



City Council
of the
City of Las Cruces

Regular Meeting

June 4, 2012

1:00 P.M.

Council Chambers, City Hall

DRAFT

MEMBERS PRESENT:

STAFF:

- 14 Mayor Ken Miyagishima
- 15 Councillor Miguel Silva, District 1 **ABSENT**
- 16 Councillor Greg Smith, 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 Small led the Pledge of Allegiance.

28 Ron Camuñez sang the National Anthem.

30 Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation/Proclamations.

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

35 Mayor Miyagishima and Dolores Archuleta presented a Medal of Honor to WWII Veteran Walter Wilson.

38 Mayor Miyagishima, Councillor Small and Chief Williams recognized LCPD Officer of the Year Police Officer Mark Nevarez.

41 Mayor Miyagishima, Councillor Small and Chief Williams recognized LCPD Civilian of the Year William Maxey.

1 Councillor Small presented a Proclamation to John Salata and declared June 17, 2012 as Father's
2 Day - Prostate Cancer Awareness Day.

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

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

12

13 None given.

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17 **III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

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19 J.D. Rodriguez, Member of the Public said regarding the meeting on the 26th or thereabouts for the
20 red-light camera issues, I'd like Council to consider taking down the cameras and replacing them
21 with Police Officers between now and the time of the meeting.

22

23 Mayor Miyagishima said Council cannot respond because you are asking them to discuss a policy
24 issue which has not been advertised. In my opinion, your request would be like asking people to do
25 away with computers and cell phones and go back to sending messages by postal mail. There was
26 a situation where I saw a lot of officers handling a situation and I thought to myself that these
27 officers are here doing their job and at the same time our red light cameras are doing their job.

28

29 J.D. Rodriguez said my second issue is regarding the meetings you have been having for the purpose
30 of being reimbursed by individuals contributing toward your campaign expenses. The Mayor spent
31 approximately \$20,000 and I don't know how much money has already come in but I feel I need to
32 address you in this matter. I don't think this has ever been done in the State of New Mexico and I
33 don't think it is right for you to try to raise money to pay for your expenses. I am going to try to
34 address this issue with our Legislators and see how they feel about this situation.

35

36 Mayor Miyagishima said this is for campaign debt. I spent about \$60,000, raised about \$40,000 so
37 that leaves about \$20,000 left. I only collect money from the general public and almost every
38 Legislator I know takes money from political action committees and people who go before the
39 Legislature so they try to make laws for people they accept money from and I'm only trying to collect
40 money to cover my campaign expenses which is legal.

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1 J.D. Rodriguez said I think there is a lot of shame involved in what you are doing.

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5 **IV. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA: THOSE ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INDICATED BY**
6 **AN ASTERISK (*) ARE ON THE CONSENT AGENDA AND WILL BE VOTED ON**
7 **BY ONE MOTION.**

8

9 Mayor Miyagishima said Item 11 needs to be heard prior to Item 10 on the Agenda.

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13 Councillor Smith Moved to Approve the Agenda as Amended and Councillor Thomas Seconded the
14 motion.

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18 Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Approve the Agenda as Amended and it was
19 Approved. 6-0 Councillor Silva was Absent.

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23 **V. CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

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25 *(1) Regular Meeting of May 7, 2012

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29 **VI. RESOLUTION(S) AND/OR ORDINANCE(S) FOR CONSENT AGENDA**

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31 *(2) Resolution No. 12-195: A Resolution Authorizing the City of Las Cruces, on Behalf of the
32 Police Department, to Accept a Grant Award in the Amount of \$30,450.00 From the State
33 of New Mexico Crime Victims Reparation Commission, and to Ratify the City Manager's
34 Signature on the Grant Contract.

35

36 *(3) Resolution No. 12-196: A Resolution Authorizing a Budget Adjustment for the Homeless
37 Services Program Operated by Mesilla Valley Community of Hope Under the Community
38 Development Block Grant Program.

39

40 *(4) Resolution No. 12-197: A Resolution Authorizing the City of Las Cruces to Accept Grant
41 Funding For Up to Three Years for an Existing Supportive Housing Program-Transitional

1 Housing Grant Awarded by the United States Department of Housing and Urban
2 Development (HUD). The Resolution Further Authorizes the City to Pursue Renewal
3 Agreements With or Transfer to the Sponsoring Agency and Incorporation of the Grant
4 Funds for Future City Budgets, as Applicable.

