

City of Rio Communities Workshop Minutes
November 12, 2019

- Mayor Pro-tem Peggy Gutjahr called to order the city council workshop at 10:07 am.
- Present: Mayor Pro-tem Peggy Gutjahr, Councilors; Bill Brown, Arturo Sais and Joshua Ramsell
Absent: Mayor Mark Gwinn
Present: City Manager Leisa Haynes, Municipal Clerk Lisa Adair, Code Enforcer Gordon Reeves, Finance Officer/Treasurer Stephanie Finch and Finance Clerk Angela Valdez.

Presentation of Park Study – MRWM Landscape Architects

- ❖ Robert Loftis from MRWM Landscape Architects along with Sunanda Sharmin, gave a presentation of the areas Preliminary Analysis- Parks and Recreation Opportunities, the idea being to connect major features, explaining the difference between a community park, pocket park, neighborhood park, and urban and open space trails and possible locations for parks and trails in the City.
- ❖ Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr said the main concern is the availability of water because it is costly.
- ❖ Mr. Loftis said another thing he will be getting utility mapping, and his firm specialized in well water use and low maintenance parks, establishing details and practice to make things easier.
- ❖ Councilor Brown asked if we should focus on trails or parks.
- ❖ Mr. Loftis said we need to consider safety, so the trail system could be great, and a community park people would see as benefiting the whole city, it is what you think is most important.
- ❖ Council continued with the discussion about previous parks and the availability of land.
 - Resident asked if the huge fuel line under the old Timan park, was a safety hazard.
- ❖ Mr. Loftis said this would be a question with the environmental department.
 - Resident asked what NODE is.
- ❖ Mr. Loftis said a node is a critical intersection we might want to provide parking and access to.
- ❖ Councilor Brown asked what a ballpark estimate would be for each of the ideas would cost.
- ❖ Mr. Loftis said he could come up with figures but the average NM park cost from \$150,000-\$250,000 an acre but it will vary depending on location and equipment.
 - Resident asked what we would do first, he understood there would be grant money for these projects so we should find some grants, and 2nd is a concern about trail and safety because he thinks people would use motorized vehicles and we would need to redirect them somehow.
- ❖ Mr. Loftis explained the best thing to do is put up signs and enforce the rules because barriers can be more expensive than the trails and his last thought on funding is to have a plan, go to the legislature with them and you will have a great shot with the economy boom right now.

Council reports & agenda items – 30 minutes

- Councilor Ramsell learned a lot from MOLI, asked for accounts payable in future move to beginning of meeting.
- Councilor Ramsell asked for a list of potholes to show residents, there was a \$700,000 grant turned down. He then said Aldies is a great grocery store that might be interested in coming here, street lights have been replacing in Belen, is there a way to get a GRT report on what we are getting paid out from the state to get an idea for the upcoming year, asset list, hiring a company that will do asset, management PERA, and solar lights for consideration.
- Councilor Sais said wants information regarding lights, inventory list wants a simple list not evaluations, wants the annexation status who has been talked to, when is the plan to move to from north to south side of the building, asked about the flagpole, status of Solid Waste RFP, and road calming pilot project.

- Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr said before we continue with this, we need to have plan showing funding.
- Councilor Sais said regarding the paid Fire Chief, he is requesting a timetable on hiring one.
- Councilor Brown said City Clerk we have a community cleanup, homeland security training will be held on December 17-18, older America program they are right now getting nominations and are having elections in December and we need timetable for the next calendar year.
- Mayor Pro-tem said wants an update on the San Lucas and Charmartin and how that will be repaired, the Fire Chief's job description will be voted on, and we need to decide who will get Safety training.

Manager Report

- Manager Haynes gave her report speaking about speeding, the park Study Grant, Community garden will be tabled until spring, Assistant to the City Manager, as soon as background checks are back we will have 2 Public Work employees, Garth Tallman will close on 14 lots, one is sold and is awaiting plan approval, getting a list together for AED of available manufacturing spaces, Workforce NM is wanting office space here, VC Business Incubator chose a building to operate out of in RC, was invited to speak to the NM Home Builders Board Officers who are looking to build south of Albuquerque, The NM ED Magazine ad is finished and the rest of the payment is due Jan 1, 2020, she attended the first Personnel Board meeting, the ICMA conference was great and was able to make valuable contacts, the Government Resource System is something we need to look at and will explain more about later, VALEO will be held Nov 19 at 9 am in Belen, AED 505 Awards Banquet was great and we need to make nominations for next year, 2 churches and 2 business came to the Census 2020 breakfast and will have another one in January, the Solid Waste RFP will be going out to bid and the Engineering RFP for an engineer on retainer is also going to bid, our attorney is not under contract and that is out of procurement policy so an RFP will be written for a lawyer as well, Ralph Mimms wants her to attend the ICSC Retail Show in Fort Worth in January, and DOT District 3 meeting is December 3rd.

City Interior Building project - Discussion

- Gordon Reeves giving presentation of building, giving the cost of each room, showing carpet samples, and how much each contractor is going to cost.

Public Works department - Discussion

- Gordon Reeves started a discussion on the public works department, equipment we have bought are being put on the asset lists, and explained the procedure, we put an bid request for a mowing company, he has created a safety orientation program for the Public Works department and explained how it would be implemented.

Accounts payable report

- Finance Officer/Treasurer Finch went over the accounts payable for the City.
- Finance Officer/Treasurer Finch went over the accounts payable for the fire department.
- Finance Officer/Treasurer Finch went over the cash balance report.

Closing Fire Department checking account - Discussion

- Finance Officer/Treasurer Finch went over the steps to get Incode going by the July 1st deadline.
- Finance Officer/Treasurer Finch explained once again why she would like to close the fire department checking account.

Resolution 2019-xx BAR #1 (budget amendments) - Discussion

- Finance Officer/Treasurer Finch explained the budget amendments.
- Finance Clerk Valadez explained opening an interest savings account.
- Finance Officer/Treasurer Finch continued with the discussion on Resolution 2019-xx BAR #1.

Resolution 2019-xx 1st Quarter Financial Report - Discussion

- Finance Officer/Treasurer Finch explained the 1st quarter financial report.

Charging Station status - Discussion

- Councilor Brown said it is fiscally non-viable to continue with the Charging Station and gave a report.

Job Description Fire Chief - Discussion

- Council went over the changes made to the fire chief job description.

Ordinance 2019-xx Uniform Traffic Ordinance (14-day review) - Discussion

- Municipal Clerk Lisa Adair went over the Ordinance 2019-xx Uniform Traffic Ordinance.

Ordinance 2019-xx UTO Penalty Assessment Program (14-day review) - Discussion

- Municipal Clerk Lisa Adair went over the Ordinance 2019-xx UTO Penalty Assessment Program

- The City Council workshop was adjourned at 2:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Adair, Municipal Clerk
(Transcribed by Amy L. Lopez, Deputy Clerk)

Date

Approved:

Mark Gwinn,
Mayor

Margaret (Peggy) Gutjahr,
Councilor Mayor Pro-tem

Bill Brown,
Councilor

Joshua Ramsell,
Councilor

Jim Winters,
Councilor