

**CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, NEW MEXICO
CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 405 W. 3RD St.
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2026**

A. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rolf Hechler at 9:00 a.m., who presided and Angela A. Torres, City Clerk-Treasurer, acted as Secretary of the meeting.

B. INTRODUCTION:

1. ROLL CALL:

Upon calling the roll, the following Commissioners were reported present.

Hon. Rolf Hechler, Mayor
Hon. Amanda Forrister, Mayor Pro-Tem was absent
Hon. Destiny Mitchell, Commissioner
Hon. Ingo Hoepfner, Commissioner was absent
Hon. Chaz Glines, Commissioner

Also Present: Gary Whitehead, City Manager
Traci Alvarez, Assistant City Manager
Jay Rubin, City Attorney
Angela A. Torres, City Clerk-Treasurer
Jocelyn Holguin, Chief Financial Officer
Luis Tavizon, Chief of Police
Jamie Foreman, Interim Water/Wastewater Supervisor
Wyatt Graves, Fleet Supervisor
Brenden Anglin, Interim Streets Supervisor

There being a quorum present, the Commission proceeded with the business at hand.

2. SILENT MEDITATION:

Mayor Hechler: For silent meditation today, let's pause 15 seconds for the war in Iran, hopefully it's going to come to a peaceful conclusion when we get our military folks back home.

Mayor Hechler called for fifteen seconds of silent meditation.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Hechler called for Deputy Clerk Katy Martinez to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Commissioner Glines seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 Minute Rule Applies):

There were no comments from the public.

D. PUBLIC HEARINGS (5 Minute Rule Applies)

- 1. Discussion/Action: Public Hearing and Final Adoption of Ordinance No. 773 Authorizing the issuance of the City of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico Water System Improvement Revenue Bonds, Series 2026A, in the Principal Amount of Two Million Six Hundred Seventy-Three Thousand Dollars (\$2,673,000) for the purpose of Construction Financing.**

Chris Muirhead, Modrall Sperling: Good morning everyone, it's nice to see you all. We may have a little hiccup. This does require four or five of you to vote in favor of it, and we're short one person. So, public debt, if it's not a general obligation bond – the general obligation bond would only take a majority of you to approve it, because the voters approved it. Here, we have a revenue bond, which is the net system revenues of your water system. State Statutes require that 75% of the full Commission approves it, and Mayor, you're a voting member?

Mayor Hechler: I am.

Chris Muirhead, Modrall Sperling: So, we would either need three of the four or four of the five, so here we would need four of the five. So, we are going to have to defer, unless you promote Jay to a voting member here.

Mayor Hechler: Acting Commissioner.

City Attorney Rubin: Good catch, Chris, I remember when you're building ordinances, there are some specific rules about that.

Chris Muirhead, Modrall Sperling: This happens once in a while, but this does throw you off a little bit on being able to close on this interim one, because we have, obviously, you've got to approve it. When is your next meeting?

Mayor Hechler: It'll be two weeks, but do we have any time constraints or issues?

Chris Muirhead, Modrall Sperling: Well, here's what I'll say, so you do have a publication requirement, but we've published it properly for this, so if someone was

CITY COMMISSION APRIL 8, 2026 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

interested, they would show up to this. I have, in the past, published short of the two weeks because it's been deferred that there's been sufficient notice for me, but I defer to Jay, who ultimately is your lawyer on all things other than this, whether we would need to wait until your first meeting in May, which then, I know this kills everybody – Gary and I were just talking about it – given all the work that you need to get done. You would then be looking to close on the interim one in early June. But if you did do it in two weeks – and we'll give Jay time to think, I'm not going to put him on the spot here – either way if you want to do it in two weeks, you wouldn't have the two weeks for the publication, you'd have 10 days, or what have you, but we would have had two full weeks for today, if someone is concerned, they would have shown up and found out that it's deferred. It is a little belt and suspenders to keep it moving, but if not, then yeah, you'd be looking at the first meeting in May.

Mayor Hechler: And we could call a special meeting for a short time if we needed to.

Chris Muirhead, Modrall Sperling: You could, yes.

Mayor Hechler: I think I will defer to Mr. Rubin to research and give us the best advice on which way to proceed.

