

City of Rio Communities Workshop Minutes
April 10, 2017

- Mayor Gwinn called to order the workshop at 10:00 am.
- Present: Mayor Mark Gwinn; Councilors Bill Brown, Peggy Gutjahr, Arturo Sais and Thomas Scroggins
Also Present: City Manager Bob Skerry, City Treasurer Celina Benavidez, Municipal Clerk Lisa Adair and P&Z/EDC Chairman Jim Winters.

1. Council reports & agenda items – 30 minutes

- Councilor Scroggins had nothing to report.
- Councilor Sais said he has been working on this vision for over a year and passed out a package to the council from the students from the Career Academy at Belen High School. He then said the packet is a vision of having a veteran's memorial park and understand we will be going through a process of talking with the public.
- Councilor Sais explained he hopes once we get one park we might have a domino effect. He then said he is thinking outside of the box and he has been talking to lots of people and they telling him what type of parks they would like to see and the majority have been saying a veteran's park.
- Councilor Brown said the recurring rampant dog problem he believes has been solved and the dogs on Riley Ave are gone and then stated that magic words to use when contacting animal control is this is a vicious dog and do not release.
- Councilor Brown handed out a paper to council that he had presented on March 22 to P&Z with his thoughts on thinking big.
- Councilor Gutjahr explained that Liz Sagrestano sister had passed away. She then said she noticed on the Rio Communities crime watch site that they had cleaned up an individual house and then asked when is the next Neighborhood watch meeting.
- Mayor Gwinn said they have not determined a date as of yet.
- Councilor Gutjahr said that Ray from Aristech would like to pick a couple of homes to help clean up their property.
- Councilor Gutjahr asked when La Merced is having their next site meeting.
- Mayor Gwinn explained it is on the 13th which is our Budget Hearing.
- Councilor Gutjahr said the Wellness council has expanded their mission statement and they will be going to the bank to open up a new account. She then gave the route for the walk at the wellness fair and explained the 1st 50 people to sign up for the walk get a t-shirt.
- Mayor Gwinn said at the cleanup we had two dumpsters and both were filled up.
- Mayor Gwinn said at the District 8 meeting was well attended and then stated they were monitoring the Bills that the Governor would pass, veto or pocket veto. He then said that 66 bills were pocket vetoed and one was Bill 174.
- Councilor Sais said she broke the record for most vetos.
- Mayor Gwinn reminded we will be having the budget public hearing on the 13th and the 17th.
- Mayor Gwinn explained the VALEO will be on May 2 regarding MS4 storm water and we will be hosting it.
- Councilor Brown asked is there a Bill covering this requirement.
- Manager Skerry said this is an unfunded Government mandate and we will be partnering with other municipalities and the county.

- Mayor Gwinn said he has been talking with the Sheriff Department having a national night out and bringing it back to Rio Communities.

2. Changing format for workshop public input – Discussion

- Mayor Gwinn said this has been brought up by Councilor Brown and opened it up to council for discussion.
- Councilor Brown said on the comprehensive plan item #1 is having more public input and then said he would like to propose workshops be changed to have public input and possibly change the date or time to the workshop.
- Mayor Gwinn explained we did originally have a 10 am and 5 pm and neither was attended by the public.
- Councilor Brown said his intent was to cover workshops and feels there is no public input on anything the Governing Body does with the exception of public hearings at either workshop or council meeting.
- Councilor Sais said his concern is we might not get any work done.
- Councilor Gutjahr stated at the business meeting there is a public comment section.
- Councilor Brown agreed and said keep it that way and further said usually those comments are not usually on agenda items.
- Councilor Scroggins agreed with Councilor Brown that the public does not have any input on the agenda items. He then explained that someone might be affected or interested on agenda items make points to council that they might not have figured out. He then said he feels the appropriate time would be the workshop.
- Mayor Gwinn feels public input is not necessary for all agenda items.
- Councilor Scroggins said he thinks we need to have public input before we make the final proposal and began a discussion on keeping things on topic.
- Councilor Gutjahr said she feels there is a way to structure the input continued the discussion on not having input on items that will be at a public forum or hearings.
- Manager Skerry said maybe a solution would be if council has someone coming to them would be to put them on the agenda. He then said we cannot have the old town hall meetings and then explained it is the councilor's job to get the input from the public.
- Councilor Gutjahr said she feels there has to be some way to have public input in a limited way and explained maybe setting up some ground rules and having a very structured workshop and continued the discussion.
- Councilor Sais said he is all about being transparent but agrees there has to be structure.
- Manager Skerry said one problem is when a citizen makes a false statement then you have to correct them and puts council in an adversarial position and continued the discussion on how the workshop are a place for council to educate themselves.
- Mayor Gwinn agreed with Bob that workshops are to educate themselves and have answers at the business meetings.
- Councilor Sais said he could see this as a pilot project and then after a short period of time come back and discuss the results.
- Councilor Gutjahr said maybe keep them to the agenda items and do a pilot for 2 months.
- Manager Skerry said he feels the workshop is a business meeting and then said it is council's job to get the citizen input and continued the discussion.

- Mayor Gwinn gave an example of Rio Rancho having an open topic meeting and it went on for 24 hours and began a discussion on this situation.
- Manager Skerry said we just had a CDBG public hearing to have citizen input and except for two people nobody else showed up.

