

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD  
ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2015 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL  
CHAMBERS**

**MAYOR:** Alfonso E. Ortiz, Jr.

**COUNCILORS:** David L. Romero  
Vincent Howell  
Tonita Gurule-Giroñ  
Joey Herrera

**ALSO PRESENT:** Elmer J. Martinez – City Manager  
Casandra Fresquez – City Clerk  
Dave Romero – City Attorney  
Juan Montano – Sergeant At Arms

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for a moment of silence in appreciation of our precious lives and the opportunities we have to accomplish many things and helping others when in need.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

City Manager Martinez made a recommendation to remove Business Item #2 from Consent Agenda (Approval of Resolution #15-58 Establishing fees for credit

card payments); due to the result of receiving other options and information that may be viable and stated that they should look into those options and explore all avenues therefore may include modifying the resolution.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń made a motion to approve the agenda with the recommended change to remove Business Item 2 from the Consent Agenda. Councilor Romero seconded the motion. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Vincent Howell	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes
Tonita Gurule-Giroń	Yes	Joey Herrera	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Councilor Howell made a motion to approve the minutes for November 12<sup>th</sup> - Special, November 12<sup>th</sup> - Work Session and November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Councilor Gurule-Giroń seconded the motion. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Joey Herrera	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes
Tonita Gurule-Giroń	Yes	Vincent Howell	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

### **MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS/REPORTS**

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. made a recommendation to appoint Kirk Ludi as an alternate for the committee of renaming the South Pacific Park.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. explained that any projects brought on by Municipalities comes with many obstacles and added that the reservoir storage project was a timely one but explained that the City is working diligently to complete it. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. expressed how pleased he was with many projects that have been completed throughout the community.

## **MAYOR'S RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS**

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. took the opportunity to recognize El Sombrero owner and her staff for providing Thanksgiving dinners for 19 years and recommended producing a proclamation to recognize her generous acts. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. also recommended to include El Sombrero for the pay it forward program in order to extend thanks for their efforts.

## **PUBLIC INPUT**

Las Vegas Police Officer/AFCME Union President David Cordova gave a brief overview regarding the Las Vegas Police Department Fleet and advised of the dire need of new vehicles and informed of the shortage of vehicles to accommodate new officers and the many mechanical issues on older vehicles. Officer Cordova expressed the significance of obtaining new vehicles in order to provide officers with equipment needed in order to better serve the City of Las Vegas and asked the Governing Body for their support in this matter.

Frank Casey spoke briefly in support of the request for the purchase of new vehicles for the Las Vegas Police Department, which should include computers in order to obtain more information and explained how critical the need of new vehicles is in order to safely help in protecting the citizens of Las Vegas.

## **CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

City Manager Martinez reported that South Pacific Street was open however that the project was not yet complete and informed that the final process would be coating the street which would be completed in the spring. City Manager Martinez advised that ADA accessible sidewalks were completed.

City Manager Martinez advised that Finance Director Ann Marie Gallegos was looking into how to obtain financing for additional vehicles in the Police Department in order to accommodate the increased staff.

## **FINANCE REPORT**

Finance Director Ann Marie Gallegos presented the Finance Report ending November 30, 2015. Finance Director Gallegos advised that General Fund revenue came in at thirty eight percent and expenditures were at thirty five percent.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń asked for clarification regarding the Intergovernmental percentage.

Finance Director explained that it pertained to the auto distributions licenses and fees and reported that Recreation Department revenues were at thirty nine percent. Finance Director Gallegos advised that expenditures came at forty four percent.

Finance Director Gallegos advised that the Enterprise Funds revenue total was at thirty four percent and informed that by next month revenues would be increasing due to more use of natural gas and informed that expenditures came in at thirty two percent.

Councilor Howell asked Finance Director Gallegos in her opinion; to rate the strength of the city's finances, between 1 and 10, (1 being the weakest).

Finance Director Gallegos stated that she would rate the City's finances between a 7 and 8 due to monitoring revenues as well as the expenditures consistently and advised that she meets with City Manager Martinez often regarding upcoming programs. Finance Director Gallegos added that the city is maintaining revenues and holding back on expenditures.

