

Regular Meeting  
April 18, 2011



**City Council  
of the  
City of Las Cruces**

**Regular Meeting**

**April 18, 2011  
1:00 P.M.**

**Council Chambers, City Hall**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**STAFF:**

- 14 Mayor Ken Miyagishima
- 15 Councillor Miguel Silva, District 1
- 16 Councillor Dolores Connor, District 2
- 17 Councillor Olga Pedroza, District 3
- 18 Councillor Nathan Small, District 4
- 19 Councillor Gill Sorg, District 5
- 20 Councillor Sharon Thomas, District 6

- Robert Garza, City Manager
  - Harry (Pete) Connelly, City Attorney
  - Esther Martinez, City Clerk
- 

**I. OPENING CEREMONIES**

25 Mayor Miyagishima called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence. Councillor Sorg  
26 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

28 Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation/Proclamations.

30 Mayor Miyagishima and a representative from the Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley  
31 presented the Pet of the Week.

33 Mayor Miyagishima presented the Mayor's Citation for Community Service Award to Denali  
34 Wilson.

36 Mayor Miyagishima presented the Mayor's Citation for Community Service Award to Ralph Garcia.

38 Councillor Sorg presented a Proclamation to Warren Karuna and declared April 29, 2011 as Las  
39 Cruces Day of Dance.

41 Councillor Sorg presented a Proclamation to Elena Moreno and declared April 25 thru April 29,  
42 2011 as Administrative Professional Week.

43

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April 18, 2011

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1 Councillor Sorg presented a Proclamation to John Christopher and declared April 30, 2011 as  
2 Comcast Cares Day.

3

4 Councillor Sorg presented a Proclamation and declared April 18 thru April 22, 2011 as Individual  
5 Personal Planning Week.

6

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9 **II. CONFLICT OF INTEREST INQUIRY BY MAYOR AS REQUIRED BY LCMC**  
10 **SECTION 2-27(E)(2).** *At the opening of each council meeting, the chairperson shall ask*  
11 *if any member of the city council, city manager, or any member of the city staff has any*  
12 *known conflict of interest with any item on the agenda.*

13

14 Mayor Miyagishima asked if anyone had any conflicts with anything on the agenda?

15

16 None given.

17

18

19

20 **III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

21

22 Rudy Aragon, Member of the Public read Psalms 1:19 from the Bible.

23

24 Bob Butler, Member of the Public said we need to get Las Cruces to the top three cities, not just part  
25 of the top ten and I expect to see improvements in our school system.

26

27 Sanford Schemnitz, Member of the Public said I arrived in Las Cruces in 1975 and I've been the  
28 Chairman for the Southwest Consolidated Sportsman since shortly after I arrived here. We are  
29 concerned about the proposed proposal regarding steel traps and we hope you consider all the pros  
30 and cons of this issue.

31

32 Mayor Miyagishima said even if we were to pass this resolution, it has no effect on the law because  
33 we have no authority to ban it.

34

35 Rudy Aragon, Member of the Public said I don't think it is right that several members of Council  
36 were looking at their screens and couldn't even give the previous gentleman their attention for seven  
37 minutes.

38

39 Russ Warner, Member of the Public said it was great to see Mr. Denmark on the list for Deputy City  
40 Manager and it is good that you promote people within because they already know the City.

41

1 Kathy Billing, Member of the Public said I gave some documents to the Clerk for you to read  
2 regarding the feral cat situation. The way we have been dealing with our feral cats is barbaric; they  
3 trap them, send them to the shelter and they are killed immediately or as soon as the technician has  
4 time. This way has not worked because we still have problems with feral cats. The only way we are  
5 going to get this problem under control is to implement a T&R program. My program started in 2002  
6 at the University with about 250 to 300 cats and now they are down to about 75 cats.

7

8 Sherry Guerra, Member of the Public said I am the President of SNAP and we have reduced the  
9 euthanasia rate by 10% at that shelter. The problem is that we are just a few ladies running this  
10 program and we don't have any money. It cost us about \$165,000 to \$175,000 per year to run this  
11 program and we need to get some money from the City to help us keep this program going.