City Attorney Rubin: Let me throw an idea at you, and just tell me if this is something that's even in the realm of a possibility. We have it on the agenda for a public hearing. So could we at least call the public hearing and get that done now?

Chris Muirhead, Modrall Sperling: Yes, you could.

City Attorney Rubin: You could at least get that part done. Then part two would be to maybe make a motion that we actually call this item, as part of the agenda, and then make a motion to recess the finalization of this action to two weeks from now, so we don't have to wait until May. Is that something we could do?

City Clerk Torres: April 22nd.

Chris Muirhead, Modrall Sperling: I would still be able to give a bond opinion on that, yes. So, I'm fine to sit down and see if anybody wants to say anything.

City Attorney Rubin: And again, this will be contingent upon you and I doing some more research to make sure that what I just said is going to work. That's kind of what I'm thinking.

Chris Muirhead, Modrall Sperling: Yes, this is nothing binding on you, Mr. Rubin, today.

Mayor Hechler: I think that's a good idea.

Mayor Hechler opened the public hearing.

Opponents: None

Proponents: None

Mayor Hechler closed the public hearing

Chris Muirhead, Modrall Sperling: That went beautifully.

City Attorney Rubin: Okay so this item is now on the agenda, the agenda has been approved, this item was on the agenda, so it's properly before you, so I think what I'm suggesting is to make a motion to recess further deliberation on this item on the agenda until the next meeting so we're doing it together.

Mayor Hechler: Sure.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell made a motion to recess further deliberation of this item on the agenda until the next meeting. Commissioner Glines seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Chris Muirhead, Modrall Sperling: I'll tell you, I was driving down listening to the Sirius radio, the old Willie Nelson channel if you have Sirius with all the Willie Nelson on there, and as I was over there using the restroom, they had a dancing something going on with Willie, I'm going to go back over there and do that for a while.

Mayor Hechler: So, to save you from having to come back, we could do this maybe remotely?

Chris Muirhead, Modrall Sperling: However, you'd like to do it.

City Attorney Rubin: You could make your presentation today, and then we would just vote on it.

Chris Muirhead, Modrall Sperling: Yeah, so just to remind you all, this is the second reading of the ordinance. This is the second USDA project that's moving along, you have what's known as WSPI-1, and WSPI-2. This is WSPI-2. This is the interim financing, USDA makes you jump through these additional hoops, which we love. So, this is to approve the loan amount, which is \$2,673,000. Bank of the Southwest is going to lend you that money over a three-year period, so you can do the construction at 5% interest rate, interest accruing as you draw the money, with one maturity for your principal and interest payment. At that point, you would close on your USDA loan at \$2.125%, so a significantly lower interest rate, spread out over 40 years, which is the USDA's way of financing, which is very beneficial to the city, callable at any point, and take out this interim loan. The pledge is your net system revenues, which you have on other debt, including WSPI-1. So really, this one will get that construction going, see all that stuff happening, and potentially, I don't even know what we would be looking at in terms of the construction cycle, but somewhere in the next two or three years, back to close on the USDA, and pay

this off. So it is at a higher interest rate than USDA's ultimately going to do, which is unfortunate, but it is what they require now to do these interim loans. It does open up – once this closes, and the USDA says that your construction is all done – two significant Colonias grants of \$1,652,891 and \$5,574,109. So, a significant portion of this financing is going to be grant money that does not have to be repaid, which is good. I think WSPI-1, in talking to Traci, we're close to finalizing that and closing on those bonds?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Yes.

Chris Muirhead, Modrall Sperling: Good, so when you see me again on that, it will be to approve the USDA bonds, take out Bank of the Southwest, which we did the interim financing there, and then have that, what we just talked about, a 40-year debt, at a significantly lower interest rate, which is a huge benefit to your rate payers because it's less burden on the system, so that's what you have going on here. Again, overall, the financing, very beneficial in terms of a significant – looking at it, doing the math quickly, you know, 60% or 65% grant versus the loan amount – happy to answer any questions about it. Again, unlike your property taxes, the USDA nor Bank of the Southwest has any lean on your other gross receipts tax revenues, property tax revenues, or any other enterprise funds; just on your water system.

