CITY OF BLOOMFIELD
REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES
July 23, 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, City Attorney Ryan Lane, and City Clerk Dorothy Nobis. Department Heads present were Brad Ellsworth, Jason Thomas, Interim Police Chief Randon Matthews and Donna Clifton. Other employees present were Ayme Vigil, Peggy Loyd, Josh Calder, and Steve Gromack.

City Manager George Duncan offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda:

Councilor Pennington made a motion to approve the Agenda and Councilor Lynch seconded. Approval was unanimous.

Consent Agenda:

Councilor Hare said he and Councilor Finch review the Accounts Payable prior to each meeting to ensure taxpayer dollars are well spent. He also had several questions regarding the Accounts Payable, including fees paid to the Aztec Animal Shelter for euthanizing animals, software and technical support by Tyler Technologies, an easement fee, fees to the Bloomfield Irrigation District, a fuel bill, attorney fees regarding the acquisition of the electric utility, funds to the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department, fees to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and fees to Image Net (which takes care of the city's copy machines). The city's Finance Director, Brad Ellsworth, and Public Works/City Engineer Jason Thomas provided answers to Councilor Hare's questions. Councilor Hare also asked Steve Gromack, who supervises the Aquatic Center, about revenues from concessions at the pool. Mr. Gromack said some revenue is being generated from the snacks sold at the concessions. Mayor Cynthia Atencio said she has received many positive comments from people about having snacks available at the center for their children.

Deputy Fire Chief Kevin Mauzy said Fire Chief John Mohler had inspected the backyard of the home of Marlene and Alex Galindo, who asked for, and received, approval for a variance for a shed they want to place in their backyard. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval from the City Council for the variance.

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

New Business:

Bloomfield Finance Director Brad Ellsworth asked the Council to approve **Resolution 2018-10, Requesting Increase, Decrease, and Revision of the Line Items of Various Funds in the FY2018 budget**. Councilor Lynch moved to approve the resolution and Councilor Finch seconded. Approval was unanimous.

Bloomfield Finance Director Brad Ellsworth requested approval of **Resolution 2018-11, the 2018 Final Quarter Financial Report for the Year Ending June 30, 2018**. Councilor Lynch made a motion to approve the resolution and Councilor Finch seconded. Approval was unanimous.

Bloomfield Finance Director Brad Ellsworth asked the Council to approve **Resolution 2018-09, the FY 2019 Final Budget Adoption**. Councilor Hare moved to approve the resolution and Councilor Pennington seconded. Approval was unanimous.

Mary Holt, Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) officer, asked the Council to approve a Joint Powers Agreement between the cities of Aztec, Bloomfield and Farmington, and San Juan County. Ms. Holt said the Town of Kirtland has also joined the JPA. The MPO identifies regional transportation needs and develops a comprehensive transportation plan for the area's Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA). Councilor Lynch moved to approve the JPA and Councilor Finch seconded. Approval was unanimous.

Jeff Kiely, Executive Director of the NorthWest New Mexico Council of Governments, and **Julie Rasor**, a former board member of NWNMCOG and a member of the city's Economic Development Committee, gave a presentation on the benefits to the City of Bloomfield if the city returned as a member of the organization. The NWNMCOG collects, compiles and disseminates ethnographic, demographic and geographic information to member governments to engage in community planning and development. It also provides grant and contract administration, which is important to the City of Bloomfield, which currently does not have a grant/special projects manager. Mrs. Rasor stated that belonging to NWMNCOG will give the city a seat at the table for regional issues, access to federal economic development funding, and the ability to receive help with grants. Mr. Kiely stated that the City of Bloomfield has, in his opinion, the best Public Works Director (Jason Thomas) in the area. Councilor Lynch moved to approve the membership and Councilor Finch seconded. Approval was unanimous.

Councilor Hare asked the Council to approve membership in Four Corners Economic Development Service (4CED), stating that the city will benefit from the opportunities, training and assistance with economic development. The cost for joining 4CED is $2,500, and Councilor Hare said if the city will give $1,500 of that cost, he will give the other $1,000. Councilor Lynch moved to approve the membership to 4CED and Councilor Pennington seconded. Approval was unanimous. The Council thanked Councilor Hare for his generosity.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business to be discussed.

Department and Public Input:

Bloomfield resident **Beverly Trollings**, who lives on Miller Street, told the Council there are four huge potholes in the street, which is a cul-de-sac, and there is a drain that is clogged with mud in a field at the end of the street, which attracts mosquitoes. **Dottie Clemmons** and her husband, Andy, recently purchased a home on Miller Street. Mrs. Clemmons said it is difficult for her and her husband to get in and out of their driveway because of the potholes. **Steve Miller**, who, along with his siblings, owns land on the street, said the drain has been a problem for years. Mr. Miller said he knows the owner of the field and there is no easement to get to the field. **Mary Shockey**, another resident on Miller Street, said the drain has been plugged for more than 13 years and it will do no good to repair the potholes if the potholes are caused by the clogged drain. **City Manager George Duncan** said he and Public Works Director Jason Thomas would visit the street and assess the problem. **Lucy Miller** also told the Council there is a tree growing into Miller Street and is taking up a quarter of the street.

Dwane Robinson expressed his appreciation to the Bloomfield Police Department for hosting the Neighborhood Watch meeting on July 16, 2018, and he believes it will help the community. Mr. Robinson also said he hopes to find sponsors for the Police Department's Police Athletic League to help with its programs to help Bloomfield kids.

Mayor Atencio also thanked the Police Department for hosting the Neighborhood Watch meeting. The Mayor said she, Interim Police Chief Randon Matthews and ????? were invited to attend a San Juan County Board of Realtors meeting to let them know about the Neighborhood Watch program and the benefit the program brings to the City of Bloomfield.

Councilor Ken Hare said the newly formed Budget Advisory Committee invested a lot of time going through the budget, line by line, and in the process, came up with 50 ideas that could increase revenue and cut costs. Mr. Hare expressed his appreciation, as did City Manager George Duncan and the other Councilors, to Finance Director Brad Ellsworth for his efforts and hours spent on the new budget.

Interim Police Chief Randon Matthews said the Neighborhood Watch meeting was very successful. The city has been divided into four quadrants, with an officer assigned to one quadrant and will be the contact for those living in that area. Interim Chief Matthews also said he plans to purchase an application – Stop It – which will allow residents to take photos of suspicious activity and send photos to their designated officer. The app should be a deterrent to crime and will be beneficial to the residents and to law enforcement. Lisa Webb, who owns Guild Mortgage, has donated $500 toward the purchase of the application. **Councilor Pennington s**aid his mother, Debbie Vavra, supports the program and will donate the rest of the money to buy the app.

City Manager George Duncan offered his appreciation to City of Bloomfield employees who, even when budgets are tight, remain committed to the city and continue to work hard.

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 Pennington seconded. Approval was

unanimous and the council went into Closed Executive Session at 7:58 p.m. p.m. At 9 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.

Adjournment:

Mayor Atencio called for adjournment at 9:01 p.m. All were in favor.

Cynthia Atencio

Mayor Cynthia Atencio

ATTEST:

Dorothy Nobis

Dorothy Nobis, City Clerk