12

13 Mayor Miyagishima said we are having a Work Session on May 9<sup>th</sup> and we will be discussing this  
14 issue at that meeting. We would like for you to attend that meeting and bring us more information.

15

16 Sherry Guerra said I would be happy to attend it.

17

18 Mike Preva, Member of the Public said I received an email dated April 4, 2011 from someone named  
19 Larry and it is asking that I attend the Council Meeting on April 4, 2011 because Mr. Harbison  
20 intends to speak about Agenda 21. It surprises me that this person is comfortable transmitting this  
21 trash to people.

22

23 Tara Peterson, Member of the Public said I am the Research and Publication Chairman for the Las  
24 Cruces Tea Party and I am responding to your email requesting a meeting with us, I would like to  
25 meet with you on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

26

27 Mayor Miyagishima said I will have to check my calendar but can you email me your response?

28

29 Tara Peterson said the reason I'm doing it here is because it took you three weeks to respond to the  
30 original email.

31

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34 **IV. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA: THOSE ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INDICATED BY**  
35 **AN ASTERISK (\*) ARE ON THE CONSENT AGENDA AND WILL BE VOTED ON**  
36 **BY ONE MOTION.**

37

38 Mayor Miyagishima said Item 5 needs to be removed from the Consent Agenda for discussion and  
39 we need to move Item 13 after Item 15.

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42

1 Councillor Connor Moved to approve the Agenda as Amended and Councillor Thomas Seconded  
2 the motion.

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5

6 Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to accept the Agenda as Amended and it was  
7 Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

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11 **V. CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

12

13 \*(1) Regular Meeting of April 4, 2011

14

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16

17 **VI. RESOLUTIONS AND/OR ORDINANCES FOR CONSENT AGENDA**

18

19 \*(2) Resolution No. 11-207: A Resolution Authorizing the Game Bar & Grill to Continue with  
20 the Permitting Process to Allow for the Sale and Consumption of Beer and Wine Within a  
21 Restricted and Secured Area at Apodaca Park, 801 East Madrid, Las Cruces, New Mexico,  
22 During the 2011 Las Cruces Vaqueros Baseball Season.

23

24 \*(3) Resolution No. 11-208: A Resolution to Support Termination of the Use of Hidden and  
25 Unmarked Strangulation Snares, Poisons, Steel-Jaw and Any and All Body-Gripping Animal  
26 Traps on Public Lands.

27

28 \*(4) Resolution No. 11-209: A Resolution Approving Amendments to the Collective Bargaining  
29 Agreement Between the International Association of Firefighters Local 2362 and the City of  
30 Las Cruces.

31

32 \*(6) Resolution No. 11-211: A Resolution Requesting Approval to Transfer Surplus Supplies  
33 Purchased With Funds From the State of New Mexico's Children, Youth and Families  
34 Department (CYFD), Early Childhood Services, and Family Nutrition Bureau Summer Food  
35 Grant to Families and Youth Incorporated (FYI).

36

37 \*(7) Resolution No. 10-11-522: A Resolution to Award the Purchase of One (1) Replacement  
38 Tractor With Mower Attachment From Aircooled Engines of Las Cruces, New Mexico, Via  
39 the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) Cooperative Pricing Contract Using  
40 Worksheet GR01-10 in the Amount of \$68,090 for Fiscal Year 2011.

41

1 \*(8) Resolution No. 10-11-523: A Resolution to Award the Purchase of One (1) Replacement  
2 Mower from Simpson Norton Corporation of Goodyear, Arizona, Via the Cooperative  
3 Educational Services (CES) Contract No. 2011-004-SNC in the Amount of \$85,956 for  
4 Fiscal Year 2011.

5  
6 \*(9) Resolution No. 10-11-540: A Resolution to Authorize the Sole-Source Purchase of One (1)  
7 Draft Commander 3000 Pump Tester for the Las Cruces Fire Department for the Amount of  
8 \$66,906.80 Plus Shipping and Training Cost of \$2,886; for a Total Purchase Price of  
9 \$69,792.80.

