

CITY OF BLOOMFIELD
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
June 25, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the Bloomfield City Council was held at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 915 N. First Street, Bloomfield, NM. The meeting was in full conformity with the laws and rules of the Municipality.

In attendance were Mayor Cynthia Atencio and Councilors Sue Finch and Ken Hare.

Also present were City Manager George Duncan, City Attorney Ryan Lane and City Clerk Dorothy Nobis. Department Heads present were Brad Ellsworth, Fire Chief John Mohler, Jason Thomas, and Interim Police Chief Randon Matthews.

Mayor Cynthia Atencio offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda:

Councilor Finch made a motion to approve the Agenda and Councilor Hare seconded. Approval was unanimous.

Special Presentation:

The Special Presentation regarding the Largo Canyon Water Shed Study by Guillermo DeHerrera, Director of the Oil and Gas Administration for the Jicarilla Apache Nation was not given due to Mr. DeHerrera's absence.

Consent Agenda:

Councilor Hare made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda in its entirety and Councilor Finch seconded the motion. Councilor Hare said the Council reviews the Accounts Payables prior to the meeting and, if Council has questions, they are answered. Councilor Hare also stated that oversight of Accounts Payable is important. Approval was unanimous.

New Business:

Public Works Director Jason Thomas presented and asked for Council approval of **Resolution 2018-08**, which addresses the Participation in Local Government Road Fund Hardship Match Waiver Program, which is administered by the New Mexico Department of Transportation. Mr. Thomas said the Department of Transportation has \$300,000 available for roads, however, the city's match would be \$100,000. The DOT suggested that Mr. Thomas and the city apply for a match waiver, based on the city's inability to provide the \$100,000 match. If the match waiver is approved, it would provide \$75,000 for "Reconstruction and Pavement Rehabilitation/Improvements of Various Local Streets." That would enable the city to do repairs on some streets and much needed maintenance on other streets. Councilor Hare moved to

approve Resolution 2018-08. Councilor Finch seconded and Councilor Pennington voted via telephone. Approval was unanimous.

City Manager George Duncan provided information on a possible amendment to the Bloomfield Code, Chapter 14, Garage Sales, Ordinance 166. Mr. Duncan said he has received complaints about the number of yard/garage sale signs that aren't removed after the sale. Mr. Duncan said the signs are unsightly and become a trash issue. He also said the City of Aztec doesn't allow garage/yard sale signs along public rights of way, which is a good way to eliminate waste. The City of Bloomfield currently allows garage/yard sale signs to be up for a total of 72 hours. There is no fee to residents to have a garage/yard sale; however the city does sell signs for 50 cents each. Mr. Duncan asked the Council to consider amending the current ordinance at a future meeting. Councilor Hare suggested the city ask for feedback from residents about the signs.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business to be discussed.

Department and Public Input:

Fire Chief John Mohler said the Fifth of July Fireworks Display will be offered again this year; however the location for the fireworks has been moved to the BLM land just west of B Hill. The previous location – the Foutz and Bursum Gravel Pit on Sullivan Road -- has vegetation that could present a fire hazard. The BLM land has less vegetation, making it a safer environment for the company that provides the fireworks. Chief Mohler also said the new location will provide better viewing for those enjoying the display. Many residents will be able to see the display from their yards and all of the city's parks will be good places for people to watch the fireworks. Chief Mohler encouraged residents to enjoy the public fireworks displays. Mayor Atencio said the city will include a survey after the fireworks display in utility bills for residents, asking which location they prefer.

Interim Police Chief Randon Matthews said the Police Department's 19th Annual Junior Police Academy was a success. IPC Matthews said 31 cadets spent a week at the academy and graduated during ceremonies at St. Mary's Catholic Church. An outdoor academy is being planned, depending on drought conditions improving, later this summer. IPC Matthews also said he is hosting a Coffee with a Cop at 8 a.m. each Wednesdays, giving citizens the opportunity to stop by and share their concerns.

Bloomfield Librarian Peggy Loyd shared with the Council that the summer reading program at the library is going well, with between 30-70 people attending. A story time is held at 10:30 Wednesday mornings, with entertainment offered that same time on Thursdays.

Councilor Hare said the Budget Review Committee, which includes Donica Sharpe, Margaret McDaniel, Dwayne Robinson and City Finance Director Brad Ellsworth, has been meeting and the meetings have been helpful.

Autumn McMurry is working with her brother, firefighter Tony Herrera, on festivities at the practice field behind the Aquatic Center at Bloomfield High School. Festivities will include food trucks vendors, a band and other vendors. Vendors will set up between 4-5 p.m. July 5 and, hopefully, people will arrive at 5:30 to have an early dinner and get ready for the

fireworks, which will start at dusk. Mayor Atencio thanked Ms. McMurry for spearheading the event

CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Atencio asked for a motion to go into a Closed Executive Session to discuss limited personnel and pending/threatened litigation. Councilor Finch moved to go into Closed Executive Session to discuss those issues and Councilor Hare seconded. Approval was unanimous and the council went into Closed Executive Session at 6:43 p.m. At 8:09 p.m., Mayor Atencio asked for a motion to return to the regular meeting, stating nothing was discussed in the executive meeting other than limited personnel and pending/threatened litigation, and approval was unanimous.

Adjournment:

Mayor Atencio called for adjournment at 8:10 p.m. All were in favor.

Mayor Cynthia Atencio

ATTEST:

Dorothy Nobis, City Clerk