City Council
of the
City of Las Cruces

Regular Meeting

February 19, 2013
1:00 P.M.
Council Chambers, City Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT:	**STAFF:**
Mayor Ken Miyagishima **via telephone**	Robert Garza, City Manager
Councillor Miguel Silva, District 1 **Absent**	Harry (Pete) Connelly, City Attorney
Councillor Greg Smith, District 2	Esther Martinez-Carrillo, City Clerk
Councillor Olga Pedroza, District 3	
Councillor Nathan Small, District 4	
Councillor Gill Sorg, District 5	
Councillor Sharon Thomas, District 6	

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I. OPENING CEREMONIES

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence. Councillor Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation/Proclamations.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas and a representative from the Animal Services Center of the Mesilla Valley presented the Pet of the Week.

Councillor Smith presented a Proclamation to Michael McKay and declared February 24 thru March 2, 2013 as Peace Corps Week.

Councillor Small Moved to allow Mayor Miyagishima to attend the meeting via telephone and Councillor Sorg Seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas called for the roll on the Motion to allow Mayor Miyagishima to attend the meeting via telephone and it was Approved. 5-0 Mayor Miyagishima and Councillor Silva were absent.

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

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas asked if anyone had any conflicts with anything on the agenda?

None given.

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III. <u>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</u>

Alice Anderson, Member of the Public said I have just handed you the Rabies Report for 2011 and rabies is a very serious disease which can be spread from animals to people through scratches or bites. The best way to prevent rabies is to vaccinate all dogs, cats and ferrets and to enforce the leash laws. There was an outbreak in Carlsbad in late 2011 to early 2012 which two colonies of cats had to be destroyed due to their exposure to skunks in the area that had rabies. NMSU is maintaining a colony of 60 to 70 free roaming house cats in the central classroom area and other unknown numbers of unknown sizes of cats in the student housing area and the people who are feeding all these cats have not shown proof of any rabies vaccinations for these cats. They will leave cat food out all night long and I've seen skunks come in and eat food out of those dishes with the cats. The directors of the animal shelter are proposing a revision to the animal ordinance which would allow the NMSU system outside the NMSU campus and that would be a danger to the public so I am asking you to please not do it.

Anthony Avalone, Member of the Public asked is this the time where I can speak regarding the minimum wage increase?

Councillor Thomas said we will be discussion that issue at our next work session but you can go ahead and speak now if you are unable to attend that meeting.

Robert Garza, City Manager said we did initially say we were going to discuss it today and the newspaper did report that it was going to be discussed today but we had to change it.

Anthony Avalone said when you deliberate on whether or not to increase the minimum wage it's a matter of justice that should be considered. In the Universal Declaration of Human Rights it gives you specifics on how to address the question of minimum wage. The average man or woman who works for an hourly wage is in no position to bargain with an employer and the duty is on all of us, especially you, who have the opportunity to fix a minimum wage.

Ryan Dailey, Member of the Public said a raise in living wage could take millions of Americans off government assistance and provide real tax cuts for the middle class. This municipality does have the power to raise the minimum wage and you should raise it so if the bill dies then I would support Las Cruces to still raise their minimum wage.

Patsy Tarin, Member of the Public said I am the director for Campo Behavior Health and we take care of adults who are developmentally disabled and our funding comes directly through the New Mexico Medicaid Program. We begin most of our untrained employees at minimum wage and then after they receive the training, which we provide, we do raise their wage. We employ approximately 130 people and the State of New Mexico is cutting our funding which puts us in a position of putting some of our clients who were receiving one-on-one attention to now be put in groups. If the minimum wage rate is raised then I will have to start limiting the number of employees I can provide and even layoff some of my current employees. A lot of the people I employ don't have a college or even a high school degree so their job opportunities are limited and the State is going to start requiring that we have employees with either high school diplomas or a GED so that limits our employee pool even more. We won't be able to afford to hire the amount of people we need and our profit margin is going to be even less than it is currently. Another issue I will have is that if the minimum wage is increased then the other employees that I have that are already getting paid above the current minimum wage will also be expecting to get a raise in their pay. If I did that then I wouldn't even have a profit margin which is how small businesses like ours actually go out of business.

Councillor Thomas asked how much do you raise your employees pay after they are trained?

Patsy Tarin said after they finish their training and are there for six months then their pay is raised by 30 cents an hour and we try to get them to $8.00 an hour by the time they've been there for a year. Another issue that will be affecting us is Obama Care because we have over 50 employees.

IV. <u>ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA: THOSE ITEMS ON THE AGENDA INDICATED BY AN ASTERISK (*) ARE ON THE CONSENT AGENDA AND WILL BE VOTED ON BY ONE MOTION.</u>

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

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Mayor Pro-tem Thomas called for the roll on the Motion to Approve the Agenda and it was Approved. 6-0 Councillor Silva was absent.

V. CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

*(1) Regular Meeting of February 4, 2013

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

*(2) Resolution No. 13-113: A Resolution Authorizing the City of Las Cruces to Accept Awarded Funding on Behalf of the Parks and Recreation Department from the New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, Forestry Division in the Amount of $12,000.00 with a $12,000.00 In-Kind Match Requirement for the Las Cruces Tree Stewards Program, to Ratify the City Manager's Signature on the Grant Agreement, and to Adjust the FY 2013 Budget.

*(3) Resolution No. 13-114: A Resolution Authorizing the City of Las Cruces to Accept Awarded Funding on Behalf of the Parks and Recreation Department from the New Mexico Department of Health in the Amount of $5,000.00 with No Match Requirement for the Munson Community Garden Project and to Adjust the FY 2013 Budget.

*(4) Resolution No. 13-115: A Resolution Amending Resolution 12-217 for the Purpose of Modifying the Schedule of City-Owned Parcels: Deleting Parcel Number 7, Known as the Old City Office Annex; and Adding Parcel Number 15, Known as the Amador Hotel Building.

