

MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2024 AT 5:30 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

MAYOR: David Romero

COUNCILORS: Marvin Martinez
Barbara Casey *Via Zoom*
Michael L. Montoya
David Ulibarri *Absent*

ALSO PRESENT: Tim Montgomery, City Manager
Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk
Caleb Marquez, Sergeant at Arms

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Romero called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Councilor Casey asked for a moment of silence to thank our creator for the little bit of snow we received and to keep in mind those who have passed away.

Councilor Montoya asked to keep the families of William Gomez, Ralph Garcia, Joyce Martinez and Michael Blair in our prayers.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilor Martinez made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilor Casey seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked if all were in favor. All were in favor.

PUBLIC INPUT

None

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS/REPORTS AND RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Romero advised that he received Councilor Montoya email regarding him being on the San Miguel Chamber of Commerce Board. Mayor Romero advised that Councilor Martinez hasn't been a part of any boards and Councilor Montoya sits on three boards.

Appointment of Councilor Marvin Martinez to the San Miguel Chamber of Commerce Board.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve the appointment of Councilor Marvin Martinez to the San Miguel Chamber of Commerce Board. Councilor Montoya seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked if all were in favor. All were in favor.

Councilor Casey advised during her time in that position she served as a type of liaison for the City and it was a nonvoting position.

Mayor Romero thanked City Manager Montgomery for the time they spent with the Seniors. Mayor Romero also thanked everyone who helped set up for the Light Parade.

COUNCILORS' REPORTS

Councilor Martinez voiced his concerns regarding the stop light that was down on 8th Street and Douglas Avenue and alleyways that are affected during snowstorms.

Councilor Montoya thanked Dr. Elizabeth Juarros and the Gallinas Watershed Alliance for the Riverwalk project. Councilor Montoya discussed the three archways that were installed and thanked Public Works Director Arnold Lopez, his staff and everyone who's been decorating the Old Town Park. Councilor Montoya thanked Attorney Dave Romero's family and the Roldand Medrano family for donating the Christmas trees.

Councilor Casey advised that a couple of people contacted her regarding difficulty accessing their homes on Hot Springs Blvd., and she thanked City Manager Montgomery and Public Works Director Lopez for handling it. Councilor Casey advised that residents on 8th Street contacted her regarding concerns of a burnt house and when the debris would be removed. Councilor Casey advised that a lot of people were happy with the activities going on for the holidays. Councilor Casey thanked all the employees for putting everything together and for all they do for the citizens of Las Vegas. Councilor Casey thanked Mayor Romero for setting up a Zoom link for her.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Tim Montgomery discussed the following;

- Welcomed new staff to the City of Las Vegas
- City department updates
 - The City has invested \$113M with NM State Treasurer's Local Government Investment Pool
 - Total interest earnings \$987,140.47
 - Finance is in the final stages of fiscal year audit
 - Project updates
 - The Samaritan House has yet to sign the contract that was approved last month
 - High volume of IPRA requests-\$6,000 in attorney services
 - Maintenance needed for some City buildings

Discussion took place regarding a directory for employees when concerns or issues arise with constituents, the increase in IPRA requests, an increase in Tort claims and how to proceed with homes that have burned around town.

Mayor Romero advised that he had a meeting three weeks ago during the Mayor's caucus regarding the Municipal League working on getting some changes made with IPRA requests due to them becoming burdensome to communities.

Councilor Martinez thanked City Manager Montgomery for his report and for taking the time to look at the maintenance needed for some City buildings.

PRESENTATIONS/POSSIBLE DIRECTION

Irene Encinias with the Old Town Mission Community Center, spoke about their youth program that provides a safe and welcoming environment for the youth in the community. Ms. Encinias advised that they are a nonprofit organization who offer monthly activities for the youth in all age groups. Ms. Encinias advised they could use all the help available. Ms. Encinias thanked Councilor Montoya for his donation.

Mayor Romero thanked Ms. Encinias and her organization for feeding workers during the water crisis.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve the minutes from November 13, and November 20, 2024. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked if all were in favor. All were in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA

None

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Request approval of Resolution No. 24-33 to apply for a one year extension for the Transportation Project Fund (TPF) Grant, Contract No. D19526.

Public Works Director Arnold Lopez advised that they had a difficult construction year with a lot of rain and moisture that caused delays. Public Works Director Lopez advised that they wanted to be cautious by requesting an extension due to the project going further than anticipated.

Councilor Martinez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 24-33 to apply for a one year extension for the Transportation Project Fund (TPF) Grant, Contract No. D19526. Councilor Casey seconded the motion.