City Manager Whitehead: I would just say that everything you've heard today is true and accurate. For this particular project, the primary focus for us getting this particular loan in place would then authorize Finance to approve going to bid. So we still have some time. To Jay, to the crew, if it took us three weeks to get to a special meeting, we're not in waiting at the door here. But we can't go to bid, and I think those documents are ready to go to bid, to keep us on track. So certainly, action A would be beneficial to us, preferred, but if we needed to publish tomorrow to get to the two-week cycle, if that made things work, we would support that and that would help us.

Mayor Hechler: I feel comfortable with the process, we're familiar with this project and what's going on with it.

Chris Muirhead, Modrall Sperling: This is just the next step.

City Attorney Rubin: And I would just say, for the record, certainly, this is a matter to warmly encourage the two absent Commissioners to feel free to contact the City Clerk to listen to the presentation that was made today so that they can be familiar with it. Any member of the public who is interested can also contact the City Clerk, that way everybody is fully informed.

Chris Muirhead, Modrall Sperling: And I'll do whatever you want, I love coming down, so don't hesitate to let me know.

E. REPORTS:

1. City Manager Reports.

City Manager Whitehead reported the following:

- It's nice to be with you on this day of April, Spring is upon us, it's getting nice, we have grass growing, we have lots of things happening throughout the City, everyone is just really busy, we have so many good things from the groundwork that was laid last year, that are starting and taking off, so we're really excited.
- I want to start out talking briefly about the water and construction. That's going to be a reoccurring theme for you guys for the next couple of years, as we're starting these projects, chinks in the armor are beginning to show their face. Last week, we had a really challenging week of attempting to hook up the first phase of the new water line. A brand-new water line has been put in, they have to go connect it street-to-street to get it back to the system. We have ideas on valves, but we're finding this valve doesn't work, so we have to move to another valve, and that valve doesn't quite work, so we have to move to another one, so areas that we think we're notifying to turn-offs end up being bigger, I think what we would say to the public is that we hear you, keep talking to us, we get the challenge, and we will continue to work our way. This last week, at the end of the week, I visited with our engineer, and we're beginning to look at strategies to maybe go in and look at some valves in the front of these connections that maybe we can find, where we just go in and replace a valve that we know we can use to turn off a set area. Again, we understand we have a good team working on these projects, and we troubleshoot every particular issue that we come across. But we are dealing with a puzzle, and it's not that we don't have maps, it's not that we don't know where the valves are, it's just hard to tell if a valve works. So again, what you would see is we would turn a valve off, and they would open the pipe, and water still flows, so we go try to find another one, and in many cases, they're able to work with the pipes being live, that's a pretty common denominator, but it's hard to work with full pressure. We continue to be aware of that. The on and the off of the system creates other problems besides valves. It makes other water lines break. So, we are experiencing additional water lines, they go off, and then you have a water hammer when it comes back on, so again, we continue to run into some challenges. Yesterday we were still below 20 water leaks within the city, some of them small, there are a couple of big ones that have popped up, and I think the crew is out today working on those particular issues.
- Foch Street is moving along at a good pace, the gas company came in, that was an unknown quantity to us that the gas lines were at a low level in the street, but thank you to the gas company, they came in quickly, they brought in their own crew, and they've reset and readjusted all those lines, so that helped us stay on schedule. The crews are there and they will continue to build out curb and gutter, and again, that project is set to be done at the end of June, early July. So, we feel like they're on track, the rain, obviously, slows down a few things from yesterday.

Right now, it's a little quiet there, but the landscapers are on-site building the landscaping areas, so we're excited about that.

