

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SILVER CITY  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
Grant County Administration Center, 1400 Hwy 180, Silver City, NM  
September 23, 2011, 3:00 P.M.**

**Present:**

James R. Marshall, Mayor  
Cynthia A. Bettison, District 1  
Jamie K. Thomson, District 2  
Jose A. Ray, Jr., District 3  
Michael S. Morones, District 4

**Also Present:**

Alex C. Brown, Town Manager-Finance Director  
Ann L. Mackie, Town Clerk  
Robert L. Scavron, Town Attorney

**1. CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Mayor Marshall called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m., and Councilor Morones read the Town’s Mission Statement.

**2. CEREMONIES** – None.

**3. PROCLAMATIONS** – None.

**4. PUBLIC INPUT** – Nancy Cliff commented on the process of selecting capital projects that would be paid for by using proceeds of revenue bonds that the Town was about to purchase pursuant to Ordinance No. 1184. Nancy Gordon thanked the Mayor and Council for their support of the Waterworks project; how there would be money left over from the Freeport McMoRan grant and from the Preserve America grant that could be used for the design of the roof; and encouraged the Council to give the roof a higher priority on the ICIP. Susan Aumann commented on water, the recycling and collection of water, and the recycling of food and yard waste for composting purposes.

**5. COUNCIL COMMENTS** - The Council commented on the following: the volunteer work at the Waterworks building; how the Aldo Leopold High School kids were learning that trail work on the San Vicente Trail was a great way to manage people and water; how the Council should have standards in their decision making as Nancy Cliff suggested; a work session on strategic planning was suggested; how the principles of redistricting were numbers-based so citizens were encouraged to look at the numbers and not just the maps; people were encouraged to come forward with their questions and concerns about redistricting; and a message to Police Chief Reynolds that residents appreciated him for all of his efforts that were done on their behalf, for the community service that he provided, and that they could talk to him about their concerns. Mayor Marshall told Nancy Cliff that he would work to address her concerns (see Public Input above), and that he had never tried to bury anything as long as he had been the Mayor.

**6. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA** – None.

**7. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Regular Meeting, September 13, 2011** - Councilor Bettison made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilor Ray seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

**8. REPORTS** – Manager Brown reported on the schedule for the bonds and said the deadline for the projects had been moved from October 11th to October 25th, and the closing would be on November 8, 2011.

**9. PUBLIC HEARINGS** - None.

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None.

**11. NEW BUSINESS** -

**A. Endorsement of the Southwest Festival for the Written Word's creation of a Poet Laureate position for the Town of Silver City.** Jim Kelley of the Southwest Festival for the Written Word said Silver City was known throughout the great southwest and beyond as a city where arts and culture were encouraged and supported. He and other supporters requested the Council to endorse the establishment and endorsement of the post of Silver City's Poet Laureate. He further requested that they endorse the efforts of the steering committee for the Southwest Festival of the Written Word to establish the selection process for and the duties of the Poet Laureate post. He said that on a future date the committee would bring forth the elements along with requesting the Council's further approval the installation of the very first Poet Laureate in Silver City. He said they were not asking for any financial support for the efforts of the committee or for the establishment and maintenance of the Poet Laureate post. Other supporters provided comments. Mayor Marshall recognized the supporters and said the Council was not often asked for an endorsement so he approached Attorney Scavron for a legal opinion. He read Attorney Scavron's legal opinion which was written as a poem. Councilor Bettison made a motion to endorse the Southwest Festival for the Written Word's creation of a Poet Laureate position for the Town of Silver City with the understanding that the steering committee would work with the Town to ensure that it would be an open and transparent process. Councilor Thomson seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

**B. Approval / Disapproval of Memorandum of Understanding for a regional economic development collaboration.** Manager Brown presented the details and said the regional economic development plan would include Luna County, Hidalgo County, Catron County, and Grant County. He said that through the process they decided to have one central organization that all county economic development entities would work with to develop the regional plan. He said the Memorandum of Understanding would show the Town's support. Maureen Craig with Southwest Council of Governments (SWCOG) said she was there as a resource and that they were not asking for financial support at that time. She said the hope was that as the Southwest Economic Development Partnership and the Southwest Energy and Green Jobs Task Force continued, and the strategic plans were developed, that they could bring the Memorandum of Understanding to potential funders when appropriate opportunities came about. Manager Brown stated the Grant County Economic Development Coalition endorsed it, and the SWCOG did have economic development funds to work on a regional economic development coordination. There was further discussion. Councilor Bettison made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding. Councilor Morones seconded the motion. All were in favor, motion passed.

**C. Approval / Disapproval of Resolution No. 2011-33: adopting the 2013-2017 Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP).** Manager Brown said the State required the adoption of an ICIP annually and that at the last Council meeting the plan was presented to them. He said the plan in front of them had the requested changes from the last Council meeting. Mayor Marshall asked him to give the background on the plan. Manager Brown said it would be sent to the State and was used by the State for funding through whatever department it might be. He said that when the Town was seeking funding through the State that the State required that the project was on the ICIP unless it was an emergency or unforeseen reason. He said the Staff annually reviewed the plan and updated it for the current needs; how many of the top priority projects already had funding sources in place, but were kept in the ICIP in case they needed additional funds for the project; and how the ICIP was basically the State's way of making municipalities think about their current needs and the needs of the next 5 years. There was further discussion. Councilor Ray made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2011-33. Councilor Morones seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken with the following results: Councilor Morones - aye; Councilor Ray - aye; Councilor Thomson - aye; and Councilor Bettison - aye. Motion passed.

**12. ADJOURNMENT** – Councilor Ray made a motion to adjourn at 3:40 p.m. Councilor Bettison seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion passed.

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
James R. Marshall, Mayor  
Attest:  
\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Yolanda C. Holguin, Acting Town Clerk