

**CITY OF ALAMOGORDO, NEW MEXICO
CITY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
7:00 P.M., COMMISSION CHAMBERS
DECEMBER 3, 2013**

**ROBERT RENTSCHLER, MAYOR
AL HERNANDEZ, COMMISSIONER
NADIA SIKES, COMMISSIONER
SUSIE GALEA, COMMISSIONER
JOSH RARDIN, COMMISSIONER**

**JASON BALDWIN, MAYOR PRO-TEM
JIM TALBERT, COMMISSIONER
JIM STAHL, CITY MANAGER
STEPHEN THIES, CITY ATTORNEY
RENEE CANTIN, CITY CLERK**

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Galea called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll Call was taken by the City Clerk. Clerk Cantin announced there was a quorum present. Invocation was led by Mrs. Dottie West and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Hernandez.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Talbert moved to approve adding the Addendum item to the agenda. Commissioner Baldwin seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Commissioner Sikes moved to approve the agenda. Commissioner Rentschler seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

REORGANIZATION OF THE CITY COMMISSION

- 1. Consider, and act upon, the reorganization of the City Commission.**

Nominations for the position of Mayor:

Commissioner Talbert said the Commission had said many times we do our best to listen to what the people of Alamogordo have said. He remarked the people of Alamogordo have said they wanted to elect a Mayor at Large and that will be taken care of in March which is about two and a half months away. He felt it was beneficial we keep the Mayor we have.

Commissioner Talbert nominated Susie Galea for Mayor and she accepted. Commissioner Sikes seconded the nomination.

Commissioner Rardin nominated Commissioner Rentschler for Mayor and he accepted. Commissioner Hernandez seconded the nomination.

There were no other nominations for Mayor.

Roll call vote for Susie Galea as Mayor. Nomination denied 3-4-0. Commissioner Rentschler, Commissioner Hernandez, Commissioner Rardin and Commissioner Baldwin voted nay.

Roll call vote for Commissioner Rentschler as Mayor. Nomination accepted 5-2-0. Commissioner Sikes, Commissioner Talbert voted nay.

Mayor Rentschler exchanged seats with Commissioner Galea and accepted leadership of the meeting. Past Mayor Galea presented newly elected Mayor Rentschler to the audience. Mayor Rentschler thanked everyone and said he hoped to see that they all get along and he also thanked Commissioner Galea for her service which has been exemplary. He appreciated the time she has put in for the last 18 months and noted we may well see her again.

Mayor Rentschler asked for Nominations for the position of Mayor Pro-Tem:

Commissioner Galea nominated Commissioner Sikes and Commissioner Talbert seconded the motion.

Commissioner Rardin nominated Commissioner Baldwin and Commissioner Hernandez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote for Commissioner Sikes as Mayor Pro-Tem. Nomination denied 3-4-0. Commissioner Hernandez, Commissioner Baldwin, Mayor Rentschler, Commissioner Rardin voted nay.

Roll call vote for Commissioner Baldwin as Mayor Pro-Tem. Nomination accepted 7-0-0.

Mayor Rentschler called for a five minute recess at 7:10 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 7:15 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

2. Presentation related to the National Advertising Award. (Bob Flotte, Promotions Board Chair)

Jan Wafful made the presentation of the award in place of Bob Flotte who was not able to attend. She said on August 4, 2013 the Telle Awards named Alamogordo as a winner in their 34th Annual Awards in the Travel and Tourism Category. This was for the City's new cooperative marketing television commercial – "Film, Sand and Space...Alamogordo is New Mexico TRUE". She showed the commercial on the overhead for all to see. Ms. Wafful said that commercial was what won the award and this international award is the second given by the advertising industry for this commercial. She thanked the Commission and asked for the awards to be proudly displayed because they are representative of the continuing work and advertising plan for the City now and in the future by the City Promotions Board in order to attract tourism on behalf of the City and its area attractions.

Mayor Rentschler came forward and she presented the framed award and statuette to him.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Lesley Ledbetter commented on the following:

1) Ms. Ledbetter is a representative for Otero County for Mother's Against Drunk Driving and Students Against Destructive Decisions. She thanked Commissioner Galea for all she had done to support SADD and MADD and for her continued involvement in them both. She told Mayor Rentschler she looked forward to hopefully working with him to accomplish things together. Mayor Rentschler told her he looked forward to doing that.

