

Regular Meeting of the City Council, City of Farmington, New Mexico, held virtually using Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81785891513> at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 22, 2020. The virtually open regular session was held in full conformity with the laws and ordinances and rules of the Municipality.

Upon roll call, the following were found to be present, constituting a quorum:

MAYOR	Nate Duckett
COUNCILORS	Linda G. Rodgers Sean E. Sharer Jeanine Bingham-Kelly Janis Jakino

constituting all members of said Governing Body.

Also present were:

CITY MANAGER	Rob Mayes
ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER	Julie Baird
CITY ATTORNEY	Jennifer Breakell
CITY CLERK	Andrea Jones

The meeting was convened by the Mayor. Thereupon the following proceedings were duly had and taken:

The invocation was offered by Pastor David Florez of The Journey Church.

Councilor Rodgers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: The Mayor announced that those items on the agenda marked with an asterisk (*) have been placed on the Consent Agenda and will be voted on without discussion by one motion. He stated that if any item did not meet with approval of all Councilors or if a citizen so requested, that item would be removed from the Consent Agenda and heard.

*MINUTES: The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held September 8, 2020.

*BID: The Acting Chief Procurement Officer recommended that the bid for construction of a new bridge for access to the Bergin Substation (Electric) be awarded to TRC Construction Inc. on its low bid of \$107,149.69 after application of five percent in-state preference. Bids opened September 9, 2020 with three bidders participating.

*PURCHASE CONTRACT between the City and SCFRC-HW-V LLC for purchase by the City of 1,971 square feet of property located on East 20th Street (Parcel TCP-7) for a temporary construction permit for Phase 3 of the 20th Street Sidewalks project (purchase price of \$1,950).

*PURCHASE CONTRACT between the City and Remigio F. Padilla, Jr., Trustee of the Remigio F. Padilla, Jr. Revocable Trust UTA, for purchase by the City of 2,193 square feet of property located on East 20th Street (Parcel TCP-13) for a temporary construction permit for Phase 3 of the 20th Street Sidewalks project (purchase price of \$1,850).

*PURCHASE CONTRACT between the City and Donna M. Thompson, Trustee of the Donna M. Thompson Revocable Trust, UTA, for purchase by the City of 500 square feet of property located on East 20th Street (Parcel TCP-14) for a temporary construction permit for Phase 3 of the 20th Street Sidewalks project (purchase price of \$450).

*REAPPOINTMENT OF GEORGE GOLOMBOWSKI as a member of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Commission (term to September, 2023).

*REAPPOINTMENTS OF DOUG DYKEMAN AND JOHN MCNEILL as members of the Metropolitan Redevelopment Agency Commission (terms to September, 2025).

*WARRANTS PAYABLE for the time period of September 6, 2020 through September 19, 2020, for current and prior years, in the amount of \$7,382,251.94.

There being no requests to remove any items, a motion was made by Councilor Jakino, seconded by Councilor Rodgers to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. The roll was called with the following result:

Those voting aye:	Linda G. Rodgers Sean E. Sharer Jeanine Bingham-Kelly Janis Jakino
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Those voting nay:	None
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The presiding officer thereupon declared that four Councilors having voted in favor thereof, the said motion carried.

PRESENTATION/TECHSOURCE, NAVAJO TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY AND NAAT'AANII DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION COALITION/U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY GRANT

TechSource's Business Development Manager Bill Redmond thanked the Mayor and Council for providing a letter of support for TechSource, Navajo Technical University and Naat'aanii Development Corporation Coalitions' application for funding through a U.S. Department of Energy ("DOE") grant. He reported that 80-90 percent of all rare earth elements come from China and pointed out that China has threatened to reduce this supply to the United States. As a result, Mr. Redmond announced that the DOE and the U.S. Department of Defense ("DOD") have made several grants available to develop the extraction of rare earth elements within the United States and he stated that TechSource's technology enables the extraction of rare earth elements from coal at the molecular level. He contended that coal is the future, not the past, and he reported that the San Juan Basin is a potential development site for rare earth elements extraction. Concluding his presentation, Mr. Redmond stated that the current grant award is for \$200,000 and expressed his appreciation for the City's support.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