3. Updating the building use policy – Discussion

- Manager Skerry passed out our current building use policy and said the State holds us to the anti-donation clause and we depend on grants as a major portion to offset our income and you don't want to jeopardize the grant process.
- Manager Skerry explained we do have a multi-purpose center and were did given \$600,000 to be used for the betterment of all citizen and we need to do some research on what we can or cannot do and began a discussion on what is considered a service provided or what services the community.
- Councilor Gutjahr said on page 2 of the current policy it talks about fees and TULIP and continued the discussion on what it can cover or not cover as far as insurance liability.
- Manager Skerry said he can see risk from both side and then continued the discussion on the pros and cons to having individual events carry insurance.
- Councilor Gutjahr said she had expected more help from our insurance and continued the discussion.
- Manager Skerry said that one side of the building is slated for a recreation area which is a high risk area and continued the discussion on not getting the younger crowd coming here if the only thing that is covered is meetings.

4. Dates for P&Z to conduct public forum on parks – Discussion

- Chairman Winters said he is leaving up to Council what day they feel might be a good for the public forum and suggested the end of May would be better and started a discussion of what events are going on.
- Councilor Gutjahr suggested Saturday May 20th at 3:00 pm.

5. Ordinance 2017 – XX Comprehensive Plan – land use plan - Discussion

- Chairman Winters passed out our current and new comprehensive plan and explained the changes and additions to the plan and began a discussion on MRCOG is working on different land use maps for us and the areas of interest.
- Treasurer Benavidez explained some changes she thinks might need to be made and continued the discussion.

6. Resident concern regarding Ordinance 2013-14 - Discussion

- Mayor Gwinn explained at the last regular business meeting a couple of people showed up with concerns regarding our Ordinance 2013-14 and then explained that he had sat down with one of the individuals to get more explanation of her concerns. He then further explained that her issues was with an individual's condo is considered a drug house but also explained that there are other agencies involved.
- Mayor Gwinn said the individual also complained about the noise and he then told this individual there is nothing that we as the City or the police can do regarding that matter since they do not exceed the noise decimals.

- Mayor Gwinn said another issue in this neighborhood they are having is the parking of a semi-truck in the area and they leave the truck running and then said the only one area that council might be able to address is the semi and opened it up for discussion.
- Manager Skerry said we should not be involved in law enforcement in any kind.
- Mayor Gwinn said the only thing we can do is enforce the semi-truck issue and continued the discussion.
- Mayor Gwinn said the sheriff lieutenant at the meeting told everyone to just keep calling 911 and continued the discussion.
- Councilor Gutjahr wondered regarding the ability to help facilitate the neighborhood watch.
- Mayor Gwinn said he explained to the individual that they need to let the law enforcement take control and continued the discussion.

7. Budget – Discussion

- Manager Skerry went over the highlights beginning with revenues on the 1st page and explained the revenues are locked in.
- Councilor Gutjahr asked where the transfer in and transfer out come from.
- Manager Skerry explained the transfer in is taking money that has already been appropriated putting it in to the general fund and transfer out of the general fund into municipal streets and capital projects.
- Manager Skerry said \$910,581 is in the general fund and the total revenues is \$2,034,202.
- Manager Skerry explained the changes to expenditures form was making the code enforcer full time, adding pay to the fire inspector, P&Z and EDC commissions etc.
- Mayor Gwinn asked on the annualized 11E fire inspector we have never had this position as paid prior to this year so shouldn't that be \$0.
- Manager Skerry agreed and will zero that out and continued the discussion on the changes to the expenditures.
- Councilor Gutjahr asked did the city approve for road cuts to put in electrical for an informational sign that Jim Winters from EDC had asked for.
- Manager Skerry said this was not included in this area, but is included in another funding area and continued the discussion.
- Councilor Scroggins asked in the recreation area would this include a salary.
- Manager Skerry explained that at this point it does not include a salary and said it was originally setup to sub-out to get bus rides for kids to go all the rec programs in the area and continued the discussion.
- Manager Skerry explained the projection for carryover is \$192,320 from budgeted items from last year and then explained he would like use this amount for lights in the parking lot, an informational sign, the cutting to get the water and electrical to that area as well individual lights at various intersections and began a discussion on the areas of consideration, the transfer amounts and what is considered an asset.
- Councilor Scroggins asked if we did a road cut to the parking lot for lights would that be repair and maintenance.
- Manager Skerry explained that was the assumption but if we put in all new lights then it might be an asset and continued the discussion on what is a capital project vs capital asset and if they would like to spend \$61,000 on street lights, informational sign and maybe putting this in the public works fund.
- Councilor Scroggins asked does the carryover amount in animal control need to stay in that fund.

- Manager Skerry said no we can move into other areas and continued the discussion on the carryovers using that in public works, labor, and muni-streets/sidewalks.
- Mayor Gwinn asked where we are looking at sidewalks.
- Chairman Winters said that EDC would like to see sidewalks on Hwy 47.
- Manager Skerry said he would like to ask to takeout \$200,000 in the reserve and then continued the discussion on carryovers, the required reserve amount by DFA and to move the reserve fund from MyBank to an NMFA interest bearing account.
- Manager Skerry said if Council by resolution can lock in the amounts for the reserve and capital projects be put into an interest bearing account and continued the discussion.
- Councilor Gutjahr asked under payroll are these amounts in the pay scale range.
- Manager Skerry said yes the part-timers and the clerk are in the range and then explained the only one is in the question of the payroll scale is the treasurer and manager position and began a discussion on payroll funds and positions.

8. Manager Report

- Manager Skerry had no further comments.
- The City Council workshop was adjourned at 12:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Adair
Municipal Clerk

Approved:

Mark Gwinn,
Mayor

Margaret (Peggy) Gutjahr,
Councilor Mayor Pro-tem

William (Bill) Brown,
Councilor

Arturo R. Sais,
Councilor

Thomas Scroggins,
Councilor

Date: _____