

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 13, 2014, 6PM  
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
405 N. PASEO DE OÑATE ESPAÑOLA, NM**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Alice A. Lucero.

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF MEDITATION/INVOCATION**

Mayor Alice A. Lucero led the Pledge of Allegiance and Mayor Pro-Tem Pedro Valdez led the Moment of Meditation/Invocation.

**C. ROLL CALL/DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

The following in attendance:

Mayor:	Alice A. Lucero
Mayor Pro-Tem	Pedro Valdez
Councilors:	Cory Lewis
Michelle R. Martinez	
Dennis Tim Salazar	
Adrianna Ortiz	
Peggy Sue Martinez	
John Hernandez	
Absent:	Eric Radosevich (absent due to a family emergency)

**D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Agenda as presented:

---Begin---

- A. CALL TO ORDER**
- B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF MEDITATION/ INVOCATION**
- C. ROLL CALL/ DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**
- D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- E. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- F. COUNCILOR COMMENTS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- G. MATTERS FROM THE MAYOR (ACTION ITEMS)**
  - 1. Appointment of City Manager
  - 2. Appointment of Regional Development Corporation Board Member- Javier Sanchez
  - 3. Proclamation- James Rodriguez Elementary Student Council regarding Student Leadership Workshop
- H. REPORTS**
  - 4. Council Appointed Liaisons (NCSWA, NCRD, E911, Beautification Committee, Veteran's Commission, Regional Coalition of LANL Communities, Redi-Net)
  - 5. Staff Reports
- I. ITEMS PROPOSED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION AND/OR DISCUSSION – ACTION ITEMS**
  - 6. Consideration of 3-Year Contract with the Northern New Mexico Regional Arts Center (NNMRAC)
  - 7. Consideration of Resolution 2014-07: Renaming a portion of State Road 76 as the Pete Domenici Highway

**J. 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.

**K. ADJOURNMENT**

--End--

Mayor A. Lucero stated that Mayor Pro- Tem Valdez had requested removal of agenda item number seven (7). Mayor Lucero requested that Executive Session be placed before Matters from the Mayor.

***Motion by Councilor Peggy Sue Martinez to approve the agenda as amended; seconded by Councilor Adrianna Ortiz.***

***Motion Carried 7-0***

**E. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no members of the public wishing to comment.

**F. COUNCILOR COMMENTS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Pro-Tem Valdez stated that he had recently visited to the newly constructed city softball fields. He commented that the fields were looking more attractive with the progress of construction and would be completed soon.

Councilor Peggy Sue Martinez stated expressed gratitude for local professional boxer Tony Valdez who fought at the Buffalo Thunder Hotel & Resort Casino. Councilor Peggy Sue Martinez stated that Mr. Valdez had proven to be a positive role model in the eyes of the community and had also reached out in aid to local youth organizations.

Mayor Lucero announced that, in collaboration with the Española YMCA Teen Center, the first annual RoboRAVE Rally was held at Northern New Mexico College on March 1, 2014 and over 400 students from schools within Northern New Mexico had competed. Mayor Lucero stated that the event was a warm-up for the RoboRAVE International event which was held at the Albuquerque Convention Center May 1, 2014 to May 3, 2014. Mayor Lucero explained that during the event, local teams won awards for their performance of student/team built robots. She reported that the Española Teen Center had won 2nd place in the "a-MAZE-ing" Middle School Category and 3rd place in the High School Category. She further stated that McCurdy Charter School, Mesa Vista and the Montessori School (combination team) placed first in the High School "a-MAZE-ing" Category and Carlos Vigil Middle School placed 2nd in the Middle School "Line Following" Challenge. Mayor Lucero expressed that she was extremely proud of the student's achievements and collaborative team efforts.

**J. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Lucero stated that pursuant to New Mexico Open Meetings Act Section 10-15-1 (H) Subsection (2) limited personnel matters; pertaining to the City Manager's appointment and threatening litigation from Municipal Judge Stephen Salazar, there was a need to enter into Executive Session.

