



City Council
of the
City of Las Cruces

Regular Meeting

October 15, 2012

9:00 A.M.

Council Chambers, City Hall

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MEMBERS PRESENT:

STAFF:

- Mayor Ken Miyagishima
- Councillor Miguel Silva, District 1(Arrived at 10:15 a.m.)
- Councillor Greg Smith, District 2
- Councillor Olga Pedroza, District 3
- Councillor Nathan Small, District 4 (Arrived at 9:50 a.m.)
- Councillor Gill Sorg, District 5
- Councillor Sharon Thomas, District 6

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

I. OPENING CEREMONIES

- Mayor Miyagishima called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence. Councillor Sorg led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation/Proclamations.
- Mayor Miyagishima and a representative from the Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley presented the Pet of the Week.
- Mayor Miyagishima recognized Nienburg students and Hedda Freeses.
- Councillor Sorg presented a Proclamation to Lori Grumet and Mike Walczak and declared November 2012 as Museum of Nature and Science Month.
- Councillor Sorg presented a Proclamation to Mary Lacy and declared November 2012 as the Las Cruces Arts Association Month.
- Councillor Sorg presented a Proclamation to Emily Kelly and declared October 24, 2012 as NMSU Campus Sustainability Day.

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2 Councillor Sorg presented the NMAPA Award (One Valley One Vision) to Paul Michaud.

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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.*

10
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**

18
19 Dolores Archuleta, Mayor Pro-tem Emeritus said Saturday, October 27th is “Make a Difference Day”
20 and millions of volunteers around the world will unite in the mission of improving the lives of
21 others. Lynn Hampton of VFW Post 3242 registered a project for “Make a Difference Day” and
22 received acknowledgment of the approval for the project so Saturday, October 27th is “Make a
23 Difference Day” for the homeless vets. We will be accepting new and used household items on
24 Saturday at the VFW Post 3242 for the homeless veterans entering the transitional shelter on Oak
25 Street. I also want to mention that the Veterans Parade will be on November 10th at nine o’clock and
26 the route will be exactly the same as the Centennial Parade route.

27
28 Christine Little, Member of the Public said I am constantly amazed at the range of services provided
29 by the City of Las Cruces and I think the City has remained proactive during this not so great
30 economic period.

31
32 Pat Green, Member of the Public passed out a handout to Council and said I am here to ask for an
33 exception to Chapter 7 of the Municipal Code. We would like to have up to five chickens, no
34 roosters, for the residents of Rio Bravo Way.

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

41
42 Councillor Smith Moved to Approve the Agenda and Councillor Sorg Seconded the motion.

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Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Approve the Agenda and it was Approved.
5-0 Councillor Silva and Councillor Small were absent.

V. CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

* (1) Regular Meeting of September 17, 2012

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

* (2) Resolution No. 13-052: A Resolution Authorizing the City of Las Cruces to Accept Section 5307 Formula Funding From the Federal Transit Administration in the Amount of \$1,297,105.00 With a Match Requirement of \$1,261,098.00 For Transit Operational Costs.

* (3) Resolution No. 13-053: A Resolution Authorizing the Dona Ana Arts Council, Inc. To Continue With the Permitting Process to Allow for the Sale and Consumption of Wine Within a Restricted and Secured Area at the Renaissance Artsfaire to be Held November 3 and 4, 2012 at Young Park, 850 Walnut, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

* (4) Resolution No. 13-054: A Resolution Approving Amendment #2 to the Home Investment Partnerships Act (HOME) Agreement Executed Between the City of Las Cruces and Mesilla Valley Habitat for Humanity Providing Additional Funding in the Amount of \$140,000.00 for the Construction of Affordable Housing Units in Sierra Norte Height Subdivision Phase 1.

* (5) Resolution No. 11-12-329A: A Resolution Authorizing Change Order No. 2 in the Amount of \$96,786.79 to the Contract Between the City of Las Cruces and C.F. Jordan Construction, LLC, of El Paso, Texas, for Re-Marking Sections of Runway 8-26, Replace Airfield Guidance Sign Panels; and Install Airfield Guidance Signs for the Las Cruces International Airport, for a Total Change Order Amount of \$104,106.29 (Including NMGRT).

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

(6) **BEFORE CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION NO. 13-055; A PUBLIC HEARING MUST BE HELD.**

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Mayor Miyagishima said the Public Hearing for Resolution No. 13-055 is now open. Is there anyone who wishes to speak against this item?

None given.

