

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SILVER CITY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
GRANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER, 1400 HWY. 180 E., SILVER CITY, NM
October 23, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.

Present: James R. Marshall, Mayor
A. Judy Ward, District 1
Thomas Nupp, District 2
Simon Wheaton-Smith, District 3
Steve May, District 4

Also Present: Edward D. Reynolds, Acting Town Manager
Ann L. Mackie, Town Clerk
Robert Scavron, Town Attorney

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Mayor Marshall called the meeting to order at 7:48 p.m.. The delay was due to an electrical power outage throughout the town. The meeting was filmed by CATS with a low light camera.

CEREMONIES – Mayor Marshall remembered and paid tribute to Representative Manuel Herrera who passed away on October 21, 2007. There was a moment of silence in his memory.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA – Mayor Marshall changed the agenda to address the matters of importance first since the meeting was being held with emergency lighting only.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 9, 2007 Regular Meeting. Councilor Ward made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilor Wheaton-Smith seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Purchase Agreement of PNM Building: Ed Reynolds, Acting Town Manager, commented that the appraised value of the PNM Building was \$312,500 and the as is purchase price is \$200,000. He commented that the monies to purchase the building would come from the NM Department of Cultural Affairs. There was discussion on the maintenance and custodial issues; closing costs; ADA standards; and title insurance. Councilor Ward thanked Teri Gatton and PNM (Public Service Company of New Mexico) for their generosity and commented that the building will increase the value of the Museum. Mayor Marshall agreed and also thanked Senator Altamirano for securing the funding. Councilor Wheaton-Smith made a motion to approve the purchase agreement of the PNM Building and give authorization for the Mayor to sign the purchase agreement. Councilor Ward seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, all were in favor, motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS -

A. Resolution 2007-32: Authorizing and Approving Submission of Application for Financial Assistance and Project Approval to NM Finance Authority - Chief Rudy Bencomo, Fire Department, commented on the need for two new Class A Pumper trucks to replace the existing trucks that are fourteen years old. There was discussion of the operating costs, industry standards on maintenance and operations, and the use of trained mechanics to do the maintenance. Chief Bencomo stated that the cost of the two trucks was \$610,000 and requested approval to submit a loan application to the NM Finance Authority which would be paid back out of their fire funds. Assistant Chief Tony Garcia commented on how the loan would be paid back and advised that the new trucks would be received by May or June 2008. Councilor May made a motion to approve Resolution 2007-32. Councilor Nupp seconded the motion. There was no further discussion, all were in favor, motion passed.

B. Resolution 2007-33: Establishing an Advisory Task Force for the Purpose of Examining the Town's Current Building Inspection Program – Peter Russell, Director of Community Development, commented that Councilor Nupp would like an Advisory Task Force to be established to review the Town's inspection services and the fee structure necessary to support those services. He stated that due to new legislation the Town needs to

consider whether they want to hire at least two more inspectors or yield all inspection duties to the State Inspectors by January 2009. He stated the Task Force, comprised of people from the building industry, would examine whether the current program of permit and inspection services is adequate, the cost of hiring additional inspectors, and the potential of extending those services to the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction in order to create more revenue. Councilor Nupp made a motion to adopt Resolution 2007-33. Councilor Ward seconded the motion. Councilor May offered a friendly amendment under “Be it further resolved,” to change it to read, “that the Task Force shall consist of five (5) persons, three of whom shall be residents of the Town and two shall be residents of the ETZ (Extraterritorial Jurisdiction), and appointed by the Mayor with the consent of the Town Council.” Councilor Ward seconded the amendment. All were in favor of the amendment. There was further discussion on the use of an integrated code; the Town’s adoption of the International Building Code and the Uniform Act of the Abatement of Dangerous Buildings; the removal of all fees from the Code of Ordinances and the creation and adoption of an annual Resolution that lists all fees; the current low cost of building permit fees and the need to implement impact fees. The Mayor re-stated the motion with the amendment. All were in favor, motion passed to adopt Resolution 2007-33 with the amendment.

COUNCIL COMMENTS – The Council discussed the local events that they recently attended, the need for a stop light at Highway 180 and Alabama Street; the need for road crews to begin de-icing the roads on hills; the status of the bid results for the skateboard park and the skateboard community’s input on the design; and the poor timing of several traffic lights at several busy intersections.

REPORTS – Town’s Safety Surveys: Ed Reynolds, Acting Town Manager, presented Safety Counselling, Incorporated’s safety survey for all of the departments of the Town of Silver City. He stated that the main issue was that fire extinguishers were not in place, discharged or not inspected, but they will be taken care of as soon as possible. Councilor May expressed his concern over the safety survey results. There was further discussion and Mr. Reynolds advised the problems were being addressed and taken care of. He stated that Safety Counselling Incorporated told him that the Town of Silver City passed with flying colors in comparison to other jurisdictions.

ADJOURNMENT – Councilor Ward made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. Councilor Wheaton-Smith seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

/s/

James R. Marshall, Mayor

Attest:

/s/

Ann. L. Mackie, Town Clerk