

**CITY OF ALAMOGORDO, NEW MEXICO
CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
6:00 P.M., Sgt. Willie Estrada Memorial Civic Center
800 E. First St., Alamogordo, NM
TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2014**

**SUSIE GALEA, MAYOR
JASON BALDWIN, COMMISSIONER
NADIA SIKES, COMMISSIONER
JENNY TURNBULL, COMMISSIONER
AL HERNANDEZ, COMMISSIONER**

**ROBERT RENTSCHLER, MAYOR PRO-TEM
DR. GEORGE STRAFACE, COMMISSIONER
JIM STAHLE, CITY MANAGER
STEPHEN THIES, CITY ATTORNEY
RENEE CANTIN, CITY CLERK**

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Announce the presence of a Quorum.

Mayor Galea called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Roll Call was taken by the City Clerk. Those present were Commissioner Al Hernandez, Commissioner Jason Baldwin, Commissioner Nadia Sikes, Commissioner Jenny Turnbull, Commissioner George Straface, and Mayor Susie Galea. Mayor Pro-Tem Robert Rentschler was absent. Clerk Cantin announced there was a quorum present.

Other Staff Members Present: Assistant City Manager McNeile, City Attorney Thies, Fire Chief Ward, Police Chief Duncan, Public Works Director Cesar, Emergency Services Coordinator Jim LeClair, and Senior Executive Assistant Megan Wade, and Project Manager Nancy Beshaler.

23 Citizens, Mike Martinez from the Army Corps of Engineers, and other state agency officials were also present.

(NOTE: RECORDING WAS POOR SO MAJORITY OF MEETING WAS NOT UNDERSTANDABLE.)

1. Presentation, discussion, and possible action, related to the flooding in the City and specifically from the recent heavy rainfall.

City Manager Stahle presented where we are in the city related to flood control and the recent heavy rainfall. Then the meeting was turned over to citizens to voice their concerns.

Mr. Clif McDonald has a proposal for the city that will not cost anything.

Ms. Linda Gulley has more of a question about rental properties. City Manager Stahle explained about a detention basin the city used to have. He thought you could put in a flood claim if you have flood insurance. Ms. Gulley asked, "So now what?"

Mr. Brian Williams is the recovery manager for Homeland Security in Emergency Management. In his world, all disasters are local. The declaration process goes from county to state to federal. July 1 – September 30 has been designated by the Governor as the time where there is a probability that someone in the state will have flooding. In order to access funds, communities and counties need to declare disasters and that opens up the State Disaster Assistance Program funded by contingency funds. The amount is up to \$750,000 per applicant per disaster. He continued by explaining about FEMA and how to get them involved, as well as how the whole disaster process works.

Mr. Elwin Roach, lives in Alamo West. He had pictures of flooding at 36 Smith Ave. in Alamo West, McDonald Rd. near Sunset Run Restaurant, First St. & 54/70, Cliff McDonald property between 54/70 & McDonald Rd., W. First St., 16th St. & Grant Rd., 31 Garner Ave. in Alamo West, and a picture of flooding in 2006 on Abbot Ave. These pictures were given to the clerk to be distributed.

Mr. Scott LeFevre, stated the issue is the breaching of that diversion. Mayor Galea asked if there is a cost estimate.

Ms. Janet Citron talked about flooding issues. The water comes down 25th St., and she has asked for help from the City in the past. Her driveway is sinking and she has had this issue every summer. She spoke about the deficiencies of flood insurance, and she didn't feel she should have to pay to fix something that wouldn't be broken if the flooding issue wasn't there to begin with.

Mr. Harv Hamilton said the Commission needs to have the guts to pass an updated Master Plan.

Mr. Bob Jensen, 1423 Indiana, had pictures of flooding at this address (corner of 15th St. & Indiana). The water goes under his house and it remains wet.

Mayor Galea asked what the process would be to get a hydrologist. The city manager said in normal projects we do require construction plans and they do have grades, so we ought to be able to look back at the record we have to determine a before and after.

The following citizens also made comments: Ms. Liz Fugate of 1423 Michigan; Mr. David Bailey talked about the area by the dog pound; Mr. Gale Ortiz lives on N. Hawaii and 25th St.

Commissioner Hernandez spoke.

Commissioner Straface said it seems like we should look at the cost of reconstruction of that pond. City Manager Stahle said we have talked about that at the staff level. There is some prospect for us to consider there being a detention basin for the Tays wash area. Commissioner Straface said as quickly as you can to do that.

Commissioner Turnbull said about three weeks before it happened she had sent pictures to the City Manager. City Manager Stahle responded. He invited everyone to look at the maps for details.

Commissioner Baldwin left the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Commissioner Straface commented and Mayor Galea has written down a number of recommendations.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Straface moved to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. Commissioner Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion a carried by a vote of 5-0-0.

Mayor Susie Galea

ATTEST:

City Clerk René L. Cantin

(Prepared by Nancy Jacobs, Deputy Clerk)
Approved at the Regular Meeting held on September 9, 2014.