Mayor Miyagishima closed the Public Hearing for Resolution No. 13-055

Resolution No. 13-055: A Resolution Approving the Transfer of Ownership and Location of State Liquor License No. 0781 to Central Park East Meadow, LLC D/B/A La Cantina, to be Located at 1311 Avenida de Mesilla, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Councillor Smith Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 13-055 and Councillor Thomas Seconded the motion.

Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 13-055 and it was Approved. 5-0 Councillor Silva and Councillor Small were absent.

(7) Resolution No. 13-056: A Resolution Approving an Amended Joint Powers Agreement Between the City of Las Cruces, Doña Ana County, Town of Mesilla, Village of Hatch, and the City of Sunland Park, and to Add the City of Anthony as a Member of the Mesilla Valley Regional Dispatch Authority.

Councillor Thomas Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 13-056 and Councillor Sorg Seconded the motion.

Councillor Smith said this is simply a housekeeping item because our current joint powers agreement with the municipalities was done prior to Anthony becoming a city so this would just be including them in our agreement.

Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 13-056 and it was Approved. 5-0 Councillor Silva and Councillor Small were absent.

1 (8) Resolution No. 12-13-302: A Resolution Awarding the Bid for the El Molino Phase VI
 2 Reconstruction Project to Smith and Aguirre Construction Company, Inc., in the Amount of
 3 \$1,829,301.24, Plus \$138,340.91, for New Mexico Gross Receipts Tax (NMGRT); the City
 4 Manager is Authorized to Approve Change Orders in an Amount Not to Exceed
 5 \$110,373.95, for a Total Project Authorization of \$2,078,016.10.
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7 Councillor Thomas Moved to Adopt Resolution No. 12-13-302 and Councillor Sorg Seconded the
 8 motion.
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12 Loretta Reyes, Public Works Director gave an overhead presentation and said the El Molino project
 13 was originally developed in the early 1990s but due to the size and funding constraints, the project
 14 was divided into phases. Phase I was completed in 1999 and we have recently completed Phase V
 15 of the project. The El Molino Project Phase VI and VII bid as base bid plus two alternates which the
 16 base bid is the reconstruction of Alameda (from Lohman to Main Street) and Compress Road (from
 17 Amador to El Molino Street), alternate one is the reconstruction of Miranda Street (from Amador
 18 to El Molino), and alternate two is the expansion of the El Molino Ponding Facility. After review
 19 of the bids and the available funding, there is only sufficient amount of funding to award the base
 20 bid plus alternate one because the excavation/disposal costs to expand the El Molino Ponding
 21 Facility came in higher than expected so funding is not available to construct the ponding facility
 22 with this phase. When funding becomes available, consideration of completing the work to finish
 23 the final phase of the El Molino Project will be contemplated at that time. The El Molino Phase VI
 24 project will consist of the reconstruction of Alameda (from Lohman to Main), Compress (from
 25 Amador to El Molino) and Miranda (from Amador to El Molino) which will include paving, storm
 26 drain, street lighting, sidewalks, curbs, gutters, water and sewer. We received two bids for this
 27 project for the base bid plus alternate one which were the engineers estimate of \$1,785,825.90 and
 28 from Smith & Aguirre Construction Company of \$1,829,301.24. The funding source of this project
 29 is from the Street Maintenance, Flood Control and Utility Funds and the contract duration is 130
 30 working days.
 31

32 Councillor Small said this is really a benefit to the entire City but can you remind us what the gap
 33 is in the funding to complete this project?
 34

35 Loretta Reyes said the cost for the excavation and expansion of the El Molino Ponding Facility alone
 36 is about \$1.3 million.
 37

38 Councillor Small said some of that work was going to be done as part of the Amador project;
 39 correct?
 40

41 Loretta Reyes said there was an option on the PUD that the developer could excavate that ponding
 42 area in addition to additional ponding for their development.

