

**TOWN OF SILVER CITY**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**GRANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER, 1400 HWY. 180 E., SILVER CITY, NM**  
**March 28, 2023, 6:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:**

Ken Ladner, Mayor  
Lucian Farmer, Councilor District 1  
Nicholas Prince, Councilor District 2  
Jose A. Ray, Jr., Councilor District 3  
Guadalupe Cano, Councilor District 4

**Others present:**

Alex C. Brown, Town Manager  
James Marshall, Assistant Town Manager  
Jim Reynolds, Town Attorney  
Alfred Sedillo, Town Clerk  
Freddie Portillo, Police Chief  
Milo Lambert, Fire Chief  
Vickie Toney, Code Enforcement,  
Animal Control Officer  
Ben Beltron, Executive Director, CATS  
Juno Ogle, Silver City Daily Press  
Lynn Janes, Grant County Beat

**1. CALL TO ORDER** - Mayor Ladner called meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND SALUTE TO NEW MEXICO STATE FLAG** - Mayor Ladner invited the public to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and Salute to the New Mexico State Flag.

Mayor Ladner welcomed the City Administration, Law Enforcement and members of the Press and community.

**2. CHANGES TO AGENDA – NONE**

**3. CEREMONIES – NONE**

**4. PROCLAMATIONS** – Mayor Ladner read the Proclamation for Martyn Pearson and Alex Olsen presented it to Jack Brennon. He also read and presented the Proclamation to Loren and Barbara Nelson.

**5. COUNCIL COMMENTS** – Councilor Farmer announced a few weeks ago he had received a job offer he could not refuse from a mine in South Carolina. He stated he would like to stay on the Council until the end of April to help in the process finding his replacement.

Councilor Cano stated she participated the Southwest Word Fiesta Celebration of Women’s History Month along with Mayor Ladner. Councilor Cano encouraged anyone interested to get involved in the program. Councilor Cano stated March is National Kidney Awareness Month and advised if anyone was interested in donating, they can register online. Councilor Cano thanked Chief Portillo for helping place speed bumps at Shady Grove. She also thanked a few of the local Firefighters for attending the meeting and is looking forward to continue advocating for them.

Councilor Ray stated it was a pleasure working with Councilor Farmer, he was hoping it was an April Fool's joke and wished him luck in his endeavors.

Councilor Prince thanked the Public Officials for the safety of the city employees as well as the Town Management for all the good news that has received this year.

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – March 14, 2023, Regular Meeting. Councilor Ray moved to approve the March 14, 2023, Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of the Town of Silver City. Councilor Farmer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**7. PUBLIC INPUT** – Preston Johnson President of the Silver City Firefighters Local 2430 Union thanked Mayor Ladner and Council for inviting them and allowing him to speak. Mr. Preston gave a quick synopsis of a letter they were going to present.

Ryan Griffiths thanked the Mayor and Council for their continued support and echoed what Lieutenant Johnson had said and knows they do more to the City than what they are given credit for and hopes to make the Town better with the help from the Mayor and Council.

Skylar McGiveron thanked Mayor Ladner and Council for allowing them to speak.

## **8. REPORTS:**

**A. Staff:** James Marshall gave an update on the AML Project on Boston Hill; the work is scheduled to start in June or July. Mr. Marshall wanted to let the public know there will be some trucks and heavy equipment on Boston Hill and possible the use of a helicopter to bring in some supplies which will cause a little noise but will cause less foot prints and damage on the property. There are plans in place to limit their traffic and limit the ground they will disturb for egress and ingress. Also, for backout with remediation actions.

Councilor Cano asked if the residents will be notified by letter? Mr. Marshall stated they will be placing signs on the kiosk's and also in a Press Release. Councilor Cano suggested sending a letter to the residents because some residents may not read the newspaper.

**B. Manager:** Alex Brown stated:

**1. Update Recreation Center** – He met with CMAR and the architects; he should receive the draft contract by the end of the week so Mr. Reynolds can review it so they can move forward. CMAR agreed to take the information provided by the architects so they could start costing to see where they stand if they are in budget before moving forward and start having additional public meetings. They are about three (3) weeks out before they can start scheduling public meetings.

