

CITY OF AZTEC  
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday October 25, 2022

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Michael A. Padilla Sr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm at Aztec City Hall, 201 W. Chaco, Aztec NM 87410

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Invocation led by Chief Michael Heal  
United States Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner King  
New Mexico pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner King

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Mayor Michael A. Padilla, Sr.; Commissioner Colby King; and Commissioner Jim Crowley; Commissioner Austin Randall

Members Absent: Mayor Pro-Tem Ken George

Others Present: Acting City Manager Jeff Blackburn; City Clerk Karla Sayler; City Attorney Steve Murphy

**PRESENTATION**

Rebuild Hwy 173 - Jim Maes

Jim Maes presented Commission with an overview of the project they are trying to get funded to rebuild Highway 173. Jim mentioned the cost still needed to fix the entire road is near \$45 million dollars. He asked Commission to get a resolution drafted in support of the project to present when seeking funding.

Mayor Padilla and Commissioner Crowley voiced their support in drafting a resolution supporting the project.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS**

MOVED by Commissioner Randall to Approve Agenda Items with the AMENDED motion moving Item E from Business items until after the completion of the closed session; SECONDED by Commissioner Crowley

All Voted Aye: Motion Passed Four to Zero

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Commission Special Closed Session Meeting Minutes October 06, 2022
- B. Commission Meeting Minutes October 11, 2022
- C. Detention Center Services

MOVED by Commissioner Randall to Approve Consent Agenda with the correction in the Staff Report changing INCREASE to DECREASES per diem rate; SECONDED by Commissioner King

**ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

**NONE**

**CITIZENS INPUT**

**NONE**

**BUSINESS ITEMS**

- A. Resolution 2022-1312: A Resolution Supporting the Application for Reservoir #1 to the New Mexico Office of Natural Resources Trustee

Project Manager Jeric Jaramillo informed Commission the resolution is to support the application they are submitting for the Reservoir 1 project, which is a request for \$950,000 from the NM Office of Natural Resources Trustee.

MOVED by Commissioner Crowley to APPROVE Resolution 2022-1312: A Resolution Supporting the Application for Reservoir #1 to the New Mexico Office of Natural Resources Trustee; SECONDED by Commissioner Randall

All Voted Aye: Motion Passed Four to Zero

- B. Resolution 2022-1313: A Resolution Supporting the Application for North Main Wastewater to the New Mexico Office of Natural Resources Trustee

Mayor Padilla asked about the easement that has not been signed by Ms. Blancett for Wastewater. City Attorney Murphy has spoken with Steven Saavedra and will follow up on the issue.

MOVED by Commissioner Crowley to APPROVE Resolution 2022-1313: A Resolution Supporting the Application for North Main Wastewater to the New Mexico Office of Natural Resources Trustee; SECONDED by Commissioner King

All Voted Aye: Motion Passed Four to Zero

C. Resolution 2022-1314 Authorizing Signatures for City Accounts

MOVED by Commissioner Crowley to APPROVE Resolution 2022-1314 Authorizing Signatures for City Accounts; SECONDED by Commissioner Randall

Commissioner King ABSTAINED due to conflict of interest

Three Voted Aye: Motion Passed Three to Zero Commissioner King Abstained

D. Resolution 2022-1315 Authorizing Signatures for Municipal Court Bond Checking Account

MOVED by Commissioner Crowley to APPROVE Resolution 2022-1315 Authorizing Signatures for Municipal Court Bond Checking Account; SECONDED by Commissioner Randall

All Voted Aye: Motion Passed Four to Zero

**QUASI JUDICIAL HEARING**

**NONE**

**COMMISSIONER, CITY MANAGER, DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Mayor Padilla and Commissioner King attended the recruitment meeting and will discuss the findings in the Closed Session. He also attended the COG meeting and there was discussion about the Outdoor Recreation Grant, and that a hotel study may be able to be allocated out of that grant funding. He indicated that at the EDAB meeting there was lengthy discussion on outdoor recreation. There was also a P&Z meeting after the EDAB meeting and he was impressed with the Board. He attended the event held at the senior center there was a tremendous turn out and the staff did an incredible job.

Commissioner Randall updated Commission on the New Mexico Energy Transition Act Community advisory meeting rescheduled to November 15<sup>th</sup> in Fruitland.

Commissioner Crowley mentioned the presentation given by Chief Heal at the previous meeting concerning the Law Enforcement Grant, there have been changes made to the Grant which will benefit the City even more than previously thought.

Commissioner King reported that he was unable to attend the Senior Center event but was able to attend Oktober fest and it was a great turnout.

Interim City Manager Jeff Blackburn noted that NMDOT will be shutting down construction for the winter on Hwy 173. He reported there is consideration to do the ribbon cutting on North Main in coordination with the Sparkles event on December 10<sup>th</sup>. He cited fraudulent emails that have been received by staff with his name which the City is aware of. He is working with GES Associates to get a quote on what it would cost for them to compile recommendations for rate changes for electric utility, water, wastewater etc. Jeff asked for direction from Commission of possible rate changes for FY23 to FY24, Mayor Padilla would like to wait to decide on rate changes until a full time City Manager is hired but would like the study started.

Jeff, Mayor Padilla, Ed Kotyk and Andrew Gallegos from MotoCross met with BLM to discuss possibly picking up 80-160 acres. They agreed on a right of way for 5-7 acres where there is already some encroachment.

Chief Heal thanked Commission for approving the Law Enforcement Grant. He said Karla sent in the documentation that they asked for, but they may still need a letter of support from Commission.

Judge Carlton Gray Informed Commission he will be attending the National Judges Conference starting November 8<sup>th</sup> in Albuquerque. Also, the Education Conference is looking for volunteers, which he may try and help with.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Closed Session Pertaining to State Law, Section 10-15-1H(2) Limited Personnel Matters, City Manager Recruitment

Mayor Padilla called to go into closed session pursuant to State Law, Section 10-15-1H(2) Limited Personnel Matters, City Manager Recruitment at 6:50pm

A Roll Call was Taken: All Voted Aye

Mayor Padilla called to come out of closed session at 7:15 pm Pursuant to State Law, Section 10-15-1H(2) Limited Personnel Matters, City Manager Recruitment, He mentioned that there were no other items discussed and no decisions were made.

A Roll Call was Taken: All Voted Aye

**BUSINESS ITEMS (CONTINUED)**

F. Approval of City Manager Recruitment Process

MOVED by Commissioner Randall to APPROVE contract negotiations for City Manager Position with Interim-City Manager Jeff Blackburn; SECONDED by Commissioner King

A Roll Call was Taken: All Voted Aye

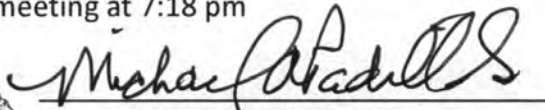
E. Approval of Interim City Manager Compensation

MOVED by Commissioner Randall to TABLE Approval of Interim City Manager Compensation; SECONDED by Commissioner King

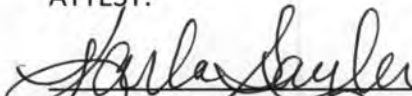
A Roll Call was Taken: All Voted Aye

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Mayor Padilla to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 pm

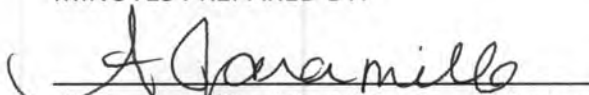
  
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Mayor Michael A. Padilla, Sr.

ATTEST:

  
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Karla Bayler, City Clerk



MINUTES PREPARED BY:

  
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Alisha Jaramillo, Administrative Assistant