5
6 *(5) Resolution No. 12-198: A Resolution Approving Amendment #2 to the City's 2011 Action
7 Plan to Reduce the Anticipated Program Income to be Received for the Community
8 Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program and Corresponding Project Expenditures. The
9 Resolution Approves the Necessary Budget Adjustment to the City's FY2012 Budget to
10 Reflect Amendment #2 to the 2011 Action Plan.

11
12 *(6) Resolution No. 12-199: A Resolution Approving an Exception to the City's Home
13 Rehabilitation Handbook for the Proposed Rehabilitation Project Located at 109 Ridgecrest
14 Drive.

15
16 *(7) Resolution No. 12-200: A Resolution Approving an Exception to the City's Home
17 Rehabilitation Handbook for the Proposed Rehabilitation Project Located at 1944 La Jolla
18 Avenue.

19
20 *(8) Resolution No. 12-201: A Resolution Approving an Agreement Between the City of Las
21 Cruces and the Foundation for Las Cruces Museums for Funding and Volunteer Support for
22 City Museums.

23
24 *(9) Resolution No. 11-12-518: A Resolution Authorizing the City of Las Cruces to Contract
25 With General Code for Enterprise Content Management System Upgrade (Laserfiche) in the
26 Estimated Amount of \$141,026.90.

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30 **VII. RESOLUTION(S) AND/OR ORDINANCE(S) FOR DISCUSSION**

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32 (11) Resolution No. 12-203: A Resolution Furthering Implementation of the Sustainability
33 Action Plan That Authorizes Support, Including Partnership Arrangements with Various
34 Entities, for the Establishment of Farm to School Program(s) in Las Cruces and the
35 Surrounding Area, and for the City of Las Cruces to Serve as Fiscal Agent for Those Projects
36 That Successfully Apply for and Receive Funding for Such Programs.

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38 Councillor Small Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 12-203 and Councillor Sorg Seconded the motion.

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42 Eric Martin, Facilities Management Administrator gave an overhead presentation and said the
43 purpose of this is to promote, establish and develop school gardens in Las Cruces which will help

1 promote healthy eating, healthy living and promote diverse, practical hands-on learning experiences.
2 The purpose of the resolution is to implement Sustainability Action Plan Objective 8.3 which is to
3 support efforts to create community gardens on school property. It also supports the school and
4 community garden partnership efforts to secure USDA and other funding for the Farm to School
5 Program and to have the City serve as the fiscal agent as well as to support partnership efforts with
6 the hiring of a School Garden Coordinator. The duties of the School Garden Coordinator would be
7 to organize the garden, coordinate volunteers, create lesson plans that meet bench marks/standards,
8 coordinate and schedule gardening activities like cooking and tasting workshops, organize
9 community outreach events and work with the school cafeterias to purchase locally grown produce.
10 There are currently ten school gardens and one horticulture program in place.

11

12 Councillor Pedroza said this resolution would allow the City to become the fiscal agent and I want
13 to mention that there has been a lot of success with this program.

14

15 Christina St. Sear, Sierra Middle School Garden Coordinator said I started working in this position
16 this past August and it has been an amazing experience for me to see the amount of success that we
17 have had in just nine months. We have also created a garden club and I work with about one hundred
18 students all year long. The students were able to grow their own vegetables which made them excited
19 to eat them.

20

21 Mayor Miyagishima said earlier this year we received a grant for the Healthy Kids Nutrition and
22 Fitness Program and I wouldn't mind using some of that funding to help advance the Garden
23 Program.

24

25 Councillor Sorg said I think there is also an economic aspect to this program which is why I think
26 this is an early step in encouraging our Valley to produce and consume more local food. I support
27 this program and with this grant we would be able to have the program in more of our schools.

28

29 Councillor Thomas said I am thrilled to see how well this program is working and how successful
30 it has been. I spoke with Commissioner Powell and he stated that he is interested in having this type
31 of effort be including in the State's efforts so I will send you his information and you can speak with
32 him about it.

