Maintenance) - None.
- G. Government
 - 1) Discussion and consideration of reopening City Facilities following approval through the Governor's orders

Mayor Miller suggested to adopt a motion to give the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem Hill authority to approve the opening of facilities if something changes in the restrictions.

Councilor Bratcher motioned to give authority to Mayor Miller and Mayor Pro Tem Hill to consider opening of facilities in accordance with the Governor revised orders . Second by Councilor Mullen. Councilor Bratcher would like to revise this motion to let Councilors know if there is action to open that it is communicated with the Council to be able to let the community know. Upon vote, the motion passed 8-0.

Personnel:

- A. *Safety stats – None.

Human Resource Director Sandy Countryman stood for questions.

Public Safety:

A. Police Department:

- 1) *Stats – Police Chief Roberts greeted the Mayor and Council and stated the stats are consistent except for auto burglaries are up with unlocked cars and a lot of people checking door handles. Chief Roberts then stood for question. Councilor Mariscal discussed the shootings in Artesia and if they were related in any way; Chief Roberts stated they all have a common nexus of drugs and gangs.

B. Fire Department:

- 1) *Stats – Fire Chief Hope greeted the Mayor, Council and stated that the volume is down a little and has been for the last few months. Chief Hope stood for questions. Councilor Mariscal asked about the stats on the Corona virus. Fire Chief Hope replied that he knows of some but not all.

***Community Development:**

- A. Update on Planning Department move – Community Development Director Jim McGuire let everyone know that they are moving Thursday and Friday to the First American Bank on the 3rd floor suite 303 and they have a display ad in the paper Sunday, Monday, tonight and Thursdays paper notifying the public and contractors have been notified. They will back for business on Monday.
- B. Stats - Jim McGuire stood for questions.

Mayor Miller stated for the new Councilors that the Planning Department is across from the recreation center. Also, that the rent we were paying is higher than what will be paid now and in addition includes all utilities maintenance and repairs which we have saved. The greatest concern is IT on whether this would be of significant cost in the relocation of the city departments that tied together in our IT system; which there was minimum expense there.

Infrastructure:

Infrastructure Byron Landfair greeted the Mayor and Council and stated that Hermosa street will be paved out at the end of the month and stood for questions. Councilor Marrow asked about the vandalism at Jamaica park, a member of the community has asked about when the lights will be turned on. Chief Roberts stated they have spoken to the construction company about getting temporary lighting.

City Attorney:

None.

***City Clerk:**

City Clerk/Treasurer Aubrey Hobson thanked everyone for their cooperation and patience on the teleconferences.

- A. Library Reading Program – Aubrey stated that in the packet there is a pamphlet/flyer that the library will be sending out, they would like to have a summer reading program drive by. Last year they had over five hundred kids participate and they do not expect that many this year. Mayor Miller stated we would like to give permission for the reading program drive by and any additional activities in libraries if the Governor orders allow; if they can conform with those orders, we would like to have the program indoors.

Councilor Hagelstein made a motion to approve the summer reading program drive by. Second by Councilor Rodriguez. Upon vote, motion passed 8-0.

- B. Set the second meeting date in July 2020 – Aubrey stated we need to set the date for the second meeting in July. According to our resolution, we have one in December and one regular meeting in July. The second meeting we have used for retreats and we need to have one for adopting the budget. Mayor Miller would like to suggest having the meeting on Tuesday July 28th at 12 noon to give the afternoon if needed depending on additional changes.

Mayor Pro Tem Hill made a motion to approve meeting on July 28th at noon with purpose of budget. Second by Councilor Mariscal. Upon vote, motion passed 8-0.

Mayor:

- A. Discussion regarding Council meetings

Mayor Miller stated some of the agendas have been light that he has begun to question whether gathering everybody in the evening for a formal meeting makes a lot of sense. The Mayor asked the Council to think about only holding regular meetings once a month but being able to meet more frequently if we need to.

New or other business from Councilors:

Newly elected Councilors were welcomed. Councilor Youtsey would like to let everyone know the Community Garden will be open this Saturday morning from 8 to 10, they will be there giving out boxes.

Mayor Miller stated that we have a good council and looks forward to working with each one with what contributions and role they have; it's a very diverse council and at the same time he believes that each one has what is best for the City as their objective.


Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm on June 9, 2020.



Raye Miller – Mayor

ATTEST:



Aubrey Hobson – City Clerk