Regular Meeting of the City Council, City of Farmington, New Mexico, held in the Council Chamber at City Hall at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 22, 2019. The 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 Breckell

**City Clerk**
- Dianne Smyle

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

**Invocation:** The invocation was offered by Pastor Burson Corley of College Heights Baptist Church.

Police Sergeant Roque Velarde 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 under Business from the Floor.

*Minutes: The minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council held January 8, 2019.*

*Declaration of Surplus Property:* The Chief Procurement Officer recommended that two worn-out, unusable or obsolete fire trucks (Fire) be declared surplus to the needs of the City and not essential for municipal purposes, and that the City Manager or his designee be authorized to dispose of such surplus property pursuant to State Statutes.

*Request from Hilcorp Energy Company and Hilcorp San Juan, L.P. to provide a blanket bond for $645,000 to cover not more than 90 wells, pursuant to Section 19-2-103 of the City Code.*

*Warrants Payable* for the time period of January 6, 2019 through January 19, 2019, for current and prior years, in the amount of $7,349,434.62.

There being no requests to remove any items, a motion was made by Councilor Rodgers, seconded by Councilor Sharer to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented, and upon voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

**Recognition of Audra Winters/Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Commission**

Mayor Duckett recognized Audra Winters for her dedicated service to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Commission and for her time serving as the Chief Executive Officer for the Farmington Chamber of Commerce. He noted that Ms. Winters will be relocating to Arizona and presented her with a plaque in appreciation of her service. The presentation was concluded with a hearty round of applause.
RECOMMENDATION FROM THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION:

*CONSENT AGENDA: Community Development Director Mary Holton requested that the Planning and Zoning Commission recommendation marked with an asterisk (*) be placed on the Planning and Zoning Commission Consent Agenda and voted on without discussion. She asked that if the item proposed did not meet with approval of all Councilors or if a citizen so requested, the item would be removed from the Consent Agenda and heard in regular order.

*(1) Adoption of the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission as contained within the Community Development Department Action Summary to approve Petition No. ZC 18-95 from Billy Randall, represented by Misty Hensley, requesting a zone change from the SF-7, Single Family, District to the MF-1, Multi-Family Low Density, District and to grant a variance to certain yard setbacks and lot size requirements to allow two existing duplexes to be in conformance with the Unified Development Code for property located at 2303 and 2305 Nathan Avenue.

There being no requests to remove the item, a motion was made by Councilor Jakino, seconded by Councilor Rodgers to approve the Planning and Zoning Commission Consent Agenda, as presented, and upon voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

METROPOLITAN REDEVELOPMENT AREA INCENTIVE REQUEST/COTTONWOOD CLINICAL SERVICES, INC.

Economic Development Director Warren Unsicker recommended approval of a request from Cottonwood Clinical Services, Inc. for $60,000 from the Community Transformation and Economic Diversification ("CTED") Fund for the purpose of renovating parking lots at 653 West Arrington Street within the Metropolitan Redevelopment Area ("MRA"). Mr. Unsicker reported that Cottonwood Clinical Services, Inc. purchased the 7,650 square foot building for $230,000 and plans to invest an additional $194,000 in renovations which will increase the property value and generate an additional $1,577 in property tax revenue for the City of Farmington. Furthermore, he noted that the facility will accommodate 16 staff members (four of which are new positions) and will result in approximately $750,000 in annual wages. He noted that Cottonwood Clinical Services will also be remitting $60,000 in gross receipts tax revenue each year and reported that the Metropolitan Redevelopment Agency Commission unanimously approved this request on January 15, 2019. Furthermore, he pointed out that the parking lots will be available during public events (outside of regular operating hours) and that the improvements will discourage the unsavory activities that have been occurring on the property due to it being vacant. City Manager Bob Mayes also pointed out that the City will also receive gross receipts tax revenue from the construction being planned for the facility.

Mayor Duckett stated that he is hopeful that monies from the CTED Fund will be budgeted in the MRA Fund in the future for the purpose of reimbursing business owners who make improvements to their property. He contended that this incentive could entice more business activity in the MRA district and would result in a good public/private partnership.

Councilor Sharer expressed his support for the request, stating that he sees this as a win/win for Cottonwood Clinical Services, Inc. and the City since it will provide needed parking and improve the aesthetics of the area.