*(5) Resolution No. 11-12-494: A Resolution Approving an Indefinite Quantity, Indefinite Cost Contract for Swimming Pool Chemicals Price Agreement for a Five (5) Year Term Conditioned Upon Annual Renewals and Budget Approvals.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(6) Council Bill No. 13-021; Ordinance No. 2676: An Ordinance Approving a Zone Change from M1 (Industrial Standard) and R3 (Multi-Dwelling Medium Density) to a Planned Unit

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Development (PUD) 8.01± Acres of Land Located at 999 W. Amador Avenue: Parcel ID # 02-29653. The Request for a PUD Includes a Concept Plan and General Site Plan. Submitted by Nicole Martinez, Director of Mesilla Valley Community of Hope; City of Las Cruces Property Owner (PUD-12-02). ***Postponed from February 4, 2013.***

Councillor Smith Moved to remove Council Bill No. 13-021; Ordinance No. 2676 from the Table and Councillor Small Seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas called for the roll on the Motion to remove Council Bill No. 13-021; Ordinance No. 2676 from the Table and it was Approved. 6-0 Councillor Silva was absent.

Katherine Harrison-Rogers, Planner gave an overhead presentation and said this is a request for a PUD to allow for a wide range of uses to assist those who are in need. The existing uses include a full service child crisis center which is currently closed, a soup kitchen, a medical clinic, a daycare, a homeless case management and day service center, a food bank and a temporary tent camp for the homeless. The proposed uses include the current uses plus a homeless shelter, a permanent homeless campground, a community garden, a substance abuse center, a job center, a transitional and permanent housing program, a donations and distribution center, and a respite care center. All current and proposed uses are allowed under the current zoning designation with the exception of the tent camping. There is a maximum of 45 tents and 50 occupants and we have recommended that they utilize the camping standards and accessory standards outlined by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Some of the issues that were identified are time limitations, the location criteria, the visual impacts, the lack of viable and safe housing options, fire and emergency safety, personal safety, provisions for sanitary facilities to prevent the spread of common diseases, and urban tent camping which we would need to make sure the regulations are consistent for all of these types of camps. The Planning and Zoning Commission did approve this at their November 27, 2012 meeting and their primary discussion was regarding policy issues and safety issues. Some of the policy issues were regarding future uses, the types of improvements that are needed now and in the future, and the maintenance and management of the property.

Councillor Small said the maximum of 45 tents and 50 occupants would be for now and in the future; correct?

Katherine Harrison-Rogers said that is correct; unless Council decides to modify it.

Councillor Pedroza asked would Standard 17 require the people at Camp Hope to monitor the neighborhood?

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Katherine Harrison-Rogers said that is one of questions that we have; how would it be monitored and who would do the monitoring? Currently, it is stating that it shall be conducted by City Council so it would be whomever you would want to do the monitoring.

Councillor Pedroza asked is staff okay with us deleting that as a condition?

Katherine Harrison-Rogers said staff would be comfortable with deleting that requirement.

Councillor Pedroza said I think this should be approved because the group has proven their ability over the past year of monitoring themselves. This is a place where they can receive services and it can be a transition to permanent housing.

Councillor Smith said I'm glad to see all the Planning and Zoning members were present and they approved this with a vote of 7-0. What we have seen happen with Camp Hope has been an inspiration and I think it is something that this community can take pride in.

Mayor Miyagishima said I am supportive of this measure to allow Camp Hope to stay as a safe and temporary living situation.

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Councillor Small said I think it is appropriate that we take time today to get this right and find solutions to any of the issues.

Katherine Harrison-Rogers said I want to clarify that the terminology for transitional housing and tent camping that I've used throughout my presentation is not to be confused with the HUD definitions which are different. Regarding number seven of the Development Standards, I want to point out that Section 503 is referring to the 2009 International Fire Code.

Nicole Martinez, Executive Director of the Mesilla Valley Community of Hope said there are six separate operating agencies on the campus so we provide a variety of services to the people who are indigent, homeless and disabled. There has been an increase of people who receive our services over the past couple of years. We've had about 148 people pass through Camp Hope and the average length of stay is about 122 days. We have at least 50 in accessed housing and 37 of them have accessed income through work and disability. The Camp Hope campus remains self-governing and they have a safety team but we also have paid security that comes around a few times a night. As a whole we only saw 50 police responses last year which 16 of those where for suicide/mental illness and we are diligent in calling police and banning those that violate campus policies. We are willing to work with the surrounding businesses with things like adding fencing and/or added security. Camp Hope does meet the needs of the homeless clients who are unable to stay anywhere else and it gives them time to become housing ready. Camp Hope has a housing-based approach to end homelessness rather than a shelter-based approach and only about 3% of households become homeless again. The campground is currently located on the Community of Hope campus without the appropriate permits or improvements so this PUD would provide methods by which to allow this use and create basic design standards for the campground. There are 17 conditions of approval which some of them we

already meet and the others we are planning to meet which we will have six months to submit the final site plan. We are planning on putting up fencing around the camp but we have already run into funding issues so I would need extra time to reapply for that funding. We do currently have 50 people using the campground so we aren't asking for an increase in people but we are asking for an increase in tents to allow for 45 tents. We are asking that Condition 17 be deleted because it would be difficult for us and it really isn't fair to just focus on the crime in one area of the city. We are planning on having pedestal grills to address the cooking facilities and have a spigot for accessible water. We are asking that you waive any requirement to build an enclosed cooking/kitchen area because we have access to El Caldito Soup Kitchen and the Gospel Rescue Mission for food seven days a week, we receive weekly food boxes from Casa de Peregrinos and churches come regularly on weekends and sometimes during the week to cook for the homeless. We are also asking that any condition for a permanent restroom be waived because they have access to indoor restrooms at the Community of Hope five days a week and we have five port-a-potties which are emptied twice a week and are cleaned daily by our clients. The rezoning of the camp is going to be a financial burden on the Community of Hope. It will cost more than $30,000 for us to get it into compliance and we are currently paying for liability insurance, port-a-potties, tents, tarps, trash bags, solar lights, and more without any additional funding. In conclusion, we need an affordable shelter option for a quick turnaround for housing so this camp does benefit the Community of Hope campus. Camp Hope is working, it allows homeless people to have a safe place to stay while they get back on their feet and the rezoning of the camp will result in an affordable way for us to continue to offer housing, income support and wrap-around services. We ask that the concept plan be approved with the exception of having to build a permanent kitchen and bathrooms and that Condition 17 be waived.

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Councillor Pedroza said you do have bathroom and kitchen facilities available, you just want us to waive the requirement of having permanent structures built; correct?

