

**CITY OF AZTEC
COMMISSION WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday April 8, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Michael A. Padilla Sr. called the workshop to order at 5:00 pm at Aztec City Hall, 201 W. Chaco, Aztec NM 87410

Members Present: Mayor Michael A. Padilla, Sr.; Mayor Pro-Tem Ken George; Commissioner Colby King; and Commissioner Jim Crowley; Commissioner Austin Randall

Members Absent: NONE

Others Present: City Manager Jeff Blackburn; City Clerk Karla Saylor

A. Fiscal Year 2026 Budget Discussion

Mayor Padilla opened the workshop and turned it over to City Manager Jeff Blackburn. Jeff reported to the Commission that the main topics up for discussion are salaries, COLA increases, cost-of-service changes, and capital needs. He then turned it over to Finance Director Jennie Achee, who provided commission with a worksheet which she prepared for them with a financial overview focused on salaries.

Ms. Achee shared cost increases related to all the funds with the different options for COLA and insurance increases that had been requested at the prior budget workshop. Jennie asked the Commission for directions on which option they would like to take so staff could move forward with planning.

The Commission had several questions about the discrepancies in the report relating to the COLA cost estimates. Jennie acknowledged their concerns and said she would review the report to determine the source of the inconsistencies.

Jennie also mentioned that there is a certificate of deposit (CD) which is coming up for renewal with Four Corners Community Bank and asked the Commission what they would like her to do with the funds. The Commission advised her to renew it and keep the funds where they are now. Jeff asked the commission whether they would prefer another workshop to address the corrections, or if they would like the information sent to them or for the information to be added to a future agenda for formal direction. The commission would like to continue doing the budget workshops.

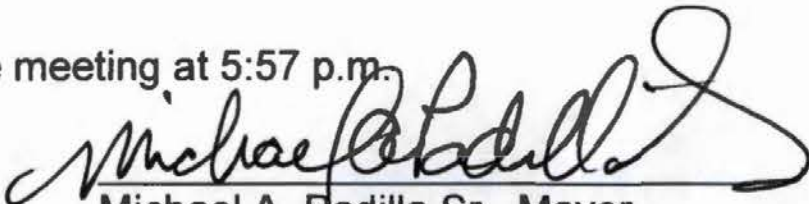
Jeff asked if the commission would like them to share information about state or city policies regarding changes to the organization at the W/WW plants. The

commission would like to find a solution to the problems at the plants, the suggestion was to hire 1 dual certified Level III W/WW operator with no more than a total of 6 positions in.

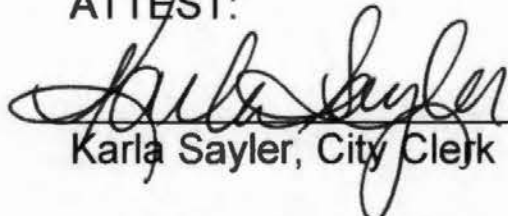
The next topic addressed was the cost of service related to utility rate increases. Jeff asked whether the commission would prefer to bring in a consultant to assess the increases or if they would like to handle it in-house. The commission expressed a preference to review the capital improvements list and proceed in-house, as they believe a consultant would likely present the same information. Jeff also reviewed the Capital Funds and outlined what is being requested for the upcoming year's budget.

ADJOURNMENT

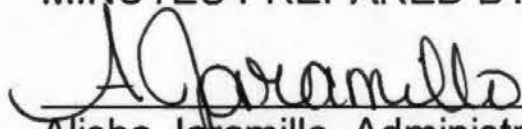
Moved by Mayor Padilla to adjourn the meeting at 5:57 p.m.


Michael A. Padilla Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:


Karla Sayler, City Clerk

MINUTES PREPARED BY:


Alisha Jaramillo, Administrative Assistant

