

**Summary minutes of:**

**Public Works Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, January 5, 2010, 5:30pm  
Municipal Court  
405 S. Paseo de Oñate, Española, NM**

*Committee Members:*

*Councilor Alfred Herrera, Committee Chair  
Mayor Pro Tem Alice Lucero  
Councilor Danielle Duran  
Councilor Cecilia Lujan*

The meeting was called to order at 5:32pm with the following in attendance:

Committee Members: Councilor Alfred Herrera, Committee Chair  
Mayor Pro Tem Alice Lucero (arrived at 5:39pm)  
Councilor Danielle Duran  
Councilor Cecilia Lujan

City Councilors: Helen Kain-Salazar

City Manager: Veronica Albin  
City Clerk: Heather Velasquez

Deputy City Clerk: Sally Baxter

Staff: Ben Ortega, Public Works Director; Sandra Bustos, Utilities  
Billing; Anthony "Hawk" Trujillo, Streets

**Agenda as presented:**

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**Call to Order**

**Approval of Agenda**

**MATTERS FROM CITY MANAGER**

1. Arsenic Treatment update

**Discussion Items**

2. Contract Approval for the Design of Utility Lines (Wilson and Co.)
3. Approval of the streets that will be designed for Water and Wastewater lines
4. Funding Update on \$8 Million Dollar Project from New Mexico Finance Authority
5. Contract Approval for N. McCurdy Road Improvements (Bohannon-Huston)
6. Water Utility, Meter Reading Division

**MATTERS FROM PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR:**

1. Directors Monthly Report
2. Confirmation of new Street Division Policies (Snow Removal, Flood Response, Tree Trimming, Vector Control, Street Lights)
3. Report on Well 1 booster station and Tank 1A Decommissioning
4. Report on proposals received on Wells 5 and 6.
5. Update on Zuni/McCurdy Intersection
6. Recap on Public Works To Do List.

**Matters of the Chair**

**Announcements**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: 10-15-1 (H) Section (2) Limited personnel matters**

**Adjournment**

*At any time during the Open Meeting, the Governing Body may close the meeting to the public to discuss matters not subject to the New Mexico Open Meetings Act. The Governing Body may revise the order of the agenda items considered at this Open Meeting.*

*If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of an amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact the City Clerk at 747-6019 at least three days prior to the meeting.*

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## **Call to Order**

Chairman Alfred Herrera called the meeting to order at 5:32pm.

## **Approval of Agenda**

The City Manager asked that item #4 (Matters From Public Works Director) be removed and asked if there would be an Executive Session. Councilor Herrera said he wanted to leave it and they didn't have to have an Executive Session.

Councilor Duran asked if there were any other issues such as tenants; the City Manager said she suggested bringing that back at a later date.

*Councilor Duran made a motion to approve the Agenda as amended, seconded by Councilor Lujan. The motion carried 3/0.*

## **Item #1 (Matters From City Manager), Arsenic Treatment update**

The City Manager said Public Works Director Ben Ortega would present:

Mr. Ortega said he had a report on the status of the well #1 Arsenic Facility, it had not been operating since October, and he wanted to let the committee members know the system was not well and did need care. He said he had prepared a brief memo on the situation.

Mr. Ortega said in July 2009 it was determined that the facility was being backwashed way too many times, every 2 weeks; he said the filter continually caught arsenic, the city had had Molzen Corbin and the builder do a consultation, and every time backwash wore out the filter, the consultant found material in the tank had excess sand, it was compacting into the filter, and causing strain on the system to cause the system to call for backwashing.

after determining sand clogging, ran a series of tests, during that determined one of the pressure relief valves was set too high, by having set too high it never tripped on so caused plates/discs to allow water to overflow from tank, discs should not be rupturing, consul also found o/s gate valve left closed, like dam, sent water in filter tank, causing excess pressure.

*Mayor Pro Tem Lucero arrived at 5:39pm.*

Mr. Ortega said the city brought back the same designers and consultants so this wouldn't occur in the future, went back to Molzen Corbin and they proposed a small, approximately \$2,500.<sup>00</sup>, sand separator to eliminate excess build up of material and they reset the valves to the right setting so tampering could not occur, and to take away human error. He said the city needed to repurchase filter material and it will cost about \$75,000.<sup>00</sup>, so the plan is to do this, and there are funds set aside for the replacement of the media and installing the sand separator.

