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THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORTALES met in regular session Tuesday, September 2, 2014, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers at the Memorial Building, 200 E. 7th Street, Portales, NM in full conformity with the rules and regulations. Mayor King called the meeting to order and asked City Clerk Martinez-Terry to call roll. Those present and constituting a quorum were:

MAYOR: Sharon L. King

MAYOR PRO-TEM: Michael G. Miller (absent)

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Matthew Tod Hunton Oscar H. Robinson
Leo Lovett Antonio O. Salguero
Lenard Michael Lucero Keith A. Thomas
Dianne Y. Parker

STAFF PRESENT: Doug Redmond, City Manager Pat Gallegos, Police Chief
Joan Martinez-Terry, City Clerk John DeSha, Public Works Director
Randy Knudson, City Attorney Marilyn Rapp, Finance Director
Gary Nuckols, Fire Chief Jamie Rose, Assistant to City Manager
Veda Urioste, Deputy City Clerk Susan Baysinger, Public Works Proj. Adm.
Christine A. Mitchell, I.T. Tech

OTHERS PRESENT: Joshua Lucero, Press Claire Burroughs
David Lansford, Clovis Mayor Jerry DeSha
Amelia Redmond Rick Ledbetter
Joseph Urioste Alex Urioste

Mayor King asked Clovis Mayor David Lansford to give the invocation, and Joseph and Alex Urioste to lead the Pledge of Allegiance and the Salute to the New Mexico flag.

(A) MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S):

- 1. **Regular Meeting of September 2, 2014.**

Mayor King asked the Council to consider the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 2, 2014. She asked for questions and, hearing none, asked the pleasure of the Council. ***Councilor Hunton made the motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 2, 2014 as presented. Councilor Lovett seconded the motion. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion. No abstentions. Motion carried.***

(B) PROCLAMATION(S):

1. Declaring the Week of October 5 – 11, 2014 as Fire Prevention Week.

Mayor King asked Fire Chief Gary Nuckols to come forward to receive the proclamation declaring the week of October 5 – 11, 2014 as "Fire Prevention Week." She read the proclamation aloud to the audience and staff. The proclamation promoted the installation of fire alarms and testing of them on a monthly basis. Fire Chief Nuckols told the Council, audience and staff that October is Fire Prevention month and that the Fire Department has events planned to promote fire prevention and fire safety in the schools.

(C) REQUEST FOR LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR OGALLALA WATER CONSERVATION INITIATIVE

Mayor King recognized Clovis City Mayor David Lansford to speak about the water conservation initiative. Mayor Lansford told the group that about 13 years ago, he and previous Portales Mayor Ortega had gone to Washington to promote the Ute Water project. He commented that one thing they were asked was if they were being good stewards of the water in the ground. He commented that no one knows exactly how many years the water will last in the aquifer. Lansford stated that he did not want to criticize the agricultural community, and certainly does not want to be in an adverse position with the agricultural business. He commented that he wants to stay focused on the conservation initiative. He added that the conservation measures include the Ute water pipeline and that other measures include purchasing water rights, water conservation programs and effluent reuse projects. Lansford told the Council that Portales was fortunate to have obtained the \$25,000,000.00 loan for the wastewater treatment plant with a reuse component. He spoke about the City of Clovis striving to purchase 930 acres of water rights at a cost of \$1,860,000.00 to reduce the amount of water being utilized to irrigate crops in the area of Cannon AFB. He commented that this would reduce the amount of water being withdrawn from the Ogallala Aquifer by 1200 acre feet per year. He spoke about the work done by Senator Bingaman on a partnership program for farmers not to farm that was not used because there was such a small incentive to participate. He added that \$60,000,000.00 is available for the Ogallala initiative. Lansford told the Council that the City of Clovis intends to promote the program to irrigators around the pipeline project to conserve the water. He told the Council that one of the components of the Ogallala initiative are matching funds for project support and he listed the funds already expended for the Ute Water Project and the Clovis Effluent Reuse Pipeline project. Lansford asked the Council for a letter of support to meet the October 2, 2014 deadline for participation in the Ogallala Initiative. He thanked the Council for the opportunity to make this presentation requesting support. Councilor Lovett stated that he had talked to people outside the city about the initiative and that they had expressed opposition to the limitation to their right to farm. Mayor Lansford responded that the program is entirely discretionary and that no one will twist arms; that it is strictly up to the farmer. He added that he was comfortable with this approach. He added that the producers recognize that if we continue the way we are going, the water rates will be astronomical. Mayor Lansford asked the Mayor and Council to recognize the presence of Rick Ledbetter, an area farmer, at this meeting. Mayor King asked for Mr. Ledbetter's perspective. Mr. Ledbetter told the Mayor and Council that he is in support of the program, and said that it is a good start and that most people in the Conservation District are in support of it also. Councilor Thomas asked if this initiative was just a Clovis/Curry County thing or would the rest of Eastern New Mexico be included. Mayor Lansford stated that all farmers in the area will be able to participate, but that there will be rankings for participation—that it is a two-fold two part process that will be promoted to the farmers as soon as the application is completed and submitted. He did state that this initiative is