Discussion took place regarding the project being on a winter suspension, encountering bad subgrade which also caused delays and if the delay would affect any funding next year.

Resolution 24-33 was presented as follows: *Due to the length of the document, a complete copy may be obtained from the City of Las Vegas, City Clerk's Office.*

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

Michael L. Montoya	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
Marvin Martinez	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

2. Request approval to award RFB 2025-10 to Desert Fox LLC for the construction, reconstruction, pavement rehabilitation, drainage improvements, ADA compliant curb & ramps and miscellaneous construction on El Creston Circle.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to approve RFB 2025-10 to Desert Fox LLC for the construction, reconstruction, pavement rehabilitation, drainage

improvements, ADA compliant curb & ramps and miscellaneous construction on El Creston Circle. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion.

Mayor Romero asked if all bid specs followed the procurement process.

Finance Director Morris Madrid advised that it was all in compliance with the code and all proper procedures were followed.

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

Barbara Casey	Yes	Marvin Martinez	Yes
Michael L. Montoya	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

3. Request approval of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between San Miguel County and the City of Las Vegas.

Community Services Director June Tafoya advised that ARPA funding was awarded last year and it wasn't expended. Community Services Director Tafoya advised that the County wanted to give the City \$25,000 for the San Miguel Senior Center.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between San Miguel County and the City of Las Vegas. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion.

Discussion took place regarding the scope of work in the MOA.

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

Marvin Martinez	Yes	Michael L. Montoya	Yes
Barbara Casey	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

4. Request approval of Task Order for repairs of Carnegie Library roof, pillars, plaster walls and ceiling restoration.

Public Works Director Arnold Lopez advised that it should read for design instead of repairs. Public Works Director Lopez advised that the task order is for an engineer/architect firm to come up with a design and also recommendations for the work needed to renovate the Library.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve a Task Order for design of Carnegie Library roof, pillars, plaster walls and ceiling restoration. Councilor Montoya seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Barbara Casey	Yes	Michael L. Montoya	Yes
Marvin Martinez	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

5. Request approval to award and enter into contract with Glorieta Geoscience for Request for Proposal (RFP) #2025-07 for Consulting Service Hydrologist.

Councilor Casey asked if it was for on-call services.

Water Director Travis Martinez advised yes.

Councilor Casey made a motion to award and enter into contract with Glorieta Geoscience for Request for Proposal (RFP) #2025-07 for Consulting Service Hydrologist. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion.

Councilor Montoya asked City Manager Montgomery if it was his recommendation.

City Manager Montgomery advised yes.

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

Michael L. Montoya	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
Marvin Martinez	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Jay Lazarus with Glorieta Geoscience thanked the Council for supporting the work that they've done and they look forward to continuing in the future.

6. Request approval to award and enter into contract with Kingdom Technology Services for Request for Proposal (RFP) 2025-09 for on-call maintenance and repairs to the UV System.

Water Director Travis Martinez advised it was for general repairs to the ultraviolet system at WasteWater. Water Director Martinez advised that the contractors specialize in that type of equipment repairs.

Councilor Martinez made a motion to award and enter into contract with Kingdom Technology Services for Request for Proposal (RFP) 2025-09 for on-call maintenance and repairs to the UV System. Councilor Casey seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Marvin Martinez	Yes	Michael L. Montoya	Yes
Barbara Casey	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

7. Consideration to approve the restructuring of the Human Resource Department Organizational Chart by placing the Personnel Officer/Risk Management position under the direction of the Safety Officer position within the Executive Office.

City Manager Tim Montgomery advised that the Risk Manager would be under the purview of the Safety Officer because those two roles work very closely together. City Manager Montgomery advised that their duties would not change and they would oversee trainings that are required for safety within the City and workers compensation claims.

Councilor Casey asked if the two positions would be at the same location.

City Manager Montgomery advised yes, they would be in a dual office space located in the HR wing at City Hall.

Councilor Casey asked when it would take effect.