10  
11 \*(10) Council Bill No. 11-033; Ordinance No. 2613: An Ordinance Approving a Zone Change  
12 From R-1A/C-2 (Single-Family Medium Density/Commercial Medium Intensity) to C-2C  
13 (Commercial Medium Intensity-Conditional) for 0.68 ± Acres of Land Located at 3350 Oak  
14 Street. The Zone Change Request Includes Two Variances: (1) A Numerical Reduction of  
15 10-Foot to the Minimum Required 10-Foot Opaque Bufferyard; and (2) A Numerical  
16 Reduction of 5 Parking Stalls to the Minimum Required 32 Parking Stalls. Submitted by  
17 ASA Architects on Behalf of the Las Cruces Housing Authority, Property Owner. (Z2825)

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21 **VII. RESOLUTIONS AND/OR ORDINANCES FOR DISCUSSION**

22  
23 \*(5) Resolution No. 11-210: A Resolution Committing a Parcel of City-Owned Property  
24 Containing Approximately 5.27 Acres to Mesilla Valley Habitat for Humanity for  
25 Development of Affordable Housing. This Resolution Also Authorizes Mesilla Valley  
26 Habitat for Humanity to Pursue State Tax Credits for Development of the Property and  
27 Obtain an Appraisal on the Subject Parcel.

28  
29 Councillor Silva Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 11-210 and Councillor Connor Seconded the  
30 motion.

31  
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33  
34 Councillor Silva said there is a typo that needs to be fixed; this project is listed as being in District  
35 1 but it is in District 5 so I think that needs to be corrected.

36  
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39 Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 11-210 and it was  
40 Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

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(11) **BEFORE CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION NO. 11-212;  
A PUBLIC HEARING MUST BE HELD:**

Mayor Miyagishima said the Public Hearing for Resolution No. 11-212 is now open; is there anyone who wishes to speak against this item?

None given.

Mayor Miyagishima closed the Public Hearing for Resolution No. 11-212.

Resolution No. 11-212: A Resolution Approving the Issuance of a Restaurant Liquor License for On Premise Consumption Only to Los Mariachi's Restaurant, to be Located at 750-B North Motel Boulevard, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Councillor Small Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 11-212 and Councillor Connor Seconded the motion.

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Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 11-212 and it was Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

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(12) Resolution No. 11-213: A Resolution Amending Resolution 08-074 for Additional Language Authorizing Signatory Authority for the State of New Mexico Environment Department, 2007 Legislative Grant Agreement for the Griggs and Walnut Water Plume Superfund Site, SAP Grant 07-3228.

Councillor Small Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 11-213 and Councillor Thomas Seconded the motion.

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Augie Henry, Grants Administrator said this resolution is to meet a request from the New Mexico Environmental Department. They have a resolution on record that shows Terrence Moore as the authorized signer for the City so they have begun to disapprove our reimbursements. This resolution will state that Robert Garza or his successor will be the authorized signer for the City.

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1 Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 11-213 and it was  
2 APPROVED. 6-0 Councillor Sorg was Absent.

3

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6 (14) Resolution No. 11-215: A Resolution Approving the Parks and Recreation Fees and  
7 Charges/Facility Use Policy and Repealing Resolution 10-273 and Resolution 10-251.

8

9 Councillor Connor Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 11-215 and Councillor Small Seconded the  
10 motion.