CONSENT AGENDA (Roll Call Vote Required for items No. 7, 8, & 9)

3. Approve Minutes of the November 19, 2013 Regular Meeting of the Alamogordo City Commission. (Renee Cantin, City Clerk)

4. Approve statement related to the Executive Session of November 19, 2013. (Renee Cantin, City Clerk)

5. Approve the Waiver of Permit Fee for the Alamogordo Senior Center New Years Eve Party Fireworks Display. (Renee Cantin, City Clerk)

6. **Approve the City Commission Regular Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2014.** *(Renee Cantin, City Clerk)*
7. **Approve Resolution 2013-34 requesting written approval from the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance & Administration, State of New Mexico for the revised budget figures computed as of December 5, 2013. [Roll call vote required]** *(Kenneth Johnson, Finance Director)*
8. **Approve Resolution No. 2013-35 calling a Regular Municipal Election to be held on Tuesday, March 4, 2014 for the purpose of electing, a Mayor at Large, three (3) District City Commissioners, a Municipal Judge and any other questions to be brought before the voters. [Roll call vote required]** *(Renee Cantin, City Clerk)*
9. **Approve Resolution No. 2013-36 calling a Special Municipal Election to be held in conjunction with the Regular Municipal Election for considering amending the delayed repeal of the MGRT for economic Development to be effective December 31, 2020. [Roll call vote required]** *(Renee Cantin, City Clerk)*
10. **Approve the award of Public Works Bid No. 2013-005 to Mesa Verde Enterprises, Inc. related to Street Paving Improvements Phase I (North Florida Ave. - 10th Street to 16th Street, in an amount not to exceed \$732,525.01 including NMGRT.** *(Edward Balderrama, Project Manager)*
11. **Approve the award of Public Works Bid No. 2013-015 to Kachina Petroleum Equipment Co. related to the Rehab AST – Otero/Greentree Regional Landfill project, in an amount not to exceed \$41,220.28, including tax.** *(Bob Johnson, Contract Coordinator)*
12. **Approve the award of IFB 2013-21 Various Oil Based Products for the Fleet Management Department to Ritchie Distributing, utilizing the 5% local preference in the amount of \$30,962.29.** *(Brian Cesar, Public Works Director)*
13. **Approve an application for a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/Assistance to Firefighter's Grant Program (AFG) related to the purchase/replacement of a Class A Pumper Apparatus (\$550,000), Firefighter Fitness and Health Equipment (\$100,000), and Personal Protective Equipment (\$49,000), and Mobile Radio's (\$25,000).** *(Mikel Ward, Fire Chief)*

Item #s 14,15,16,17 and 18 were removed from the consent calendar by Commissioner Galea.

Commissioner Talbert moved to approve items # 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, of the consent calendar. Commissioner Hernandez seconded the motion. Roll call was taken for items #7, 8, & 9. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

14. **Consider, and act upon, approval to fill the Payroll Accounting Technician position to be assigned to the Finance Department.** *(Kenneth Johnson, Finance Director)*

Finance Director Johnson addressed the Commission. He told them there was an opening in the Accounting section for this position. It is a critical position in terms of them being able to meet the payroll obligations. He noted they had already done some recruitment, made a tentative selection and now asked to be able to fill the position at this time.

Commissioner Rardin asked Finance Director Johnson if this position had been budgeted in the last budget cycle or whether it was a new position. Finance Director Johnson told him it had been

budgeted. They had been authorized two positions with one in payroll and the other they would like to fill. Commissioner Rardin asked how long it had been unfilled. Finance Director Johnson remarked it was in their packet and when Commissioner Rardin looked he saw it was since November 2, 2013. Finance Director Johnson said we were fortunate to be able to add an individual from the private sector and after being without her they decided they would like to have her back. We did lose out to a private competitor who offered better benefits and salary, so that is why that position is open. That individual stayed in our community and he wished her well. Commissioner Rardin asked how long the position was vacant prior to hiring her. Finance Director Johnson told him they had an internal hire where we had the previous incumbent be given an opportunity to work for our Human Resources Department, and he wished her well, also.

Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin moved to approve filling the Payroll Accounting Technician position to be assigned to the Finance Department. Commissioner Talbert seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

15. Approve a request to fill two Fire Lieutenant positions, to be assigned to the Fire Department. (Mikel Ward, Fire Chief)

Fire Chief Ward addressed the Commission. He said these were two budgeted positions. He noted these two positions had been mentioned in the Fire Department Reorganization presentation he made back on October 8, 2013. He had explained some of the savings they had internally, moving two positions they already had and reclassifying them into Fire Lieutenant positions. These positions are on-shift supervisors similar to a police sergeant in the Police Department. They are 24 hour supervisors making calls during the day, so they are very essential positions for the Fire Department.

Commissioner Hernandez asked him if these employees would be moved up or would this be an advertised position. Fire Chief Ward said the intent was to create a recruitment process and he hoped the in-house staff would meet that challenge and criteria.

Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin asked if this hadn't already been approved on October 8th, and the Fire Chief affirmed. Fire Chief Ward said this was part of the presentation to reorganize and we didn't get it completely filled since the recent changes.

Commissioner Galea moved to approve filling two Fire Lieutenant positions, to be assigned to the Fire Department. Commissioner Sikes seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

16. Approve a request to fill the Landfill Heavy Equipment Operator position, to be assigned to the Public Works Department. (Brian Cesar, Public Works Director)

Public Works Director Cesar addressed the Commission. He told them Public Works had this vacancy since late October when we were at the tail end of the approval process. We had offered the position to the top candidate who declined it because they wanted a little more money. We were ready to offer it to the next highest candidate when the Commission decided to review every open position.

Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin asked if this was an existing position and Public Works Director Cesar said it was.

Mayor Rentschler said this was the Landfill Heavy Equipment Operator coming out of the Landfill Budget and Public Works Director Cesar agreed. Mayor Rentschler said this was operational budget we approved en masse when we approved the Landfill budget.

Commissioner Galea moved to approve filling the Landfill Heavy Equipment Operator position, to be assigned to the Public Works Department. Commissioner Talbert seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

17. **Approve a request to fill the Information Resource Coordinator position, to be assigned to the Community Services Department at the Alamogordo Senior Center. (Matt McNeile, Assistant City Manager)**

Assistant City Manager McNeile addressed the Commission. He told them this is an existing budgeted position that just became vacant a couple of weeks ago. This position serves as an advocate for our seniors at the Senior Center and a resource conduit to let the seniors know what services are available to them in the community. This person would help them sign up for the services and if they have problems this person would serve as an advocate to solve those problems.

Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin moved to approve filling the Information Resource Coordinator position, to be assigned to the Community Services Department at the Alamogordo Senior Center. Commissioner Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

18. **Approve a request to fill the Food Service Administrator position, to be assigned to the Community Services Department at the Alamogordo Senior Center. (Matt McNeile, Assistant City Manager)**

Assistant City Manager McNeile told the Commission the long-time manager who had filled this position was retiring on December 31, 2013 and he wanted to fill this position as soon as possible since it is very essential to the operations of Food Services at the Senior Center. This is the lead person who does all the scheduling of Staff ordering food and supplies as well as complying with State mandates for the nutrition element of planning the menus, cooking and serving on a daily basis.

Commissioner Talbert asked if the new hire would be at the same pay rate as the one that left. Assistant City Manager McNeile told him no. He explained that traditionally, when a long-tenured employee leaves we look at the lower level hiring range. Commissioner Talbert asked if it would be around the \$35,700.00 range instead of the \$38,900.00 and the Assistant City Manager agreed.

Commissioner Galea moved to approve filling the Food Service Administrator position, to be assigned to the Community Services Department at the Alamogordo Senior Center. Commissioner Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

19. **Hold Public Hearing and consider, and act upon, a temporary structure special permit for Vision Ford Lincoln Mercury, Inc. from December 26, 2013 to December 31, 2013 at Margo's Mexican Food, 504 East First St., Alamogordo with the finding that it will not be detrimental to surrounding properties. (Marc south, City Planner)**

City Planner South said with any luck this may be the last time an item such as this will have to come before you. He said this was the normal request from the car dealers in Alamogordo to do an end-of-year sale at Margo's. Only one tent was requested and we verified that with the applicant. Twenty-two letters went out to surrounding property owners and we didn't receive any complaints back. It is sort of an annual event and we have not received any complaints on it since he has been here. He reminded them the request was only for the temporary structure; the sale goes forward regardless.