Update on Drought

At the Mayor's request, Community Works Director David Sypher reported that Lake Farmington is currently at 96.8 percent of capacity and that stream flows are up from 7 percent to 8-12 percent of normal. Additionally, he pointed out that the City is now utilizing a third pump on the Farmers Ditch and noted that this should increase Lake Farmington's capacity by approximately one percent in the next few days.

Update on Pumping Water from the San Juan River

In response to Mayor Duckett's inquiry, Community Works Director David Sypher announced that testing of the waterline from the San Juan River through Willett Ditch resulted in several severe leaks and he pointed out that staff is investigating the most optimal method of repairing the waterline which will be scheduled to take place in the Spring of 2021.

Farmington Museum Operations

Mayor Duckett announced that the Farmington Museum is now open to the public and he requested a brief update from staff. In response, Assistant City Manager Julie Baird reported that the Farmington Museum is open at 25 percent capacity with a current average of 10-12 visitors per day. She announced that the Gridiron Glory and Inside Out exhibits have recently been extended through December 31, 2020 and January 17, 2021, respectively, and she pointed out that staff will intensify the marketing campaign of these exhibits to increase visitation.

Seasonal Staff Hiring

Responding to the Mayor's question, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director Shaña Reeves confirmed that hiring seasonal staff has continued to be an ongoing challenge and she reported that the current seasonal staff will remain employed longer than usual due to the reduced staffing. In addition, City Manager Rob Mayes emphasized that the reduced staffing is not a result of budget cuts but rather a result of the pandemic and lack of applicants.

Athletic Field Usage

In response to the Mayor, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Director Shaña Reeves confirmed that staff has been working with area coaches and youth sports leagues to begin permitting field usage as allowed by the current New Mexico Public Health Order.

Commendation of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department

Mayor Duckett extended San Juan County Manager Mike Stark's commendation of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department for their tireless efforts during the pandemic with limited staff.

National Public Lands Day/Outdoor Recreation Pledge

Mayor Duckett announced that National Public Lands Day and the implementation of the Outdoor Recreation Pledge were topics of today's filming of the Mayor's Table and he encouraged all community members to "leave no trace" and to "respect the experience."

CITY MANAGER BUSINESS

Police Department's Advanced Training Unit

City Manager Rob Mayes requested that this presentation be removed from tonight's agenda and rescheduled to the October 13, 2020 regular City Council meeting.

CITY ATTORNEY BUSINESS

City Attorney Jennifer Breakell presented and read by title Resolution No. 2020-1767 providing for the annual determination of reasonable notice of public meetings of the City of Farmington. The title of the resolution being:

A RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ANNUAL DETERMINATION (IN A PUBLIC MEETING) OF REASONABLE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 10-15-1 ET SEQ. NMSA 1978 COMPILATION, AND READOPTING, RATIFYING AND AFFIRMING THE PROVISIONS OF RESOLUTION NO. 2013-1466 PROVIDING FOR NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS.

After consideration of Resolution No. 2020-1767, a motion was made by Councilor Rodgers, seconded by Councilor Jakino that said resolution be passed and adopted as presented. The roll was called with the following result:

Those voting aye:	Linda G. Rodgers Sean E. Sharer Jeanine Bingham-Kelly Janis Jakino
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Those voting nay:	None
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The presiding officer thereupon declared that four Councilors having voted in favor thereof, the said motion carried and Resolution No. 2020-1767 was duly passed and adopted.

There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion was made by Councilor Jakino, seconded by Councilor Rodgers to adjourn the meeting at 6:33 p.m. The roll was called with the following result:

Those voting aye:	Linda G. Rodgers Sean E. Sharer
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