Nicole Martinez said correct.

Councillor Smith said if we do what you are asking, what would be the time-frame for you to get into compliance?

Nicole Martinez said if this is approved, then it would allow for us to have six months to submit a site plan and once the site plan is approved then we would have one year to implement all the changes.

Councillor Smith asked does that seem like a reasonable time-frame to you?

Nicole Martinez said it makes me nervous because I have already tried to apply for some funding for this and was denied so I will have to wait one full year before I can reapply. Therefore, we would have to rely on the public and maybe the City for help with some of the funding.

Councillor Thomas asked are you going to be using the same tents that you have currently or do you have another source for tents?

Nicole Martinez said we are going to continue with the tents that we currently have but they don't meet the Fire Code so we have to use a fire retardant spray on them. The tents don't last very long so we would like to replace them with ones that already have fire retardant on them but those are very costly.

Councillor Thomas asked have you looked into military tents?

Nicole Martinez said we did have contact with someone who wanted to donate some military tents to us but we have lost contact with them. I am definitely open to continuing those conversations.

Peter Ackel, Member of the Public said I own the Design Center that is adjacent to this property and I understand that this is a need not only locally but nationally. I even made donations to the Child Crisis Center but I think the problem with this is with the location of it and the impact it has on the businesses in this area. I have been there for 13 years and I've seen the situation grow and grow and grow over the years. I have 7 to 20 customers a day and I have several semi-trucks bringing me deliveries daily and I have seen the foot traffic increase in this area as well as ambulances and fire trucks going into these areas daily. I've have whiskey and beer bottles thrown into my area so I have a full-time person cleaning the area daily. I've had cardboard, toilet paper and feces behind my slabs, I've had panhandlers in front of my store, they come in to try to use the restroom and when I ask them to leave they threaten to make a scene and use the restroom on my floor. I understand that there are some good, hardworking people in this camp but the problem is that this is attracting hundreds and soon thousands of people in an area that can't handle it. I don't think we should overlook what the Planning and Zoning wanted which was for someone to monitor this to see what type of impact this is having on that area.

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Carrie Hamblen, Member of the Public said I can understand the concerns of the surrounding businesses but the services provided by Camp Hope are critical. I urge you to vote yes while considering the measures that would address the concerns that were expressed by the businesses.

Robert Wilbur, Member of the Public said I am one of the success stories of Camp Hope. I moved into Camp Hope in November 2011 and I was there for six months until my disability came through and I was able to move out. We did have some problems within our community but we took care of those problems internally. I urge you to allow this camp to continue because it is a safe and great place for people to go when they are in need of help.

Bob Hearn, Member of the Public said Camp Hope is a remarkable place and when we were first trying to work with the homeless people on the campus we had a lot of the same problems that the businesses in the area are currently experiencing. We set up some meetings with the homeless in the area and after speaking with them we knew we needed to do something on the campus to try to help them so we began the camp on an emergency basis. This camp is closed so it is a safe place to be during the day and during the night and the camp residents have pulled together to formed a community. If Camp Hope is allowed to continue there won't be any cost to the City but if it closes

then the 50 people who live there will lose all the advantages offered by this camp. There are about 500 homeless people on the street and probably another 500 partially homeless, indigent, troublemakers which are the ones that are causing all the problems around the outside of the camp. The issues stated by the Design Company owner are real but it has more to do with the location of the entire Community of Hope and the Gospel Rescue Mission which is just across the street rather than just with Camp Hope. The camp is kinda in the back area so if you don't know the area then you won't immediately see the tents. I would urge you to approve the change in zoning with the conditions that were laid out by Nicole.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas asked what do you think we should do about the situation with the business owners?

Bob Hearn said I think the suggestions that were given by Nicole are very appropriate.

Councillor Small said I think it is great that there is a desire to reach out and work with a multiple of parties including the nearby property owners and I think it is important to look at ways to protect the adjacent properties.

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Curtis Craten, Member of the Public said my wife and I own and operate Horse N Hound and we have been in business for 30 years. We do the best we can to be a good neighbor and we sometimes send our forklift and staff to help unload shipments to the Soup Kitchen. We do appreciate the efforts that are made to protect and serve the homeless population; however, within the past five years we have seen a significant increase in the volume of transients coming into our store. Our staff is continuously harassed and we were forced to close our public restrooms due to misuse, theft and vandalism. We had to change our policy to always have more than one person on shift after 6:00 p.m. and all female employees are walked to their cars due to our staff members being approached aggressively after their shifts were over. We were broken into twice last March which the first time cost us over $1,500 and the second time it cost us a little over $1,000. We began tracking the issues we have in our store in January and we have already had six issues since then. We have already been informed by some of our loyal customers that they will not do business with us anymore because they do not feel safe and they feel they are in danger whenever they are on our property. We want to be part of the solution to co-exist with a successful shelter and still be able to operate our store. We have discussed, along with the business next to us which is Brewer, regarding putting up a fence around our property and toward the Community of Hope which would help with the foot-traffic and alleviate camping along our fence line. We think providing a safer environment would benefit our current homeless population but we strongly object to any growth in the population or building construction that is not within the intended purpose of this rezoning. Our community does not need to be seen as a welcome mat nor can we afford to host the homeless community.

Councillor Thomas asked can you tell us what you would like to see done with the fence?

Curtis Craten said we would like to see the City share in the cost because it was stated in the Planning and Zoning meeting that anything done by the City that hurts the current property owner's

business should be handled by the City. We'd like to see a fence that goes along the road that is in front of the tent city and goes back to the transitional housing and also along the west ditch bank and along the east bank to the eastside of our store which would make it like a horseshoe shape so they would have no reason to cut across our parking lot.

Councillor Thomas asked who should be part of the cost sharing for the fence?

Curtis Carten said the City, myself, Brewer and the Community of Hope.

Robert Garza, City Manager said Councillor Small raised the issue with me about the City's ability to partner with local business owners for some sort of fencing and I think that is definitely a possibility. I wouldn't necessarily make that a condition for this item but it is something we will commit ourselves to doing.

Larry Stocker, Member of the Public said I am proud to be in a community that tries to do something about this serious issue.