Mr. Ortega said on top of that, he wants to bring back the consultant who designed and built the system to retrain staff as the process may change and staff members need training and education to get them back being fully trained. He said to control any type of shutoffs of valves in the yard he propose to wield the cover so only city employees can access the valve during servicing. Mr. Ortega said that was the situation and he wanted the committee members to be aware of what had happened. He said the \$2,500.<sup>00</sup> was for the design; the City Manager said it was \$20,000.<sup>00</sup> for the sand separator and replacing the media was about \$50,000.<sup>00</sup>. She said this was something the city would be replacing and it was in the budget; she said it had to be replaced about every twenty months and was designed to be replaced.

Councilor Duran asked if it filtered biological; Ron Mosher (Molzen Corbin and Associates) said it catches ions.

Mayor Pro Tem Lucero asked if it was a design flaw and if Molzen Corbin would pay.

Mr. Mosher said sand was not known at the time so it was not a design oversight, the media needed to be replaced because the tank ruptured and spilled the media so it was not a cost they would incur. He said knowledge of sand in there had adversely affected it, but even the manufacturer didn't know how sand affected the media; he said if they had known and had brought it to the manufacturer's attention, they might not have known what the effect would be.

The Mayor Pro Tem said it concerned her that this had gone online in July, and never really worked.

Councilor Herrera said the second item was not the design or the manufacturer, but was operator error. Councilor Herrera asked what caused the problem.

Mr. Mosher said it was a complicated issue with challenges he said the initial problem dealt with the backwashing. He said it hadn't been understood why the system had been needing to be backwashed so often so they had looked to Severn Trent Services (company for water and wastewater technology), the manufacturer, to get guidance on why the system had been backwashing so often, and the city had contacted Severn Trent directly.

Mr. Mosher said when Molzen Corbin had gotten involved in October water was flowing from the well into the tank. He said there had been a rock in the valve. He said when they had gotten involved early October, Severn Trent Services had been trying to fix the problems; he said it was easy to look back and have hindsight, but Severn Trent Services had been trying to see what had been going on, realized sand might be a contributing factor, meaning sand impacting the operation of the media, and breaking down the media.

Mr. Mosher said the media would compact and backwashing would fluff it back up, but they found they were they getting red water backwashing so thought it was the media. He said they found out sand was degrading the media so they started focusing on the sand itself. He said it was brought to their attention that the elevation of the tank and well were virtually the same so water levels were fighting each other during backwashing, so when Severn Trent Services went to the site, they had to close valves to moderate and started rupturing the rupture discs. He said the rupture discs were sort of like thick aluminum foil which acted to relieve pressure, so when Severn Trent Services had started popping rupture discs it was a nuisance so the city had changed the valve. He said the city hadn't wanted the Environment Department to see water washing out onto the ground. He said the problem was oversight but that caused a problem with sand, and also there was a problem with the similar elevations [of the tank and well].

Mr. Mosher said Molzen Corbin had started to look at the problems in October; they had gotten a call that city staff had gone out and found a foot of water on the floor and one of the rupture discs had blown. He said it had occurred seemingly by itself so their advice was to replace the rupture disc, put the system back online, and have someone there so the person could turn the well pump off if needed. He said it ran fine, they watched the system for six hours, tank one was calling for water, so they buttoned it up and left, and then the next day they got a call from someone who saw water running down the street.

Mr. Mosher said when Molzen Corbin got to the site, they found two feet of water in the building which had caused the media to spill so the system was not functional now because there was no media. He said when they started to look at it they realized it had to be downstream from the vessel; he said they knew it couldn't be the media because the previous day it ran fine. He said they knew it had to be downstream because just taking an overall view, and it had become apparent one of the two valves had been shut. Mr. Mosher said whether the valve was shut intentionally or by

accident they didn't know, but it had caused the failure and caused the media to be lost.