City Manager Martinez informed that the GRT was coming in consistently and added that the monitoring of revenues and expenditures were constantly being practiced due to not knowing how the hold harmless would affect the City's finances.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

City Clerk Fresquez read the Consent Agenda Items 1 and 3 into the record as follows:

1. Approval of ratification authorizing out of state travel to Colorado Springs, CO.
  
3. Approval of request for the City of Las Vegas to participate in FEMA's Community Rating System (CRS) program.

Councilor Herrera made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as read into record. Councilor Howell seconded the motion. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David L. Romero	Yes	Vincent Howell	Yes
Joey Herrera	Yes	Tonita Gurule-Giroń	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

**BUSINESS ITEMS**

Community Development Director Lindsey Valdez advised that the City of Las Vegas community Development Department issued RFP #2016-12 on August 20, 2015, requesting graphic design and promotional services; eight proposals were received and were ranked. On November 18, 2015 Mayor and Council awarded RFP 2016-12 to Cisneros Design, Inc.

Event Planner Annette Velarde acknowledged the Cisneros Design staff and also the marketing committee and gave a brief overview of the proposed contract which included:

- Conceptual development
- Assessments
- Product development
- Administrative production and printing

Event Planner Velarde informed that the marketing would come from Lodger's Tax and added that non-profit businesses would also benefit from the plan. Event Planner Velarde advised that this project had been ongoing for the last four years and described Cisneros Design as being "the best of the best" and added that they looked forward to working with them in order to move Las Vegas forward.

Event Planner Velarde added that the State was doing a great job of bringing in tourists to New Mexico however the City of Las Vegas was in competition with other cities throughout the state for those tourist dollars and needed to develop its own unique qualities.

Event Planner Velarde informed that another element in the contract was a deliverable and development cost sheet developed for the purpose of monitoring costs and to make sure the City receives its return on the investments from each deliverable.

Fred Cisneros from Cisneros Design thanked the Governing Body for the opportunity to help in developing plans and strategies regarding the marketing for the City of Las Vegas and explained that there were many ideas in helping their firm to develop strategies that would be recognizable therefore making it possible to reach markets that the City could benefit from and bring in revenue.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń had concerns regarding the total amount of the contract with Cisneros Design and also questioned when the status of the deliverables would be reported.

Community Development Director Valdez clarified that under the terms and conditions of the contract the total would not exceed \$250,000.00 for the period of one year, with option to renew every four years and advised that they would be eager to report quarterly on the deliverables.

Councilor Gurule-Giroń commended Community Development Director Valdez and Events Planner Velarde for their efforts in the Community Development Department and welcomed Mr. Cisneros.

Events Planner Velarde informed that meetings would be held with Council, the community, business members and non profits in order to inform them of the status of the project.

Councilor Howell welcomed Mr. Cisneros and his staff and asked when they would begin to see the results of their efforts.

Mr. Cisneros advised that building a strategy and timeline would realistically take about a month, to a month and a half.

Mr. Cisneros added that the assessment process included developing creative and concept and mentioned that the city would be competing with sophisticated and high revenue markets; therefore the goal would be to capitalize on those surrounding markets and draw people already in the state to Las Vegas.

Mr. Cisneros advised there would plans in place regarding community information, to meet with City staff to determine high priorities, and also to utilize digital media in order to get information out much sooner.

Councilor Howell had questions regarding the timeline of the renewal of the Cisneros Design contract.

Community Development Director Valdez informed that the contract renewal would begin within eight or nine months of the start of the contract, in order to have adequate time to present it to the Governing Body.

Short discussion took place pertaining to planning and allocating of the budget for contract renewals.

Councilor Herrera made a motion to approve to award contract for graphic design and promotional services to Cisneros Design, Inc. Contract shall not exceed \$250,000.00 for the period of the agreement. Councilor Howell seconded the motion. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Tonita Gurule-Giroń	Yes	Joey Herrera	Yes
David L. Romero	Yes	Vincent Howell	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. made the recommendation to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters regarding the Professional Service Contracts for City Attorney, City Clerk, Chief of Police and City Manager

Councilor Gurule-Giroń made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters regarding Professional Services Contracts. Councilor Howell seconded the motion.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David L. Romero	Yes	Vincent Howell	Yes
Tonita Gurule-Giroń	Yes	Joey Herrera	Stepped out

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

Councilor Herrera made a motion to exit Executive Session and added that only personnel matters were discussed, no votes were taken and to reconvene into Regular Session. Councilor Gurule-Giroń seconded the motion. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Vincent Howell	Yes	Tonita Gurule-Giroń	Yes
Joey Herrera	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

## 2. Approval/Disapproval of City Attorney's Professional Service Contract.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. made the recommendation to approve to hire David L. Romero as City Attorney for the term, from January 1<sup>st</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 at the current salary.

