

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SILVER CITY**  
**Budget Hearing**  
**City Annex Bldg. Downstairs Conference Room, 1203 Hudson St, Silver City, NM**  
**April 21, 2009, 2:00 P.M.**

**Present:**

James R. Marshall, Mayor  
Cynthia Ann Bettison, District 1  
Thomas Nupp, District 2  
Simon Wheaton-Smith, District 3  
Steve May, District 4

**Also Present:**

Alex C. Brown, Town Manager-Finance Director  
Yolanda C. Holguin, Acting Town Clerk  
Ed Reynolds, Police Chief  
Robert Esqueda, Utilities Director

**CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Mayor Marshall called the hearing to order at 2:03 p.m.

**Discussion to include, but not limited to the following: the budget for Fiscal Year 2009-2010 and an update on the Tour of Gila Event** – Police Chief Ed Reynolds discussed the overview of the downtown criteria and command posts for medical and emergency for the event. He stated that the Police Department would be working with Grant County and the Public Works Department and that a large number of people would be coming to town for the event. He said that a full comprehensive plan would be in place and that the event could be used as a training exercise.

Manager Brown discussed the projections of the major operating funds (General, Sanitation, Water and Sewer). He stated that General Fund was required to maintain 1/12 percent in reserve and projected that there would be a 2 percent decrease in Gross Receipts Tax (GRT). He discussed biweekly payroll and the extra payroll for the year; expenditures for Workers Compensation, Liability and Property insurance; the insurance credit the Town would be receiving; consolidating the Park’s employees and operating budget; the Leslie St and cemetery expansion; and each department’s budget. He addressed questions that the Council had on revenues and expenditures and increases and decreases by department.

Manager Brown stated that GRT was the major source of revenue for the General Fund. He discussed how property was at a fixed formula; use of gas and cigarette tax revenues; upcoming franchise tax negotiations with the electric and gas companies; loan and grant reimbursements; banking institutions, water and sewer revenues, debt service and bonds. He discussed the Town’s 14 percent water leakage, the detection program that has been in place for the past six years; and current sewer rates. Discussion continued on two proposals for sewer increases, capital replacement costs; possible increases on building permits; the importance of keeping the public informed; the Sanitation Fund built-in 3 percent rate increase for collection; tipping fees at the landfill; the decrease in salaries due to hiring freeze; recycling benefits dropping; the issue and process when residents overload the garbage bins; and electric vehicles.

**ADJOURNMENT** – Councilor Wheaton-Smith made a motion to adjourn at 3:34 pm. Councilor May seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

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/s/  
James R. Marshall, Mayor

Attest:

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/s/  
Yolanda C. Holguin, Acting Town Clerk