specifically directed to the interim pipeline area to conserve water reserves. Mayor King stated that the farmers that can participate are the ones in Curry, Roosevelt and Lea County area as shown on the PowerPoint slide with the map of the area highlighted. Councilor Robinson asked Mayor Lansford to clarify who he refers to as “we” that is requesting support. Lansford stated that the group is anyone who endorses the endeavor including the Portales Council. He stated that the idea originated with him and another gentleman speaking to the state engineer. Councilor Thomas stated that he doesn't see a downside to this proposal. He applauded the Council and Mayor, past and present, for supporting the Ute Water Project for so many years. Mayor King commented that Mayor Lansford's proposal has grown and changed as it has come along. She remarked that the proposal has changed to include the eastern side of the state. She asked Mayor Lansford if the match could be in conservation expenses. Lansford confirmed that the match is in conservation expenses not in cash. Mayor King asked the pleasure of the Council. ***Councilor Lovett made the motion to issue a letter of support for Mayor Lansford's proposal to participate in the Farm Bill that would pay farmers not to farm in the effort to conserve water in the aquifer. Councilor Parker seconded the motion. All Council members present voted in unanimous support of the motion. No abstentions. Motion carried.***

(D) PRESENTATION/REQUEST BY THE FOOD BANK OF EASTERN NEW MEXICO

Mayor King asked Daniel Blea, Interim Director of the Food Bank of Eastern New Mexico to give his presentation. Mr. Blea thanked the Council for their support of the food bank. He told the Council that Brown, Steiner-Lindsey, Valencia and R.M. James participate in the backpack program provided by the Food Bank of Eastern New Mexico, and also that the food bank distributes food to about 375 people in the community. He commented that the distribution is moving over to the Central Christian Church. He stated that schools and administrators are doing a great job in reaching out to the families and kids who need the food. He reported that the teachers load the food in the backpacks. He showed the Council an example of the food that is in the backpack—individual cereals, snacks, crackers, protein bars, juice or milk, fruit snacks, peanut butter, Vienna sausages, and other shelf-stable foods. He added that the items in the backpack are foods that a child can eat without having to cook, and that more than one child is being fed through the program. The backpack program is intended to feed the kids through the weekend until they can get back to the school lunch and breakfast program. Blea told the Council that the purpose of his presentation was to thank the Council and to request volunteers, food and/or funds. Mayor King commented that the Food Bank of Eastern New Mexico has served more Roosevelt County residents than Curry County residents. Blea told the Council that the Food Bank is reaching out to the villages in the county, and trying to reach college students who don't have scholarships as well. He commented that they attempt to reach out to Golden Acres and the Sr. Center and to as many groups as possible. He told the Council that they rely on grants and donations from churches and service clubs. Councilor Parker asked if they buy food or just rely on what comes in as donations. Councilor Lovett asked Blea what the Food Bank wanted from the Council. Daniel Blea stated that his presentation is more informational, but that in general the Food Bank takes donations, money or volunteers. Councilor Lovett recommended the Food Bank since he was in a group that went to the Food Bank to work. Mayor King praised the work of the Food Bank and Mr. Blea. Blea commented that the success of the Food Bank is all due to the staff. Councilor Parker asked about food drives for the holidays. Mr. Blea stated that the Food Bank does a food drive in December with the elementary schools. He commented that he is working to get this done in December again this year and that a collection point is at Portales Home Medical.