- 1
2 Councillor Small said obviously that would be engaged at the time they decide to move forward.
3
4 Loretta Reyes said that is correct.
5
6 Councillor Small asked is there other areas where the City could use some of the fill-dirt from this
7 project?
8
9 Loretta Reyes said usually our Street Maintenance and Transportation Department would take that
10 excess dirt and store it to be used for other projects.
11
12 Councillor Small asked is there going to be communication with the business owners of this area
13 regarding the vehicle traffic during this construction?
14
15 Loretta Reyes said there has already been some contact with the business owners during the
16 designing phase of this project and we will continue to communicate with them during this process.
17
18 Councillor Small asked have any of the property owners on the westside of the road been approached
19 for donating right-of ways to allow for wider lanes since our Intermodal Center is being built on the
20 corner and we have the City Office Center property right across the street as well?
21
22 Loretta Reyes said I would need to check with my staff to see where we are with contacting the
23 property owners on the westside.
24
25 Councillor Small said I would encourage moving forward with this today but I would like for us to
26 have updates on some of these questions.
27
28 Robert Garza, City Manager said I would recommend that you proceed with this so we can tie down
29 the contractor to this bid because if we wait then the bid could increase in cost. We will have another
30 budget cycle starting July 1st at which time we can contemplate using Flood Control funds to finish
31 this project.
32
33 Councillor Thomas said I recently asked Andy Hume to put together a map that showed all of the
34 current and projected in-road bicycle facilities so have you consulted with him regarding these
35 streets?
36
37 Loretta Reyes said for any project we do we consult with that map and we do have a standing
38 meeting with Andy Hume and the Transportation Department to discuss opportunities with our
39 projects.
40
41 Councillor Sorg said this whole project will help enhance the wetland water feature that we have
42 down there along I-10 called Burn Lake. It helps for us to get all the water we can to that feature and
43 the wildlife people would greatly appreciate it because the water there is so low right now.

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2 Councillor Small said I plan to support this but I think it is important that we continue with the
3 follow-up on some of these options and with the costs and benefits of those options.

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7 Mayor Miyagishima called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 12-13-302 and it was
8 Approved. 6-0 Councillor Silva was absent.

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12 **VIII. BOARD APPOINTMENTS**
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14 Mayor Miyagishima reappointed Susan Fletcher to the At-Large position and Councillor Smith
15 appointed Susan Pinkerton (District 2) and Councillor Small appointed Paula Sharon (District 4) to
16 the Thomas Branigan Memorial Library Advisory Board.

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20 **IX. NOTICE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE(S) ----- 1.) *There will be no public discussion.***
21 **2.) *A councillor may ask staff for clarification on the proposed ordinance(s).***

22
23 (9) Council Bill No. 13-015; Ordinance No. 2670: An Ordinance Repealing and Replacing
24 Various Sections of Articles I and VI and All of Article VIII of the Las Cruces Municipal
25 Traffic Ordinance. Submitted by the City of Las Cruces.

26
27 Mayor Miyagishima and Council agreed to bring this item back.
28
29 (10) Council Bill No. 13-016; Ordinance No. 2671: An Ordinance Amending and Repealing Las
30 Cruces Municipal Code Sections 28-1 Through 28-22; Amending and Repealing Las Cruces
31 Municipal Code Sections 28-51 Through 28-58; Adding New Las Cruces Municipal Section
32 28-59; and Repealing Las Cruces Municipal Code Sections 28-86 Through 28-91.

33
34 Mayor Miyagishima and Council agreed to bring this item back.

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38 **X. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER BOARD REPORTS**

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40 1. ASCMV - Councillor Nathan P. Small
41
42 Councillor Small said I want to remind everyone that we will be having our next regular meeting for

1 the Animal Service Center this Thursday in Council Chambers at 9:00 a.m. The main news for the
2 Animal Service Center is the Zero in Seven initiative which is to eliminate the euthanasia of
3 adoptable animals. We are seeing a slight decrease in the euthanasia amounts this year but there is
4 still a lot of work that needs to be done. There were some statistics presented at the last meeting and
5 it showed that there were 38 returns to owners that were done by the City's Animal Control in the
6 field which is great because it prevents animals from going to the shelter.

7

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9

10 Councillor Silva arrived at the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

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14 2. NMML - Councillor Miguel G. Silva

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16 Councillor Silva said I had my schedule crossed so I will be providing an update at the next meeting.

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20 3. Airport Advisory Board - Councillor Gill M. Sorg