Commissioner Rardin moved to approve a temporary structure special permit for Vision Ford Lincoln Mercury, Inc. from December 26, 2013 to December 31, 2013 at Margo's Mexican Food, 504 East First St., Alamogordo with the finding that it will not be detrimental to surrounding properties. Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin seconded the motion.

Mayor Rentschler announced this was a public hearing and he asked for any comment from the audience. No one responded.

Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 20. Discussion, and possible action, related to the purchase/replacement of personal protective firefighting equipment and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) for the Fire Department. (Mikel Ward, Fire Chief)**

Fire Chief Ward stated to the Commissioners he was very happy to present this tonight. Originally, the replacement of personal protective gear and SCBA's was identified in one of the ICIP projects for the Fire Department. During our discussion of this on the 17th, the Commission was very supportive of our needs and requested he come back to the Commission on October 8th for possible funding at that time. We requested 60 additional days to try and find other funding sources and as of today we have secured all the funding to meet these needs. The funding of approximately \$350,000.00-\$400,000.00 was received in donations of surplus equipment from the San Juan County Fire Department, the \$100,000.00 grant we got from the Fire Protection Fund and the Homeland Security grants of about \$60,000.00.

Mayor Rentschler told him this was outstanding and Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin said kudos, well done. Mayor Rentschler said he appreciated Fire Chief Ward diligence and bringing it back to them in this form.

- 21. Consider, and act upon, the first publication of Ordinance No. 1459 amending Section 8-01-170 of the Code of Ordinances to allow for administrative approval of Temporary Activity Structure Permits. (Stephen Thies, City Attorney)**

Mayor Rentschler said this was the Public Hearing we just had to approve a structure. When we have these kinds of sales, usually automobile sales, we see the car dealers in various locations around the community. The idea is we allow this to be done administratively.

Commissioner Rardin asked the City Attorney about the fact these are always Public Hearings and he asked how we would get around that. He mentioned he had been the one to bring this up since the Commission does these over and over again without anyone saying anything detrimental against them. Do we still have to have a Public Hearing forum or would you just send out the letters like normal and the City Manager approves.

City Attorney Thies told him it is a simple administrative process. The applicant brings in an application which is submitted to the City Manager for a determination as to whether it meets the criteria set forth in the Ordinance. If the City Manager determines that it does, he will grant the Temporary Structure Permit and if he does not approve it, the applicant has the right to appear before the Commission and you would have a Public Hearing on whether to grant the Temporary Permit. No one ever shows up to complain about these and the biggest issue is possible traffic congestion and flow which the elements in the Ordinance address. If they can't prove to the City Manager it won't impact the neighborhoods, then they could downsize the size of the tents or the number of tents and/or deal with the traffic issues. Most of these are on commercial properties so you don't have residential properties that are affected.

Commissioner Hernandez moved to approve the first publication of Ordinance No. 1459 amending Section 8-01-170 of the Code of Ordinances to allow for administrative approval of Temporary Activity Structure Permits. Commissioner Rardin seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

- 22. Consider, and act upon, the selection of a location for the development of a Family Entertainment Center for an estimated cost up to \$6,000,000; the cost estimate for Florida Avenue and First Street Intersection Realignment up to \$4,500,000; and Consider, and act upon, Resolution No. 2013-37 calling a Special Election to be held in conjunction with the Regular Municipal Election on Tuesday, March 4, 2014 for the purpose of General Obligation Bonds for the Family Entertainment Center and the First**

St. and Florida Realignment Project. [Roll call vote required] (*Stephen Thies, City Attorney, Matt McNeile, Assistant City Manager, Jason Thomas, City Engineer, and Renee Cantin, City Clerk*).

Commissioner Hernandez said his one concern was whether we would separate these on Bond issues, or would it be one total Bond issue. City Clerk Cantin said it would be two separate questions, one for each issue.

Commissioner Hernandez said his second concern had to do with the locations on the Fun Center.