Mr. Ortega said that was why the city was going to put a cover on that valve.

Mr. Mosher said Clayton (a Molzen Corbin employee) had come and looked at the site, and had reset the pressure relief valve and put it back to the pressure it should have been at currently the valve had protection, but the valve needed to be monitored.

**Discussion Item #2, Contract Approval for the Design of Utility Lines (Wilson and Co.) AND Discussion Item #3, Approval of the streets that will be designed for Water and Wastewater lines**

Ben Ortega, Public Works Director, presented:

Mr. Ortega said he would combine items 2 and 3. He said the Council had approved Wilson (Wilson and Company) to design new lines, and Bob Paulette from Wilson was present.

Mr. Ortega said in the Committee packets there was a fold out with a listing of streets attached showing what was in phases one, two, and three. He said there were a total of twelve phases, but the city was only prepared at this time to enter into phases one, two, and three.

Mr. Ortega said phase one included Calle Gallegos, phase two included NM Highway 86, and phase three included the North Prince Drive area. He said this contract was for design only, not the construction, as had previously been discussed with the Council, and basically he was updating staff and was requesting to enter into a contract with Wilson for the design so the project could go out for bid. Councilor Herrera asked Mr. Ortega to clarify that this was for design; Mr. Ortega said the contract was for design and would also accommodate any design change orders based on field conditions and for them to be present during construction and to report back to the city.

Mayor Pro Tem Lucero said that was going to be her question and this had thrown her off. The City Manager said the design would go to a contractor and she did plan to take this to the Council this month and would like a recommendation.

Councilor Duran asked if it would go out to bid this month; Mr. Ortega said no, it would go to bid after September 2010. The City Manager said according to the preliminary schedule, it would bid after September with construction thirty to sixty days after. The Mayor Pro Tem said she thought they had talked about getting the people to connect to water and sewer and Calle Gallegos showed five [not connected to] water and seven [not connected to] sewer; the City Manager said two were already connected to water.

The Mayor Pro Tem said one example was six hundred seventy feet long and showed only servicing one person; she asked if these were private drives and said she thought there had been talk about not including private drives. The City Manager said there had been a discussion about whether or not to do [private drives] and skipping streets with one or two people. She said that was a conversation that needed to be had but Mr. Ortega and his staff had been tasked with finding out which were private drives and this could be a determination that could be made when the city was in the design phase based on whatever criteria the Council set.

The Mayor Pro Tem said she thought private drives would be excluded; the City Manager said staff was trying to determine which were private driveways but also needed to determine the number of residents and the percentage of people who would hookup to the utilities.

Mr. Ortega said for Wilson and Company, he wanted to be consistent with the proposal and some streets needed to be named and identified as to whether they were good candidates for lines.

The Mayor Pro Tem said utilities could be provided to private drives if the people wanted to pay for them. Mr. Ortega said he wanted to follow through on the design.

Councilor Herrera asked Mr. Ortega if he could provide information on the number of connections and what the timeframe was for getting the number of connections; he said this came up at every meeting and it was important for staff to engage in this matter. He said he had heard from people waiting for the development of their streets who couldn't develop their streets because they were waiting for the utility lines and development had been waiting ten to fifteen years. He said people were waiting to develop property for their kids and he thought the number of potential customers was more than just the people there and that had not been brought up. He said where there was one home there might be five or six if the utilities were installed.

Mayor Pro Tem Lucero said if the people did anticipate they would subdivide, they would need stub outs. The City Manager said staff had looked at these but the city needed to wait to have a consultant onboard so the consultant would be involved in the process, and a consultant could help with the process.

Mr. Ortega said he would start that now with the consultant, going street by street. The City Manager said all those parcels would be identified.

Councilor Herrera said the city didn't have to wait for the design; there were private driveways that did have street names, and he wondered if something like this was preliminary work. He said he wondered what was happening with 911, and how to get these streets named; he said if they didn't have street names, he was happy to hear the city would go ahead and name them.

Mr. Ortega said the city would also differentiate sign colors to show private streets.