Amanda Orta, Member of the Public said I am a recent graduate of NMSU and a member of the Newman Center and this year for my giving project I am going to help Camp Hope and the overall campus of the Community of Hope.

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Councillor Thomas said so we have been asked to waive Number 17 and rethink the bathroom and kitchen portion.

Katherine Harrison-Rogers said Number 1 talks about time limitations and improvements which include but are not limited to cooking/eating facilities; however, at this point in time we realized that there are other facilities and options available so we do request there are some picnic tables, grills, and things of that nature but not an enclosed kitchen. I think the primary issue is with Number 4 which is for permanent water and bathroom facilities and that is for washing hands and possibly dishes and bathroom facilities that are available 24 hours a day because some of our concerns are with the primary sanitation and health of the camp.

Councillor Thomas said Nicole mentioned something about bathrooms that are out there so can you expand on that for us?

Katherine Harrison-Rogers said from what I understand there are some stand alone bathroom facilities that are out there but they are currently locked by the City and I'm not certain why they are not being utilized at this point. They may require some maintenance since they have not been used in a long time.

Councillor Thomas said staff is okay with us waiving Number 17; correct?

Katherine Harrison-Rogers said yes, staff is comfortable with removing it.

Councillor Sorg said I don't see anything in the ordinance regarding smoking so I would agree with having an amendment to the ordinance that smoking won't be allowed in the tents. I don't think this ordinance is going to change any of the business owner's concerns but we do need to work with all the people on all sides to see if we can't make some kind of adjustments like the construction of the fence.

Councillor Small said I think this is something that we can ask to be brought forward and I think it is good that we don't place a public burden on a private or non-profit entity. It would seem wise to utilize the existing bathroom facilities rather than construct new ones. I do think it is appropriate that we continue with the discussions regarding the fencing to protect everyone's property. I think it would be appropriate to have Mr. Sweetser address what is acceptable regarding the structures.

Ted Sweetser, Fire Marshal said there are different definitions and we have gone over the structures, tents and the teepee with Nicole to make sure they fit the regulations. Everything that is there now does meet the Code requirements and we are still working with Nicole on a couple of other issues.

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Councillor Sorg Moved to Amend Council Bill No. 13-021; Ordinance No. 2676 that beginning with the bullet point that says "permanent potable water bathroom facilities accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week shall be provided for Camp Hope residents", I would like to remove or delete the word "permanent". Secondly, the bullet point that says "the use of temporary electrical wire, open flame, liquid gas, fuel heating appliances, portable generators, and smoking will be strictly prohibited" strike that last phase "smoking will be strictly prohibited" and substitute "and smoking will not be allowed in tents but will be allowed in the camp". And then, "not more than 50 persons in 45 tents, including the Teepee". And then, deleting the last condition which says "the semiannual review, etc, etc, etc" and Councillor Small Seconded the motion.

Councillor Small said there is a permanent bathroom facility that might need repairs and I think it would be good to have a permanent facility here. The concern of Camp Hope was regarding the cost; however, if there is a chance to restore it then we would be able to satisfy this condition without placing a burden on them. I would like to know what it would take to fix it or if it is too much of an unknown so then move forward without that condition.

Eric Martin, Facilities Administrator said there are permanent restrooms on the site that were closed some time back and were being used for storage. Nicole has stated that they have been cleaned out and she has submitted a work order to check on their condition to see if they can be reopened.

Councillor Small asked should we just say in the conditions that these restrooms would be brought up to code and made functionable?

Mark Winson, Assistant City Manager said I think you should leave in the requirement of permanent restrooms because it has the potential of setting the precedence for future campgrounds. I think including these restrooms is a mute point because we still need to do the final site plan and other items which that will be a part of the discussion.

Katherine Harrison-Rogers said regarding condition Number 1, we limited the time-frame to six months of submittal of a final site plan and then construction within one year after the date of this approval. In order to provide a little more flexibility perhaps it should be final construction within one year of the approval of the final site plan.

Mark Winson said we are discussing the amendment right now and that item was not within the amendment.

Councillor Sorg said I will remove that portion of my amendment and leave the word "permanent" in it.

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Councillor Thomas said I will need a second.

Councillor Small said I will accept that as a second.

Esther Martinez-Carrillo, City Clerk said you can't do that right now because we have a motion on the floor for the amendments that we have already been discussing so we're going to have to vote on everything we have and if you want to leave the word "permanent" then you will have to not approve the amendment and then start over.

Councillor Thomas said we can't do friendly changes?

Harry (Pete) Connelly, City Attorney said you already have these amendments and now that Councillor is trying to take out what he already put in so I would recommend that you either pass or not pass the amendment.

Councillor Thomas said so we pass or not pass and then move forward with another amendment.

Harry (Pete) Connelly said yes.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas called for the roll on the Motion to Amend Council Bill No. 13-021; Ordinance No. 2676 that beginning with the bullet point that says "permanent potable water bathroom facilities accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week shall be provided for Camp Hope

residents", I would like to remove or delete the word "permanent". Secondly, the bullet point that says "the use of temporary electrical wire, open flame, liquid gas, fuel heating appliances, portable generators, and smoking will be strictly prohibited" strike that last phase "smoking will be strictly prohibited" and substitute "and smoking will not be allowed in tents but will be allowed in the camp". And then, "not more than 50 persons in 45 tents, including the Teepee". And then, deleting the last condition which says "the semiannual review, etc, etc, etc" and it Failed. 0-6. Councillor Silva was absent.

Councillor Sorg said I want to amend it to read the same as before but without the word "permanent".

Esther Martinez said the amendment would be for Number 8 "the use of temporary electrical wire, open flame, liquid gas, fuel heating appliances, portable generators, and smoking will be strictly prohibited" strike that last phase "smoking will be strictly prohibited" and substitute "and smoking will not be allowed in tents but will be allowed in camp". And then completely delete Number 17 on both the Development Standards and bullet Number 8 on the ordinance. And then Number 11 on the powerpoint and bullet points "not more than 50 persons in 45 tents" to including the Teepee".

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Councillor Sorg Moved to Amend Council Bill No. 13-021; Ordinance No. 2676 as stated and Councillor Pedroza Seconded the motion.

Councillor Small said as a friendly amendment, regarding Number 1, delete the first sentence of the first condition.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas said so construction would begin within one year of approval.

