

CITY OF AZTEC
COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday August 25, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lanier called the workshop to order at 5:00 pm at Aztec City Hall, 201 W. Chaco, Aztec NM 87410

Members Present: Mayor Brett Lanier; Commissioner Katie Buchholz; and Commissioner Austin Randall

Members Absent: Mayor Pro-Tem Cortez

Others Present: Interim City Manager Chief Troy Morris; Deputy Interim City Manager Ed Kotyk; City Clerk Karla Sayler; City Attorney Sofia Flores

A. Flood Mitigation Plan and Projects

Mayor Brett Lanier opened the workshop and turned it over to Interim City Manager Troy Morris, Interim Deputy City Manager Ed Kotyk and Interim Public Works Director Jeric Jaramillo.

The commission mentioned that with the recent flooding they asked staff to report on what they propose to fix it and how the city can obtain funding to assist in fixing the issues, so the city doesn't run into the issue again.

Interim Public Works Director Jeric Jaramillo said that Aqua Strategies completed a study in 2024 to create a Storm Drainage Master Plan. He explained that the plan is a working document that can continue to be used as projects move forward. He discussed some of the major projects identified in the study, including the Hampton and Blanco arroyos. After the study was completed, the city applied for and received a \$400,000 FEMA grant which has a \$100,000 match. The intent of the grant was to begin design work on the proposed improvements. He stated that staff are currently putting together an RFP for the design work.

The commission asked Community Development Director Andrew DiCamillo about the RFP he is working on for an engineering firm and if they would be able to help with the design, Jeric stated that they would probably have to go out to RFP for a specific engineer for the design. Jeric stated that the design monies were budgeted for Hampton, Blanco and Williams Arroyos.

The Commission questioned Jeric on why no work had been done on the arroyos. Jeric said that, during his time with the city, crews had gone out and resized some of the culverts. Ed Kotyk stated that several culverts had been discussed for

resizing, but he believes only one was completed. Jeric further explained that there are locations throughout town where the arroyos are bottlenecked so there is no access for equipment to reach those areas to even do culvert resizing work.

Andrew gave suggestions on what he felt could be done to mitigate some of the flooding in the future. He suggested working with the schools to use the land that is below Blanco Arroyo to possibly make a pond to help stop the flow. There are also other places around the city that they can look at to pond out as well.

The Commission would like staff to make a maintenance schedule for the arroyos, including yearly pre-monsoon inspections so staff can do preventative maintenance. Public Works Superintendent Yvonne Multine said that staff inspect the arroyos each year, but there are many factors that can cause blockages.

Citizen Jack Scott, former commissioner, shared some history about flooding and the arroyos and offered suggestions on possible ways to address the issues.

The Commission would like to see a five-year plan that prioritizes projects and improvements to help mitigate flooding issues throughout the community. They would also like staff to review the current codes and ordinances to determine whether updates are needed or if existing codes should be enforced. Adding some kind of agreement that if the City must perform maintenance or cleanup work that is the responsibility of a property owner, the property owner would be charged for the work.

The Commission questioned what could be done to improve drainage in the higher areas of town where water runoff creates problems. Andrew said they have been working on getting easements so the city can build drainage ditches. He added that they would like to work with property owners to either by acquiring easements or partnering with them to build ponds that could help slow down and manage runoff.

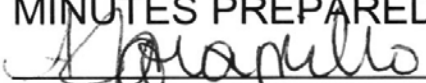
ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mayor Lanier to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m.




Brett Lanier, Mayor

MINUTES PREPARED BY:


Alisha Jaramillo, Deputy Clerk

ATTEST:


Karla Sayler, City Clerk