11

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13

14 Mark Johnston, Parks and Recreation Administrator gave an overhead presentation and said we have  
15 received public comments all year long regarding this issue and this resolution is our proposal for  
16 the changes to our Fees and Charges/Facility Use Policy. The proposed new sections will define age  
17 requirements for all facilities, address mobile concessions and vending, special use permits,  
18 inflatable/portable play equipment, vehicles and driving in City parks, Wellness Program for City  
19 employees and advertising and revenue generation. Some of the new program highlights are the  
20 creation of a medical/restorative aquatic program for those with medical condition, the fees for  
21 becoming a life guard will be reimbursed after being hired, there will be a flat monthly fee for  
22 vendors, there will be a youth roller derby, the lap swim rate will be reduced to \$2.00 for one hour  
23 and there will be summer camps, sessions and sports 101. The proposed fee changes will be for City  
24 ran youth sports leagues: \$35, child watch fee for aquatics: \$1, the Aquatic Center will reduce fees  
25 to match outdoor pools, reduced cost of punch cards and the creation of a per day fee for late  
26 registration for After School Programs.

27

28 Councillor Small said I would encourage you to continue to go out there and look for advertising and  
29 different kinds of deals to help bring funding into our parks.

30

31 What is going to be covered by the youth sports leagues?

32

33 Mark Johnston said Bantam Weight Sports, Las Cruces Youth Baseball Association, Las Cruces  
34 Youth Softball Association, the associations are independent associations that run the local leagues.  
35 We run the Tikes and Spikes, basketball (our Basketball 101 program), our Youth Golf Program and  
36 we have introduced some new camps this year, like our Summer Recreation Program.

37

38 Councillor Connor said I think we should look into some kind of branding program that would brand  
39 City ran programs into one area so people could identify them through the branding.

40

41 Will we break even with the \$35 cost for the youth sports league?

42

1 Mark Johnston said our goal is to achieve at least 85% of our labor cost and with this adjustment we  
2 are hoping to break even on our labor and operating cost for the program.

3

4 You are correct regarding the branding and we have been looking into it throughout the Parks and  
5 Recreation.

6

7 Councillor Pedroza said I think you handled the situation with Frenger Pool very well and you have  
8 been very flexible in handling the fee changes. I was happy to see recycling bins in our parks and I  
9 am very pleased that the tennis lights have been fixed at Young Park.

10

11 Councillor Sorg said I visited some of our parks over the weekend and they were all clean but I  
12 spoke with a lady who was picking up the park on Elks and she informed me that there weren't any  
13 trash cans positioned near the parking lot.

14

15 Mark Johnston said we have found that when we put trash cans in that type of area, people will  
16 utilize them for their household trash but we have found the bigger cans with a smaller hole have  
17 worked well so I will talk to staff and see what can be done.

18

19 Councillor Silva said you commented to the Board that we have a \$300,000 shortfall for the year,  
20 we still have that shortfall; correct?

21

22 Mark Johnston said we do have about \$329,000 cut for next year but we are trying to make it up with  
23 the reduction of services and with a revenue source.

24

25 Councillor Silva said it was estimated a year ago when we opened the pool that we would be at \$1.5  
26 million for operations with \$500,000 in revenue so that left us with a \$700,000 shortfall. How are  
27 we making up that \$700,000 difference?

28

29 Mark Johnston said we have done some different types of experimentation with the Aquatics Center.  
30 We opened from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m and tracked where the biggest pushes were from our  
31 customers; for the month of March we had \$40,599 in revenue and if we can continue that trend we  
32 will achieve our \$500,000 for the year.

33

34 Councillor Silva said when we started the therapy pool it was at \$175 and then you dropped it down  
35 to \$150; why?

36

37 Mark Johnston said supply and demand.

38

39 Councillor Silva said that means that people weren't using it at \$175 so you dropped it to \$100 in  
40 hopes that people will start using it.

41

42 Mark Johnston said correct.

1 Councillor Silva said our Summer Rec Program went from \$60 to \$273 for the After School  
2 Program.

3

4 Mark Johnston said that is because we are now looking at that program realistically. The program  
5 runs for a total of half the school year so we took the number of days times \$3 per day and the total  
6 amount comes out the same so people pay that amount and know that they are signed up for the  
7 entire year.

8

9 Linda Mervine, Member of the Public said I'm the pastor of First Christian Church on El Paseo and  
10 we are across the street from the park by Frenger Pool. The problem we are having is that people are  
11 using our parking lot to park during games at the park and that creates a problem when we have  
12 events at our church. I don't mind them using our parking lot but I would like for them to let us know  
13 when they are going to have these games so we can plan our events. I also want to say that I am a  
14 swimmer and I love the new Aquatic Center because it is affordable at \$2.00 per hour.