33

34 Councillor Smith said the collaboration of this effort is very important and there might be some
35 additional outreach that we can do to make this an even more successful program.

36

37 Councillor Pedroza said another benefit to this program is that everything the children learn they take
38 home and teach to their parents.

39

40 Councillor Small said I think it is appropriate that the City is the fiscal agent and I hope we can use
41 this program as a model for other regions.

42

1 J.D. Rodriguez, Member of the Public asked is this food inspected?

2

3 Mayor Miyagishima said I believe it is for their own consumption so it isn't required that it be
4 inspected but if they were to sell it then I think it would need to be inspected.

5

6 Lorenzo Alba, Member of the Public said I am with Casa de Peregrinos and we support this program.
7 We are starting a community garden at the Community of Hope and this project is definitely the right
8 thing to do because it is putting good food back on our tables.

9

10 Mayor Miyagishima asked how do you get the seeds for this program?

11

12 Councillor Pedroza said we have received some small grants and we've also had some of the seeds
13 donated to us.

14

15 Mayor Miyagishima said I will give \$250 from the Fitness Grant to go toward the purchase of seeds.

16

17 Councillor Pedroza said thank you.

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21 Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 12-203 and it was
22 Approved. 6-0 Councillor Silva was Absent.

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26 (10) Resolution No. 12-202: A Resolution Supporting the Zero in Seven Initiative to Eliminate
27 the Euthanization of Healthy, Adoptable Animals at the Animal Services Center of the
28 Mesilla Valley.

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30 Councillor Small Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 12-202 and Councillor Thomas Seconded the
31 motion.

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35 Tom Townsend, Coalition for Pets and People gave an overhead presentation and said we are
36 requesting that you pass this resolution in support of the Coalition's initiative to eliminate the
37 euthanasia rates. The current euthanasia rate is at 50% to 60% for all animals arriving at the
38 Animal Service Center with more than 8,000 healthy and treatable animals being killed each year.
39 This situation can be corrected by significantly increasing the number of animals placed in good
40 homes and by significantly reducing the number of animals going into the shelter. To accomplish
41 these objectives it will require the participation of Animal Control Officers, the Animal Services
42 Center and cooperation and support from all the animal advocate organizations and an investment
43 of time and fiscal resources that is well above the existing levels of support. The strategic campaign

1 to reach zero may require up to seven years to achieve. The nationally recognized twelve point plan
2 to achieve no kill includes building a strong support base, lowering animal intake rates, and
3 increasing the number of animals leaving the shelter. There are about 2,000 animals that are
4 surrendered to the Animal Center every year and they are surrendered due to things like people being
5 unable to pay the vet bills, they can't afford to pay for the food, or their animal needs training. We
6 need a proactive approach for returning lost animals to their owners or guardians which we are
7 already seeing an improvement due to the actions of the Animal Control Officers. We also need a
8 program to deal with feral and free-roaming cats which we are in the process of collecting data in
9 order to be able to make a recommendation on how to handle that situation. We need to have a
10 program in place to help train the animals that are in the shelter. Some States use prisoners to help
11 train and socialize animals to make them more adoptable so that is something that would like to look
12 into doing here.

13

14 The strategic framework began during October to December 2011 with a group of more than forty
15 animal advocates who met to discuss the nationally recognized twelve point plan for reducing
16 euthanasia and to develop a local strategy to adopt and reduce overpopulation. The Coalition for Pets
17 and People was formally organized in January 2012 and its objective is to reduce the killing of
18 healthy and treatable animals at the Animal Service Center to zero by the end of 2019. The goal of
19 "Zero in 7" can be achieved if the number of dogs and cats taken into the shelter drops and the
20 animals placed in good homes increases by a combined total of 1,215 animals each year between
21 2012 and 2019. The initial marketing initiative will develop a messaging campaign to support
22 necessary change in community expectations and to change the behavior and attitudes of people
23 toward dogs and cats. The structure of the Coalition will include all organizations, governmental
24 entities and individuals that publicly endorse the objective of the campaign and commit to supporting
25 campaign activities through contributions of time, money or other resources.