Councilor Rogers announced that she is pleased that the business is utilizing its own money to renovate the building and stated that she is pleased that four additional jobs will be created. She expressed her support for the request since it will clean-up a blighted area and hopefully encourage more business activity.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Councilor Sharer, seconded by Councilor Jakino to approve the incentive request from Cottonwood Clinical Service, Inc. for $60,000 from the CTED Fund for renovation of parking lots at 653 West Arrington Street located within the Metropolitan Redevelopment Area, and upon voice vote the motion carried unanimously.
APPOINTMENT TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Mayor Duckett asked the Council's consideration of the appointment of Elizabeth Lockmiller (term to May, 2020) as a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Thereupon, a motion was made by Councilor Rodgers, seconded by Councilor Sharer to confirm the appointment of Elizabeth Lockmiller as a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, as recommended by the Mayor, and upon voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Duckett asked the Council's consideration of Resolution No. 2019-1694 supporting a film tax credit. The title of the resolution being:

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN OUT-OF-ZONE FILM TAX CREDIT.

Mayor Duckett explained that the purpose of the proposed resolution is to urge the Governor to 1) establish an additional five percent tax rebate for production companies that film in underserved parts of the state; 2) enhance or establish new programs to increase crew training in underserved film production communities; 3) and assist individuals in film crew training programs for the purpose of advancing the profession.

Councilor Sharer announced that he agrees with the resolution in general since it will create temporary jobs that will put "heads in beds" and promote shopping in our community.

After consideration of Resolution No. 2019-1694, a motion was made by Councilor Sharer, 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

Those voting nay: None

The presiding officer thereupon declared that four Councilors having voted in favor thereof, the said motion carried and Resolution No. 2019-1694 was duly passed and adopted.

Farmington Municipal Schools/Letter of Intent to Assist with Ballfield Improvements

Reading from a prepared statement, Farmington Municipal Schools ("FMS") Superintendent Gene Schmidt announced that FMS coaches and players support the installation of artificial turf on the playing field at Ricketts Ball Park and stated that FMS is willing to participate in the cost. Furthermore, he stated that FMS is amenable to partnering with the City for the purpose of improving all playgrounds and ballfields that are commonly shared between the two organizations. FMS Athletic Director Frank Whalen echoed his comments, noting that it is increasingly difficult to maintain the grass field due to drought and antiquated watering systems.

Mayor Duckett stated that he believes that this is a "huge step" in the right direction and reaffirms his belief that Farmington is a great place to live, work, stay and play. He also reaffirmed his position that FMS be allowed to utilize Ricketts Ball Park and stated that he is pleased that FMS recognizes the opportunities that are available through a shared financial partnership.

Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet Award Recipients

Announcing that he "had a great weekend in the city of Farmington," Mayor Duckett proudly announced that Merring Oil & Gas was bestowed the Business of the Year award during the Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet on Friday night and stated that Convention & Visitors Bureau Chief Executive Officer Tonya Stinson was presented with the Citizen of the Year Award for her leadership and involvement in the branding and outdoor recreation initiatives. Furthermore, Mayor Duckett stated that Chamber of Commerce incoming president Adam Kinney gave a moving speech that emphasized the good things that happen during economic downturns and he
expressed his confidence in newly-appointed Chamber of Commerce Chief Executive Officer Jamie Church.

**Police Department Annual Banquet**

Mayor Duckett noted that he attended the Police Department’s annual banquet on Saturday night and proudly announced that Sergeant Roque Velarde was presented with the Chief’s Commendation Award for his work on the final call ceremony associated with a police officer’s retirement. He expressed his appreciation to all the men and women in blue who protect our community every single day.

**Martin Luther King Day of Service**

Mayor Duckett expressed his sincere appreciation to those individuals who participated in the Martin Luther King Day of Service, noting that over 200 people assisted with 15 different service projects throughout the city.

**Commendation of Christie Howell/Bonnie Dallas Senior Center**

Mayor Duckett read a letter that he received from Kelly West expressing her appreciation to Christie Howell at the Bonnie Dallas Senior Center for enthusiastically taking the time to show her how to use the equipment in the fitness center. Ms. West commended Ms. Howell for her friendliness and stated that it is apparent that she loves her job.

**Wayfinding Signs**

Mayor Duckett displayed one of the salmon-colored wayfinding signs that are based on the Jolt Your Journey brand. Acknowledging that this particular sign color is difficult to see at night, he reported that the white images will be outlined in black to make the signs easier to read.