15

16 Mark Johnston said I can provide you with the information on when the season starts, just contact  
17 our office.

18

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20

21 Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 11-215 and it was  
22 Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

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25

26 (15) Resolution No. 11-216: A Resolution Authorizing the City of Las Cruces to Enter Into a  
27 Cooperative Project Agreement With the New Mexico Department of Transportation for the  
28 Funding of a Multi-Use Pedestrian Trail Along the Las Cruces Outfall Channel From North  
29 Triviz Drive to the La Llorona Trail in the Amount of \$758,418.00. A 25% City Match of  
30 \$252,806.00 is Required for a Total Project Amount of \$1,011,224.00.

31

32 Councillor Small Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 11-216 and Councillor Thomas Seconded the  
33 motion.

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36

37 Mike Johnson, Public Works Director gave an overhead presentation and said this is a resolution  
38 authorizing the City to enter into a Cooperative Project Agreement with NMDOT for the funding  
39 of a multi-use pedestrian trail along north Triviz Drive to La Llorona Trail in the amount of  
40 \$758,418. A 25% match is required which makes the total project amount \$1,011,224. This project  
41 was submitted and then ranked in the top five by the MPO Policy Committee last fiscal year. The  
42 trail will be a 4.25 mile east-west bicycle and pedestrian facility that would bridge the north end of

1 the Triviz Multi-Use Pathway with the north end of the La Llorona Multi-Purpose Pathway at the  
2 Rio Grande. A special use permit will be needed with EBID since portions of the Outfall Channel  
3 are under their jurisdiction. This proposed trail is included in the Vision 2040 and construction must  
4 commence by August 15, 2011.

5

6 Councillor Thomas said I am grateful to NMDOT for awarding us this project and this will be a  
7 wonderful addition to the City.

8

9 Councillor Small said I think this is a good project and it will connect both sides of the City.

10

11 Councillor Sorg asked will there be other amenities to the trail?

12

13 Mike Johnson said there will be benches and things like that where we have room along the trail.

14

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16

17 Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 11-216 and it was  
18 Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

19

20 -----

21

22 (13) Resolution No. 11-214: A Resolution Approving a Major Amendment to the Kennon  
23 Annexation Master Plan Which Includes a Waiver Request to the City of Las Cruces Design  
24 Standards for No Road Improvements to Crawford Boulevard. Submitted by the City of Las  
25 Cruces, Property Owner. (S-11-002)

26

27 Councillor Connor Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 11-214 and Councillor Thomas Seconded the  
28 motion.

29

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31

32 Councillor Connor Moved to Suspend the Rules to discuss Item 13 and Item 16 concurrently and  
33 Councillor Sorg Seconded the motion.

34

35 -----

36

37 Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Suspend the Rules to discuss Item 13 and  
38 Item 16 concurrently and it was Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

39

40 -----

41

42 Jennifer Robertson, Planner gave an overhead presentation and said the subject property is located

1 at the southern terminus of Crawford Boulevard and contains approximately 320 acres. The proposed  
2 use for the Master Plan amendment is for a solar energy project and there is a waiver request of  
3 100% of the off-site road improvements to Crawford Boulevard. The case specifics for Z2823 are  
4 a zone change request for the proposed zoning M-3C heavy industrial conditional and a variance  
5 request for 100% of the requirements of utility installations parking standards requiring a minimum  
6 of an 11-foot driving aisle for the proposed use. On February 22, 2011 the Planning and Zoning  
7 Commission reviewed and recommended approval for the Master Plan amendment with the  
8 condition that the proposed utility installation, the solar energy project, no onsite driving aisle will  
9 be required for the proposed use and any development is required to follow the Airport Overlay  
10 District Requirement of our Zoning Code.

11

12 Councillor Sorg said the High Mesa is proposed to have limited access that would connect I-10 down  
13 south to Santa Theresa; correct?