Commissioner Galea moved to approve Site #8 at Mesa Village as the location for the development of a Family Entertainment Center.

Commissioner Hernandez said the way it was presented it's a no-brainer. He thought we could look at other locations but this one benefits us as far as trying to get the Bond passed and getting this thing done. It is very necessary for the community.

Commissioner Hernandez seconded the motion to approve Site #8 at Mesa Village as the location for the development of a Family Entertainment Center. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Mayor Rentschler said next they would act on Resolution #2013-37 calling a Special Election to be held in conjunction with the Regular Municipal Election on Tuesday, March 4, 2014 for the purpose of General Obligation Bonds for the Family Entertainment Center and the First St. and Florida Realignment Project.

Commissioner Sikes asked what the election would cost and City Clerk Cantin told her she had currently budgeted \$34,000.00 for the Regular Election. The Special Election Resolutions would require four additional publications for each one, so there may be an increase but she was going to try to do it with the \$34,000.00 the best she could. There may be an increase due to the publications that she would have to come back to the Commission for.

City Attorney Thies said before they approved the Resolution they would need to amend it to include the selected site, because the draft resolution simply referenced Site #1, 2 or 3a/3b with the Mesa Village site designated as Site 3. He told them their first course of action would be to amend the Resolution to insert the selected site and their second course of action would be to approve the Resolution as amended.

Commissioner Hernandez moved to approve to amend the Resolution by inserting the selected Site #8. Commissioner Rardin seconded the motion. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

Commissioner Rardin moved to approve the Resolution for the Family Fun Center and the Florida Ave./First Street Intersection to be placed on the ballot. Commissioner Talbert seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS

A-1. Discussion and Possible Action to Identify a Substitute Item for the City's Top Five Priority Projects in the FY 15 – 19 ICIP. (*Larry Garner, Facility Maintenance Manager and Brian Cesar, Public Works Director*)

City Manager Stahle stated Public Works Director Cesar put together the agenda report but there has been a change. The reality is that under the rules for ICIP, we are not allowed to add an item. We had originally contemplated adding an item that would include communication enhancements for the

city. Because that was not on our original list we sent to the State, we are not able to plug that one in. You are able to identify another project out of your 2015 List to put in the Top 5. The reason this came up is that we were able to utilize an existing building within the inventory of the City for the Evidence Storage the Police Department needed, so this item was taken off. It was \$250,000.00 and he asked the Commissioners to look at the list in their packet of materials. He asked if they would like to identify another from the 2015 List to plug into the Top 5. They would want to consider whether to change the order of the List or not. Concerning the communications tower, he noted they still could communicate the need for the tower to our legislators and see if they might be interested in providing some assistance to get it funded. Otherwise, we will talk about it in next year's budget.

Mayor Rentschler looked at the ICIP Project Summary list and noted the items were listed in order of priority with Public Safety Vehicles as #1, Public Safety Building as #2 (this would be removed), Water Supply as #3, Wastewater as #4 and Flood Control Projects as #5.

Commissioner Rardin asked Public Works Director Cesar which of these smaller water projects was most important. He had been hearing from up north that water projects were going to be the Governor's main priority this year, as far as ICIP money. He felt it would be beneficial for us to add another water project to our Top 5 or bump the Water projects up. They will likely get funded from what he had heard.

Public Works Director Cesar said you can only choose out of the 2015 listing and the only remaining project he had on that list is the Ocotillo Ground Storage Reservoir at \$35,000.00. Commissioner Rardin said that was a minimal amount of money. Public Works Director Cesar felt there were more pressing issues on the list.

Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin asked about the one underneath the Ocotillo project - the La Luz & Alamo Filter Plant Roof Rehab for \$320,000.00. Public Works Director Cesar said that was a roofing project at those facilities and it was an issue. Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin mentioned #19 which was a Waste Water project at \$400,000.00. He said there are three other ones besides the Ocotillo Ground Storage that are water issues. City Manager Stahle clarified the last one Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin mentioned as being the Reclaimed Water Line Looping – La Velle to 14th Street with a cost of \$400,000.00.