Councilor Herrera asked in terms of the work of this committee, if there was a dollar amount; Bob Paulette (Wilson and Company) said it was difficult to say, they knew what it took to design a six-hundred foot water line, for example, and if it was a private drive if it would service multiple people that was the city's call. He said Wilson and Company was not familiar with all of the details of the listing and wanted to be a part of identifying and discussing anti-donation issues as well. The City Manager said regarding costs, design costs were lump sums and other costs were "not to exceed" amounts.

Councilor Herrera asked how the dollar amount was arrived at; Mr. Paulette said based on a table, and for example, if they had a paved street 600 feet long it took a certain amount of time to develop the design. He said it would behoove everyone to drive the roads and see what line went where.

Councilor Duran said looking at the contracts, some items that were "not to exceed", item number two talked about engineering services. She said some were small amounts, and regarding \$146,000, it looked like that was the amount. Mr. Paulette said that was a lump sum fee and if there were several side streets that ended up not being developed, they would adjust the amount if necessary. Councilor Duran asked if the city could change the wording; Mr. Paulette said it was a contract from NMED (New Mexico Environment Department) and couldn't be changed.

Councilor Herrera said so that this didn't get away from them, could the committee just understand that all the contracts that total out to the design cost have all been built around attachment #2 and therefore could say from here on out this was their "master list" so any adjustments could change; he said he hated to get into a contract where they didn't know what was being done when. He said he hoped it would be sooner than a year, and asked the City Manager to talk about the design of the streets and finishing each phase.

The City Manager said construction documents and environmental assessments were for that section, and otherwise the city would have to have all of the seventy-seven streets' environmental assessments finished before the city could go for funding.

Councilor Herrera said so each was like a mini project.

Councilor Kain-Salazar said she wanted to thank the committee because this had been on councilors' minds for many years, and she was glad to see it was on the horizon.

Councilor Herrera asked if the city attorney had looked at the contract; the City Manager said she would, but it was a standard NMED contract.

***Councilor Duran made a motion to recommend approval of the contract, Mayor Pro Tem Lucero and Councilor Lujan seconded. The motion carried 4/0.***

**Discussion Item #4, Funding Update on \$8 Million Dollar Project from New Mexico Finance Authority**

City Manager Veronica Albin presented;

The City Manager said she had begun the application process with NMFA (New Mexico Finance Authority), the city had retained a bond counsel, and would be entering into a contract this week, hopefully, and depending on the timing, should be able to bring this to the January meeting or February at the latest to be able to have money for design and construction.

Councilor Herrera asked if Modrall Sperling would do the bonding; the City Manager said they would help with the entire process. Councilor Herrera asked if the loan was still okay; the City Manager said yes.

Mayor Pro Tem Lucero said at the November City Council Meeting the Council had closed the appropriation for the WTB (Water Trust Board) and at the December meeting the City Manager said the city would have the other one and it wasn't done; she asked if the WTB was in January.

The City Manager said both had been done at the November meeting, and there was some confusion regarding the agenda; she said one was on the Consent Agenda but both had been closed at that meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Lucero asked if WTB was in January; the City Manager said these were over and done, the city had made applications for the money, and had made applications for El Llano, the bridge, and these were applications for new money.

Mayor Pro Tem Lucero asked the City Manager to find out and let them know when the WTB meeting would be. Councilor Herrera asked if it were on the agenda, would the city be presenting information; the City Manager said she would find out when it was, and she had heard the city's application was accepted and was being considered.

Councilor Herrera asked is this was a grant; the City Manager said 80% was a grant and 20% was a loan.

Councilor Duran asked how much the city paid for the consultant; the City Manager said he was sending a contract, and it would be \$5,000 to \$8,000. Councilor Duran said if it was for bonding only, NMFA said they were willing to provide assistance so the city didn't want to pay for that; the City Manager said NMFA provided financial information assistance, and the city needed someone with expertise to prepare the bond.