**Recognition of Retiring Administrative Services Director Andy Mason**

City Manager Rob Mayes recognized Administrative Services Director Andy Mason for his 16 years of conscientious and outstanding public service to the City of Farmington. Noting that Mr. Mason has spent a total of 43 years in the public sector, Mr. Mayes proudly reported that the City has received a “clean” audit for the entire 16 years that Mr. Mason has been in the position. He presented Mr. Mason with a plague in honor of his loyal and dedicated leadership and the presentation was concluded with a hearty round of applause.

Mayor Duckett commended Mr. Mason for his professionalism and thanked him for leaving the department with a well-trained and competent staff. Councilors Rodgers, Sharer, Bingham-Kelly and Jakino also congratulated Mr. Mason and acknowledged him for his succession planning vision.

In closing, Mr. Mason thanked the Mayor and Council for their kind words and happily announced that he plans to spend more time with his family and six grandchildren who all live locally.

**Echo Inc. Backpack Program**

Kirk Denetclaw, Food Program Manager for ECHO, Inc., explained that the backpack program is designed to provide lower-income, school-aged children with food on the weekends. He reported that in December 2018, ECHO handed out 521 food packages, of which the City of Farmington assisted with 240. He noted that this program is offered to children in Newcomb, Aztec, Bloomfield, Farmington, Central Consolidated, Tierra Amarilla, Jicarilla, Chama and Blanco and stated that in 2018, 4,940 backpacks were distributed. He thanked the City of Farmington for their support of this project and stated that he hopes that they will continue their support in the future.

In response to inquiry from the Mayor, Mr. Denetclaw reported that ECHO employs a Food Programs Manager who determines the types of items that are included in the backpacks based on the nutrition value, sodium content and sugar levels. Responding to a question from Councilor Rodgers, Mr. Denetclaw reported that there are schools on the waiting list and noted that additional backpacks are being requested.

In closing, City Manager Rob Mayes reported that, historically, the City provides $5,200 in financial assistance for the program.
CITY ATTORNEY BUSINESS

City Attorney Jennifer Breakell presented for discussion a proposed ordinance dealing with the Series 2019 Municipal Gross Receipts Tax Revenue Bonds for traffic and street improvements. The title of such ordinance being:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE, SALE AND DELIVERY OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON, NEW MEXICO MUNICIPAL GROSS RECEIPTS TAX IMPROVEMENT REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2019, IN AN AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $12,500,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEFRAYING THE COSTS OF DESIGNING, ENGINEERING, CONSTRUCTING, ACQUIRING AND IMPROVING STREETS AND TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENTS, AND PAYING COSTS OF ISSUANCE OF THE SERIES 2019 BONDS.

There being no discussion, Ms. Breakell announced that the proposed ordinance will be presented for final action at the February 12, 2019 regular City Council meeting.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Relocation of The Roof Winter Shelter to Ojo Court

Reading from a prepared statement, Mary Rankin, 917 Jefferson Avenue, expressed her concerns for the safety of the residents who utilize The Roof Winter Shelter due to its relocation from the downtown area to Ojo Court. She questioned whether there will be adequate transportation or pathways to the facility and stated that she has heard that there are no restroom facilities or running water. In response to her concerns, Mayor Duckett explained that the new location offers additional services because Totah Behavioral Healthcare Authority, the Sobering Center and the Joint Intervention Program (JIP) are also located on Ojo Court and reported that the Alternative Response Unit (ARU) has been employed for the purpose of providing contact and/or medical assistance to street inebriates. In addition, a second ARU unit will be deployed for the sole purpose of providing transportation to the facility. Providing further information, City Manager Rob Mayes announced that staff is planning a slow transition from the downtown facility to Ojo Court and assured Ms. Rankin that restrooms and running water are available. He also noted that staff is working to develop lighted pathways from the facility and suggested that she contact Assistant City Manager Julie Baird for a tour. In closing, he asked Ms. Rankin to provide staff with a copy of her written statement in order to adequately address her concerns.

Commendation of ECHO, Inc.

Dr. Steve Rankin, 917 Jefferson Avenue, thanked ECHO, Inc. for their efforts in eliminating childhood hunger, noting that as a Pediatrician he is authorized to write prescriptions requesting assistance from food banks for needy families.

There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion was made by Councilor Sharer, seconded by Councilor Rodgers to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 p.m., and upon voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

The City Clerk certified that notice of the foregoing meeting was given by posting pursuant to Resolution No. 2013-1466, et seq.

Approved this 12th day of February, 2019.

Entered in the permanent record book this 13th day of February, 2019.

Nate Duckett, Mayor

SEAL

ATTEST:

Dianne Smylie, City Clerk