All the Commissioners talked about amounts and decided the amounts we asked for on the ICIP were anything under a half million dollars. Public Works Director Cesar told them we had received legislative funding for the Effluent Looping project and we had carry-over money. Mayor Rentschler asked if he was saying that project was funded or if it was a potential one. Public Works Director Cesar said there is a need of an additional \$400,000.00 to complete the project. Mayor Rentschler asked if this could be one of the Top 5 and Public Works Director Cesar said that of the three projects that had just been discussed, the Effluent Looping, the Roofing and the Ocotillo Ground Storage Tank, he felt the Ocotillo Project could be funded through Operational Budget. If he had to choose between the Roofing and the Looping, he recommended the Looping Project.

Commissioner Galea said the CIP that we would replace it with should not be over \$100,000.00 since that is what we are looking to replace. She was looking at items under or near \$100,000.00 and if we are going to receive a Capital Improvement Project that would provide a service to the City, it would be under 2015-07 – the Family Recreation Center ADA Restrooms. It isn't a sensational item, but those who supervise children there have to take them all the way to the locker rooms by the swimming pool to use the bathrooms. This would provide a better atmosphere for those who are caretakers at the Rec. Center.

Mayor Rentschler said we have large summer programs at the Recreational Center for children and when a child needs to use the restroom they must be taken into the swimming pool changing area in order to do so. We can't send them in by themselves and they must be accompanied by an adult, so it is rather ungainly on a regular basis when you have 50-60 children.

City Manager Stahle said in this building there was a restroom in the area where childcare takes place, but it was so awful it was removed. This item would essentially put one back and be particularly convenient for both the summer youth program and the after school program. It would make it a lot more convenient for the kids to be able to use the restroom in the same area where they play.

Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin said we can say it's a water project.

Commissioner Talbert moved to approve moving Item 2015-07 Family Recreation Center ADA Restrooms to the position vacated by the evidence building. Commissioner Sikes seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin asked if we want to move it to the second position or move to the fifth position since this is a priority list. Commissioner Galea would like to move it to the fifth place. Commissioner Rardin said the fifth place is the Flood Control at McKinley Channel and our portion for 2015 is \$577,000.00. He thought they should leave this one at #5 since it is over half a million dollars and put the ADA Restrooms at #4. From what he has heard from up north, half a million is the cap as far as Capital Outlay. The McKinley Channel one is important but he didn't think the State would give us money to do it. Commissioner Galea feels Commissioner Rardin makes a very valid point.

Commissioner Galea moved to amend the motion by moving Item 2015-07 to #4 on the list. Motion carried by a vote of 7-0-0.

Vote was next taken on the original motion with the amendment. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

23. Appointments to Boards & Committees. (Susie Galea, Mayor)

Mayor Rentschler announced the Boards and Committees with current vacancies and noted there were no nominations so there would not be any appointments for the following: Airport Advisory Board, Airport Zoning Board, Alamogordo Disability Council, Community Development Advisory Committee and the Senior Volunteer Program.

Mayor Rentschler noted the Housing Authority Advisory Board was a new board created a few months ago by the City Commission to take it out of our realm for much of the time. There are a number of applicants for this board and our Housing Operations Manager, Maggie Paluch has recommended five names for approval.

Housing Authority Advisory Board Five (5) vacancies. Staff Liaison -Maggie Paluch
(*this is a new board and anyone appointed will be new to this board*)

The following individuals have submitted an application and are interested in being appointed;

5-Michelle Reeves - if appointed this will her first term.

4-Steve Landers – if appointed this will be his first term.

3-LeRoy Copeland –

2-Carl Smith – if appointed this will be his first term.

Nina Walker-Saenz - if appointed this will her first term.

2-Molly Miragliuolo - if appointed this will be her first term.

Susan Payne - if appointed this will her first term.

Rick Gwaltney – if appointed this will be his first term.

Commissioner Hernandez wanted to see Nina Walker-Saenz remain since she has been on this board.

Commissioner Rardin wanted Steve Landers appointed. He also wanted to see Nina Walker-Saenz remain on the board. Commissioner Hernandez said she would be in place of Molly Miragliuolo.

Commissioner Galea wanted to see Molly Miragliuolo stay on the list and also LeRoy Copeland.

