

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2014 @ 5:30 P.M.
CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 214 S. LOVE STREET**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gandy at 5:30 p.m.

Present and answering roll call: Commissioner Trujillo, Commissioner Butcher, Commissioner Campos, Commissioner Bengue and Mayor Gandy

Also Present: City Manager James Williams, Assistant City Manager Jared Cobb, City Finance Director Gary Chapman, City Clerk Carol Ann Hogue, City Attorney Patrick McMahon, and Interim Police Chief David Rodriguez

Invocation: Commissioner Trujillo gave the invocation

Pledge of Allegiance: Commissioner Trujillo led the pledge

Approval of Agenda: Mayor Gandy called for a motion to approve the agenda as submitted. Commissioner Trujillo so moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Bengue seconded and a roll call was taken: Commissioner Trujillo – Yes, Commissioner Butcher – Yes, Commissioner Bengue – Yes, Mayor Gandy – Yes and Commissioner Campos - Yes.

Approval of the Regular Minutes of August 25, 2014: Mayor Gandy called for a motion to approve the regular minutes of August 25, 2014. Commissioner Campos so moved. Commissioner Bengue seconded and a roll call was taken: Commissioner Campos – Yes, Commissioner Trujillo – Yes, Mayor Gandy – Yes, Commissioner Bengue – Yes, and Commissioner Butcher – Yes.

COMMISSIONER AND STAFF REPORTS:

- Finance Director Gary Chapman spoke in reference to auditors being pleased with City's improvements with changes from the previous year
- Commissioner Campos spoke in reference to School Resource Officer Program meeting with schools. Program will help improve relations with the police and schools and help with monitoring and patrolling of all schools. An allocation of funds is still in discussion.
- Commissioner Bernard thanked the City for job well done for taking care of business at Fran Atchley Center.
- Mayor Gandy mentioned Governor was in town. Governor Susan Martinez and Jon Barela announced funding of \$100,000 for updates to Lea Theatre. Library Director Tuerida McBride and Michael Delello with the department of cultural affairs shared some insight of projects developing in the near future.

- Commissioner Trujillo was glad to hear a good update from Finance Director Chapman concerning auditors. Asked what are the intentions for Christmas lights? City Manager Williams stated funds are allocated to lights but they have not been purchased will get with Mr. Graham.
- Assistant City Manager Cobb invited Commissioners to Steering Committee at Chamber Thursday, September 11, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.
- City Manager Williams introduced the new City Planner Merideth Hildreth; stated City Planner Hildreth is very experienced, very educated, has worked on various public and private entities, and is very familiar with this area. City Manager Williams informed Commissioners of Lodger's Tax Board Member Maria Valencia passing away; vacancy will need to be filled at our next commission meeting.

NON-ACTION ITEMS:

Discussion of Pay and Classification Plan Study: City Manager Williams addressed Commissioners of being presented with a proposal from a company to prepare a pay and classification plan study. The outcome of the study is to provide an evaluation of our current pay plan, establish prevailing market rates, prepare a fiscal impact analysis, and provide a plan to achieve a competitive pay structure. A total of eight municipalities, of similar size and demographics, will be included in this study. Request to bring a professional service agreement for approval at the September 22, 2014 meeting. Commissioners agreed with City Manager Williams and Commissioner Bengé thinks it is a great idea. No action was taken.

ACTION ITEMS:

Consideration of Approval of Steering Committee Appointment: Mayor Gandy called for a motion to approve the steering committee appointments. Assistant City Manager Jared Cobb stated the Lea County Electric has requested that Jeanette Faris be appointed to the Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. Gary Hurse was previously appointed but has requested that this change be made. Commissioner Trujillo so moved. Commissioner Bengé seconded and a roll call was taken: Commissioner Campos – Yes, Commissioner Butcher – Yes, Mayor Gandy – Yes, Commissioner Trujillo – Yes, and Commissioner Bengé – Yes. Motion was approved.

Consider Approval of Resolution 2014-43: Release of Claim of Lien, College Addition, Block 1, Lots 7-12: Mayor Gandy called for a motion to consider approval of resolution 2014-43: release of claim of lien, college addition, block 1, lots 7-12. City Manager Williams addressed the Commissioners to approve resolution to release of claim of lien for several lots that Gabriel and Estella Garcia purchased from the City in 1998. The described lots were included in a paving lien in 1971. For lack of payment, a lien was filed on the property. However, in 1973 this property was quitclaimed to the City. The release of lien was never prepared or filed. Commissioner Bengé so moved. Commissioner Campos seconded and a roll call was taken: Commissioner Bengé – Yes,

Commissioner Butcher – Yes, Commissioner Campos – Yes, Commissioner Trujillo – Yes, and Mayor Gandy – Yes. Motion was approved.

Consider Approval of Resolution 2014-44: Recycling Revenue Account: Mayor Gandy called for a motion to approve the resolution 2014-44: recycling revenue account. City Manager Williams addressed Commissioners of designating revenues received from the sale of scrap metal be recorded in the Solid Waste Fund and will be utilized for operation of the solid waste department and other expenditures deemed necessary and authorized by the City Commission. Commissioner Campos so moved. Commissioner Bengé seconded and a roll call was taken: Commissioner Campos – Yes, Commissioner Butcher – Yes, Commissioner Bengé – Yes, Commissioner Trujillo – Yes, and Mayor Gandy - Yes. Motion was approved.

Consider Approval of Resolution 2014-45: Grant Agreement Between New Mexico DFA and City of Lovington for Chaparral Park Irrigation System: Mayor Gandy called for a motion to approve the resolution 2014-45: grant agreement between New Mexico DFA and City of Lovington. City Manager Williams addressed the Commissioners to grant agreement with the NM Department of Finance and Administration for the Chaparral Park Irrigation System Project allocated funds of \$50,000.00. This grant will partially fund the first phase of this project. Commissioner Bengé so moved. Commissioner Butcher seconded and a roll call was taken: Commissioner Trujillo – Yes, Commissioner Bengé – Yes, Commissioner Campos – Yes, Commissioner Butcher – Yes, and Mayor Gandy – Yes. Motion was approved.

Consider Approval of Accounts Payable: Mayor Gandy called for a motion to approve the accounts payable. Commissioner Butcher so moved. Commissioner Bengé seconded and a roll call was taken: Commissioner Campos – Yes, Commissioner Butcher – Yes, Commissioner Trujillo – Yes, Commissioner Bengé – Yes and Mayor Gandy - Yes. Motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CLOSED SESSION:

At 5:55 p.m., Commissioner Trujillo moved to adjourn Regular Session and convene in Closed Session: Pursuant to Section 10-15-1 NMSA 1978, Subsection H-8 regarding the purchase, acquisition, or disposition of real property or water rights and Subsection H-2 regarding limited personnel matters. Commissioner Campos seconded and a roll call vote was taken: Commissioner Bengé - Yes; Commissioner Trujillo - Yes; Mayor Gandy – Yes; Commissioner Butcher – Yes; and Commissioner Campos - Yes.

At 6:15 p.m., Commissioner Trujillo so moved to adjourn Closed Session and reconvene in Regular Session stating that matters discussed were limited only to those specified in the motion and no action was taken. Commissioner Bengé seconded and a roll call vote

was taken: Mayor Gandy - Yes; Commissioner Bengé - Yes; Commissioner Trujillo - Yes; Commissioner Butcher – Yes; and Commissioner Campos - Yes.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
SCOTTY GANDY, MAYOR

ATTEST: _____
CAROL ANN HOGUE, CITY CLERK