

**TOWN OF SILVER CITY  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
GRANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER, 1400 HWY. 180 E., SILVER CITY, NM  
August 8, 2023, 6:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:**

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

**Others present:**

Alex Brown, Town Manager  
Jim Reynolds, Town Attorney  
Alfred Sedillo, Town Clerk  
Freddie Portillo, Chief of Police  
Thomas Hernandez, Code Enforcement  
Vickie Toney, Code Enforcement-  
Animal Control  
Ben Beltron, Executive Director, CATS  
Juno Ogle, Silver City Daily Press  
Jacqui Olea, Community Development  
Director

**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** – Councilor Ray motioned to change the wording on Resolution 2023-18 to read: **A Resolution adopting the 2025-2029 Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) for the Town Silver City.** Changing the wording that reads: Silver City Senior Center to read: the Town of Silver City. Councilor Cano seconded the motion as stated. Motion carried unanimously.

**3. CEREMONIES – NONE**

**4. PROCLAMATIONS – NONE**

**5. COUNCIL COMMENTS – Councilor Prince Comments - See Exhibit “A”**

Chief Portillo stated they do recommend to the public to post No Trespassing signs on their property, but if there are unwanted people on your property, they will respond and have them removed and have a criminal trespass warning issued.

Councilor Bencomo stated he was not sure who was involved, but wanted to thank who ever placed an outdoor movie screen at the park, there were quite a bit of families there watching a

movie. School will be starting in a few days and advise the public to be patient with the construction on 32<sup>nd</sup> Street.

Chief of Police Portillo stated there would be extra patrols going on at school zones as they have done in the past especially on 32<sup>nd</sup> Street construction.

Councilor Cano also reminded the public to complete their ballots for the Emergency Dispatch funding, it is very important because it will continue to serve the community and will not involve a tax increase. Councilor Cano thanked Police Chief Portillo for the operation mostly being done in her district. Residents are very happy seeing Police Officers in the neighborhood and also feel safer knowing it is being patrolled. Councilor Cano also thanked Alex Brown for helping Chief Portillo.

Councilor Ray echoed Councilor Bencomo and Councilor Cano's statement about completing the voting ballot for the Central Dispatch funding. He took his ballot in and asked the County Clerk's Office if they have had a good return of ballots. He was informed that they have had a good response and encouraged the public to support the funding. He also was able to take a tour of the 5th floor of the Murray Hotel and stated it was amazing the work that has been done to the Hotel. There are sixteen (16) rooms and twelve have already been rented for about fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500.00). Councilor Ray also thanked Chief Portillo; he has gotten some good feedback as well on the patrolling areas of Brewer Hill. He has also seen a lot of patrolling himself especially downtown. Councilor Ray gave kudos to the Silver City Daily Press; he enjoyed the article on the young lady (Mary Lou Kirker) who retired from Albertson's.

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – July 25, 2023, Regular Meeting. Councilor Ray moved to approve the July 25, 2023, Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of the Town of Silver City. Councilor Prince seconded the motion as stated. Motion carried unanimously.

**7. PUBLIC INPUT – NONE**

**8. REPORTS:**

**A. Manager's Report: NO REPORT**

**9. PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE**

**10. WORK SESSION AGENDA: Approval / Disapproval of Work Session Topics**

- A. The relationship between the Town and the business community (businesses other than those in the historic district, specifically).
- B. What needs have we heard from our committees?
- C. Other issues which may be introduced by the Council.

Councilor Cano stated she felt the Work Sessions are going as they expected them to go, she proposed to stop having Work Sessions until one is needed. She spoke to Alex Brown and James Marshall if one is needed it can be placed on the agenda for the meeting before and ask to be

placed on the agenda if there is a specific reason to have a Work Session. **Councilor Cano motioned to no longer have Work Sessions unless one is needed.** Councilor Ray seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

## **11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE**

## **12. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Approval / Disapproval of Resolution 2023-18 A Resolution adopting the 2025-2029 Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) for the Silver City Senior Center.** Jacqui Olea reviewed the annual update of the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) with project priorities voiced by the Town or individuals or public representation. There have been some additions like the Regional Water Project and the Construction of the Mill Road Sewer Bypass that will help with the spillages found in San Vicente Creek. They are looking for funding for the Recreation Center, the top ten (10) are the main priorities for Capital Outlay and the top fifteen (15) are prioritized for funding sources. Ms. Olea asked the Council if they had anything to prioritize before it is submitted to the state.

Mayor Ladner asked if there were any comments or questions.

Councilor Ray asked Alex Brown and Jacqui Olea if the rankings were going to stay the same. Mr. Brown stated it would stay the same unless the Council decides to change it.

Councilor Prince stated he has checked in with constituents who are really impressed with the communication from the City. The Public Meetings went very well, he is very happy with the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) for this year.

Councilor Cano thanked Jacqui Olea for all the hard work and the Community Meeting went very well this year.

Mayor Ladner asked if there were any other comments. Seeing none Mayor Ladner asked if the Council was ready to act on the Resolution and entertained a motion.

Councilor Bencomo moved to approve of Resolution **2023-18 A Resolution adopting the 2025-2029 Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) for the Town of Silver City.** Councilor Cano seconded the motion as stated. Mayor Ladner asked for a roll call vote. Clerk Alfred Sedillo did a roll call vote. Councilor Cano voted aye; Councilor Prince voted aye; Councilor Ray voted aye; and Councilor Bencomo voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Approval / Disapproval of BID 23/24-1 2021 Colonias Water System Improvements Chloride Flats-North Tank** Alex Brown stated one bid was received for the project. We have already received funding for two of the Chlorine Flats tanks and the funds that we are using for this project are what was remaining from the second grant that we received from Colonias last year so the remaining balance is not enough to cover the entire bid that was received from Viking Painting LLC so it's staff's recommendation to reject the bid and put it for rebid, so we can narrow the scope of the project so we have enough funds to complete it.

Mayor Ladner asked if there were any questions or comments. Seeing none Mayor Ladner asked for a motion.

Councilor Prince moved to disapprove of **BID 23/24-1 2021 Colonias Water System Improvements Chloride Flats-North Tank based on the recommendations of City Management.** Councilor Ray seconded the motion as stated. Mayor Ladner asked for a roll call vote. Clerk Alfred Sedillo did a roll call vote. Councilor Cano voted aye; Councilor Prince voted aye; Councilor Ray voted aye; and Councilor Bencomo voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

**C. Reappointment Recommendations to Cemetery Board.** Mayor Ladner stated there were two applications for reappointments to the Cemetery Board and they were both highly recommended by the chair of the board. Mayor Ladner asked if there are no objections, he would like to reappoint Paul Baca to the Cemetery Board. Seeing none Mayor Ladner reappointed Paul Baca to the Cemetery Board. Mayor Ladner asked if there are no objections, he would like to reappoint Tom Hester to the Cemetery Board. Seeing none Mayor Ladner reappointed Tom Hester to the Cemetery Board.

**12. ADJOURNMENT** - Mayor Ladner stated this concluded the items on the agenda. Mayor Ladner asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilor Cano moved to adjourn. Councilor Bencomo seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

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**Ken Ladner, Mayor**

**Attest:**

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**Alfred Sedillo, Town Clerk**