

CITY OF BLOOMFIELD
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
July 9, 2018

The Regular Meeting of the Bloomfield City Council was held at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 915 N. First Street, Bloomfield, NM. The meeting was in full conformity with the laws and rules of the Municipality.

In attendance were Mayor Cynthia Atencio and Councilors Curtis Lynch, Matt Pennington, Sue Finch and Ken Hare.

Also present were City Manager George Duncan and City Clerk Dorothy Nobis. Department Heads present were Brad Ellsworth, Fire Chief John Mohler, Jason Thomas, and Donna Clifton. Other employees present were Hank and Ayme Vigil, Peggy Loyd, Craig Barker, and Josh Calder.

Councilor Finch offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda:

City Manager George Duncan asked to move item A under New Business (Discussion and Possible Action regarding wage adjustments) and place it under Closed Executive Session, where the Council will further discuss it, and will vote on its approval when the meeting reconvenes after the Closed Session.

Councilor Finch made a motion to approve the Agenda as suggested and Councilor Hare seconded. Approval was unanimous.

Consent Agenda:

Councilor Hare made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda in its entirety and Councilor Lynch seconded the motion. Approval was unanimous.

New Business:

City Manager George Duncan asked the Council to approve releasing the Police Department's dog, Jax, to Kyle Davis, the officer who trained and worked with the dog when he was with the Bloomfield Police Department. Kyle Davis is now a deputy with the San Juan County Sheriff's Office and had asked the Sheriff's Office if he could bring Jax with him. The Sheriff's Office has no need for a dog and the cost to the Bloomfield Police Department to retrain another officer to handle Jax would be about \$10,000. Because of Deputy Davis's attachment to the dog, and the dog's attachment to Deputy Davis, Councilor Pennington moved to release Jax to Deputy Davis and Councilor Lynch seconded. Approval was unanimous.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business to be discussed.

Department and Public Input:

Bloomfield resident Edith Ray, who lives on Ginger Street, asked the Council when the water in her neighborhood would be safe to drink. Mrs. Ray said she's been buying bottled water and giving it to her dogs, who are healthier drinking it rather than the tap water provided by the city. Mayor Atencio asked Public Works Director Jason Thomas what the problem is with the water. Mr. Thomas said there are no issues with the water and the water is safe to drink. Mrs. Ray said she will resume drinking the water and will let the Council know if she has further problems with it.

Councilor Hare thanked Autumn McMurry and Tony Herrera for helping with the vendors and activities at the Bloomfield High School's practice field prior to the fireworks display on July 5. Councilor Hare also thanked the Bureau of Land Management for providing the land for the fireworks professionals. Mayor Atencio offered her appreciation to the Parks Department, the Fire Department, the Police Department, the City Clerk, and the city's Payroll Specialist, Evelyn Archuleta, for their help with the event as well. The fireworks display was a great success, with almost everyone enjoying the new location. Mayor Atencio added that it takes everyone who works for and with the city to make the display available to city residents and visitors.

Councilor Hare also offered his sympathies to the family of Merle Dennis, who passed away recently. Mr. Dennis is a former Bloomfield Mayor and a former Bloomfield City Manager, a teacher at Bloomfield High School and a local businessman.

City Manager George Duncan offered his appreciation to the city's Street Department, which repaired a 12-inch water line break on West Hammond on July 4. Street Department crews spent more than 12 hours repairing that water break as well as one in the Glenwood Street area.

CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Atencio asked for a motion to go into a Closed Executive Session to discuss limited personnel and pending/threatened litigation. Councilor Finch moved to go into Closed Executive Session to discuss those issues and Councilor Hare seconded. Approval was unanimous and the council went into Closed Executive Session at 6:26 p.m. At 7:47 p.m., Mayor Atencio asked for a motion to return to the regular meeting, stating nothing was discussed in the executive meeting other than limited personnel and pending/threatened litigation, and approval was unanimous. Councilor Finch moved to approve restoring the pay cut city employees took on August 1, 2016, and a wage adjustment for the Bloomfield Police Department and the Parks Department, based on certifications those employees have obtained and to maintain equity with other law enforcement agencies in the area. Councilor Lynch seconded and approval was unanimous.

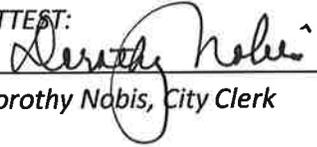
Adjournment:

Mayor Atencio called for adjournment at 7:49 p.m. p.m. All were in favor.



Mayor Cynthia Atencio

ATTEST:



Dorothy Nobis, City Clerk