

TOWN OF SILVER CITY
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
GRANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER, 1400 HWY. 180 E., SILVER CITY, NM
April 12, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Ken Ladner, Mayor
Lucian Farmer, Councilor, District 1
Nicholas Prince, Councilor, District 2
Jose A. Ray, Jr., Councilor, District 3
Guadalupe E. Cano, Councilor, District 4

Others present:

Alex C. Brown, Town Manager
James Marshall, Assistant Town Manager
James Reynolds, Town Attorney
Freddie Portillo, Chief of Police
Alfred Sedillo, Town Clerk
Roger Lance, Grant County Beat
Ben Beltron, Executive Director, CATS
Jordan Archunde, Silver City Daily Press
Hueteotl Lopez, Silver City Resident
Francine Miranda, Silver City Resident
Cris Uribe, Mimbres Regional Arts Council
Ronald Quintana, Q's Southern Bistro
Teresa Dahl-Bredine, Little Toad Creek
Brewery & Distillery

1. CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Ladner called meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND SALUTE TO NEW MEXICO STATE FLAG - Mayor Ladner invited the public to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and the Salute to the New Mexico State Flag.

Mayor Ladner welcomed Chief of Police Freddie Portillo, the news media, guests who will be making presentations, staff and the members of the community.

2. CHANGES TO AGENDA – Councilor Cano motioned to remove item 12 Closed Executive Session Councilor Prince seconded. Motion Carried.

3. CEREMONIES – NONE

4. PROCLAMATIONS – NONE

5. COUNCIL COMMENTS – Councilor Ray thanked Peter Pena, Alex Brown and Silver City Street Department for doing Cooper Street by the Capia and cemetery all the way to the highway. Councilor Ray saw an ad on KOAT TV about Silver City and was very disappointed because they just spoke about the Arts and the Down Town area. He felt there is more to Silver City and surrounding communities than what was shown in the ad. Councilor Ray asked for prayer for Ukraine.

Councilor Prince gave his great appreciation and gratitude to the Town of Silver City staff. He also thanked the public for their input at the Public Meetings for the Recreation Center. Councilor Prince stated the shortage of housing in the community is affecting the talents of our community based on phone calls from different industries.

Councilor Farmer congratulated the organizers of the Bataan Memorial Park Committee for a job well done. Councilor Farmer echoed Councilor Prices idea of a project or scope of work for improving, upgrading and covering the current pool and would like to see something before proceeding with any Recreation Center. Councilor Farmer thanked the public for their input, emails and showing up to the public meetings.

Councilor Cano thanked everyone who attended the Town Hall Meeting as well as all the Councilors and Alex Brown. She felt there were many good ideas and misconception that were put to rest. Councilor Cano also thanked several individuals for their participation putting the meeting together, it was a great success. She also thanked Councilors Farmer and Prince for attending the Newly Elected Official Training in Santa Fe. She knows they learned a lot and have some ideas for ways to improve things which will make them a bigger asset to the community. Councilor Cano wanted to recognize Alfred Ogas who was instrumental putting the committee together for organizing the Rededication of Bataan Park it was a great event. She also wanted to recognized Ben Beltron from CATS TV who installed new cameras in the meeting room. Meeting will now be recorded in High Definition. Councilor Cano reminded the public of the Tour of the Gila coming up and to share the road safely.

Mayor Ladner advised the public on the weekend of 23rd there will be a public cleanup which coincides with Earth Day and encouraged Council, City administration and Staff to join the activities.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 22, 2022 Regular Meeting. Councilor Farmer moved to approve the March 22, 2022 Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of the Town of Silver City. Councilor Ray seconded. Motion carried.

7. PUBLIC INPUT – Hueteotl Lopez from the pool oversight committee advise the Council about no communication about the funding for the Recreation Center and advocating for the phase two (2) for a swimming pool to be part of phase one (1). The Committee is extending their hands out to support the project.

Francine Miranda advocated for the Recreation Center, Swimming Pool and Daycare. She feels that the community should get it all.

Cris Uribe advised the Council about the Silver City Blues Festival is back for a one (1) day event on May 28, 2022 and hoping it will continue for years to come.

8. REPORTS – Alex Brown stated that starting in July the city will be receiving one hundred (100) percent of Hold Harmless increasing the revenues. Mr. Brown continued with the Fiscal Year 2023 Preliminary Budget starting with Food Sales showing an increase of Twenty-Four-point Twenty Two percent (24.22%) increase for Fiscal Years 2018 through 2021 and are on track to see an increase to Thirty-One-point Thirty Seven percent (31.37%) for Fiscal Year 2022. Gross Receipts has increased from Fiscal Year 2018 Twenty-Five-point Twenty-Nine percent (25.29%) and if you include Hold Harmless it has increased Twenty-Nine-point Thirty Three percent (29.33%). Water had an increase in pumping of Five-point Two percent (5.2%) and for Fiscal Year 2022 it is estimated to decrease back to Fiscal Year 2018 levels. Landfill fees increased in tonnage of Eleven-point Five percent (11.5%) for Fiscal Years 2018 and 2021. In the same time frame the County had a Seventeen-percent increase. The City is on track to hit Seventeen-percent (17) for 2022. Gross Receipt Tax revenue estimated for Fiscal Year 2022 was Ten Million One Hundred Eighty-Two Thousand Eight Hundred Forty dollars (10,182,840.00) and revenue estimated for Fiscal Year 2023 is Eleven Million Six Hundred Forty-Two Thousand Three Hundred Three dollars (11,642,303.00). Lodgers Tax Fiscal Year 2019 was the Highest the city ever generated at Three Hundred Sixty-Two Thousand Eight Hundred Thirty-Five dollars (362,835.00) and for Fiscal Year 2022 the city is on track to hit Three Hundred Twenty-Nine Thousand Four Hundred Two dollars (329,402.00). Gas Tax has gone down by Twelve-point Eighty Five percent since 2018.