14

15 Jennifer Robertson said Crawford goes into High Mesa which then goes to I-10 just south of town.

16

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19 Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 11-214 and it was  
20 Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

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24 (16) Council Bill No. 11-032: Ordinance No. 2612: An Ordinance Approving a Zone Change  
25 from HC (Holding-Conditional) to M-3C (Heavy Industrial-Conditional) and to Deviate  
26 100% From the Parking Requirement for an 11-Foot On-Site Driving Aisle. Submitted by  
27 the City of Las Cruces, Property Owner. (Z2823)

28

29 Councillor Connor Moved to Adopt Council Bill No. 11-032; Ordinance No. 2612 and Councillor  
30 Small Seconded the motion.

31

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34 Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Council Bill No. 11-032; Ordinance  
35 No. 2612 and it was Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

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39 **VIII. BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

40

41 Mayor Miyagishima appointed Claire E. Sudney to the Housing Authority of the City of Las Cruces.

42

1 Mayor Miyagishima appointed Lynford Lenhart Ames and Nick Andrews to the Ratepayer Advisory  
2 Committee.

3

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5

6 Councillor Sorg Moved to Approve the Mayor's Board Appointments of Lynford Lenhart Ames and  
7 Nick Andrews to the Ratepayer Advisory Committee and Councillor Small Seconded the motion.

8

9

10

11 Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Approve the Mayor's Board Appointments  
12 of Lynford Lenhart Ames and Nick Andrews to the Ratepayer Advisory Committee and it was  
13 Unanimously APPROVED. 7-0

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16

17 Councillor Silva appointed Diane Prindeville to the Redistricting Ad-Hoc Committee.

18

19

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21 **IX. REVIEW OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE(S)**

22

23 (17) Council Bill No. 11-034; Ordinance No. 2614: An Ordinance Approving a Zone Change  
24 From C-2 (Commercial Medium Intensity) to R-1A (Single-Family Medium Density) for  
25 0.94 ± Acres and to C-3 (Commercial High Intensity-Conditional) for 4.26 ± Acres of Land  
26 Located at 5195 Bataan Memorial West. Submitted by Borderland Engineers and Surveyors,  
27 LLC for Troy and Cecilia Pitcher, Property Owners (Z2828).

28

29 Mayor Miyagishima and Council agreed to bring this item back.

30

31 (18) Council Bill No. 11-035; Ordinance No. 2615: An Ordinance Approving a Zone Change  
32 From O-1 (Office, Neighborhood - Limited Retail Service) to O-2 (Office, Professional -  
33 Limited Retail Service) for 1.27 ± Acres of Land Located at 2701 Missouri Avenue.  
34 Submitted by Doctors Conniff & Gormley Pediatric Dentistry PC, Property Owner (Z2830).

35

36 Mayor Miyagishima and Council agreed to bring this item back.

37

38 (19) Council Bill No. 11-036; Ordinance No. 2616: An Ordinance Approving a Zone Change  
39 From C-2 (Commercial Medium Intensity) to C-3 (Commercial High Intensity) for Two (2)  
40 Distinct Properties with Parcel Identification Numbers 02-17441 and 02-18474, Located on  
41 Telshor Boulevard. Submitted by Steve Bradee, Borderland Engineers & Surveyors, LLC  
42 on Behalf of Northstar Properties, LLC C/O the Power Center Inc, Property Owner (Z2832).

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2 Mayor Miyagishima and Council agreed to bring this item back.

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6 **X. GENERAL DISCUSSION**

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8 **1. MAYOR**

9  
10 Mayor Miyagishima said I'm having another Mayor's Night In this coming Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at  
11 approximately 5:30 p.m.

12  
13 I want to thank the over 911 participates of the Great American Clean-up.

14  
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16

17 **2. CITY COUNCIL**

18  
19 Councillor Thomas said last week I went to Washington D.C. to testify at the Senate Committee  
20 Hearing regarding Transportation Legislation.

