

Minutes of Special Meeting held May 18, 2015

Special meeting with the following present: Mayor Mark Bowen; Aldermen Jerry Stone, Ruble Farmer, Ward Sanders, Sam Cortez, Kevin Keith; City Secretary Josie Campa; Police Chief Richard Priest; Fire Marshal Matt Dear; Director of Public Works James McGrath; Animal Control Director Betty Kroeger, Library Director Cassandra Cortez.

Visitor: Bryan Mask.

Mayor Bowen opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Alderman Sanders told Council that getting the agenda placed on computer is the most important project for next year. He said tablets and/or laptops would be needed for each Councilman. There was discussion on things that would be needed to accomplish this.

Mr. Sanders also talked about department heads being able to look at their budgets, and streamlining the building permit process.

Alderman Sanders also asked about having a plan for fixing potholes, and about overlays being added to the master plan for requiring buildings on Main Street to be done in a certain way. Council agreed a committee needs to be appointed for overseeing this, and asked this be placed on the June agenda.

Mr. Sanders then told Council that City Hall is in need of a "facelift". Bryan Mask agreed to get someone to take a look at the City Hall.

Alderman Sanders also told Council that a decision needs to be made on the Gidley house being renovated. Bryan Mask said he could get the same person that will look at the City Hall to take a look at the Gidley house.

Mayor Bowen asked other Council members about what they would like to see done over the next five (5) years.

Alderman Keith told Council that he would like to see meter reading contracted out. Mayor Bowen suggested electronic meters be installed.

Alderman Stone said he wants to see the Public Works department get a new building.

Alderman Cortez told Council he wants to see the streets get fixed and Council discussing contracting with someone to fix the potholes.

Council took a short break at 7:40 p.m. and reopened the meeting at 7:52 p.m.

Police Chief Richard Priest reviewed his written report with Council for things he feels the Police Department needs over the next five (5) years.

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Chief Priest also presented Council with a handout for items needed for Emergency Management over the next five (5) years.

Animal Control Director Betty Kroeger reviewed her written list of goals for the next five (5) years for the Animal Control Department.

Library Director Cassandra Cortez presented her list of plans and goals for the library for the next five (5) years.

Public Works James McGrath went over the list of things he had presented to Council at the March workshop.

City Secretary Josie Campa reviewed her list of goals for City Hall and other items she had listed for the park, center and downtown area with Council.

Fire Chief Matt Dear told Council that the Fire Department's main problem over the next five (5) years will be staffing and that possibly two people will be able to be put on to work full-time for the department. Chief Dear also said an aging fleet will require some attention.

Alderman Sanders asked the City Secretary to put together a five (5) year plan for the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.