26

27 The Coalition is being coordinated by a Council with one representative from each of the work
28 groups, one from each Animal Control Agency, one from the Animal Service Center Board, the
29 Animal Service Center Director and three representatives elected at large from the people working
30 on the campaign. The Council will elect two co-chairs on an annual basis which has already been
31 done, I am one of the co-chairs and Commissioner Garrett is the other one, and the Council will meet
32 monthly or more frequently at the request of the Council Co-Chairpersons. The primary functions
33 of the Council are to set immediate goals, seek and distribute funds, facilitate the efforts of the work
34 groups, assist the work groups in coordinating their efforts, and to establish policies or procedures
35 that may be necessary to achieve the purpose of the campaign. The work groups will be the Terrier
36 Team which will handle the management and coordination, the Shepherd Team which will consist
37 of Animal Control Officers and the Animal Service Center and they will handle increasing the pet
38 retention and return to owners, the Siamese Team will handle increasing the number of sterilized
39 animals thru MOBILE, the Tabby Team will handle increasing the number of cats to be fostered or
40 adopted, the Persian Team will handle promoting responsible management of cat colonies, the
41 Bulldog Team will handle increasing the number of dogs to be fostered or adopted and the
42 Greyhound Team will provide direct face to face community education.

43

1 The four assumptions to support the twelve point plan is that animal owners must be educated to
2 understand their responsibilities and be held accountable for meeting those responsibilities, the dog
3 and cat populations must be brought down, the public policy and enforcement activities must
4 minimize the unintended consequences, and each organization remains free to define the specific
5 nature and degree of the support they choose to provide for this effort. The implications for the
6 Animal Service Center are to reduce the intake of animals and increase the output of animals, to
7 interface with the Coalition and with a much larger number of volunteers, to appropriately train the
8 volunteers, to provide support for the Animal Service Center Director to work with the Coalition to
9 achieve "Zero in 7" and change the negative image of the Animal Service Center, and there is the
10 potential for cost shifting as we reduce the population of animals at the Animal Service Center.

11
12 Mayor Miyagishima asked has the Animal Service Center Board approved their budget yet?

13
14 Councillor Small said no but it is scheduled to be voted on this Thursday.

15
16 Mayor Miyagishima said we have changed our contribution to 50-50 for the Animal Service Center
17 so is there any assurance that our increase in funding will go toward this program?

18
19 Councillor Small said I can only speak for myself as the Chair of the Board, we have heard the "Zero
20 in 7" presentation and it has been endorsed. There is a strong agreement that collaborating and
21 aligning the resources between the two efforts is very important.

22
23 Mayor Miyagishima asked are you in favor of using our \$170,000 increase for this program?

24
25 Councillor Small said I am supportive of using the funds but I'm not willing to say that the
26 appropriation of every single dollar has to go to one single program.

27
28 Robert Garza, City Manager said Appendix B of Tom's handout outlines the different things that
29 need to be done with the funding and this is a seven-year commitment so even though there might
30 be some things that aren't addressed this year that doesn't mean it won't be addressed over the next
31 seven years.

32
33 Mayor Miyagishima said we just need to make sure that this works.

34
35 Councillor Sorg asked has a resolution like this one been passed by the County?

36
37 Tom Townsend said yes.

38
39 Councillor Sorg said I applaud your efforts with this program and this is something that is
40 desperately needed in our area.

41

1 Councillor Thomas said there are a lot of good people in this community that try to do good things
2 and I can't think of any better solution to this problem than what you have come up with to address
3 this situation. I think this will be a great model for other groups within the community who want to
4 get together and do something about these types of issues.

5

6 Frank Bryce, President of the Humane Society of Southern New Mexico said today we are expecting
7 a data release from the shelter on Chaparral. I have to congratulate the Animal Control groups,
8 county and city, because we are getting more cooperation effort thought into return off the trucks.
9 Calgary, Canada returns 30% of their animals off their trucks; that's an amazing number of animals
10 that costs us a small fortune if they go into the shelter.

11

12 Emil Bordea, Coalition Member said we are asking for your support and we do believe this will
13 work. The Coalition is prepared to provide notebooks to the Animal Control Officers to help with
14 the returning of animals to their owners without having to bring them into the shelter.

