Minutes of Regular Meeting, May 10, 1999

Regular meeting with the following present: Mayor Horace Fincher; Aldermen Mark Bowen, Louis Trouart and Juan Garcia; City Secretary Josie Campa; Director of Public Works Alfredo Aguinaga; City Attorney Tom Cate. Aldermen Elias and Evans were absent.

Visitors: Julie Dunnavant, Naomi and Leonard Martinez.

ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS AND PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION

City Attorney Tom Cate administered the Oath of Office to newly elected Aldermen Mark Bowen and Juan J. Garcia. Mayor Fincher presented Certificates of Election to these aldermen.

APPROVE MINUTES

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS

City Secretary Josie Campa added the bill from the Chamber of Commerce for $50.00 for membership dues to the list of bills to be approved for payment. Alderman Trouart made the motion that Council approve the minutes from the regular meeting held April 12th and the special meetings held April 26th and May 6th, and the bills as presented. Seconded by Alderman Garcia. Passed unanimously.

HEAR FROM CITIZENS

Mayor Fincher announced the Grand opening for the annex building would be held Saturday, May 15th at 2:00 p.m.

Alderman Garcia thanked fellow Council members for showing up to Council meetings to represent the citizens.

Mayor Fincher told Council that Aldermen Mark Bowen and Bennie Evans had done a lot of work getting the annex building built.

CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS FROM MOBILE HOME COMMISSION ON REQUESTS FROM NAOMI & LEONARD MARTINEZ AND REBECCA ESQUIVEL

Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council approve the recommendation from the Mobile Home Commission on the request from Leonard & Naomi Martinez, and that if Mr. Freire's mobile home is not moved by June 4th, that Council still allow the Martinez' mobile home to be moved. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

Alderman Garcia made the motion that Council approve the Mobile Home Commission's recommendation on the request from Rebecca Esquivel. Seconded by Alderman Trouart. Passed unanimously.

APPOINT MAYOR PRO-TEM

Alderman Trouart made the motion that Council appoint Gerry Elias as Mayor Pro-tem. Seconded by Alderman Garcia. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADOPTING ORDINANCE GRANTING C P & L AN ELECTRIC FRANCHISE

Alderman Trouart made the motion that Council adopt Ordinance No. 240, granting Central Power & Light Company an electric franchise in the City. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER INCREASE OF GARBAGE FEES
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that Waste Management will increase prices on the garbage rates effective June 1st. She told Council that regular residences would see an increase of 15¢ on garbage fees and 2¢ on sales tax for a total of 17¢ extra. She said the proposed rate increases for dumpsters would range from 60¢ to $3.10, and asked Council what they wish to do about this price increase. Alderman Bowen made the motion that the garbage rate increases be passed through to the customers effective the July 1st bills. Seconded by Alderman Garcia. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER ADDITIONAL STREET LIGHTS
Council discussed the requests received for additional street lights. It was agreed that Alderman Bowen would research these requests for the next regular meeting. No action taken.

CONSIDER SOLUTION TO DRAINAGE PROBLEMS ON FM 3175
Mayor Finchertold the Council that he has researched the drainage situation on FM 3175 and has gotten prices from a concrete man to correct this situation. He said that since the price of this drainage project is over $8,000.00, it must be engineered and that he has tried to get engineer to look at it. He said he is not fully ready to present this to Council until the engineer has a chance to look at it.

CONSIDER PURCHASE OF ABOVE GROUND FUEL TANKS
Council discussed the purchase of above ground fuel tanks and the specifications required if in the Edwards Aquifer region. Council postponed this item until more information is obtained.

CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF LAURIE DURAN
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that she was recommending that Laurie Duran's employment with the City be terminated. After more discussion, Alderman Garcia made the motion that Council accept the City Secretary's recommendation to terminate Laurie Duran effective May 11th. Seconded by Alderman Bowen. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER STREETS FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
Council members discussed the streets in the City needing attention this fiscal year. After discussion, it was agreed to wait another month to decide this since two Council members were absent.

CONSIDER AND ADOPT RULES & FEES FOR COMMUNITY CENTER ANNEX BUILDING
Council discussed the proposed rules & fees for the new annex building. After discussion, Alderman Bowen made the motion that Council approve the rules & fees as previously proposed with one change that will allow senior citizens having private parties to rent building for $10.00 per hour, with a deposit of $25.00. Seconded by Alderman Trouard. Passed unanimously.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS' REPORT
Director of Public Works Alfredo Aguinaga reported on the following items:
1 - thanked Council for new trucks;
2 - James Bradley received water "D" license;
3 - Hector Muniz tested for water "C" license;
4 - have been working sewer stoppages;
5 - need to replace part of Adams Street sewer line;
6 - Henry Soto was on vacation last week of April;
7 - Alfredo Aguinaga was on vacation last week;
8 - Newton Drive water line completed; still have to tie in services;
9 - Well #3 is being used;
10 - have been shredding and patching; and
11 - sewer samples have not been good.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT
Police Chief Kathy Ray reviewed her written report with Council.

Chief Ray reported that Sergeant Priest is better now and department was very shorthanded when he was ill.
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City Secretary's Report

City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that preliminary figures for sales tax in May show the City will receive $25,531.70. This amount is an increase of 1% over last year's May allocation.

The City Secretary told Council that the Isuzu truck that they had voted to purchase has been sold to another buyer and that Isuzu is trying to locate another pickup for the City.

Ms. Campa gave Council an estimate total for the completed annex building of $64,931.51. This price does not include the brick approved by Council.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Fincher reminded Council of the Grand opening of the Annex Building and urged all to be present.

The Mayor told Council that the annex building should be bricked in five to six weeks.

The Mayor also told Council that a noise ordinance will be discussed at the next regular meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Mayor

Josie Campa
City Secretary