Councillor Small said Ms. Harrison-Rogers, would it be better to delete the first and second sentences?

Katherine Harrison-Rogers said I would suggest that you leave it as it is with the modification to the second sentence so that it would say "within one year of the City of Las Cruces's approval of the final site plan the improvements for Camp Hope shall be constructed".

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas asked do you agree, Councillor Sorg?

Councillor Sorg said I agree.

Councillor Small said we are replacing the word "concept", striking the word "concept" in the second sentence and replacing it with "final site" so it will read "within one year of City Council approval of the final site plan".

Katherine Harrison-Rogers said just for clarification, this would be an administrative approval of the final site plan so City Council should also be struck and it should state "City of Las Cruces" as a more general term.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas asked do you agree, Councillor Sorg?

Councillor Sorg said yes.

Harry (Pete) Connelly asked Ms. Rogers will you read the entire amendment?

Katherine Harrison-Rogers said Number 1 will read "the final site plan for the Camp Hope component of the PUD shall be submitted within six months of City Council's approval of the concept plan; within one year of the City of Las Cruces's approval of the final site plan the improvements for Camp Hope shall be constructed per the approved final site plan."

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Robert Kyle, Building and Development Services Administrator said by saying "City of Las Cruces's approval of the final site plan" that would imply that we would have to go before the Planning and Zoning Commission. The discussions in moving forward because of the nature of the site plan, we wanted the Community Development Director to have approval authority for the final site plan so I think the sentence should say "within one year of Community Development Department approval of the final site plan the improvements shall be constructed".

Harry (Pete) Connelly asked Mr. Kyle can you read exactly what you'd like the Council to do?

Robert Kyle said a final improvement plan for Las Cruces for the Camp Hope PUD shall be submitted within six months of the City Council's approval of the concept plan; within one year of the Community Development Department approval of the final site plan, the improvements for Camp Hope shall be constructed per the approved improvement plan.

Councillor Sorg said I agree with that addition.

Esther Martinez-Carrillo said for the record, I had a motion from Councillor Sorg and Seconded by Councillor Pedroza for the amendments as previously stated.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas said no, it was seconded by Councillor Small.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas called for the roll on the Motion to Amend Council Bill No. 13-021; Ordinance No. 2676 as stated and it was Approved. 6-0 Councillor Silva was absent.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas called for the roll on the Motion to Adopt Council Bill No. 13-021; Ordinance No. 2676 as Amended and it was Approved. 6-0 Councillor Silva was absent.

Mayor Miyagishima said I have to leave the meeting now but I want to say that I am in favor of the liquor transfer for Whiskey Dicks and the City Office Center and the campaign practices.

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

(7) BEFORE CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION NO. 13-116; A PUBLIC HEARING MUST BE HELD:

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas said the Public Hearing for Resolution No. 13-116 is now open.

Harry (Pete) Connelly, City Attorney said I was asked by a member of the Council to state the conditions. As I informed you in the Attorney Client Memorandum, I included a case called Dick verses the City of Portales and the issue here is that you are acting in a quasi-judicial capacity and if you decide to turn it down there must be substantial evidence in front of you which is evidence that would be admissible in a court and not contentions or conclusions made by a person. It has to be related to the specific applicant and it has to be related to the specific piece of property. Anything other than that, unless tied by some kind of confident evidence before you, should not be considered. The Supreme Court requires that you approve it or disapprove it and our Charter provides that if it's a 3-3 vote it is considered a tie and under our rules it is considered that you did not approve it. The property is zoned for this use and it is a matter of right that the person can have a liquor license on the property. The State by statute has extremely limited the City Council's ability to deny.

Michael Mora, Member of the Public said we as a community are not trying to deny anyone from doing a business and earning a living but there are too many things that show there should not be a night club in this location. The local zoning statements state that the governing body can disapprove the issuance or transfer of a license if the issuance would be detrimental to the public health, safety or morals of the residents of the local district and it must be supported by substantial evidence obtained and a copy must be sent to the Alcohol and Gaming Division which we have already done

by submitting our petitions and all the information contained in our packets to them. The City has already done an impact study for this area and stated that this would not cause a significant impact to this area but in the past two years there have been 655 police calls or stops in this immediate area and that is without a night club there. Right across the street from this property is an apartment complex and about 90% of its tenants are university students. The El Paso location for this establishment had 171 police calls or stops in just one year. We believe this is very wrong and it would have a permanent impact on this area. We hope that the City Council can see that this is not a good idea for this area and that you will vote accordingly to prevent our City from a black eye.

Linda Aikin, Member of Public said there are some country western dancers here and they are in support of this club. Regarding the police reports, I want to mention that the Whiskey Dicks El Paso location has 30 tenants with the same address and a lot of those calls were anywhere from one to seven miles away from this address.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas asked where did Whiskey Dicks get their name?

Tim Wilson, Owner said we just came up with the name and we are the only one registered.

DRAFT

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas asked can you give us some more information on the design?

Harry (Pete) Connelly said the question at hand is regarding the transfer of the license and going into the type of business is going beyond the scope of what the State authorizes us to do.

Councillor Small said I don't see the harm with asking questions regarding the site plan.

Demi Hall, Member of the Public said I live in this area and I think we need another establishment that will bring in named entertainers and money to this town. I am all for them moving in here and I think it will be better for this city.

Steve James, Member of the Public said I love to dance and every dance hall serves alcohol so I am all for it.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas said the Public Hearing for Resolution No. 13-116 is now closed.

Resolution No. 13-116: A Resolution Approving the Transfer of Ownership and Location of State Liquor License No. 2752 to TJW, LLC D/B/A Whiskey Dicks, to be Located at 101 East Union Avenue, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

Councillor Smith Moved to Approve Resolution No. 13-116 and Councillor Small Seconded the motion.

Councillor Smith said I have spoken with my constitutes in District 2 and there have been some concerns regarding the noise level and with people's behavior; however, we have to look at what we've said we are going to allow and we cannot change the rules. So what I see for this is an approved use for this space and it does sound like it could be an asset to District 2. I do look forward to seeing the design at some time and seeing what is currently a vacant building become a productive part of this community.

Councillor Sorg asked is there a church or school within 300 feet of this place?