Councilor Herrera made a motion to approve of City Attorney's Professional Service Contract for the term, from January 1<sup>st</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 at the current salary. Councilor Howell seconded the motion. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David L. Romero	Yes	Vincent Howell	Yes
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Tonita Gurule-Giroń            Yes                            Joey Herrera                    Yes  
City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked City Attorney Dave Romero if he would accept the proposed offer.

City Attorney Dave Romero thanked the Governing Body and added that he was honored to work for the City of Las Vegas and accepted the proposed offer.

3. Approval/Disapproval of City Clerk’s Professional Service Contract.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. made the recommendation to approve to hire Casandra Fresquez as City Clerk for the term, from January 1<sup>st</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 at the current salary.

Councilor Herrera made a motion to approve of City Clerk’s Professional Service Contract for the term from January 1<sup>st</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 at the current salary. Councilor Howell seconded the motion. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Tonita Gurule-Giroń	Yes	Joey Herrera	Yes
Vincent Howell	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked City Clerk Casandra Fresquez if she would accept the proposed offer.

Casandra Fresquez accepted the proposed offer and thanked Mayor and Council for their continued support.

4. Approval/Disapproval of Chief of Police Professional Service Contract.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. made the recommendation to approve to hire Juan Montano as Chief of Police for the term, from January 1<sup>st</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 at the current salary.

Councilor Herrera made a motion to approve of Chief of Police Professional Service Contract for the term, from January 1<sup>st</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 at the current salary. Councilor Romero seconded the motion. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Tonita Gurule-Giroń	Yes	Joey Herrera	Yes
David L. Romero	Yes	Vincent Howell	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked Chief of Police Juan Montano if he would accept the proposed offer.

Chief of Police Juan Montano accepted the proposed offer and thanked Mayor and Council for the opportunity to continue as Chief of Police.

5. Approval/Disapproval of City Manager’s Professional Service Contract.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. recommended the approval to hire Elmer J. Martinez as City Manager for the term, from January 1<sup>st</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 with an increase to his salary which would be a yearly salary of \$100,000.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. also mentioned that the governing body would encourage the vacation cap to be addressed by the incoming Mayor and Council so that vacation time is not lost by those who are unable to take vacation time.

Councilor Herrera made a motion to approve City Manager’s Professional Service Contract with an increase to his salary which will be a yearly salary of \$100,000.00 Councilor Howell seconded the motion. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

David L. Romero	Yes	Tonita Gurule-Giroń	Yes
Vincent Howell	Yes	Joey Herrera	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked City Manager Elmer Martinez if he would accept the proposed offer.

City Manager, Elmer J. Martinez accepted the offer and thanked Mayor and Council for their support.

**COUNCILOR'S REPORTS**

Mayor and Council wished everyone a Merry Christmas and safe and Happy New year.

Councilor Howell asked to have a discussion on revenues to help on issues such as police vehicles needed for our police officers.

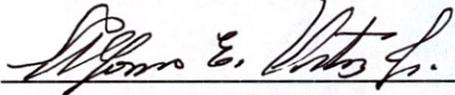
Mayor concluded the meeting by thanking all who make sacrafices to move the city forward.

**ADJOURN**

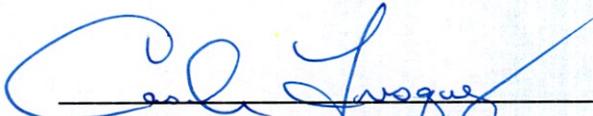
Councilor Gurule-Giroñ made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Howell seconded the motion. Mayor Ortiz, Jr. asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Joey Herrera	Yes	Vincent Howell	Yes
Tonita Gurule-Giroñ	Yes	David L. Romero	Yes

City Clerk Fresquez re-read the motion and advised the motion carried.

  
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Mayor Alfonso E. Ortiz, Jr.

ATTEST:

  
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Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk