

CITY OF AZTEC
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday November 9, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Victor Snover called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm at Aztec City Hall, 201 W. Chaco, Aztec NM 87410

I. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- A. Invocation led by Chief Heal
- B. United States Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Lewis
- C. New Mexico pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Lewis

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mayor Victor Snover; Mayor Pro-Tem Rosalynn Fry (Virtual); Commissioner Austin Randall; Commissioner Mark Lewis; Commissioner Michael A. Padilla Sr.

Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Paul Eckert; City Attorney Steven Murphy; City Clerk Karla Saylor

III. PRESENTATION

San Juan Historical Society Annual Report-Patty Tharp

Ms. Tharp came before commission to give the annual report for the Historical Society. She stated that a few months ago she initiated a regular column in the newsletter called movers and shakers of San Juan County which highlights deceased community members that have left a lasting impression on the county's history. She also mentioned that they have done a publication booklet of the lost communities of Navajo Dam. She mentioned some historical families from around the county and their contributions to our community. She stated that they are grateful for the space they already have but asked if there was a possibility that they could work with the City in the future to find a larger building in Aztec. She mentioned reaching out to the local middle and high school history teachers for a possible student intern program. She stated October 21st was the 100th anniversary of the first commercial gas well in the county. She mentioned that there is a plaque that was installed near the site which is in Aztec, they plan to have a dedication in the spring. The other project they are working on is the El Paso natural gas oral history project and a documentary film of the Caracas Mesa history. She mentioned that she will be retiring as president and introduced the incumbent president Laura Harper.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

MOVED by Commissioner Randall to approve the agenda; SECONDED by Commissioner Lewis

All Voted Aye: Motion Passed Five to Zero

V. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Commission Meeting Minutes October 26, 2021
- B. Approval of Library Grant-in-Aid Agreement

MOVED by Commissioner Lewis to approve the Consent agenda; SECONDED by Mayor Pro-Tem Fry

All Voted Aye: Motion Passed Five to Zero

VII. CITIZENS INPUT (3 Minutes Maximum)

NONE

VIII. BUSINESS ITEMS

- A. Approval of Resolution 2021-1258 Youth Conservation Corps Four Year Plan (2022-2026)

Edward Kotyk presented the new Youth Conservation Corps plan, stating the last one expired in 2020. Due to Covid the program has been stalled for two years, but in that time both he and Jeff Blackburn reviewed the old plan. Items that needed to still be done were carried over and they added some additional items as well.

MOVED by Commissioner Padilla to approve Resolution 2021-1258 Youth Conservation Corps Four Year Plan (2022-2026); SECONDED by Commissioner Lewis

All Voted Aye: Motion Passed Five to Zero

- B. Approval of Youth Conservation Corps Application (YCC) FY2022

Edward Kotyk asked that the application be approved and also an amended motion to allow the City Manager to sign the YCC contracts since the turnaround to get them back to the state is usually 1 week.

MOVED by Commissioner Lewis to approve Youth Conservation Corps Application (YCC) FY2022 and authorize the city manager to sign future documents; SECONDED by Mayor Pro-Tem Fry

All Voted Aye: Motion Passed Five to Zero

C. Approval of Acquisition of Police Vehicles

Chief Heal stated that in PD's budget this year they had two police vehicles in there, and even though the budget was approved for that they are bringing it to the Commission for the approval. He stated the cost for the two vehicles is going to be 72,658 and the equipment at worst s going to be just about 116,000. Commissioner Padilla stated that the vehicles are 2021 and hybrid so would the city have to put another charging station for them. Chief Heal stated that they are gas plus electric so the engine actually charges the battery. Commissioner Padilla stated that he was just concerned about the Hybrid batteries and the expense to replace those. Chief Heal stated that the batteries now last up to about 150,000 miles now. Commissioner Lewis asked if they could purchase 2022 vehicles, Chief Heal stated that there are not any vehicles out there. Finance Director stated that it took all they had just to find and get these vehicles.

MOVED by Commissioner Padilla to approve Acquisition of Police Vehicles; SECONDED by Commissioner Randall

All Voted Aye: Motion Passed Five to Zero

VIII. QUASI JUDICIAL HEARING

None

IX. COMMISSIONER, CITY MANAGER, DEPARTMENT REPORTS

City Manager Paul Eckert mentioned the high quality of work the staff has been doing. He attended the oil and gas industry conference and was pleased to learn more about the industry. The industry seems positive about the trajectory of the profession. The industry provides four billion dollars annually to the state. He thanked the staff for all the work done for Oktoberfest and the downtown Halloween event. He also thanked the electric and public works crews for installing the Christmas decorations. He stated that there are new Commissioners elect that will be sworn in for the New Year.

City attorney Murphy had nothing to report.

Commissioner Randall mentioned Ms. Tharp on her San Juan Historical Society Annual Report being very informational.

Commissioner Lewis mentioned that on the 14th he will be attending the Colorado River Water Users Associations Annual Conference in Las Vegas NV.

Commissioner Padilla mentioned that Thursday is Veteran's day and the VFW is having a parade. He commended the Aztec Police Department on the great job they have done on helping with the parades. He also mentioned the turnout of election numbers for the recent election.

Mayor Pro-Tem Fry went to the piano committee meeting to discuss having a float in the Aztec Sparkles Parade. She mentioned she will be attending a meeting with NM Seniors which will be her last one with them.

Mayor Snover congratulated the incoming commissioner's elect on their new positions. He also mentioned the safe treats event downtown, it was a great turnout. He stated that there has been some work getting done on the theater sign. The sparkles competition is starting so the Commissioners will be driving around to start judging the lighting contest throughout neighborhoods and businesses. He also mentioned the Veterans Day parade, and how important it is.

Chief Heal had a presentation with a brief rundown of the things going on at the police department. He mentioned school zone citations and that they have been patrolling them more. He mentioned that they are in the process of hiring officers. He stated that cases due to citizen's mental issues have gone up including suicide threats, attempts and suicide cases. He addressed the overtime of his office due to these changes, they are trying to keep it minimal, but often times unavoidable. There is also overtime incurred when they are patrolling community events parades, Oktoberfest, safe treats etc. He mentioned an update on the lawsuits, they don't know right now what is going to happen with them.

Steven Saavedra stated that there has been an increase in permits including signs, summary plats, residential and commercial development. He also mentioned that the housing market prices and demand has increased and the sale of the Hub will be official as of the following Wednesday.

Steve Morse mentioned the progress of the projects they are working on. The Ruins Road project is now complete. McWilliams sewer is in, they need to do some testing on the backfills but otherwise it is connected and the sewer is running. The Adams Ditch pump is still nine weeks out, but there is work to be done ahead of time. Reservoir one purchase order has been issued and that design should be starting within a week. North Main has had a lot of the utilities completed, 90% of the storm water is done, 95% of the sewer and most of the water is completed. He mentioned the upcoming design projects for the department.

Ken George stated that the Aztec Theater sign should be complete by mid-December. He mentioned he picked up the permit from the BLM for the second solar farm.

XI. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Item	Meeting
Closed Session Pending Litigation Police Department	December
Oath of Office New Elected Officials	December 14
McWilliams Road Paving Project Design Firm Approval	December
NM 173 Waterline Relocation Construction Contractor Approval	December
Award Architecture Design for Senior Center Kitchen Remodel	December/January

South Aztec Water Line Design Firm Approval	January
Blanco Arroyo Culvert Replacement Project Design Firm Approval	January

There was no discussion on upcoming event list.

POTENTIAL FUTURE CITY COMMISSION ITEMS- (Appearing on the Agenda within 30-90 days):

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Snover moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 pm SECONDED by Commissioner Lewis



ATTEST:

Karla Sayler
Karla Sayler, City Clerk

Victor Snover
Mayor Victor Snover

MINUTES PREPARED BY:

A Campbell
Alisha Campbell, Administrative Assistant