15

16 Judy Long, Coalition Member said I am very excited about the use of the data to address all of our
17 questions. There is a tremendous amount of synergy by having all the groups and individuals
18 working together.

19

20 Ann McCullough, Coalition Member said we are very excited to start telling people about the
21 Coalition which we haven't really done yet because we are waiting for the approval of this resolution
22 by the Animal Service Board, the County and by the City.

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26 Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 12-202 and it was
27 Approved. 6-0 Councillor Silva was Absent.

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31 (12) Resolution No. 12-204: A Resolution Determining That No Updates of the Park Land Use
32 Assumptions, Park Capital Improvement Plan and Park Development Impact Fees Were
33 Needed; Continuing the Collection and Expenditure of Park Development Impact Fees Under
34 the Current Structure and Further Determining That No Updates are Needed Through June
35 30, 2013.

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37 Councillor Thomas Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 12-204 and Councillor Small Seconded the
38 motion.

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42 Mark Johnston, Parks and Recreation Director gave an overhead presentation and said the Las
43 Cruces Municipal Code requires that at least every five years the City either updates the land use

1 assumptions or determines no updates are needed, updates the Park Capital Improvement Plan or
2 determines no updates are needed and updates the Park Development Fee or determine no updates
3 are needed so this resolution is to determine no updates are needed and keeps the current structure
4 in place. Staff provided the CIAC draft plans for their review, held public meetings and gave
5 presentations to the Las Cruces Realtors and Home Builders. The CIAC has struggled with
6 membership issues and could not reach a consensus but we are now approaching on the deadline
7 which is June 30, 2012 so more time is needed by the CIAC. Staff recommends that the City
8 determines no updates are needed to the land use assumptions, the Park Capital Improvement Plan
9 or the Park Development Fee and extends the current fee structure through June 30, 2013.

10

11 Councillor Sorg asked what were the membership issues?

12

13 Mark Johnston said they aren't able to have a quorum so we've had five meeting cancellations but
14 we were able to hold work session meetings to keep everyone up to speed. This process has been
15 going on for the past eighteen months and all the pieces are complete but the only piece that is
16 missing is the recommendation from the CIAC.

17

18 Councillor Sorg said there is still one vacancy on the board so will that cause a problem?

19

20 Mark Johnston said it might but the Council also has the option of directing staff to move forward
21 without the recommendation of the CIAC.

22

23 Councillor Sorg asked what impact with not changing the fee have on our parks?

24

25 Mark Johnston said it will have no affect whatsoever.

26

27 Councillor Sorg asked when will we be able to look at this again?

28

29 Robert Garza, City Manager said this would extend it for another year so I would recommend that
30 we look at it about mid-year.

31

32 Councillor Thomas asked don't large cities have a Quality of Life tax for things like recreation? I
33 would like to know what places like Albuquerque and Farmington are doing.

34

35 Mark Johnston said Farmington does have a dedicated funding source but Albuquerque and Santa
36 Fe are general funded and they have bond support.

37

38 Robert Garza said there are two Quality of Life revenue streams that are possible, one is a gross
39 receipt tax and the other is a Quality of Life tax which is a general obligation bond. The Quality of
40 Life gross receipt tax is not very common because it is very restrictive. The Quality of Life tax for
41 things like parks has to be a general obligation fund revenue stream.

42

43 Councillor Thomas said I think we should have a discussion on those issues at some point.

1 Councillor Small said I see the value in moving ahead with this resolution but I also agree with
2 having additional discussions at a later date.

3

4 Mayor Miyagishima said the question is do we focus on big parks that can hold events or smaller
5 pocket parks; I think for our next bond cycle that we need to look at those funds to fund a large park.

6

7 Councillor Thomas said I think we should look at what is in our Comprehensive Plan and have some
8 maps available so we can see where there are parks, where they are needed and how they are
9 connected.

10

11 Councillor Pedroza said I would like to have a lot more information on this issue and I think when
12 we have this scheduled for a work session that no other items are scheduled for that meeting so we
13 can have a thorough discussion.

14

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17 Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 12-204 and it was
18 Approved. 6-0 Councillor Silva was Absent.

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22 (13) Resolution No. 11-12-473: A Resolution Awarding a Contract for the Purchase of Twenty-
23 Four (24) Bus Shelters to Tolar Manufacturing Company, Inc., for a Total Purchase Price of
24 \$118,248.00.