21  
22 The South Central Council of Governments met last week here in Las Cruces for the first time and  
23 we received a lot of compliments on our new City Hall.

24  
25 Some of us went to the Municipal League meeting and they did a very nice overview of the  
26 legislation and past sessions.

27  
28 The South Central Regional Transit District has started to meet more regularly and we have selected  
29 a director to hire to work on the transit for this south central area.

30  
31 -----  
32

33 Mayor Miyagishima said a resident dropped off a letter that he received which states that one of the  
34 V.I.Ps that received this invitation asked "what is the tab for the City's unprecedented banquet" and  
35 was told that "there is no tab, the City is paying for it." When was such an invitation only event held  
36 in a public building but not open to the public, approved? Who approved taxpayer's money to be  
37 spent on a banquet for fat-cat V.I.Ps when the City is cutting services to the most needy? Basically,  
38 this was a celebration dinner that many of us attended and it was regarding the recognition of  
39 Munson Senior Center's first accreditation in the State. I want to say that the City did not pay for that  
40 dinner, it was privately funded by two different companies which were Las Cruces Senior Services,  
41 Inc. and I can't remember the name of the other company.

42

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2  
3 Councillor Sorg said I have received many inquiries from residents in District 5 about safety issues.  
4 I have discussed this with Commissioner Krahling and we are going to have some meetings  
5 regarding these issues. I spoke with the City Police Department to get some statics and although  
6 crimes have gone down citywide they haven't gone down much on the East Mesa. We will begin  
7 having joint community meetings on April 25<sup>th</sup> and the Las Cruces Police Department and the  
8 Sheriff's Department will be there to give presentations on safety.

9  
10 -----  
11  
12 Councillor Small said congratulations to Craig Fenske on the Great American Clean-up event.  
13  
14 The Burn Lake Arbor Day Festival will be on April 30<sup>th</sup> and there will be 600 trees given away.  
15  
16 I want to say "thanks" to City Manager Garza, Assistant City Manager Denmark, Mayor and others  
17 for the great meeting we had regarding the Picacho Pride Project.

18  
19 The Pat Garrett Subdivision came together just as the market was crashing and has always had  
20 issues. There was dirt moved into this area recently and the recent high winds have blown a lot of  
21 dirt in this area so there is going to be a long clean up.

22  
23 Robert Garza, City Manager said the person responsible for moving in the dirt did it without a permit  
24 and without our knowledge. We are working with them to make sure they are aware of the impact  
25 to the neighbors and we will be holding them responsible for it.

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27 Councillor Small said I want to say "thank you" to Tomasita with our Juvenile Citation Project for  
28 facilitating a great meeting.

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30 Regarding the resolution for trapping, it was passed today with the Consent Agenda but I want to  
31 mention that it is a resolution, not an ordinance and it didn't address wildlife professionals within  
32 the State.

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36 Councillor Pedroza said I want to congratulate Oasis and all the people who participated in the Earth  
37 Day event on Saturday.

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39 The School Garden Project, with the support of Robert Garza and our community, is going forward  
40 very well and we are very close to getting seeds in the ground.

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42 I want to mention that the palm trees in Young Park did survive the freeze.

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Councillor Connor passed.

Councillor Silva said there is a dance event for National Dance Day on April 29, 2011 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Court Youth Center.

I would like to thank Governor Martinez for attending the award ceremony at the Munson Center on Friday, the Earth Day event and the Big Brothers Big Sisters event.

**3. CITY MANAGER**

**A. Other items - Information Only.**

Robert Garza, City Manager said our new website is now up and running and we are continuing to add information to it.

I want to point out that starting at the next Council Meeting on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, you will have a little different looking CAES packets.

Tomorrow evening at 5:30 p.m., here in Chambers, we will have a Public Hearing regarding our Impact Fee discussions.

Councillor Silva said I want to mention that there are meetings going on regarding the proposed new Animal Ordinance; there will be one on April 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the County Building and another one on April 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. here in this building.

**Meeting Adjourned at 3:30 p.m.**