Harry (Pete) Connelly said no.

Councillor Thomas asked can the Chief speak regarding the 655 calls?

Chief Williams, LCPD said last December we received a request for records for the area of University and Stern and we asked that they narrow the area down because those are two very large roads with a lot of residents and a lot of properties but we never received anything in particular for 101 Union so we ran a report that included all calls or all reports that were taken in a two year period anywhere on Union or anywhere on Stern. So that is how you have that large number and it is actually 657 calls and reports. Regarding 101 Union, we've had three calls and generated one report in the last two years.

DRAFT

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas called for the roll on the Motion to Approve Resolution No. 13-116 and it was Approved. 5-0 Mayor Miyagishima and Councillor Silva were absent.

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(8) Resolution No. 13-117: A Resolution Authorizing the Application for 2013/2014 Municipal Arterial Program Funding With the New Mexico Department of Transportation for the _____ Project.

Councillor Sorg Moved to Approve Resolution No. 13-117 and Councillor Smith Seconded the motion.

Loretta Reyes, Public Works Director gave an overhead presentation and said this resolution is to select a project for the Municipal Arterial Program Funding which is made available on an annual basis and is typically a maximum of $500,000 with a match requirement of 25% by the City and 75%

funding by NMDOT. Projects that benefit the State or Municipal Road Systems have the best chance of being funded and the project that is selected must be under contract to construct by June 30, 2014. The three potential projects that have been identified are the Wyatt Drive Reconstruction Project, the Campo Street Rehabilitation Project and the Don Roser Drive Pavement Replacement and ADA Improvements Project. The total project cost of the Wyatt Drive Reconstruction Project is $628,000 which the City's 25% share would be $157,125 and NMDOT's 75% share would be $471,375. The total project cost of the Campo Street Rehabilitation Project is $382,000 which the City's 25% share would be $95,500 and NMDOT's 75% share would be $286,500. The total project cost of the Don Roser Drive Pavement Replacement and ADA Improvements Project is $636,000 which the City's 25% share would be $159,000 and NMDOT's 75% share would be $477,000.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas said out of all the projects that need to be done why did staff focus on these three?

Loretta Reyes said we used our Pavement Management Program to identify those projects that have a pavement quality index of less than 30 and are small sections of roadway so we can apply for this type of funding and be able to supplement it with our budget in case we don't receive all the funding.

DRAFT

Councillor Sorg asked what account is going to be used for the match funding?

Loretta Reyes said that will be budgeted through our CIP budget.

Councillor Small said regarding the Campo Project, is there a way to make that more pedestrian friendly?

Loretta Reyes said we will be replacing the sidewalks and bringing them into ADA compliance.

Councillor Small asked can there be a shared lane added for bike use?

Loretta Reyes said it would be re-striped for a shared bike lane.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas said Campo and Wyatt do have high use but there is a big difference in price.

Loretta Reyes said yes, Campo is $382,000 and Wyatt is $628,000.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas asked would it be better to ask for the larger amount project?

Loretta Reyes said normally the maximum amount they would give would be $500,000 but it just depends on how much money they have available.

Councillor Sorg said I would be in favor of selecting the Campo Project.

Councillor Small Moved to Amend Resolution No. 13-117 to select Project 2, the Campo Project and Councillor Smith Seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas called for the roll on the Motion to Amend Resolution No. 13-117 to select Project 2, the Campo Project and it was Approved. 5-0 Mayor Miyagishima and Councillor Silva were absent.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas called for the roll on the Motion to Approve Resolution No. 13-117 as Amended and it was Approved. 5-0 Mayor Miyagishima and Councillor Silva were absent.

DRAFT

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(9) Resolution No. 13-118: A Resolution Authorizing the Application for 2013/2014 CO-OP Funding with the New Mexico Department of Transportation for the _____ Project.

Councillor Sorg Moved to Approve Resolution No. 13-118 and Councillor Small Seconded the motion.

Loretta Reyes, Public Works Director gave an overhead presentation and said this resolution is to select a project for the NMDOT Local Government Road Fund which is made available on an annual basis and is typically a maximum of $55,000 with a match requirement of 25% by the City and 75% funding by NMDOT. The three potential projects identified are the Solano ADA Sidewalk Improvements (Cactus Street to Mulberry Avenue), the Telshor Boulevard ADA Sidewalk Improvements (from Terrace Drive to Huntington Drive), and the El Paseo Median Improvements at Boutz Road. The total cost of the Solano ADA Sidewalk Improvements Project is $109,700 which the City's 25% share would be $27,425 and the NMDOT's 75% share would be $82,275. The total cost of the Telshor Boulevard ADA Sidewalk Improvements Project is $76,000 which the City's 25% share would be $19,000 and NMDOT's 75% share would be $57,000. The total cost of the El Paseo Median Improvements Project is $86,000 which the City's 25% share would be $21,500 and NMDOT's 75% share would be $64,500.

Councillor Smith said given the work that has already gone into El Paseo, it would make sense that regardless where the funding comes from that we continue to move forward on that project.

Loretta Reyes said it is really up to Council to decide what project they want to select.

Councillor Smith asked Mayor Pro-tem Thomas, do you see this as an enhancement to what we have been trying to do there?

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas said it was clear that when we were doing the El Paseo Project that the Federal Highway really wanted to come and look at this road and do a safety assessment because the other people that were out here saw multiple problems with this roadway. This is a high pedestrian used street and we did receive technical assistance from HUD so anytime we can show improvements on projects that we received technical assistance on, it is always good to do that because it helps us to get other grants from other people.

Councillor Pedroza said this is for El Paseo and Boutz so do we know how close the Las Cruces Public Schools are to doing their construction in that area?

Loretta Reyes said we are aware that they are in the planning stages and we have been working closely with them so we'd have to continue with working closely with them in order to make sure what we do in that area won't affect what they are going to do.

DRAFT

Councillor Pedroza said if we do select this project then we do need to make sure that we continue to work closely with Las Cruces Public Schools.