*Motion by Councilor Lewis to enter into Executive Session; seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Valdez.*

**Roll Call Vote:**

<i>Mayor Pro-Tem:</i>	<i>Pedro Valdez</i>	<i>In Favor</i>
<i>Councilors:</i>	<i>Cory Lewis</i>	<i>In Favor</i>
	<i>Michelle R. Martinez</i>	<i>In Favor</i>
	<i>Dennis Tim Salazar</i>	<i>In Favor</i>
	<i>Adrianna Ortiz</i>	<i>In Favor</i>
	<i>Peggy Sue Martinez</i>	<i>In Favor</i>
	<i>John Hernandez</i>	<i>In Favor</i>

*Motion carried 7-0.*

*The Governing Body entered Executive Session at 6:04pm.*

*Motion by Councilor Lewis to exit from Executive Session; seconded by Councilor Ortiz.*

**Roll Call Vote:**

<i>Mayor Pro-Tem:</i>	<i>Pedro Valdez</i>	<i>In Favor</i>
<i>Councilors:</i>	<i>Cory Lewis</i>	<i>In Favor</i>
	<i>Michelle R. Martinez</i>	<i>In Favor</i>
	<i>Dennis Tim Salazar</i>	<i>In Favor</i>
	<i>Adrianna Ortiz</i>	<i>In Favor</i>
	<i>Peggy Sue Martinez</i>	<i>In Favor</i>
	<i>John Hernandez</i>	<i>In Favor</i>

*Motion carried 7-0.*

*The Governing Body exited Executive Session at 6:34pm.*

Mayor Lucero stated that there was no action taken in Executive Session. Mayor Lucero further stated that a letter would be drafted and sent to Judge Salazar.

**G. MATTERS FROM THE MAYOR (ACTION ITEMS)**

**1. Appointment of City Manager**

Mayor Lucero stated that, after an extensive interview process for the City Manager position, a decision was rendered by the interview panel which consisted of Mayor Pro-Tem Valdez, Councilor Peggy Sue Martinez as well as herself, Mayor Alice A. Lucero.

Mayor Lucero explained that City Clerk Tessa Jo Mascareñas served in her capacity as Human Resources Director and Local Union 1188 AFSCME President Joaquin Maestas was also asked to be present throughout the CM interview process and served as an unbiased witness.

Mayor Lucero stated that the candidate who had obtained the highest score and prevailed through background assessments was Mr. Timothy P. Dodge. She reported that Mr. Dodge had been a City Manager for the City of Las Vegas N.M. from 2009 until present and served previously as an Administrative Director for the City of Santa Rosa from 2004 until 2009. Mayor Lucero stated that the consideration of City Manager appointment to Mr. Timothy P. Dodge was also determined by his educational background, having achieved a Bachelor's (BA) degree from New Mexico Highlands University.

Mayor Lucero finalized her comments on Mr. Dodge stating that she appreciated other expertise which included, insurance claims and adjustments as well as knowledge of employee training, cross training, and reviewed ability.

***Motion by Councilor Lewis to ratify the appointment of Mr. Timothy P. Dodge as City Manager; seconded by Councilor Peggy Sue Martinez.***

***Motion Carried 7-0.***

Mayor Lucero stated that the annual amount Council had discussed for the City Manager position, based on the level of expertise and knowledge of Mr. Dodge, was \$110,000 dollars.

***Motion by Mayor Pro-Tem Valdez to ratify the \$110,000 annual salary for the City Manager position; seconded by Councilor Lewis.***

Councilor Peggy Sue Martinez asked for clarification as to where the funding would come from for the City Manager's salary. Mayor Lucero replied \$90,000 would come from the General Fund and \$20,000 dollars would come from the Utilities Fund.

Councilor Salazar stated that he wanted to recognize and acknowledge the diligent servitude displayed over the past two (2) years by Interim City Manager Joe T. Duran. Councilor Salazar thanked Mr. Duran for his efforts and stated that the City was extremely thankful for his devotion and knowledge of City personnel, departments and functions.

Mayor Lucero echoed the sentiments of Councilor Salazar. She further stated that Mr. Timothy P. Dodge was not present at the City Council Meeting because he was handling a recent departure and death of a Las Vegas City employee.

Mayor Lucero expressed further gratitude for the service which Interim City Manager Joe T. Duran had successfully accomplished. Mayor Lucero stated that Mr. Duran would continue

working for the City of Española in the capacity of Building Inspector.

***Motion Carried 7-0***

**2. Appointment of Regional Development Corporation Board Member**

Mayor Lucero stated that she had an appointment for the Regional Development Corporation (RDC) Board. She expressed that Mr. Javier Sanchez was the co-owner and current Manager of the La Cocina Restaurant and would serve as an excellent advocate for the RDC. Mayor Lucero further explained that Mr. Javier Sanchez was a Yale graduate and was originally from the Española Valley.

***Motion by Councilor Salazar to ratify the appointment of Javier Sanchez to the Regional Development Corporation (RDC) Board; seconded by Councilor Lewis.***

***Motion Carried 7-0.***

**3. Proclamation – James H. Rodriguez Elementary Student Council regarding Student Leadership Workshop.**

Mayor Lucero stated that Councilor Michelle R. Martinez requested a proclamation honoring the students of James H. Rodriguez Elementary and their participation at a Student Council Leadership Workshop.