**Discussion Item #5, Contract Approval for N. McCurdy Road Improvements (Bohannon-Huston)**

Ben Ortega, Public Works Director, presented:

Mr. Ortega said representatives from Bohannon Huston were at the meeting, this had been taken to the Council, and he was requesting approval for the contract. He said it would be two lanes, sidewalks, curb and gutters, and they had given the city a proposal following a template. He said there was a summary chart in the committee packets, the project would be in phases because it would be a monster of a project, phase one was a detailed survey and geotech investigation, the project had a

environmental analysis, an environmental assessment would be needed, a traffic study, and the preliminary design, all for \$222,000. Mr. Ortega said phase two was the full design of the street itself and right-of-way acquisition allowance, and phase three was the construction administration. He said this was only for the consultant, not the construction, and the estimate was \$3.5 million for the construction. He said the city had money from MAP (Municipal Arterial Program) and expected to apply for more revenues, so he was asking for support to go to the Council to enter into phase one at this time.

Mayor Pro Tem Lucero asked if this would come out of MAP funds; Mr. Ortega said yes.

Councilor Duran asked what other funding there was for this project. The City Manager said the city would request additional MAP funds for design and would have to request additional funding at a future date.

Councilor Herrera asked if \$250,000 was all the funds from MAP funding the city had; the City Manager said there was one MAP fund award for Molzen Corbin.

Mayor Pro Tem Lucero made a motion to move this to the Council, seconded by Councilor Lujan. The motion carried 3/0 with Councilor (Committee Chair) Herrera not voting.

#### **Discussion Item #6, Water Utility, Meter Reading Division**

Public Works Director Ben Ortega said Sandra Bustos, Utility Billing, had been working to improve the system and had recent reports of high readings; he asked Ms. Bustos to explain.

Ms. Bustos said fifty-four accounts showed high usage, eleven had leaks on their sides of meter, but the remainder didn't show any sign of leaks.

Mr. Ortega said regarding the eleven with leaks the leaks were on the property owner's side so it was their responsibility. He said the city sent out two representatives to investigate, and with the remaining forty-three high users, there were no leaks so the readings were accurate; he said the meters were read by radio control and showed no leaks.

The City Manager said she and Ms. Bustos spent some time looking at the exception reports, and one thing to look at was the changes in usage. She said they looked at last year, not just the previous months. She said regarding the forty-three who saw an increase, they were not necessarily calling the city because they might know why they had an exception. She said the Water Department had been diligent in notifying them, they have door hangers, and she and Ms. Bustos informed them and worked with them to make sure they are aware of the usage as soon as possible.

Councilor Herrera thanked Ms. Bustos for her work in this because the city was able to identify people who had leaks to give them a heads up; he said it was a good public service, preventative maintenance work she was doing, and good customer relations, making people aware. He asked if this was a new process; Ms. Bustos said they had been doing this before but previous reports only showed high usage and now they could see the difference month to month. The City Manager said before the reports only showed the top users, not show increases in usage so was a process they had been doing for about two months.

Councilor Herrera asked if this would continue to be provided as standing item; the City Manager said yes, she could provide this.

#### **Matters From the Public Works Director Item #1, Director's Monthly Report**

Councilor Herrera said this was the monthly report, and they could cover a few things, and make a few comments.

Mr. Ortega said he had an update on "G", \$373,000 Advantage Asphalt, and was pleased to report the bid had come in significantly lower than what the engineer had

predicted so the city would have extra dollars for other projects. He said he would be cautious, do his homework, and hire a design engineer to ensure corners were not being cut.

The City Manager said there had been some concern at the bid opening because Advantage was more than \$100,000 less than next highest bidder.

The Mayor Pro Tem asked where they were from; Mr. Ortega said he thought it was Albuquerque or Santa Fe. He said second place was Star Paving, \$100,000 more than Advantage but still low so it was a good sign that it was a “buyer’s market”. He said he wanted to thank Molzen Corbin for overseeing the bid process.

Mr. Ortega said regarding item#1 (in the report) he had filed the WTB (Water Trust Board) grant applications, the same four projects were completed, and Coronado had been designed and was in review. He said regarding wastewater, he had received notice the compost exceeded levels of nitrogen but now that had been corrected. He said the committee had talked about signage, and the railroad museum was on the way.