Councillor Smith Moved to Amend Resolution No. 13-118 to select the El Paseo Median Improvements at Boutz Road and Councillor Sorg Seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas called for the roll on the Motion to Amend Resolution No. 13-118 to select the El Paseo Median Improvements at Boutz Road and it was Approved. 5-0 Mayor Miyagishima and Councillor Silva were absent.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas called for the roll on the Motion to Approve Resolution No. 13-118 as Amended and it was Approved. 5-0 Mayor Miyagishima and Councillor Silva were absent.

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(10) Resolution No. 13-119: A Resolution Authorizing the Former City Office Center, Located at 575 S. Alameda, Las Cruces, NM to be Used by an Appropriate Medical Provider to Become a Community Health Center, Under the New Mexico Constitution, Article IX, Section 14, Part A, for the Purposes of Expanding Primary Care Medical Services to Serve Sick and Indigent Persons, Who May Be Eligible by 2015 for Coverage Under the Affordable Care Act and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute a Landlord Letter of Consent Which May Be Required to be Signed by the Appropriate Applicant that Complies with the Terms and Conditions of the Resolution.

Councillor Small Moved to Approve Resolution No. 13-119 and Councillor Sorg Seconded the motion.

Eric Martin, Facilities Management Administrator gave an overhead presentation and said this building was constructed in the late 1940's and opened in 1950 as a hospital. It became the City Office Center in the 1970's and has been vacant since 2010. The building has keep its original health capacity floor plan for the most part but the main environmental hazzard with it is the asbestos. In July 2012 staff was approached by La Clinica de Familia and they expressed an interest in this building. The Anti-donation Clause of the New Mexico Constitution limits the things we can do in working with local non-profits but there is an exception in Part A which states we are not prohibited by law to make provisions for the care and maintenance of sick and indigent persons so this building could serve in that capacity.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas said this is just a letter of support so they can apply for funding and we're not actually turning it over to them today; correct?

Eric Martin said that is correct.

Councillor Pedroza asked who would be responsible for the cost of cleaning up the asbestos?

Eric Martin said that discussion has not taken place at this point in time.

Harry (Pete) Connelly, City Attorney said at the present time everyone is just trying to get their ducks in a row and this is not an agreement to figure out who is doing what so that will come if and when we turn the building over to them.

Councillor Smith said I believe this sounds like what the building was originally designed for and I think it would be great to have this located next to the Intermodal Transit Center.

Councillor Small said that area is a hot bed of activity which speaks well for our Downtown so this does seem like a worthy opportunity.

DRAFT

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas called for the roll on the Motion to Approve Resolution No. 13-119 and it was Approved. 5-0 Mayor Miyagishima and Councillor Silva were absent.

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(11) Council Bill No. 13-022; Ordinance No. 2677: An Ordinance Repealing LCMC 1997, Article II. Campaign Practices, Sections 8-31 Through 8-67 in its Entirety and Replacing with New Sections Entitled Article II. Campaign Code, Sections 8-31 Through 8-39.

Councillor Small Moved to Adopt Council Bill No. 13-022; Ordinance No. 2677 and Councillor Sorg Seconded the motion.

DRAFT

Harry (Pete) Connelly, City Attorney said Council asked us to redo the Campaign Code and you created a committee to help come up with the changes. We've added definitions to Section 8-32, in Section 8-33 we've add a purpose and intent to the ordinance, in Section 8-34 we've added a new matter from the Citizens United case which allows for us to require responsibility of those who publish, in Section 8-35 we renamed the section called "Campaign Treasurer" and we have basically added all new sections. Reporting is Section 8-36 with a minimum contribution of $25 and a limit of $2,300 for political contributions of individuals, organizations and PACs. We added a new Section 8-36E which states the campaign report is not required if you don't have an expenditure of $250 and then the written declaration is required and must be under oath. In Section 8-37 we made the report filing periods clear. In Section 8-37-6 it states that there is a $100 fee each working day that a report is filed late and in Section 8-37-7 it states we need a letter from the bank stating that account has been closed. Section 8-37B is for the disposal of the remaining funds. In Section 8-37D-3 it states that if the newly elected candidate doesn't do what they are suppose to do in the time required then they don't receive their Certificate of Election. Section 8-38 puts the burden on the candidate to file reports so the City Clerk doesn't have to send out certified letters as date reminders.

Councillor Small said there have been questions regarding unused campaign funds and it appears now there are four options which are to return it to the persons who made the contributions, place in the City of Las Cruces's General Fund, donate it to a 501-C3 organization or donate it to another candidate seeking election to a municipal office. Why is it only limited to those four methods?

Harry (Pete) Connelly said we looked at the State Statute which only has three options.

Councillor Small said so anyone who runs for State Office has to get rid of all their funds?

Harry (Pete) Connelly said yes, they have to close their account and get rid of their funds. The option we have that they don't have is the option to donate it to another person running for a municipal

office.

Councillor Sorg said regarding Section 8-37-7 which states there has to be a letter from the bank stating the account has been closed, is it necessary to show a letter stating the account was opened?

Harry (Pete) Connelly said it has to be open some place so we just need to make sure it has been closed.

Councillor Pedroza said I don't agree with the amount of $100 per day for late filing because I think it is a little excessive. Does Section 8-36 mean that the treasurer for a candidate is no longer required to live in the candidate's district?

Harry (Pete) Connelly said the treasurer can be anyone and they never had a residence requirement.

Councillor Smith asked when would this be effective?

Harry (Pete) Connelly said once it is passed then it goes into effect five days after it's published.

DRAFT

Councillor Smith said the Mayor stated he still had debt from the previous election so that would be hard to have debt and also pay a $100 fine.

Esther Martinez-Carrillo, City Clerk said that is from a previous election so it is grandfathered in.

Councillor Smith said I do have concerns with donating funds to another candidacy because when someone donates to a particular candidate they are stating that candidate stands for the things they believe in so if that candidate donates that money to another candidate that may not be true. So, I would be willing to have number four removed from that list.

Councillor Sorg asked do State candidates have the ability to donate funds to another candidate?

Harry (Pete) Connelly said no, that is something that was added by the majority of the committee.

Councillor Small said you said the majority of the committee so what was the committee striving for in the first place?

Harry (Pete) Connelly said basically it was striving for this but there were some who felt it should not go to another political candidate.

Councillor Small asked so why was it included in the draft ordinance?

Esther Martinez-Carrillo, City Clerk said at the last committee meeting there was a consensus from the committee, with the exception of one member, everybody else was in agreement to leave that

portion in here.