Mayor Rentschler asked if anyone had an objection to the first four and no one objected. He appointed the first four to the HAAB: Michelle Reeves – term of 5 years, Steve Landers – term of 4 years, LeRoy Copeland – term of 3 years and Carl Smith – term of 2 years.

He then asked for a vote to decide between Nina Walker-Saenz and Molly Miragliuolo to fill the fifth position. City Attorney Thies said we are obligated by federal regulation to have one resident on this board and Mayor Rentschler said both of these are residents according to their applications. The City Clerk confirmed this information.

Commissioner Rardin asked if the Housing Manager could pick the Board members and Commissioner Galea said the Commission could have worked with her, but no one but herself had worked with the Board. City Clerk Cantin said that in light of the possible change this evening we asked the Housing Manager to please assist with some recommendations. Mayor Rentschler felt most of these recommendations were fine, but was also concerned that Nina had been here for the entire time he had been on the Commission and now we were leaving her off this board while eliminating the board she was on.

Commissioner Galea wanted to appoint someone new to a two year term. She felt Molly had been heavily involved in the Public Housing Authority and had the knowledge although she might lack the history Ms. Walker-Saenz had. She felt Molly Miragliuolo would be valuable for this board.

Mayor Rentschler asked for nominations on the fifth position.

Commissioner Galea nominated Molly Miragliuolo for the fifth position on the Housing Board. Commissioner Sikes seconded the nomination.

Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin felt uncomfortable voting on these people simply based on their applications. Commissioner Galea seemed to be the only one with any experience dealing with this group. Mayor Rentschler said he had not had a chance to interview either of these individuals. Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin recommended we give the Mayor time to meet with them both. Mayor Rentschler said it was Mayor appointed with Commission approval and the real problem with this Board is we need to have it in place very soon, tonight if at all possible.

Commissioner Galea said it must be done tonight simply because they must organize and meet so they can pass a resolution before the end of the year. Mayor Rentschler said we must be sure they are in line with federal regulations and Commissioner Galea agreed. Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin didn't think they'd had the opportunity to meet with these people in order to make a decision.

Commissioner Galea suggested since the Board consisted of five members and only three were needed for a quorum, could we ask the City Attorney if the fifth position could be tabled. City Attorney Thies stated you can elect not to appoint the fifth person tonight and refer that to a later date. Mayor Rentschler asked if we'd still be in line with federal regulations if we did that. City Attorney Thies said the State requirements say that if you have a Housing Authority you have to have a five member Advisory Board. You could move forward with three or four members because three constitutes a quorum. Mayor Rentschler hated to see an even-member board.

Commissioner Rardin said we haven't had a Housing Authority meeting in a long time and felt we should get this Board rolling so there is some oversight on Housing. He wanted them to pick all five members tonight. Either that or we need to have a Housing Authority meeting to see what is going on with the old Board.

Commissioner Talbert asked if either of these two individuals were present tonight. They were not. He noted it was hard to pick someone when you aren't familiar with them.

Mayor Rentschler felt they were all familiar with the first one, Nina Walker-Saenz, and asked if anyone was opposed to this. Commissioner Talbert said he was not familiar with either one of them but

agreed they needed to get this rolling. Commissioner Rardin was in favor of Nina Walker-Saenz because she has been on the Board as long as he has been here. Her experience might bring some insight to the new Board and hers was only a two year term. Commissioner Galea didn't want to glorify long-term residency in federal housing. Mayor Rentschler said he understood that and added her experience from being a long-term member would be useful to this Board.

Vote was taken on motion to nominate Molly Miragliuolo for the fifth position on the Housing Board failed by a vote of 2-5-0. Mayor Rentschler, Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin, Commissioner Talbert, Commissioner Rardin and Commissioner Hernandez voted nay.

Mayor Rentschler appointed Nina Walker-Saenz to the fifth position on the Housing Authority Board.

City Manager Stahle thanked the people who did volunteer because we had to beat the bushes to find interested citizens for this. This has not gone unnoticed and he wanted to keep them in mind for any other vacancies that come up.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

1) City Manager Stahle wished everyone Happy Holidays and a Merry Christmas and Lock your Doors. This is the time people sometimes take advantage of us so when you are out shopping make sure you lock the doors to your cars and your house. Have a great holiday.