(E) RATIFICATION OF FINANCE DEPARTMENT'S ACTIONS REGARDING THE BILLS FOR AUGUST 2014

Mayor King asked Ms. Marilyn Rapp, Finance Director to present the bills for August 2014. Ms. Rapp told the Council that the total paid in the month of August 2014 was \$3,157,534.56. She told the Council that the large expenditures were for Ute Water Administration dues, which were \$304,547.00 and \$1,446,547.31 for

construction costs and engineering services for the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP). She commented that the amounts were within budgeted limits. She asked for questions from the Council; and asked for ratification of the bills.

August 2014

Pooled Cash Fund	999	\$3,157,534.56
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Mayor King asked the pleasure of the Council. *Councilor Parker made the motion to ratify payment of the bills for August 2014 as presented. Councilor Hunton seconded the motion. All Councilors present voted in favor of the motion. No abstentions. Motion carried.*

(F) REQUEST TO APPROVE & AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE NM DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION FUND 892 CAPITAL APPROPRIATION AGREEMENT #14-L-1973

Mayor King asked Fire Chief Gary Nuckols to present capital appropriation agreement #14-L-1973. Chief Nuckols told the Council that the agreement is with the NM Department of Finance & Administration for a project for \$25,000.00 to start the work on a Fire Substation. He asked that the Council approve the agreement. Councilor Lovett asked if this appropriation obligates the City to build the substation. Chief Nuckols responded that it did not, nor did it obligate them to return the money. Mayor King asked the pleasure of the Council. *Councilor Lucero made the motion to authorize the Mayor to sign Capital Appropriation agreement #14-L-1973 as presented. Councilor Parker seconded the motion. All Councilors present voted in favor of the motion. No abstentions. Motion carried.*

(G) REQUESTING AUTHORIZATION FOR MAYOR TO SIGN THE QUESTIONNAIRE AND CERTIFICATION TO SUBMIT AN INITIAL APPLICATION TO THE WATER TRUST BOARD FOR THE 2014 FUNDING CYCLE

Mayor King asked John DeSha, Public Works Director, to present the application to be submitted to the Water Trust Board. DeSha told the Council that this is the initial application to see if the City of Portales can apply for funding. He commented that the City must submit it or we cannot apply for funding in the 2014 funding cycle. He added that this in itself does not obligate the City to anything. He stated that the amount of the application is \$12,000,000.00 for improvements to all three (3) of the City's water tanks. DeSha stated that this does not commit us to anything, but that if we don't submit for consideration, the City of Portales is cut out of the 2014 funding cycle. He asked for approval by the Council. Mayor King asked the pleasure of the Council. *Councilor Hunton made the motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the questionnaire and certification to submit the initial application to the Water Trust Board for the 2014 funding cycle. Councilor Lovett seconded the motion. All Councilors present voted in favor of the motion. No abstentions. Motion carried.*

(H) OTHER BUSINESS/CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor King asked for items of Other Business.

Report by Mayor on Water Committee/Board: Mayor King told the Council that she has become the "Water Girl" of Roosevelt County and has been tasked/volunteered in assisting with updating the Region 1 water plan. She reported Region 1 includes Roosevelt, Curry, Quay and Union Counties. She stated that the State has provide a writer and facilitator. She stated that Ken Buzard will be invited to assist.

Oktoberfest Event: Mayor King reminded the Council and group about the upcoming Oktoberfest in the downtown area. Main Street from 1st to 3rd will be closed for activities and booths on Saturday, October 4, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor King adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Joan Martinez-Terry, City Clerk