Councillor Small said it is late in the evening and there are two members of Council that are absent so would there be any harm in tabling this item?

Harry (Pete) Connelly said Council has the ability to table it.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas said I agree with that since there are two members absent.

Councillor Sorg said I am okay with tabling this but when it comes back I'd like to see a time-table on how things go and how they fit into the time-table.

Councillor Pedroza said I would agree with tabling it as well and I think we need to have more discussion regarding the amount of the filing fee.

Esther Martinez-Carrillo said we do have a committee member here if you'd like to hear from her.

Councillor Small said absolutely.

DRAFT

Erika Graf-Webster, Committee Member said I was the Vice-Chair of this committee and I was the one person who objected to the transfer of funds to another candidate. All of the other things that have been presented to you were developed by consensus. One of the things that we felt was very important was to have one account for one election so it would be clean, clear and visible.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas asked can you say why you think that is such a concern because those of us who have to go out and get the money together for an election and then not sure if we are going to run again in four years, to have to dispose of those funds and start all over again for the next election would be difficult.

Erika Graf-Webster said we just felt that the public deserved to be able to judge you and give you money for each election. Just because you ran four years and we supported you then doesn't necessarily mean that four years from now the same people who contributed to you four years ago still feel that their contributions should be valid for the next election.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas said I think that is an issue we'll have to discuss if we bring it back.

Erika Graf-Webster said we as a committee felt strongly that we didn't like accounts just being open for an undermined amount of time.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas said it's not an undermined amount of time because we're facing whenever the next election is coming up. Campaigns use to only cost a few hundred dollars and now they are costing a few thousand dollars so it has gotten really expensive. I don't think that if a candidate

receives money and is elected, I don't think candidates disappoint that much.

Erika Graf-Webster said a candidate starting an election starts at zero so if you have money that you are carrying over from a prior election then you have an unfair advantage.

Councillor Small asked will you be able to attend the March 4th meeting?

Erika Graf-Webster said yes.

Councillor Sorg said a candidate can make a loan to himself; correct?

Harry (Pete) Connelly said correct.

Councillor Sorg said so any money left over could go to pay back the loan.

Harry (Pete) Connelly said one would assume that one would payoff the loan.

DRAFT

Councillor Small Moved to Table Council Bill No. 13-022; Ordinance No. 2677 to March 4, 2013 and Councillor Sorg Seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas called for the roll on the Motion to Table Council Bill No. 13-022; Ordinance No. 2677 to March 4, 2013 and it was Approved. 5-0 Mayor Miyagishima and Councillor Silva were absent.

IX. BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas said Mayor Miyagishima reappointed John S. Townsend and John Villescas to the Extra-Territorial Zoning Commission.

Councillor Small Moved to Approve the Mayor's board reappointments of John S. Townsend and John Villescas to the Extra-Territorial Zoning Commission and Councillor Smith Seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas called for the roll on the Motion to Approve the Mayor's board reappointments of John S. Townsend and John Villescas to the Extra-Territorial Zoning Commission and it was Approved. 5-0 Mayor Miyagishima and Councillor Silva were absent.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas said Mayor Miyagishima reappointed Gary Manley to the Transit Advisory Board.

Councillor Small Moved to Approve the Mayor's board reappointment of Gary Manley to the Transit Advisory Board and Councillor Smith Seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas called for the roll on the Motion to Approve the Mayor's board reappointment of Gary Manley to the Transit Advisory Board and it was Approved. 5-0 Mayor Miyagishima and Councillor Silva were absent.

DRAFT

X. <u>NOTICE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE(S)</u> ----- *1.) There will be no public discussion. 2.) A councillor may ask staff for clarification on the proposed ordinance(s).*

(12) <u>Council Bill No. 13-023; Ordinance No. 2678:</u> An Ordinance Approving a Zone Change from C-2 (Commercial Medium Intensity) to C-3 (Commercial High Intensity) on 4.412± Acres of Land Located 2600 S. Valley Drive. Submitted by Borderland Engineers and Surveyors, LLC on Behalf of Reliance Lodging, LLC, Property Owner (Z2857).

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas and Council agreed to bring this item back.

(13) <u>Council Bill No. 13-024; Ordinance No. 2679:</u> An Ordinance Approving a Zone Change from C-2 (Commercial Medium Intensity) to C-3 (Commercial High Intensity) on 4.412± Acres of Land Comprised of Ten (10) Different Parcels and a Portion of One (1) Other Parcel Located on the Northeast Corner of Main Street and Picacho Avenue. Submitted by Bohannan Huston, Inc. (Z2858).

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas and Council agreed to bring this item back.

(14) Council Bill No. 13-025; Ordinance No. 2680: An Ordinance Granting a Franchise to the City of Las Cruces on Behalf of the Las Cruces Utilities to Construct, Operate and Maintain said Utilities On, Under and Within City Owned Rights of Way and Within the Las Cruces Service Territories.

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas and Council agreed to bring this item back.

XI. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER BOARD REPORTS

None given.

XII. GENERAL DISCUSSION

DRAFT

a.) Mayor

Mayor Pro-tem Thomas said we are having a meeting tomorrow night at 6:30 p.m. at Mountain View in their community meeting room regarding the community development tool called Blueprint. It is for people who live along Sonoma Ranch Boulevard who are interest in trying to create a vision for that corridor.

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b.) City Council

Councillor Sorg left the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Councillor Small passed.

Councillor Pedroza said the National Association of Mental Illness is having a performance on March 11th at 7:00 p.m. at the Rio Grande Theater.

On March 10th from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. the Church Women United is sponsoring "Understanding and Responding to Human Trafficking" and it will be followed up on March 20th at City Hall by the New Mexico City Attorney's Office.

Councillor Smith said I have been watching for the hands-free cell phone signs in the City and apparently there are twenty of them around our community but we don't have any for people who are coming into Las Cruces so I'd like for us to check on having more signs.

I saw Silver Lining Play Book over the weekend and it is about mental health which is a complex and ongoing issue. I believe that this kind of information is helpful to our community and the movie does a compelling job in helping people understand this problem.

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c.) City Manager

Mark Winson, Assistant City Manager passed.

DRAFT

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.