Minutes of Regular Meeting, February 12, 2001

Regular meeting with the following present: Mayor Horace Fincher; Aldermen Bennie Evans, Juan Garcia, Mark Bowen, Louis Trouart, Gerry Elias; City Secretary Josie Campa; Police Chief Richard Priest; Director of Public Works Alfredo Aguinaga; City Attorney Tom Cate.

Visitors: Jeanette Renteria, Mrs. Carlos Renteria, Wayne Beyer, Paul Coleman, Sam Neagley, Peter Barron, Julie Dunnavant, Kathy Adams, Daniel Wooten, Johnny Stewart, Paul Hoffman and Jessie Diaz.

APPROVE MINUTES

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS

City Secretary Josie Campa added a bill from Tom Cate in the amount of $657.00 and told Council $71.49 would be taken off Pico's bill. Alderman Elias made the motion that Council approve the minutes from the regular meeting held January 8th and the special meeting held January 22nd and approve payment of the bills, as presented. Seconded by Alderman Garcia. Passed unanimously.

HEAR FROM CITIZENS

Alderman Bowen complimented the Police Department and Fire Department for the work they did at the accident in Natalia involving the Lytle school bus.
PRESENTATION OF CITIZENSHIP AWARD
Mayor Fincher presented the annual Daniel J. McGrath, D.V.M. Citizenship Award to Michael Wooten for the year 2000. The Mayor commended Michael for the work done in the park and for the community. Alderman Garcia told Michael he appreciated all the work he did to upgrade the park facility. Alderman Bowen congratulated Michael’s parents and Scoutmaster Tom Cate.

CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION FROM MOBILE HOME COMMISSION CONCERNING REQUEST FROM JEANETTE RENTERIA
Alderman Garcia made the motion that Council approve the recommendation from the Mobile Home Commission on said request. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AUDIT REPORT FOR 1999-2000 FISCAL YEAR
Wayne Beyer presented the audit for fiscal year 1999-2000. He told Council he was giving the City the highest opinion that can be given and reviewed the general fund and enterprise funds with the City. Alderman Elias made the motion that Council accept the audit report and the auditors be paid. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER HIRING AUDITING FIRM FOR 2000-2001 FISCAL
Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council hire Beyer & Company to do this fiscal year’s audit. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM LYTLE YOUTH PROGRAM TO RENEW LICENSE AGREEMENT FOR USE OF BALL FIELDS AT CITY PARK
Johnny Stewart, LYTLE Youth Program’s Baseball President told Council that they appreciate Council allowing LYP to use the ball fields for their program, and requested permission to renew the license agreement for this year. Alderman Evans made the motion that Council renew this agreement with LYP. Seconded by Alderman Garcia. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM PAUL COLEMAN TO ALLOW NII COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT TO EVALUATE CITY OF LYTLE’S PHONE SERVICE AND OTHER TELECOMMUNICATION NEEDS
Paul Coleman told Council that he represents “nii Communications” and explained the service his company provides. He told Council his company could save the City a lot of money on phone service. Mayor Fincher told Mr. Coleman that the City has a contract with Southwestern Bell. No action was taken on this item.

CONSIDER MAINTENANCE CONTRACT WITH RIVER CITY OFFICE MACHINES FOR ALL OFFICE EQUIPMENT
City Secretary Josie Campa asked Council to consider renewal on maintenance contract with River City Office Machines on all office equipment. Alderman Elias made the motion that Council renew said maintenance contract. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously. Council took a short break at 7:30 p.m. and reconvened at 7:44 p.m.

CONSIDER ADDING A FUEL ADJUSTMENT TO GAS BILLS DUE TO INCREASE OF GAS PRICES
City Secretary Josie Campa discussed the current gas prices from El Paso Reata and the need for adding a surcharge or fuel adjustment with Council. She showed where the gas prices have increased so much over the past three months that the City is $30,000.00 in the red. She recommended Council pass through this price increase to the customer. Mayor Fincher recommended a $4.00 fuel adjustment fee be passed through to the customers until the City recovers what it has lost over the past three months. Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council adopt a $4.00 fuel adjustment fee to be passed on to gas customers until the City recovers the lost revenue. Seconded by Alderman Elias. Discussion. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER CALLING FOR ELECTION
Alderman Elias made the motion that Council order an election for Saturday, May 5th to elect three Aldermen. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS’ REPORT
Director of Public Works Alfredo Aguinaga reported on the following items:
1. water tower #1 has been completed on inside;
2. testing and touch ups will be done on tower before calling engineer;
3. 1/4 of outside of tower has been done;
4. James Bradley and Daniel Rios resigned their positions and Jeremy Gebo may be leaving as well;
5. having graffiti problems at park pavilion and gazebo;
6. Unit #17 sent in for repairs;
7. sewer plant road being worked on;
8. Waste Management personnel are not closing gate at the sewer plant, so another gate will be put up;
9. ground storage tank overflowed last week; and
10. have been fixing leaks and sewer stoppages.
Minutes of Regular Meeting, February 12, 2001 (cont.)

POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT
Police Chief Richard Priest reviewed his written report with Council. He told Council the department assisted Natalia with the bus/tanker accident.

CITY SECRETARY’S REPORT
City Secretary Josie Campa reviewed her written report with Council.

MAYOR’S REPORT
Mayor Fincher reported on the following items:

1 - people will be here on February 19th to start work on sewer plant;
2 - The Blackwoods will perform at the auditorium on February 17th; and
3 - the Hearts and Crafts Show was a great success.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Mayor

City Secretary