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22 Councillor Sorg said the Airport Advisory Board wants to bring our attention to the economic
23 potential of our airport and the board is very interested in pursuing greater uses for the airport since
24 there have been many improvements done to the airport over the past few years. One of the potential
25 uses that the board has discussed is possibly having a freight transportation hub at the airport. They
26 have also discussed that with the opening of the Spaceport there will be an increase of private and
27 corporate jets so we need to be prepared for that situation. This airport is the only airport in the
28 whole United States that is permitted to have commercial unmanned vehicles by the PSL through
29 NMSU and over the next few years the FAA will certify as many as nine or six, I can't remember
30 the exact number, airports around the country to be used for commercial unmanned vehicles so we
31 are expecting our airport to be one of the first ones on that list. There is a saying that for every one
32 gallon of jet fuel that is sold at the airport, nine dollars is spent in the city so that is a guideline that
33 we are looking at seriously. The airport has 68,000 landing and takeoffs per year of which 38,000
34 are from our military services and there are rumors that the National Guard in Deming is thinking
35 about moving to Las Cruces and using our airport. I attended the National Aviation Conference in
36 Ruidoso last month and I feel that we need to advertise our airport. The Roswell airport has three
37 daily round trips to Dallas which was subsidized in the beginning but after the first year it became
38 self-supporting and it has been going on for about four years now. They have spent \$400,000 in
39 advertising to promote their airport and their commercial service. I would like to invite everyone on
40 Council to attend the next Aviation Conference which will be in September of next year and it will
41 be held in Ruidoso again.

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3 4. MVRDA - Councillor Gregory Z. Smith

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5 Councillor Smith said we have been looking for a long time to find a home for the new Regional
6 Dispatch Center because they are currently in a substandard building. There is money available for
7 upgrades but that is being held off because the center is due to change within the next few years. Last
8 week we went through the director assessment process and the main issue is with the site location
9 which the County is working on. So, at the next Joint Meeting between the City and the County we
10 will look at the choices that are being submitted and hopefully expedite this process.

11

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14 **X. GENERAL DISCUSSION**

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16 b.) City Council

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18 Councillor Silva said since we last met there has been an email circulating regarding the sale of Club
19 Fusion and I would like to know when we have a sale of City assets, where does the money go?

20

21 Robert Garza, City Manager said in the case of Club Fusion, that was a General Fund deposit so
22 when it was sold we all agreed to put the money in the Vehicle Acquisition Fund as a holding pattern
23 without the authority to spend it and at midyear Council will decide how to allocate those funds.

24

25 Councillor Silva said included in that email was an idea to spend those funds in the Downtown area
26 on a certain project so I just wanted to be clear that was not my idea at all but I do think it is a great
27 idea and I do support the Downtown area. I also want to state that I don't support the sale of our
28 long-term assets such as property to put forth certain personal projects in our districts which is
29 something that Councillor Connor supported but we stood on different sides of the fence on that
30 issue.

31

32 Yesterday, I went to El Paso for their 5th Annual Chalk Art Festival and there were more than 40,000
33 people attending this event. We had our 1st Chalk Art Festival this year and I hope our festival will
34 grow as much as their event has over the years. I spoke with the El Paso Public Art Coordinator and
35 she stated that she is in contact with other places, like Tucson, that have these festivals and she is
36 surprised that Las Cruces is never part of the conversation. She also said that until we develop a
37 program that has public funding for public arts our art program will not takeoff.

38

39 Brian Denmark, Assistant City Manager said Lori Grumet did a presentation to Council during a
40 work session regarding this particular issue and there was consideration of our ICIP and potentially
41 funding art as a part of that program which Council agreed to move in the direction of forming a
42 policy which staff is currently working on that policy.

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2 Councillor Silva said this past Saturday we had our second Movie in the Park and this series has
3 been quite a success. We had about 400 to 500 people attend and I want to commend the Parks
4 Department for the great job they did putting this project together.

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8 Councillor Smith said we are working on a District 2 meeting on October 25th and we are looking
9 to have a presentation from Randy Harris.

10

11 Last week I read "Juan and the Jackalobe" to the 1st graders at Mesilla Park Elementary which is very
12 much a New Mexico story.

13

14 The week before I went to the Renewable Energy Conference and I thought Las Cruces and the
15 Convention Center was shown in a good light there.

16

17 It was my pleasure to be at the Mayor's Top Teens last night and I think it is a fantastic event.

18

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21 Councillor Pedroza said there is an invitation for everyone to attend the banquet in honor of the
22 Tuscan Airmen and it's on November 3rd and I believe it's at the Alameda House.

23

24 Regarding the schools and the Community Garden partnership, there are approximately 1,000
25 children per day who get gardening experience which we are very proud of that and we feel it
26 deserves a great deal of support. Valley View is a new school that has a garden and they are having
27 a ribbon cutting for their garden on October 17th at 1:30 p.m. The schools that already have gardens
28 are Conlee, Lynn, Sierra Middle School, Hermosa Heights which is a little less active than the others,
29 and Valley View. The two schools that are not participating in the program but do have gardens is
30 Mesilla Elementary and Sunrise Elementary. This program is doing a fantastic job.

31

32 I want to remind everyone to get out and vote on November 6th.

33

34 I want to thank Public Works for their work in helping improve the streets in District 3 and to Parks
35 and Rec for all the activities for the kids.

36

37

38

39 Councillor Small said I'd like to thank Brian Denmark, Lisa Murphy and others for helping run down
40 some information on streets and billing. I appreciate the follow-up because it has help clarify both
41 projects in the future as well as other opportunities.

42

43 I'd like to commend the Chief Police for the Commander's Letter and I think that is a great step

1 forward because it fits both with community policing and Comsat.

2

3 I think as we walk, drive our cars, or ride our bikes through City streets we are continually reminded
4 that basic infrastructure is important so maintaining the level of maintenance that we are doing right
5 now still leaves us falling behind. I would strongly encourage us to find ways for reconstruction
6 because winter brings along more street problems so we should plan now for really aggressive street
7 maintenance during our next budget cycle.

8

9 I am looking forward to some of the other work sessions that are taking place later this week with
10 the School Board.

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14 Councillor Sorg said another thing that is going on this week is the Re-Energizing Conference which
15 starts on Wednesday at the Convention Center.

16

17 Last Thursday night the Holloman Airforce Base had a community meeting for the folks in the East
18 Mesa in particular, that are subject to sonic booms from the jets. They gave a very good presentation
19 that explained their mission and why there were sonic booms. The Commander expressed an interest
20 in coming before the City Council and giving us some information as well.

21

22 Last time we met I talked about proposing a new resolution with Councillor Pedroza and I do have
23 a draft of it which I will pass out to Council. It is a resolution calling upon the United States
24 Congress to ascend to the United States for ratification of a Constitutional Amendment to overturn
25 the Citizens United vs. Federal Election Commission and restore the Constitutional Rights of fair
26 elections to the people.

27

28 I'd like to wish a safe journey to our Mayor as he travels to Washington, D.C.

29

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32 Councillor Thomas said the South Central Regional Transit District is holding their second round
33 of public input meetings regarding the establishment of better public transportation in our region.
34 The meeting slated for the Las Cruces and Dona Ana County community is this Wednesday here at
35 City Hall in room 2007-B and it starts at six o'clock.

36

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39 a.) Mayor

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41 Mayor Miyagishima said we will be having our District Meetings on October 23rd, 24th, and 25th and
42 they will be for two districts each night.

1

2 We are eventually going to be opening up the north-end of the multi use path and I was going to ask
3 Robert if we should look into having one or two security people from the hours of 10:00 p.m. to 5:00
4 a.m. ride their bikes throughout that path. We could even use one of the security guards from City
5 Hall so we would only have to hire one more person.

6

7 Robert Garza, City Manager said only about the first quarter of the north-end path is in the City
8 limits so were you thinking of having someone patrol the whole area?

9

10 Mayor Miyagishima said I think that is something that we can bring up when we have our meeting
11 with the County Commission because I'm not sure how we'll work it out but I do think it will be
12 needed in the future.

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16 c.) City Manager

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18 Robert Garza, City Manager said we're reaching the end of construction for North Main Street
19 Downtown and we are planning a Grand Opening for the middle to latter part of November. The
20 project will be done about November 14th so we will schedule a ribbon cutting ceremony and maybe
21 even a parade.

22

23 We have a Joint Meeting with the Schools tomorrow at one o'clock in their chambers and there are
24 a variety of issues that we are going to be discussing.

25

26 There is a City Council and Management Retreat on Thursday at one o'clock here on the second
27 floor and we have an ICMA University person coming in to do a short session on Council
28 Management Relations.

29

30 I'd like to ask Mr. Johnston to come forward and give you a response to an email regarding a soccer
31 tournament that they'd like to be held in the winter.

32

33 Mark Johnston, Parks and Recreation Director said we brought a policy forward to Council that
34 stated we would not play games during the winter months unless there is an extreme economical
35 benefit. About three years ago we did have such a tournament and everyone came into town but that
36 was the weekend that it rained and snowed; however, they did not call off the tournament. The games
37 were played at the High Noon Soccer Field which as a result the field did sustain damage and we had
38 to close down the fields during the spring. That made the local leagues very upset. We did receive
39 \$60,000 from this Council to repair those fields. We only received \$12,000 from the tournament
40 itself and we had to spend \$60,000 to repair the damage from that tournament. Every tournament that
41 we have does cost the Parks and Recreation Department operational dollars and there is very little
42 revenue. We were asked two years ago to bring this tournament back which we did and we had 81
43 teams of which only nine were out of town and the rest were local teams so that is not an economical

1 benefit. We were approached again this year to bring this tournament back and we said "no" because
2 the funds to operate the fields are not there and there is no economic benefit. We will continue to
3 close the fields to all play after Thanksgiving and open them up again on March 1st. We could play
4 year-round with more dollars, more time, more maintenance, more staff, and more funding; however,
5 with our budget going down I would highly recommend that we continue to only allow tournaments
6 with big economic benefits.

7

8 Councillor Small said the Whole Enchilada Tournament didn't start off as big as it is today, correct?

9

10 Mark Johnston said no tournament starts out like they are today but if you are thinking that this
11 tournament will be getting bigger, it actually has diminished over time because the bigger
12 tournaments are moving toward some of the other warmer climate areas like in Arizona.

13

14 Councillor Small said I think Albuquerque uses artificial turf for their soccer field.

15

16 Mark Johnston said yes, they do have artificial turf and if you're asking me if I'd like to see some
17 artificial turf down here, you bet I would. It would be about \$650,000 per field; however, the
18 recovery of artificial turf is amazing. We would still have to pay about \$50,000 per year for
19 maintaining the artificial turf per field and we would have to check into how we would extract the
20 dust from it because there is a lot of dust in this area but I'm sure there is a way to do it.

21

22 Councillor Small said I know it must be frustrating for you to continually be asked to do more for
23 less in terms of the budget but I'm not sure we should base the damage to the fields from that
24 tournament alone and the cold conditions at that time as a reason for not taking that risk this time.

25

26 Mark Johnston said in my opinion the risk to benefit factor is not worth it. Six or seven years back
27 we didn't stop winter play so the continual use of fields, not just the weather events, wore the fields
28 down to the point where they were almost nonexistent for the spring leagues which caused our
29 citizens to be extremely upset and question us on why we allowed outsiders to come in and ruin our
30 fields so that when our children come out to play in the spring the fields are almost nonexistent.

31

32 Councillor Small said I understand that ultimately we are providing these fields for the citizens of
33 our community.

34

35 Brian Denmark, Assistant City Manager said we do have the resources to allow winter play but if
36 we allow winter play then we would have to shut down the fields in the fall which would cut down
37 on our local season.

38

39 Mark Johnston said we have the ability to play in three to four months cycles as long as we shut
40 fields down. If we do that then we will be shutting down fields at the tail-end of our local leagues
41 season and our local leagues will not like that but we do have to have a maintenance window for our
42 fields. It has to be at least 72 degrees in order for rye grass to sprout and grow and bermuda grass

1 needs to be about 85 to 95 degrees in order for it to grow.

2

3 Councillor Small said regarding extreme economic benefits, I would like to see recommendations
4 on what could be done to bring that tournament here next year. For example, would they need to
5 bring 20 or 30 teams to the tournament. I think there needs to be a fact and science base criteria for
6 what that benefit is which would be different for softball and soccer because of the impacts.

7

8 Councillor Thomas said I agree that we shouldn't base one bad year with a bad winter as a reason
9 to not allow this tournament. This City has a reputation for being a soccer area that goes back all the
10 way to the 1960s and I'd hate to see us damage that in some way. I think at some point we will have
11 to go the public and ask "what are you willing to do to have these facilities" and I think we would
12 get some great support because this is a sports-based city. I am willing to go to the public and ask
13 them for some funding because I think it is about time that we do that for our recreational facilities.

14

15 Mayor Miyagishima said maybe we will have a work session to discuss that but keep in mind the
16 Hold Harmless Tax.

17

18 Robert Garza said I just want to point out that on November 13th we do have a work session
19 scheduled and one of the items will be discussing is our bonding capacity.

20

21 Councillor Silva asked Mr. Johnston, you stated that it would cost \$50,000 per year per field for
22 artificial turf maintenance so what is the cost for the maintenance of regular grass fields?

23

24 Mark Johnston said I would guess about \$20,000 for an acre or less. It is less expensive to maintain
25 artificial turf than natural grass and you would get more play on artificial turf. We would probably
26 pay a higher electrical bill because people will want to go past 11:00 p.m.

27

28 Councillor Silva said when we go for this work shop, those are some of the numbers we should have
29 brought forward to us.

30

31

32

33 Meeting Adjourned at 11:11 a.m.