The Mayor Pro Tem said regarding item 2, she had had a call from Stephen Sanchez and she asked Mr. Ortega to call him and see what his issues were. The City Manager asked if the Mayor Pro Tem had number for him, and said he was hard to reach. The Mayor Pro Tem said she would look at caller ID and get a number she said he had some questions.

The City Manager said she had an update; she said renovations to the chamber and committee room had started, a staff was working out where to have meetings during the construction period.

Councilor Duran asked regarding the railroad museum, had someone talked to DOT (New Mexico Department of Transportation) again about rounding out money needed; she said when it was discussed, the city had almost enough but she hadn’t heard back from the Mayor if the city had the funding. The City Manager said the city had increased the design cost for full build out, it was approved and the city received \$60,000 more; she said as far as construction cost, she had been meeting with Phil Gallegos and the city could reallocate money it had for the main street realignment, and she was supposed to have a meeting the coming week or the next.

Councilor Duran said she had a meeting on the coming Friday and would check. She said she was concerned if the city would have the money. She said if the city did the design, she didn’t want people to have expectations and then the city couldn’t build it. The City Manager said the money was already earmarked for Española.

### **Matters From the Public Works Director Item #2 Confirmation of new Street Division Policies (Snow Removal, Flood Response, Tree Trimming, Vector Control, Street Lights)**

Mr. Ortega said he had started in July, Anthony “Hawk” Trujillo was the lead on streets and had said the city needed policies such as public streets versus private, and the Street Department employees were city employees and wanted to help, however, it sent mixed messages and set awkward precedents if they did something for one neighbor and not for another so Mr. Trujillo wrote five proposals regarding how the city would respond to things such as snow, flood, trees overgrown, vector control and installation of streetlights. He said he and the Public Works Department staff were trying to get a consistent set of rules. He said he had five policies this evening and the Committee members had seen the streetlight policy. He said he would like to get confirmation regarding his approach, see if the steps he was taking were what the Committee members wanted to see, and he didn’t know if this needed to go to the full City Council.

Mr. Trujillo said some items like flooding and vector control were governed by federal agencies such as the Department of Agriculture, etc., so those couldn't be overruled. He said they were to protect the city.

Mr. Ortega said he would like to leave the policies with the Committee members and was asking them to take the policies to the full Council and to take them to the City Council Workshop in February; he said he wanted the Committee members to know he was moving forward with the policies.

Councilor Lujan said she would like to recommend the Committee proceed to take this to the other members of the Council at the workshop. She said she wanted to thank Mr. Trujillo for his hard work.

The Mayor Pro Tem said it was great to have policies in place as too many times there was no signage in construction areas; she said she didn't know if the Streets Department needed to order more. Mr. Trujillo said most complaints he got were from contractors, and he would ask the contractors to correct their problems; he said most were contractors.

The Mayor Pro Tem said she got complaints today regarding streetlight by Industrial Park; she said the left turn arrow didn't go on. Mr. Trujillo said he would check but he hadn't seen a problem; he said if the drivers were not stopping on the "stop bar", the camera didn't see them. Councilor Kain-Salazar said it was the time of day. Mr. Trujillo said if the sun hit the eye, it blinded it. He said he had readjusted and moved the eye.

Councilor Herrera asked what the City Manager envisioned with this moving through the Council process and what she needed from the Committee and the Council. The City Manager said this was administrative policy and she wanted these policies so if someone asked about these items they had the policies to refer to.

Councilor Herrera said to clarify, the Committee's action was to provide feedback; Mr. Ortega said yes, he just wanted feedback. Mr. Trujillo said OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) required the city to have these by law. The City Manager said she suggested Mr. Trujillo or Mr. Ortega have the safety council at the New Mexico Municipal League look at the policies. Mr. Trujillo said he had done that two years previous, and these were from Santa Fe and Los Alamos.