City Manager Montgomery advised it would take effect based on approval and stated that the Safety Officer has moved back into City Hall and the Risk Manager would be able to move to City Hall immediately.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to approve the restructuring of the Human Resource Department Organizational Chart by placing the Personnel Officer/Risk Management position under the direction of the Safety Officer position within the Executive Office. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Marvin Martinez	Yes	Barbara Casey	No
Michael L. Montoya	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

8. Discussion/Direction regarding Opioid and Cannabis funding and how they each can be used.

Finance Director Morris Madrid provided an overview regarding the following;

- Cash Balances

- Opioid fund-have not changed, there's about \$1.2 million (one time funding)
- Cannabis fund-has about \$288,000 (recurring funding)
- Revenues
 - Cannabis fund-has a downward trend

Finance Director Madrid advised that there is no legislation that restricts or commits those funds to any type of use, they are discretionary and at the wishes of the local governing body. Finance Director Madrid advised in some cases the funds are used towards infrastructure improvements, Social Services, drug prevention and quality of life. Finance Director Madrid recommended not disrupting the funds used by the Police and Fire department for drug prevention for the youth. Finance Director Madrid also recommended renovating Plaza Park and overdue maintenance on City Buildings as part of a quality of life.

Councilor Montoya advised that he liked the idea of renovating Plaza Park and suggested the need for a new dance floor and restrooms needed behind the Arts Council. Councilor Montoya voiced his opinion regarding coming up with a list of at least four projects to spend the money and improve the community.

Councilor Casey agreed with Councilor Montoya regarding improving the Plaza Park and advised that the Plaza Park does not meet ADA compliance or handicap accessibility and that other parks aren't handicap accessible.

Councilor Martinez advised that he liked the ideas that everyone mentioned and would like to see money set aside for drug prevention. Councilor Martinez advised that the sidewalks at Plaza Park are a tripping hazard.

Mayor Romero discussed his opinions for using the Opioid funds towards youth programs and resources for the homeless and using the Cannabis funds towards abatement issues. Mayor Romero asked for a budget breakdown for the opioid and cannabis funding showing how much could be used towards parks, toward youth programs and towards the homeless issues.

Councilor Montoya discussed many ideas that could improve the community.

9. Review, Discussion and Possible Action of current Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP).

City Manager Tim Montgomery discussed the Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan for 2026 to 2030.

Grant Consultant Robert Archuleta advised that all Capital Outlay requests were due by Friday December 13, 2024 by 3 pm. Grant Consultant Archuleta discussed the process for entering the requests into the system and uploading them to the Legislative website. Grant Consultant Archuleta advised that the Governor's Capital Outlay requests are due on December 20, 2024 by 5 pm. Grant Consultant Archuleta advised that the Governor would only be funding one out of top three priorities from the ICIP and it has to be a request for \$100,000 or more. Grant Consultant Archuleta advised that they would need to demonstrate that all funding opportunities were exhausted and show commitment that they will fulfill the project.

Councilor Casey suggested looking at the projects ranked 1-5 and to consider having a resolution to not accept funding requested without prior approval from Council which is accomplished through the ICIP process.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding what projects were shovel ready, ranking two items in public safety priorities, two items in water priorities and two priorities in facilities.

Councilor Montoya discussed his list of priorities as Peterson Dam Replacement, City Hall, Rodriguez Park, Mountain View Drive, Roadway Maintenance Improvements and Mobile Data Communications.

Mr. Archuleta discussed supportive programs the City of Las Vegas needs such as House Bill 177 match funds and House Bill 253 Community Development program fund.

Mayor Romero discussed his priorities being City Hall and Old City Hall under Facilities, Peterson Dam and Aging Water infrastructure under Water, Communications and Fire Training Facility under Public Safety, Rodriguez Park and Roadways under Infrastructure and beautification.

Mr. Archuleta read the list of priorities as follows; under Facilities-City Hall and Old City Hall, under Water-Peterson Dam and Aging Water line infrastructure, under Public Safety-Communications and Fire Training Facility, under Parks-Rodriguez Park, under Equipment-Road equipment, Solid Waste and Parks equipment.

Mayor Romero asked City Manager Montgomery if he could work on a Legislative packet.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilor Montoya made a motion to convene into executive session for the purpose of discussing Pending or threatened litigation subject to the attorney-client privilege pertaining to threatened or pending litigation in which the public body is or may become a participant, as permitted by section 10-15-1(H)(7) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, Discussion in threatened litigation regarding licensing application/revocation. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Michael L. Montoya	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
Marvin Martinez	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to exit executive session and reconvene into regular session after being in executive session for the purpose of discussing Pending or threatened litigation subject to the attorney-client privilege pertaining to threatened or pending litigation in which the public body is or may become a participant, as permitted by section 10-15-1(H)(7) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, Discussion in threatened litigation regarding licensing application/revocation, no other items were discussed and no action was taken. Councilor Casey seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Marvin Martinez	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
Michael L. Montoya	Yes		

ADJOURN

Councilor Martinez made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Casey seconded the motion.

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.



Mayor David Romero

ATTEST:



Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk