

Reception held in the Memorial Building Auditorium prior to the Council Meeting to honor Veda Urioste, Michael Parkey, Shelley Johnson, Donna Rutherford, Karen Chandler, and Denise Burnett.

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THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORTALES met in regular session Tuesday, October 4, 2016, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers of 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

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Veronica A. Cordova
Chadrick H. Heflin
Jim Lucero
Dianne Y. Parker
Oscar H. Robinson
Antonio O. Salguero
Jessica J. Smith

STAFF PRESENT: Sammy Standefer, City Manager
Joan Martinez-Terry, City Clerk
Gary Nuckols, Fire Chief
Veda Urioste, Deputy City Clerk
Shelley Johnson, HR Ofcr/Recruiter
Steve Doerr, City Attorney
John DeSha, Public Works Director
Christine Mitchell, I.T. Tech
Donna Rutherford, Planning Director
Karen Chandler, Utilities Billing Suprvsr.

OTHERS PRESENT: Eamon Scarbrough, Press
Garry Johnson
Kaylie Johnson
Kaitlynn Trujillo
Stephanne Chandler
Clovie Chunn
Monica Eppinger
Kathy Urioste
Anita Allen, Village of House Clerk
Brooklyn Johnson
Matthew Martin
Colby Trujillo
Annetta Byrd
Valerie Chunn
Scooter Rutherford

Mayor King asked Fire Chief Nuckols to give the invocation, and Planning Director Donna Rutherford 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 20, 2016.

Mayor King asked the Council to consider the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 20, 2016. He asked for corrections or action on the minutes. Mayor King asked the pleasure of the Council. ***Mayor Pro-Tem Miller made the motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 20, 2016 as presented. Councilor Salguero seconded the motion. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion. No abstentions. Motion carried.***

(B) PRESENTATION(S) OF EMPLOYEE AWARDS:

1. Employee of the 3rd Quarter – Veda Urioste, Deputy City Clerk.

Mayor King asked **Veda Urioste, Deputy City Clerk**, to come forward to receive the **Employee of the 3rd Quarter award for 2016-2017**. Mayor King commented that this award was begun by the City Council, but that the employees selected one of their peers for the honor. She presented Urioste with a certificate of recognition from the Council and a \$25 gift certificate from the Employee Association.

2. 20-Year Service Award to Michael Parkey, General Services Director.

Mayor King told the Council that **Michael Parkey**, General Services Director, was scheduled to receive a **20-Year Service Award**, but that he was unable to attend due to illness.

3. 25-Year Service Award to Shelley Johnson, HR Officer/Recruiter.

Mayor King asked **Shelley Johnson, HR Officer/Recruiter**, to come forward to receive a **25-Year Service Award**. Mayor King presented Shelley Johnson with a Certificate of Recognition, Letter and a service award pin for a job well done.

4. 25-Year Service Award to Donna Rutherford, Planning Director.

Mayor King asked **Donna Rutherford, Planning Director**, to come forward to receive a **25-Year Service Award**. Mayor King presented Donna Rutherford with a Certificate of Recognition, Letter and a service award pin for a job well done.

5. 30-Year Service Award to Karen Chandler, Utility Billing Supervisor.

Mayor King asked **Karen Chandler, Utility Billing Supervisor**, to come forward to receive a **30-Year Service Award**. Mayor King presented Karen Chandler with a Certificate of Recognition, Letter and a service award pin for a job well done.

6. 30-Year Service Award to Denise Burnett, Library Director.

Mayor King commented that **Denise Burnett, Library Director**, was scheduled to receive a **30-Year Service Award**, but that she was unable to attend because her mother was getting out of rehab.

(C) PROCLAMATION DECLARING OCTOBER 9TH – 15TH, 2016 AS "FIRE PREVENTION WEEK" IN PORTALES, NEW MEXICO

Mayor King invited Fire Chief Nuckols to come forward to receive the proclamation declaring October 9th – 15th, 2016 as "Fire Prevention Week" in Portales, New Mexico. She read the proclamation aloud to the group present. She cited that home fires killed more than 3,280 people in the United States in 2015, and fire departments responded to more than 388,000 home fires. He urged the people in the community to replace their smoke alarms every 10 years. Mayor King asked Chief Nuckols to talk about events to celebrate the week. He reported that tours will be held from the public schools; classroom presentations and will probably see 1,000 kids throughout the month. He commented that the Fire Department had received 80 to 100 smoke alarms to give the school kids. Mayor King expressed the Council's appreciation of the Fire Department.

(D) INFORMATIONAL ITEM:

1. NMPRC TRANSPORTATION DIVISION STATEWIDE AMBULANCE TARIFF FINAL ORDER.

Mayor King asked Chief Nuckols to present the information on the NMPRC Transportation Division Statewide Ambulance Final Order. Chief Nuckols presented the new tariff that was approved by the NMPRC (motor transportation division). He stated that the City of Portales had first adopted the state's ambulance tariff in 2003, and so must work under the billing rate. He added that the last one was established in 2009, and that this new tariff became effective October 1, 2016. He commented that all ambulance services that charge under the NMPRC rules are covered under this tariff. He stated that the Portales Fire Department was one of the few services that provided financial information for the case to increase the tariff. He commented that this increased tariff is the only one over the past 7 years. He stated that the cost of services has increased dramatically over that period of time. The Chief commented that the increased tariff should generate more funds for the City's ambulance service. He reported that there were a couple of minor changes: one is the non-transport which is not addressed by the new tariff & now can charge per patient mile. Chad asked about charges for ambulance services for football games, rodeos or other events. Chief Nuckols responded by stating that they are charged for those services under the stand-by rates. To the question about allowables he responded that he does not anticipate an increase in Medicare/Medicaid and that private companies do not have allowables.

(E) RESOLUTION #16-17-16, A RESOLUTION AMENDING AND SUPERSEDING RESOLUTION #16-17-15, DECLARING AUTHORIZATION AND APPROVAL OF THE PURCHASE AND SALE OF PROPERTY TO BE USED BY SOUTHWESTERN PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY AS A SUBSTATION

Mayor King asked City Manager Standefer to present Resolution #16-17-16, amending and superseding Resolution #16-17-15, a resolution declaring authorization and approval of the purchase of property to be used by Southwestern Public Service Company for a Substation. City Manager Standefer told the Council that the previous one was the same, but that the title company required a statement authorizing the City Manager to sign documents for the sale of the City property for a substation. Mayor King asked the pleasure of the Council. ***Councilor Robinson made the motion to adopt Resolution #16-17-16, approving the purchase and sale of the property to Southwestern Public Service Company and authorizing the City Manager to sign for the City of Portales. Councilor Smith seconded the motion. Roll call vote by all Council members present resulted in unanimous support of the motion. No abstentions. Motion carried.***

(F) RESOLUTION #16-17-17, A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE 2016 GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND ISSUE C

Mayor King said she was asked by ENMU to request the Council's support of the 2016 General Obligation Bond C for capital expenditures for maintenance of facilities. Mayor King asked the pleasure of the Council. ***Councilor Parker made the motion to adopt Resolution #16-17-17, a resolution supporting the 2016 General Obligation Bond Issue C as presented. Councilor Robinson seconded the motion. Roll call vote by all Council members present resulted in unanimous support of the motion. No abstentions. Motion carried.***

(G) APPOINTMENT TO LODGER'S TAX ADVISORY BOARD TO FILL LODGING VACANCY

Mayor King asked that the Council appoint Anai Jimenez, General Manager of the Super 8 Motel, to the Lodger's Tax Advisory Board to fill the vacancy in the lodging category. Mayor King asked the pleasure of the Council. ***Councilor Cordova made the motion to appoint Anai Jimenez to the Lodger's Tax Advisory Board filling the vacancy as presented. Councilor Salguero seconded the motion. All Council members present voted in support of the motion. No abstentions. Motion carried.***

(H) OTHER BUSINESS/CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

Mayor King asked for items of Other Business.

Enchantment Vineyard Open House: Councilor Smith reminded the Council of the open house set for October 13, 2016.

Complaint on Animal Control Operations: Monica Eppinger addressed the Council with a complaint about the hours of operation of the City's Animal Shelter. She told the Council that she is involved in animal rescue and complained that the Shelter is open only 3 hours a day during regular work hours. She complained that there is insufficient staffing of the Animal Control Division. She said that she wasn't saying that Portales should be a no-kill shelter, just saying that the City shouldn't be killing so many animals. Ms. Eppinger stated that only 1% of cats survive the Shelter, that 234 cats were killed last year. She stated that the No. 1 solution is longer hours of operation. She stated that the reason is that the City refuses to pay for bigger staff and longer hours. She said that roaming animals in the City is a big problem. She reported on incidents occurring in the City—a pet cat being killed in front of her daughter and the neighbor trying to save his cat from a pack of dogs. She stated that she was not complaining about the animal control officers, but about the City for not having coverage for them. Mayor King asked her to speak to the City Manager about the situation at the Shelter and asked the City Manager to look into the complaint and report back to the Council. Ms. Eppinger stated that she is asking for more staffing, and also to close on Monday and open one day on the weekend. She stated that she was concerned about danger to the kids in the community. She ended by saying that she would be happy to work with the Police Department to solve problems at the Shelter.

There was no further business.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Mayor King adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.