

Work Session of the City Council, City of Farmington, New Mexico, held Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in the Executive Conference Room at City Hall, 800 Municipal Drive, Farmington, New Mexico, in full conformity with the rules, regulations and ordinances of the municipality.

At such meeting the following were present, constituting a quorum:

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

constituting all the members of the Governing Body.

Also present were:

CITY MANAGER	Rob Mayes
CITY ATTORNEY	Jennifer Breakell
CITY CLERK	Dianne Smylie

RECOGNITION OF THE PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs ("PRCA") Director Shaña Reeves proudly announced that the PRCA Department received four awards during 2019 New Mexico Recreation and Parks Association Annual Conference in Hobbs, New Mexico.

PRCA Assistant Director Natalie Spruell reported that the City of Farmington won the 2019 Youth Program of the Year award for the Heather McGaughey Children's Theater which introduces youth between the ages of 8 and 12 to theater and performing arts and teaches life skills such as teamwork, punctuality, self-reliance, self-confidence and courage. Paul Stewart III and Melissa Cheffers accepted the award on behalf of the Heather McGaughey Children's Theatre.

Ms. Spruell reported that the department also received the Adult Program of the Year award for the Farmington Museum Trips and Hikes Series which offers guided tours of the Bisti Badlands. Museum Director Bart Wilsey and Hospitality Staff Danielle Greyeyes accepted the award on behalf of the Farmington Museum.

Continuing with the presentation, Ms. Spruell announced that the Ricketts Park grounds crew received the Parks and Grounds Maintenance of the Year Award, noting that Ricketts Park is one of only a few natural turf playing fields. She noted that the crew spent many hours conditioning, dragging, mowing, trimming, edging, lining, fertilizing and inspecting and repairing the irrigation system to ensure that the field was in pristine condition for the 2019 Connie Mack World Series. Parks Superintendent Doug Abe, Assistant Superintendent Kathy Farley, Parks Foreman Andrea Garcia and Parks Maintenance Workers Elramsey Clah and Carol Yazzie accepted the award on behalf of the grounds crew.

Lastly, Ms. Spruell reported that George Golombowski received the Outstanding Volunteer Service Award for providing over 2,500 hours of volunteer service to the City of Farmington since January, 1999. She noted that Mr. Golombowski routinely patrols the parks while walking his dogs and volunteers for a variety of special events including the Mother/Daughter Tea Party and the Connie Mack World Series. Mr. Golombowski proudly accepted the award and the presentations were concluded with a hearty round of applause.

RECOGNITION OF THE 911 MEMORIAL STAIR CLIMB COMMITTEE

Fire Chief Dave Burke recognized firefighters Gary Groomer, Eric Ivie, Troy Rightmier, Jordan Lucero and Jordan Edelman, Fire Engineer Phillip Logan and Fire Marshal Brandy Vega for being members of the 911 Memorial Stair climb Committee and for sponsoring the event. He also

thanked the staff of the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs Department for their assistance.

Noting he and Engineer Logan solely sponsored the event in 2017 and were unable to do so again in 2018 due to its magnitude, Firefighter Groomer stated that he is hopeful that the committee will be able to make this an annual event. He reported that the community raised \$36,000 for the National Fallen Firefighters Association and proudly reported that some of that funding was used for travel for the family of former Farmington Firefighter Lieutenant Jacob Shadd Rohwer who passed away from job-related cancer on January 11, 2018. He noted that Mr. Rohwer was recognized during the 2019 International Association of Firefighters Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial Service held on September 21 in Colorado Springs, Colorado and at the 38th National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service held on October 6 at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Chief Burke played the closing video that was broadcast during the 2019 911 Memorial Stair Climb and Mayor Duckett and Councilors Rodgers and Jakino sincerely thanked the committee for their efforts.

UPDATE ON THE PARK RANGERS UNIT

Police Sergeant Roque Velarde reported that four of the six authorized Park Rangers have completed their training and are patrolling the parks on their own, noting that one is still in the training process and the sixth is in the hiring phase. He announced that the rangers attended a "mini police academy" where they learned how to operate non-emergency vehicles, basic and tactical communication skills to include working with the mentally ill, self-defense tactics and first aid, CPR and tourniquet training. He also noted that the rangers are authorized to enforce certain city ordinances, but emphasized that their primary goal is to serve as ambassadors for the community and stated that one of the most beneficial trainings that they received was the A2D (Arrival to Destination) program being offered by the Convention & Visitors Bureau. He provided a brief biography of each of the park rangers and stated that he has tasked them with attending two community events per week, contacting business owners, making routine park patrols, attending one police-sponsored event per month and riding the Red Apple Transit twice per week in order to promote a feeling of security on the public transportation system. He directed the Council's attention to a handout titled, "Farmington Police Department Park Ranger Report For the Month of October" and he asked the Council for feedback on the frequency and the types of information that they would like to have on future reports.

In response to inquiry from Mayor Duckett, Sgt. Velarde reported that the program operates seven days per week from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. but noted that the schedules are adjusted to accommodate events. He also stated that they are aware of the problems at Brookside Park and will be patrolling that area as needed along with Lake Farmington during the summer season.

Responding to Councilors Rodgers, Sgt. Velarde stated that his goals for the program are to provide a permanent presence in the downtown area and along the river walk and noted that he is uncertain how the downtown revitalization-Complete Streets project will impact the program in the future. Councilor Rodgers commended Sgt. Velarde for his vision and stated that the number of calls that she receives from downtown businesses has dropped since this program was initiated.

Councilor Jakino expressed her support for the program and stated that she believes that the flexibility will allow for resources to be utilized effectively and wisely.

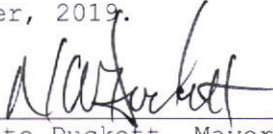
CANCELLATION OF THE NOVEMBER 26, 2019 AND THE DECEMBER 24, 2019 REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

City Manager Rob Mayes suggested that the November 26, 2019 and the December 24, 2019 regular City Council meetings be canceled due to the holidays.

Thereupon, a motion was made by Councilor Rodgers, seconded by Councilor Jakino to cancel the November 26, 2019 and the December 24, 2019 regular City Council meetings, and upon voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Council, a motion was made by Councilor Rodgers, seconded by Councilor Jakino to adjourn the meeting at 10:02 a.m., and upon voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVED this 12th day of November, 2019.



Nate Duckett, Mayor

SEAL

ATTEST:



Dianne Smylie, City Clerk