

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 12TH 2015, 7:20PM
DISCUSSION & REVIEW
OF PRELIMINARY FY 2016 BUDGET PART I.
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
405 N. PASEO DE OÑATE ESPAÑOLA, NM**

CALL TO ORDER

The 5-12-15 City Council meeting reconvened at 7:20pm by Mayor Alice A. Lucero to discuss item number seven (7).

ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The following in attendance:

Mayor	Alice A. Lucero
Mayor Pro-Tem	Pedro Valdez
Councilors:	Michelle R. Martinez
	Adrianna Ortiz
	Peggy Sue Martinez
	John Hernandez
	Cory Lewis
	Tania Sanchez
	Dennis Tim Salazar

City Manager Kelly Duran- *residing*

City Clerk Anna Squires – *residing*

Deputy City Clerk Jeanne Bustos – *residing*

J. ITEMS PROPOSED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS (ACTION ITEMS)

7. Discussion & Review of Preliminary FY 2016 Budget (*Continuation*)

ASD Joyce Sandoval - Finance Analyst Jessica Ortiz

CM Kelly Duran stated the proposed Preliminary FY 2016 Budget included PERA contributions from the Public Safety Department. He stated that the City of Española employees will earn a little less money within their paychecks but it would essentially fix the budget by an estimated \$764,653.00 dollars.

Mayor Lucero responded in the negative stating that Public Safety Department(s) were protected by Ordinance which prohibits the municipality or government agency from adjusting Public Safety Department benefits. Similar comments were echoed by Councilor Adrianna Ortiz.

Officer Cody Martinez stated that he was not in favor of the proposed Preliminary FY 2016 Budget in light of the option provided for Council's consideration. He voiced other concerns regarding the rate of pay received by the EPD Officers in comparison to neighboring communities. Officer Cody Martinez stated that officers from the area were subject to extremely dangerous conditions and continued to preserve despite their rate of pay. Similar comments were echoed by Department of Public Safety Director Richard Gallegos and Deputy Chief Miguel Maez.

ASD Sandoval stated that there were no additional employee salary increases.

Councilor Salazar sympathized with the dangerous situations that all Public Safety Officers endured and

stressed that a small emphasis and discussion about increasing revenues and contributing to the local tax base could play a large role in the understanding of helping the community at large.

Councilor Lewis stated that it would be at the discretion of the officer who issued the ticket to take the citation to Municipal Court or Magistrate Court. He stated that there were Rio Arriba County Sheriff's Deputies issuing citations as well. Councilor Lewis expressed hope that City Police Officers would be mindful of which court their citations were filed with. Councilor Lewis urged City Police to work with the City and contribute to revenues.

ASD Sandoval stated that the beginning of the budget process for the current fiscal year, salary and benefit adjustments were made for healthcare expenses due to increased healthcare provider costs.

Mayor Pro-Tem Valdez questioned page one (1) Line Item No: 101-000-34901 entitled Special Use Permits. He stated that the City was not utilizing special use permits effectively and cited wide-load permits as an example. Mayor Pro-Tem Valdez stated that, by not utilizing special use permits, the City was losing out on a volume of potential revenue.

Mayor Lucero stated that the Governing Body was taxed with the burden of approving the FY16 preliminary budget. Mayor Lucero suggested that if the City were to seek aid from the Area Agency on Aging funding for the Senior Center food program and state funds were granted, the seniors would be provided with healthier, well-balanced meals. She also stated that during recent discussion with Rio Arriba County Councilor Peggy Sue Martinez, Councilor Michelle R. Martinez, Councilor Ortiz, Councilor Lewis, Councilor Salazar and Councilor Hernandez were all in agreement to seek aid from the Area Agency on Aging funding for the Senior Center food program.

Mayor Lucero stated that budget cuts and expenditure cut backs had affected the work force and every department had felt the pinch in a five year period, with exception of the Municipal Court.

Judge Salazar stated that in a collaborative effort with Rio Arriba County Substance Treatment Outreach & Prevention Program, Municipal Teen Court received grant funding within FY15.

Councilor Michelle R. Martinez questioned Judge Salazar about the feasibility of increasing the Teen Court fees by a percentage so that the annual budget would reflect a an increase. She stated that a truancy ordinance should be enforced and further discussed at some point. Judge Salazar replied in the affirmative stating that he was taking measures to increasing the Teen Court fees by a percentage so that the annual budget would reflect an increase.

Councilor John Hernandez questioned the position of the Graffiti Officer within the Municipal Court budget. Councilor Hernandez stated that he believed that the position was reclassified under the Planning & Zoning Department in FY15 as he thought the Graffiti Officer should work in the same capacity but with different roles as the Code Enforcement Officer.

Mayor Lucero stated that under former Mayor Joseph Maestas and past the administration, the position of Graffiti Officer was determined to remain within Municipal Court.

Councilor Adrianna Ortiz yielded the floor to Local Union 1188 AFSCME President and I.S. Manager Joaquin Maestas. Mr. Joaquin Maestas. Mr. Maestas stated that stated that he felt it had become common practice when a position within a department was frozen to distribute extra duties amongst the other staff members. Mr. Joaquin Maestas continued to state that within a five-year time

span, the City had gone from approximately two-hundred and twenty (220) employees to approximately one-hundred and forty (140) employees.

Councilor Michelle R. Martinez stated that the proposed budget was not anything to further discuss nor did it provide options. She asked that City Manager Kelly Duran and Administrative Services Director Joyce Sandoval prepare three (3) proposed Preliminary FY 2016 Budget options for Council review and consideration.

City Manager Kelly Duran and Administrative Services Director Joyce Sandoval replied in the affirmative.

Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Valdez to send the preliminary budget with the discussed changes to next City Council Meeting of 5-26-15 as it was determined that the Department of Public Safety PERA could not be amended according to Ordinance.; seconded by Councilor Adrianna Ortiz.

Motion carried 8-0.

K. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to New Mexico Open Meetings Act Section 10-15-1 (H) Subsection (2) limited personnel matters; (5) discussion of bargaining strategy preliminary to collective bargaining negotiations; (7) attorney-client privilege pertaining to threatening or pending litigation in which the public is or may become a participant; (8) discussion of the purchase, acquisition or disposal of real property or water rights by the public body.

Mayor Lucero stated that there was no need to go into Executive Session.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Cory Lewis; 2nd Councilor Michelle R. Martinez.

Motion Carried 8-0

Meeting adjourned at 10:07 pm

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by the Governing Body of the City of Española this 11th day of August 2015.



The Honorable Alice Alarid Lucero
Mayor, City of Española

ATTEST:



Anna Squires, City Clerk