Councilor Michelle R. Martinez read the proclamation.

Mayor Lucero thanked all of the students who were present as well as their families. Mayor Lucero stated that she was proud of the student's accomplishments during the Student Council Leadership Conference.

**H. REPORTS**

**4. Council Appointed Liaisons (NCSWA, NCRTD, E911, Beautification Committee, Veteran's Commission, Regional Coalition of LANL Communities, Redi-Net)**

Mayor Pro- Tem Valdez announced that the next North Central Solid Waste Authority (NCSWA) meeting would be held at the Rio Arriba County Commission Chambers on May 15, 2014 beginning at 9am. He reported that there would be a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Alcalde Transfer Station from 11am- 1pm on May 15, 2014.

Mayor Lucero stated that during a recent New Mexico State E-911 Conference, local E911 Director Marty Griego received the 2014 E-911 Director of the Year Award.

Councilor John Hernandez stated that he had not yet met with the Beautification committee but they were in the process of discussing the next meeting. Councilor Hernandez further stated that he had planned to discuss placing "Do Not Litter" Signs within City Recreational sites. He stated that he wanted to further explore the citation measures if litterers were caught.

Interim City Manager Duran stated that the Veteran's Wall Commission would be meeting on Wednesday, May 14, 2014. He announced that the Annual "Run for the Wall" was comprised of hundreds of motorcyclists as well as military servicemen from across the United States and would be stopping at the Española Veteran's Memorial Wall on Friday May 16, 2014 between 1pm and 2pm.

Mayor Lucero announced that there would be a Memorial Day Ceremony held on Monday, May 26, 2014 at the Española Veteran's Memorial Wall beginning at 11am.

Mayor Lucero stated that the Regional Coalition of LANL Communities (RCOLC) would be holding a strategic planning session in Santa Fe on Friday, May 16, 2014 at 9am to further discuss issues surrounding negotiations to contract services and goods primarily from a large company in Kansas City, Missouri. Mayor Lucero stated that the RCOLC had been lobbying against further negotiations due in part to the negative repercussions that local businesses could face as a result. She reported that RCOLC had sent a letter to the New Mexico Congressional Delegation asking for support on the issue. Mayor Lucero stated that the New Mexico Congressional Delegation supported the coalition's efforts and would conduct future correspondence with the Congressional Delegation.

Councilor Salazar announced that fellow Councilor Michelle R. Martinez was a dual recipient of two prestigious scholarships for the Municipal Official Leadership Institute (MOLI).

## **5. STAFF REPORTS**

Interim City Manager Duran stated that the General Services Department submitted a report that detailed building maintenance, street maintenance, city vehicle maintenance and preparation for recently City co-sponsored events.

Interim City Manager Duran stated that Waste Water Treatment Plant Superintendent Perry Vigil had submitted a list that included tests conducted and passed. He reported that WWTP Water Systems Operator Earl Martinez had passed the State of New Mexico Water Quality Control Commission Test and received a Water Systems Level 1 Certification.

Interim City Manager Duran stated that new Community Services Director Mark Trujillo had submitted reports regarding Parks, Recreation, the Senior Center and the Library. He stated that the report listed an increase in revenue.

Councilor Lewis stated that he had driven past the Fire Department facility and noticed that weeds had grown and appeared to be unsightly. He questioned the feasibility of having community service workers tend to the overgrowth before it got any worse. Interim City Manager Duran stated that the issue would be addressed

## **I. ITEMS PROPOSED FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION AND/OR DISCUSSION – ACTION ITEMS**

## **6. Consideration of 3-Year Contract with the Northern New Mexico Regional Arts Center (NNMRAC)**

Mayor Lucero stated that the consideration of a three (3) year contract with the Northern New Mexico Regional Arts Center (NNMRAC) would be discussed. She welcomed NNMRAC Executive Director John Werenko, NNMRAC Board of Trustees President Gabrielle Silva and Community Services Director Mark Trujillo.

Mayor Lucero explained that due to a drop in revenue from the previous year by ten percent (10%), the City was forced to cut approximately \$1 million from the budget. She stated that all departments would be affected by the cut. She reported that the initial proposed three (3) year NNMRAC contract was for \$70,000 and would now be considered at \$60,000. Mayor Lucero justified the decrease by stating that many of the job duties which NNMRAC Executive Director John Werenko had taken on previously were now being handled by the new Community Services Director.

***Motion by Councilor Lewis to approve the amended three (3) year contract with the Northern New Mexico Regional Arts Center (NNMRAC); seconded by Councilor Peggy Sue Martinez.***

Councilor Peggy Sue Martinez commented that she was extremely pleased with all the developments at the Northern New Mexico Regional Arts Center and was humbled by the passion and leadership displayed by Executive Director John Werenko and NNMRAC Choir Director Brian Wingard. She noted that the previous contract was approved annually. She stated that the only problem she had with the contract was the potential that newly elected officials would inherit the contract. Councilor Peggy Sue Martinez stated that she would like the contract to extend only for a two year period.

Mayor Pro-Tem Valdez stated that the reasoning behind the three (3) year contract was to allow the organization to apply for larger grant amounts. Mayor Pro-Tem Valdez cited the clause within the contract which stated that the term was negotiable.

Community Services Director Mark Trujillo stated that he had met with NNMRAC Executive Director John Werenko and now fully understood the 2014 NNMRAC Annual Report. He explained that although the initial cut of \$10,000.00 to the NNMRAC contract appeared extreme, the organization was prepared to adjust to the cut back as well as a three (3) year lease.

NNMRAC Executive Director John Werenko discussed funding developments which included; gallery sales, fundraisers, grant donations, tuition, tourist activity sales and facility fees. He provided suggestions regarding how Plaza facilities could better generate profits by utilizing facility contract agreements and fees. NNMRAC Executive Director John Werenko stated that the Board of Trustees had developed a way to cut back on non-essentials and balance the budget on a monthly basis.

NNMRAC Executive Director Werenko stated that the organization was a 501(c)3 nonprofit for the community. He explained that a nonprofit belonged to all the citizens of the State in which it was licensed. Mr. Werenko further stated that a nonprofit was also authorized to conduct

business by the Office of the Attorney General of a State through the Public Regulation Commission Department of Nonprofit Corporation.

NNMRAC Board of Trustees President Gabrielle Silva commented that, as the Board of Trustees President, it was her responsibility to sign the contract. She stated that she was optimistic about the organization's future and further expressed that a true collaborative effort could yield only good things for the community.

Mr. Werenko stated that NNMRAC had also exceeded the terms of its contract with the City of Española by providing services in the Plaza during the absence of a person in the position of Community Services Director from fiscal year (FY) 2013 through fiscal year (FY) 2014. Mr. Werenko added that during that time, NNMRAC had also managed the Española Community Arts Education Center by arranging and supervising City License Agreements for weddings, baby showers, birthday parties, graduation parties, first communion parties, as well as other private and governmental events.

City Attorney Frank Coppler cited Section four (4) of the contract which stated that the term of the temporary Lease shall commence on July 1 2014, and shall terminate June 30, 2017. Notwithstanding the term of the lease either party may without clause terminate the Lease upon thirty (30) days' notice to the other party. Mr. Coppler cited Section twelve (12) RECORDING – SHORT FORM MEMO; stating that the Lease shall not be recorded in its entirety. If desired by either party, both parties shall execute in recordable form a short form memorandum of the Lease which may be placed off record.

Councilor Ortiz stated that she understood both sections discussed by City Attorney Coppler and the lease appeared to be very negotiable in terms of finding additional grant or state funding. Councilor Ortiz commented on the future of NNMRAC's financial stability, stating that it was not unforeseeable.

*Motion Carried 7-0.*

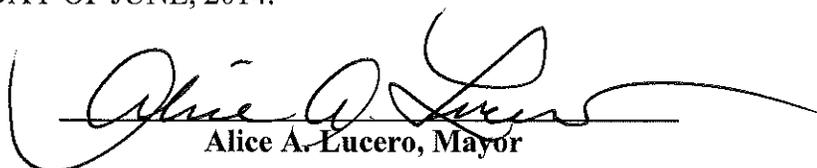
**K. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Councilor Lewis to adjourn; seconded by Councilor Peggy Sue Martinez.*

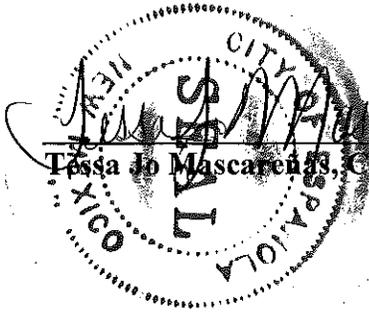
*Motion carried 7-0.*

*The meeting was adjourned at 7:19pm.*

APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 24<sup>th</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2014.

  
Alice A. Lucero, Mayor

ATTEST:



*Tessa Jo Mascarenhas*  
Tessa Jo Mascarenhas, City Clerk