

City of Española
Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes
{Approved September 28, 2006}
Thursday June 15, 2006
5:00 PM

1. Call Meeting to Order – Chairman Dennis Tim Salazar

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Salazar.

Present at meeting were:

Chairman Dennis Tim Salazar
Councilor Helen Kain-Salazar
Chief Richard A. Guillen EPD
Greg Lonewolf
Stephanie Marquez-Martinez

Councilor Edward Maestas
Councilor Alfred Herrera
Chief Alex Sisneros EFD
Gene Aldaz

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes – Voting Members

Motion by Councilor Maestas to approve minutes for May 18, 2006, second by Councilor Kain-Salazar with motion passing.

3. Approval of Agenda- Voting Members

Per Chairman Salazar item **a. Adhering to Speed Limits** on number **5, Police Department** deleted. Chief Guillen wanted to replace that item with the In-Car Camera Policy. Motion to approve agenda as amended made by Councilor Maestas, second by Councilor Kain-Salazar with motion passing.

4. Fire Department – Chief Alex Sisneros

a. Tour of Fire Department

b. EMS Grant

Chief Sisneros stated that the Fire Department applied for the Emergency Medical Bureau (EMS) grant in the amount of \$34,000.00 to purchase a rescue vehicle. The city's share would be \$11,000.00. The request would be to have four people per shift. Two people on the fire truck and two on the rescue vehicle.

c. Truck Update

Chief Sisneros stated that one truck did not qualify all the tests, but another company out of Albuquerque came to test it and they certified it. A third test will be done by a different company. This is for safety purposes and to try to save the work on the pumps which will cost the City over \$4,000.00.

One truck that should be looked at to be replaced in the near future is the tanker. It is an older truck and has been abused throughout the years. Last year the legislature awarded the City of Española \$ 100,000.00 to purchase a new

tanker. A new one would run about \$175,000.00. Another truck to look at getting replaced would be the brush 3 truck which is a 93’.

5. Police Department – Chief Richard A. Guillen

a. Adhering to Speed Limits (deleted – replaced by the In-Car Camera Policy)

Chief Guillen stated that it is also known as the Mobile Video Recording Policy. Chairman Salazar asked if the chief had spoken to the city attorney in reference to this policy. Chief Guillen said no. Councilor Herrera asked how the policies come into effect and if the signature of the chair is necessary. Chairman Salazar stated that he would speak to the City Manager and the City Attorney for process verification.

b. Cell Phone Policy While Driving

Chairman Salazar stated that talking and texting on the cell phone is a big distraction to drivers. Chief Guillen stated that he spoke to the Municipal League and said that the general rule not state law, is that the city cannot enact what does not exist in state law. Chief Guillen stated that this problem is just as bad as DWI according to surveys posted. Chief Guillen suggested having the City attorney do some research to see what would be the legality to move forward since this is not a home rule municipality.

c. Handicap Parking

Chief Guillen stated that the legislature increased the fines from \$300.00 to \$500.00 and requests that this be done. In the past we would go to full council to adopt an ordinance but when the last uniform traffic ordinance was adopted former city attorney Martin Martinez added that any new laws could be adopted unless a particular council had a problem with them.

Councilor Herrera inquired about a statement in a letter from the governor’s office that stated “We would greatly appreciate it if you would replace all city and county signs that use “handicap” and just use the international symbol for accessibility”, he wanted to know if the city is responsible for replacing the signs. Chief Guillen stated that it sounded like a request not part of the state law but yes the City would have to pay for them. Chief Sisneros asked if it is private property as in Wal-Mart would it be their responsibility and not the city’. Chief Guillen stated that was the private property owner’s responsibility.

Councilor Herrera asked who would be responsible for notifying the businesses about the signs. Chief Guillen said that would be code enforcement’s task. Councilor Maestas stated that when applying for their business license would be the time to notify them about the ordinance. Councilor Herrera asked who would be able to cite the violators. Chief Guillen stated that it would be the police department and fire department. Motion by Councilor Maestas to take it to Public Works committee to discuss the signs, second by Councilor Kain-Salazar with motion passing.

6. Detention Center – Gene Aldaz

a. Gallup Contract

Mr. Aldaz stated that the only change from the contract reviewed during the work study was the request of looking into video arraignment. Mr. Aldaz stated that they are set up for video arraignments and are waiting for us to set up.

Councilor Herrera asked about the technology set up and suggested looking into a DSL hookup for video arraignments.

Councilor Kain-Salazar made a motion for the contract to be taken to City Council for review and approval, second by Councilor Maestas with motion passing.

7. Safety Office – Greg Lonewolf

Mr. Lonewolf stated that there was a meeting with OSHA and discussed the progress being done by the city. OSHA will be coming back to do inspections possibly next week but to which department is unknown. If they see that there is a serious violation the city will be fined. They can come in at anytime to do follow-ups.

Councilor Herrera asked how much money was budgeted to fix the OSHA citations. Mr. Lonewolf said that he would have to look at his budget.

8. City Manager (not present)

9. Other Issues

a. Update on Weed & Seed

Ms. Marquez-Mtz discussed the Youth Center. They have completed the installation of phone lines and running lines for computer jacks. They still need to connect some utilities that are needed. It will probably take another couple of months before completed. There will be a police substation in the building. Some programs (GED, in-school suspension, life skill classes on resumes, substance abuse programs) from the school will also be placed in the center.

Weed and Seed will be paying for 32 hour bike training where an instructor will be coming to the city to do the training. Four officers from Española Police Department, three from Rio Arriba Sheriff's office, two State Police and five from Santa Fe Sheriff's Office. The training will be June 28, 29, & 30, 2006.

Only one officer has applied for DEFY the camp that will be taking place in Glorietta. They are still looking for team leaders and 15 to 20 more kids from Española. It is free for all as well.

Weed and Seed along with the US Department of Agriculture and City of Española will be holding a press conference for Homeowners Month on Wednesday June 22, 2006 at the Convento. Five partners of the homeowners of New Mexico, Fanny Mae, and Hudd will be there to discuss funding opportunities for building and purchasing homes. There is a potential area to build a model building but are still in the process of speaking with the homeowners.

b. Update on Crime Stoppers (Gary Weber not present)

10. Next Meeting – July 20, 2006 @ 6:00 pm

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Councilor Maestas, second by Councilor Kain-Salazar with motion passing. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED SEPTEMBER 28, 2006.

Electronic copy – signatures on file