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26 Councillor Small Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 11-12-473 and Councillor Sorg Seconded the
27 motion.

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31 Mike Bartholomew, Transit Administrator gave an overhead presentation and said the City issued
32 a Request for Bid in April for the purchase of twenty-four metal bus shelters and we received four
33 bids of which Tolar Manufacturing, Inc of Corona, California had the lowest bid. The cost will be
34 \$118,248 which will be paid with the FTA ARRA stimulus grant and the cost includes delivery to
35 Las Cruces. The Transit staff is currently working with the Land Management office to determine
36 the feasibility of thirty-one potential shelter locations but there are currently three concrete pads on
37 Roadrunner Parkway that are awaiting shelters from this order.

38

39 Mayor Miyagishima asked if this is approved, when would we expect to see the first shipment?

40

41 Mike Bartholomew said they should be delivered within 120 days so we should be able to start
42 putting them up by this Fall and be completed by next summer.

43

1 Councillor Pedroza said I saw a lady standing outside in the sun at a bus stop and when I drove by
2 again about half an hour later she was still there so it would have been nice for her to have a shelter
3 to stand under while she was waiting for the bus.

4

5 Vincent Jeffers, Member of the Public said we do need to have a bus shelter installed on Picacho
6 near the Peddlers Pavilion because there is usually always three or four people there waiting on
7 buses.

8

9 Mike Bartholomew said that location is one of the thirty-one proposed locations for shelters.

10

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13 Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 11-12-473 and it was
14 Approved. 6-0 Councillor Silva was Absent.

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18 **VIII. BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

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20 Mayor Miyagishima appointed Ken Erhard to the Transit Advisory Board.

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24 Councillor Sorg Moved to Approve the Mayor's board appointment of Ken Erhard to the Transit
25 Advisory Board and Councillor Small Seconded the motion.

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29 Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Approve the Mayor's board appointment
30 of Ken Erhard to the Transit Advisory Board and it was Approved. 6-0 Councillor Silva was Absent.

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34 Mayor Miyagishima reappointed Marsha Burr (Munson Center) and appointed Laura Roach (Frank
35 O'Brien Papen Center) to the Senior Programs Advisory Board.

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39 Councillor Thomas Moved to Approve the Mayor's board reappointment of Marsha Burr (Munson
40 Center) and appointment of Laura Roach (Frank O'Brien Papen Center) to the Senior Programs
41 Advisory Board and Councillor Sorg Seconded the motion.

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Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Approve the Mayor’s board reappointment of Marsha Burr (Munson Center) and appointment of Laura Roach (Frank O’Brien Papen Center) to the Senior Programs Advisory Board and it was Approved. 6-0 Councillor Silva was Absent.

DRAFT

Mayor Miyagishima reappointed Lawrence Orvis (American Legion #10) to the Veterans Advisory Board.

Councillor Sorg Moved to Approve the Mayor’s board reappointment of Lawrence Orvis (American Legion #10) to the Veterans Advisory Board and Councillor Thomas Seconded the motion.

Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Approve the Mayor’s board reappointment of Lawrence Orvis (American Legion #10) to the Veterans Advisory Board and it was Approved. 6-0 Councillor Silva was Absent.

IX. REVIEW OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE(S)

(14) Council Bill No. 12-033; Ordinance No. 2655: An Ordinance Approving a Zone Change From C-2 (Commercial Medium Intensity) to M-1/M-2C (Industrial Standard-Conditional) on 3.138 ± Acres of Land Located on the North Side of Picacho Avenue, 0.20 ± Miles West of Its Intersection With Valley Drive; Parcel ID# 02-01986. Submitted by Manuel M. & Leticia S. Pinon, Property Owners (Z2851).

Mayor Miyagishima and Council agreed to bring this item back.

X. GENERAL DISCUSSION

1. Mayor

Mayor Miyagishima said last Friday I attended the Town and Gown meeting and it was really a great meeting. There have been some recommendations from members of the public to have the firework

1 display back at the Aggie Stadium and the Board is actually open to that recommendation so maybe
2 we can take a look at that option next year.