**2. Update on Transition to City Hall Annex Building** – Currently the Town has three hundred fifty thousand (350,000) dollars from last year's Capital Outlay and an additional three hundred fifty thousand (350,000) dollars in this year's Capital Outlay waiting to be signed by the Governor. The cost for the roof and HVAC units last year was one point one (1.1) million dollars. So, he is going to have to figure out how to come up with an additional four hundred thousand (400,000) dollars to make the project move forward.

**3. Update on current and proposed Swimming Pool** – Public meetings will start on April 27<sup>th</sup> along with Press Releases and Radio spots.

**4. Update on Scott Park Golf Course** – Mr. Brown sent a letter stating a lady had suffered a heart attack at the Golf Course, luckily there were two (2) EMT's from the hospital in the restaurant that responded and administered CPR and applied the AED. The individual is in a hospital in Las Cruces and doing fine. Mr. Brown thanked the staff at the Golf Course for jumping into action.

**5. Update on Little Walnut** – Applications have been submitted for Colonias funding and another application to the TAP program for one point five (1.5) million from both, the match will be around three hundred ten thousand (310,000) dollars that will have to be paid this next fiscal year. The start of the right-of-way acquisitions from Jack Frost north to the city limits before starting the project.

**6. Update on Regional Water Project** – The three million (3,000,000) dollar application to Colonias funding for design, the Colonias meeting will be held on April 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Brown will be there to present at the meeting attempting to acquire the funding.

**7. Update on 32<sup>nd</sup> St. Project** – The project is out for bid and be brought to the Council on the second meeting in April for award and the project should start at the end of May. The match will be two hundred eight thousand (280,000) dollars which will have to be budgeted in.

**9. PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE**

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE**

**11. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Approve / Disapproval of a Private Celebration Permit: for Tour of the Gila VIP Beer Garden and waiver of NMSA 1978 60-6B-10 for alcohol service near a church for April 29, 2023, with alcohol served from 1:00 pm to 6:30 pm at 601 N. Bullard Street, Silver City, New Mexico. Liquor License Holder: 1) Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, License #67085, 203 S. Mill Road, Silver City, NM 88061.**

Jack Brennon stated the Tour Of The Gila (Alex and Martyn Tour Of The Gila) will start on April 26<sup>th</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup>. Saturday will be a big day downtown with the criterium and will be hosting the VIP Beer Garden with the Little Toad Creek Brewery and Distillery and he is asking for the Council to approve the Private Celebration Permit. Mayor Ladner asked if there were any questions or comments? Councilor Ray asked if the motion should be with Tour Of The Gila or with the change including the names of Alex and Martyn? Mr. Brennon stated just Tour Of The Gila would be correct due to the decision to change the name was after the application was submitted. Councilor Ray moved to approve **a Private Celebration Permit: for Tour of the Gila VIP Beer Garden and waiver of NMSA 1978 60-6B-10 for alcohol service near a church for April 29, 2023, with alcohol served from 1:00 pm to 6:30 pm at 601 N. Bullard Street, Silver City, New Mexico. Liquor License Holder: 1) Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery, License #67085, 203 S. Mill Road, Silver City, NM 88061.** Councilor Prince seconded the motion. Mayor Ladner asked if there were any questions or comments? Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Appointment to the Municipal Museum Community Advisory Group** - Mayor Ladner stated Mary Troutman-Gates has applied for the Municipal Museum Community Advisory Group. He has reviewed the application and believed she is very qualified. The Director of the Museum Bart Roselli recommended Ms. Troutman-Gates as well. Mayor Ladner asked if there were any objections from the Council, seeing none Mayor Ladner appointed Mary Troutman-Gates to the Municipal Museum Community Advisory Group.

**C. Fiscal Year 2024 Preliminary Revenue Projections** – Alex Brown states he has started working on the Budget for next year. Mr. Brown gave a preliminary review of each budget line item. He will update the report in April and May and at the end of July a Resolution has to be crafted approving the budget; at that point all the funds will be reconciled and there will not be any estimations. Mayor Ladner asked if

there were any questions or comments? Councilor Prince asked how many gas retail establishments are in the City and the County? Mr. Brown stated the report only stated who reported the gas tax, but not how much was reported, the Town only gets a check for the gas tax.

**12. ADJOURNMENT** - Mayor Ladner stated this concluded the business of the Town of Silver City Town Council. Meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

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**Ken Ladner, Mayor**

**Attest:**

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**Alfred Sedillo, Town Clerk**