REMARKS AND INQUIRIES BY THE CITY COMMISSION

Commissioner Hernandez commented on the following:

1) Commissioner Hernandez said in the past the Commissioners received notifications of major things happening in the City and he would like to see this again. Some came directly from a department and some came from Megan's or the City Manager's office. There have been three major incidences happen in the last few months – a guy on one of the Sun streets who shot up his house and vehicle, the issue on Spruce and an issue on Sunday night that was 200' from his house. People asked him about this and he didn't have anything to tell them, so he would like to see these notices come to them again like from the Police Department, Public Works concerning major water breaks that shut down major intersections, and other items like that. He would like to be able to respond to constituents when they ask him questions. Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin said he appreciated that as well.

City Manager Stahle noted this.

Commissioner Talbert commented on the following:

1) He reported they had an extremely successful fly-in on Saturday. Col. Croft participated and gave us lots of support. Commissioner Talbert wasn't sure how many kids they took flying but they flew from 9:00 in the morning to a little after sunset. It was a good time and good community action.

Commissioner Rardin commented on the following:

1) Commissioner Rardin addressed his comments to the City Manager. He said he sees a lot of city employees at lunch time in the city vehicles. Recently, he saw one with his girl friend and he did not think this appropriate. He didn't have a problem with employees being in city vehicles at lunch time, just the fact they have non-city employees with them. He asked City Manager Stahle to look into it and see that it is stopped. City Manager Stahle responded by saying it was absolutely not appropriate and he would look into it. He said he would talk to Commissioner Rardin later about this. The City Manager made it clear by stating if the crews are out in the field and they need to go to lunch, they obviously can. Our policy does not allow 'civilians' in city vehicles at all.

Mayor Pro-Tem Baldwin commented on the following:

1) He thanked former Mayor Galea for all her hard work and her time and effort put into the City for the last year and a half. He also thanked past Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez.

Commissioner Galea commented on the following:

1) She thanked the Commission and community for allowing her the opportunity to serve as long as she was able to. She asked the Commission to support Mayor Rentschler as Mayor. She noted she wasn't listing the number of things she had done as Mayor because Commissioner Rardin had become agitated with the list she would bring of the things that she was involved in. There has been talk about her being too public and being in the newspaper too often, but the newspaper only captured a fifth of the activities she was engaged in. She listed a number of things the Commission could help Mayor Rentschler with this month and noted some of them had to be done by the Mayor himself. She mentioned a groundbreaking in El Paso tomorrow for Sierra Providence and said our hospital would be receiving a Cath Lab because of our great community partnership with them. She read a total of 24 upcoming events which needed attention from the Mayor and/or Commission.

Mayor Rentschler commented on the following:

1) Mayor Rentschler said he had an opportunity to interface with the Alamogordo PD during Thanksgiving. There were juveniles punching holes in vehicle tires and they got three vehicles in front of his house. The total damage was about \$1,000.00 and he thought there wasn't much could be done about it besides fix the tires, which he did. Through some really interesting police work the PD caught the juveniles responsible by doing neighborhood patrols. He thanked them again.

2) He reminded everyone to keep their vehicles locked. When you report a theft it goes on the National Crime Incident Reporting Log and gives Alamogordo a black eye. Alamogordo is among the top in the State every year when it comes to crimes reported. Please lock your doors and windows when you are gone, also.

3) He thanked everyone for their support and especially thanked Past Mayor Galea and Past Mayor Pro-Tem Hernandez. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Roll Call Vote Required)

Adjourn into Closed Session in compliance with Section 10-15-1.H, NMSA 1978 (2010 Cumulative Supplement), to discuss:

- Acquisition of Real Property (NW ¼ of SW ¼ of Section 5, T16S, R10E, N.M.P.M.)

Commissioner Hernandez moved to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss Acquisition of Real Property (NW ¼ of SW ¼ of Section 5, T16S, R10E, N.M.P.M.) at 8:24 p.m. Commissioner Galea seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken. Motion carried with a vote of 7-0-0.

ADJOURNMENT



Renee L. Cantin
 City Clerk Renee L. Cantin

Robert Rentschler
 Mayor Robert Rentschler

*(Prepared by Nancy Jacobs, Deputy Clerk)
 Approved at the Regular Meeting held on December 17, 2013.*