### **Matters From the Public Works Director Item #3 Report on Well 1 booster station and Tank 1A Decommissioning**

Mr. Ortega said is this was an update on well #1, tank #1 and the tank#1A decommissioning; he said Felix Carlos (Smith Engineering) was here and he (Mr. Ortega) wanted to update and inform the Committee of the progress to take tank #1A offline permanently. He said the tank was built in 1971, was in poor shape, was the oldest tank in the city, and was the tank that had been identified as high risk. He said the tank had lived past its useful live, and currently there was only 20ft of water in the tank. He said the city hired Smith Engineers, and for fire suppression in the area the city would supplant the tank with a booster on well #1, so tank # 1A would be taken offline.

Mr. Ortega said the plumbing would be rebuilt at the existing booster station, and it would be reconfigured, adding two new variable speed booster pumps, and the city would fill tank #1. He said in the event of an emergency, fire booster pumps would kick on to draw additional water out of the well. He said the price of the facility was \$160,000 approximately, going with option #2. He said option #1 was to add an adjacent facility but the cost for another structure was forty thousand more than option #1, and his suggestion was to reuse the facilities as needed.

Mr. Ortega said the funding would be EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and state appropriation grants, and he wanted to inform the Committee that he was moving forward and expected to bid this in the spring; he said the environmental department was reviewing the plans now.

Mr. Ortega said he wanted to mention his department was being proactive on the tanks; he said when this was being serviced tank #1 would be cleaned and scrubbed down.

Councilor Herrera asked if the existing line would remain intact; Mr. Ortega said yes, because for future growth, he wanted to be able to build new tank in that area. Mr. Carlos said existing lines would be re-plumbed and with everything in the building, they would mimic what was there now, mimicking the pressure so there should not be problems downstream. Councilor Herrera asked if this was being used for the city system; Mr. Ortega said it was for fire suppression. The City Manager said the fire zone was two properties at the very NW corner of city, in the Industrial Park area.

Councilor Duran asked Mr. Carlos if the company had done this before; he said yes. Mr. Ortega said he wanted the city to have three engineering firms available.

### **Matters From the Public Works Director Item #5 Update on Zuni/McCurdy Intersection**

Mr. Ortega said the plans were complete, and the Committee members had the reductions in the packets. He said basically this was correcting a safety hazard in the streets, school buses were making wide left turns so the corner would be modified and this would require 205 square feet of property, and the property owners had indicated a willingness to dedicate the property needed. He said the city was not required to bid the project since this was a low amount but would need three quotes, and he anticipated going out to solicit in the coming months. He said he needed formal written approval from the land owner and for the ditch, and needed to get it in writing. He said the funding was anticipated to come out of the General Fund, and he could discuss this at the upcoming Council meeting. Mr. Ortega said he was hesitant to include this in the immediate funding mechanism this fiscal year but would leave it to the pleasure of the Council.

The Mayor Pro Tem said being it was a small amount and this was a big safety issue, she would like to see this move forward. Mr. Trujillo said it was dangerous with two lanes, and construction would reduce it to one lane so he recommended waiting until summer when school was out.

Councilor Herrera said he wanted to thank Councilor Lujan for stepping up to the plate on this very, very important project, and this was going to be a vast improvement.

Councilor Lujan said this wasn't just an issue now or a year ago, she had been working with DOT, back and forth, and happy to see it coming to a closure for the kids. She said traffic was terrible, buses held up traffic trying to turn in, and it was very unsafe.

### **Matters From the Public Works Director Item #6, Recap on Public Works To Do List**

Mr. Ortega said this was his to-do list he kept when he got calls from many of the Councilors to do this or do that, it was a recap, and had a few open ended items. He said regarding item #18, he had gotten a call that day and got confirmation it was done, and staff had fixed thirty-one potholes this day.

Councilor Lujan thanked Mr. Ortega. Mr. Ortega said that was a testament to Mr. Trujillo, and he thanked Mr. Trujillo for his good relationship with DOT.

### **Matters From The Chair**

Councilor Herrera said there were no items.

### **Announcements**

There were no announcements.

**Adjournment**

Councilor Lujan made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Duran. The motion carried 4/0

The meeting adjourned at 7:29pm.

*Minutes taken and transcribed by Sally Baxter  
Deputy City Clerk/ Public Information Officer*

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE ON THIS  
2<sup>nd</sup> DAY OF February , 2010**

*ELECTRONIC COPY  
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