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS – NONE

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Recreation Center - Alex brown asked if this item could be tabled for the April 26, 2022 Council Meeting. Councilor Cano motioned to table Recreation Center presentation to April 26, 2022 Town Council Meeting. Councilor Ray seconded. Motion Carried.

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval / Disapproval of a Special Dispenser Permit for: Silver City Blues Festival May 28, 2022, with alcohol served from 11:00 am to 8:30 pm at 1200 N. Pope St., Silver City, New Mexico. Liquor License Holder: 1) Q's Southern Bistro License #28098, 101 E. College Ave., Silver City, New Mexico 88061. Ronald Quintana stated he met with Teresa Daul-Bredine, Cris Uribe and Alex Brown to discuss the strategic plan for the location of the Beer Garden and the placing of the security guards. The whole park will be fenced in so people are able to carry their beverages throughout the park. Mayor Ladner entertained a motion. Councilor Cano motioned to approve a Special Dispenser Permit for: Silver City Blues Festival, with alcohol served from 11:00 am to 8:30 pm at 1200 N. Pope St., Silver City, New Mexico. Liquor License Holder: 1) Q's Southern Bistro License #28098, 101 E. College Ave., Silver City, New Mexico 88061. Seconded by Councilor Farmer. Mayor Ladner asked for a roll call vote. Councilor Farmer voted aye; Councilor Prince voted aye; Councilor Ray voted aye; and Councilor Cano voted aye. Motion carried.

B. Approval / Disapproval of a Special Dispenser Permit for: Silver City Blues Festival May 28, 2022, with alcohol served from 11:00 am to 8:30 pm at 1200 N. Pope St., Silver City, New Mexico. Liquor License Holder: 1) Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery License #67085, 203 S. Mill Road, Silver City, New Mexico 88061. Teresa Dahl-Berdine stated she was excited the Blues Festival is returning and hoping the new model will bring more people to the event to make it a success for years to come. Mayor Ladner entertained a motion. Councilor Cano motioned to approve a Special Dispenser Permit for: Silver City Blues Festival, with alcohol served from 11:00 am to 8:30 pm at 1200 N. Pope St., Silver City, New Mexico. Liquor License Holder: 1) Little Toad Creek Brewery & Distillery License #67085, 203 S. Mill Road, Silver City, New Mexico 88061. Seconded by Councilor Prince. Mayor Ladner asked for a roll call vote. Councilor Farmer voted aye; Councilor Prince voted aye; Councilor Ray voted aye; and Councilor Cano voted aye. Motion carried.

C. Approval / Disapproval of a Special Dispenser Permit and Waiver for: Tour of the Gila Hub Plaza Beer Garden and waiver of NMSA 1978 60-6B-10 for alcohol service near a church for April 30, 2022, with alcohol served from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm at 601 N. Bullard St., Silver City, New Mexico. Liquor License Holder: 1) Q's Southern Bistro, License #28098, 101 E. College Ave., Silver City, New Mexico 88061. Ronald Quintana stated the new owner of the Hub Plaza (Christopher Hill) asked if he would place a Mimosa bar to serve drinks during the Tour of the Gila and into the evening. Mayor Ladner entertained a motion. Councilor Ray motioned to approve a Special Dispenser Permit and Waiver for: Tour of the Gila Hub Plaza Beer Garden and waiver of NMSA 1978 60-6B-10 for alcohol service near a church for April 30, 2022, with alcohol served from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm at 601 N. Bullard St., Silver City, New Mexico. Liquor License Holder: 1) Q's Southern Bistro, License #28098, 101 E. College Ave., Silver City, New Mexico 88061. Seconded by Councilor Farmer. Mayor Ladner asked for a roll call vote. Councilor Farmer voted aye; Councilor Prince voted aye; Councilor Ray voted aye; and Councilor Cano voted aye. Motion carried.

12. ADJOURNMENT - Mayor Ladner stated this concluded the business of the Town of Silver City Town Council, and asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilor Ray made a motion to adjourn at 7:08 pm. Councilor Farmer seconded, All in favor. Mayor asked all opposed say nay, there were none opposed. Motion carried.

/s/ _____, Ken Ladner, Mayor

Attest: /s/ _____, Alfred Sedillo, Town Clerk