3

4 About every four months I get calls from various developers who are interested in building a five-star
5 hotel next to the Convention Center but there are concerns because it is leased land so I suggested
6 that the University insert some type of wording that if they ever decided to sell the land then the
7 developer would get the first right of refusal for it and they seemed to be open to it.

8

9 I would like to let the public know that if anyone wishes to sing the National Anthem for us to please
10 let us know because we are running low on singers.

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14 2. City Council

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16 Councillor Thomas said I'd like to thank Mark Johnston for such a nice setup at the ceremony for
17 the dedication of the Frank O'Brien Papen Center.

18

19 The HUD Sustainability Grant Group is in the process of putting together a list of people to invite
20 to the summit so if you know of anyone or any group that should be involved with our regional
21 planning please send me their information.

22

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24

25 Councillor Sorg said regarding City streets and drainage, there are still places that don't have City
26 standard streets and they have continual flooding issues. These areas have been promised to be
27 brought up to City standards for around twenty years and even though we are making some progress
28 on it, I think the progress is very slow. I think we need to prioritize locations that have these issues
29 and I also think we need to keep an eye on our storm water facilities to make sure they are still
30 functioning.

31

32 I received a recommendation that I'm going to bring up to our Utility Board and that is that when
33 we flush out our fire hydrants that we capture that water and use it for places like Burn Lake.

34

35

36

37 Councillor Small said I want to mention that the Raft the Rio event is going to be this Saturday.

38

39 I'd like to thank Eric Martin, Mark Johnston and many others for facilitating continued cooperation
40 with the Skeet and Trap Range which is holding the State Skeet and Trap competition this year.

41

1 The presentation on the bus shelters is a reminder of transit oriented development and I look forward
2 to when we will have transit oriented development projects.

3

4 Regarding the issue of infrastructure, there are a number of infrastructure issues throughout the City
5 and we need to especially make road rehabilitation a top priority as we move forward.

6

7 I want to thank Chief Williams and Chief Brown for their work on an issue with a business owner
8 in the West Mesa.

9

10

11

DRAFT

12 Councillor Pedroza said tomorrow is Election Day for the primaries and the polling places have been
13 changed so if you live in District 3 you can go to Las Cruces High School, Lynn Middle School or
14 Sierra Middle School or any other location to vote.

15

16 On June 22nd the Disability Rights New Mexico will have a meeting here at City Hall to discuss their
17 priorities for the year.

18

19 I want to congratulate Austin Trout.

20

21 I saw a very good editorial in the Sun News regarding the campaign finance reform and I think we
22 are going along the right lines with our own committee that is looking at our own campaign finance
23 reform.

24

25 Regarding the water from the fire hydrants, sometimes in other cities they will let the water out for
26 the kids to play in during the summertime so that might be something we can explore doing here.

27

28 There was another interesting article in the Sun News regarding the growing popularity of the
29 community gardens but the one garden they didn't mention was the one at Gomez Park so I wanted
30 to make sure to mention it.

31

32

33

34 Councillor Smith said I want to extend my condolences to Anna Mae Evans for the loss of Kent
35 Evans.

36

37 I am wearing a tie today that is from Florence, Italy which made me think I don't think we need to
38 copy someone else's success story but we do need to look at what has been successful in other
39 communities so we can use that for our own benefit.

40

41 We are having a joint work session with the Las Cruces Public Schools tomorrow and I am looking
42 forward to something exciting coming from our Public Art Policy that is coming up on the 12th.

43

1 On the polling places, I want to thank our local publications for all they have done to encourage
2 people to get to the polls.

3

4

5

6

3. City Manager

7

8 Robert Garza, City Manager said Council authorized us to hire students through our SER contract
9 and there are about thirty students that are starting work today.

10

11 I will be out of the office this Wednesday, Thursday and Friday to attend the New Mexico City
12 Managers Post Budget Retreat in Ruidoso.

13

14 We are now in the month of June so we need to schedule the City Manager's annual performance
15 evaluation. We actually meet every six months and this meeting is for the performance evaluation.
16 I have tentatively scheduled a closed meeting on June 18th so please pencil that date into your
17 calendars.

18

19

20

21 **Meeting Adjourned at 3:50 p.m.**