- I will remind everybody about Earth Week for us, that's coming up, we worked hard, the staff has worked hard, kudos to Andy and the sanitation team, everybody around us pitched in, so we're excited, we'll have those four days of Earth Week coming up. Just to remind everybody, we'll have Friday the 17th, we will try to do this during normal hours, so Friday the 17th will be the first day, Saturday the 18th, we will probably run some extended hours, and then Monday and Tuesday. So again, for those residents that come out on Saturday, if it's busy, we've found a way to kind of give you some extra time. This, on our system, will be open just for city residents, you have to be a utility payer, have access to that so we can keep track of that. The county is doing their own version of that, so if you live within the county, they will be providing a way to help you. Again, we're working directly with the county to help them. Thank you all for that.
- OJ wanted me to brief you, you may or may not have heard, but we were awarded an outdoor trails recreation grant this year. It's a smaller version, it's \$121,000, we were granted \$81,000 in grants, we have a \$40,000 match obligation; some of that match will be in-kind, some will be cash. The two items that we'll be working on; the first and the biggest is they have enough funds to do a Rotary Park master plan. OJ continues to tell us, that's a blank slate, so the primary focus of this grant will be to take and build out a master plan for that particular area/park. Part two of that grant will be to do a feasibility study on a river surf wave. We've talked to you about that before, we went to Farmington to see that. The director of the outdoor grant thought it would be a really nice addition to the Rio Grande, as opposed to just pushing up an earthen dam every year. This fund will just study: Can it work? How does it work? What's the best location? What could be the cost? And those kinds of questions. It's not a guarantee that we would ever move to that, but it does provide us the ability to study those two items. We do get a lot of requests to dam up the river in the winter, and even further down, we have some requests to go down as far as Williamsburg, and kind of learning and watching how that goes, that could be a real benefit to maybe think about that ability to have water in the river at a higher level all year, versus just that short time – you'd have better fishing opportunities, it might help with some other issues that we deal with when the water is low.
- I want to talk a little bit about Love's, they're working on getting opened. Everything that we need to deal with is in the best order. Right now, they're continuing to work on the road in front of there, they're putting in the new water line for us, remember, they're adding a new 12-inch line that's going to go under their road so that we don't have to tear the road back up, and they're paying for that. It's been a pretty significant project, we've been up there multiple times; Jamie, the water crew, and that project seems to be going – they had a few delays last year, but we think this week/early next week, they will finish with the water connection, they'll finish with their drainage across the road, and then they'll be able to reopen the road. Right now, the road is, in a lot of places, completely cut. I heard it was open for some traffic over the weekend, but for now. And again, we did a traffic plan, so they are

moving trucks around Marie and up Kopra, but just limited trucks at this point. So that's moving along pretty well.

- Last month was the time to get congressional direct spending requests in. We submitted four different requests, we primarily asked for support money to help us with Lee Belle, we did receive the \$500,000 from the legislature to work on the foundation, so we've asked for funds to do the outside, the stucco, potentially put a new roof, and look at HVAC. Not a renovation completely, but the ability to take on the top part and get it back healthy as we get a foundation. We also put in some additional money for a match on a wastewater plan. The Mayor and I were fortunate to sit in with the chairman of the Water Trust Board, who's indicated that the Water Trust Board thinks they're going to have somewhere around \$650 million over the next couple of years in Water Trust Board funds. So we've asked for a \$2 million match, we have a 10% match, so we would be anticipating that we would ask for about \$20 million. We've asked for the ability to match that. We asked for a \$5 million water project through that process, which would go to HUD. The congressman staff came back in and asked if we would put in one more opportunity for our senior center, so we put in a request for \$500,000 for the building side of SJOA, so we will see where all those go, but we were able to spread those across our two senators and our one congressional representative.
- I won't steal Jocelyn's thunder on the agenda today about the budget, but the budget is going really well. Kudos to the finance team, finding the module within our Tyler system to help, it's moving really well, except for with us, we have a lot of hours we sit together and look at numbers, but the budget is coming along really well. We're looking forward to next week, to really presenting a nice, clean, interim proposal to you. With that, I will stand for any questions.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell: Good report.

Mayor Hechler: I have a couple small questions really quickly. Kopra Road, going where we rerouted all the heavy truck driving, it's starting to show the wear of all those heavy trucks on there, is there any chance of Love's helping repair that road, or is that going to be on us?

City Manager Whitehead: We will discuss, they've been very favorable, and they did indicate that if there was any damage to the road that we could make a request and talk with them, so we will. That road, we've put down with millings, that we picked up last year from the Main Street project, and we also have an opportunity to pick up more millings, and the road needs additional millings, and then the Streets team has put together a plan to do a chip seal. We were already planning on doing some of that, so we will work with them in those areas where they've caused some damage.

Mayor Hechler: Okay, that's fine, just wanted to bring it to your attention. The other issue is that I notice there's a lot of trash outside of Love's on the South side, the perimeter poly fencing that they've put up has been knocked down, and a lot of the construction paper – whether it's tile boxes, packaging, invoices, etc. – all those things are blowing past the footprint of their property, and it's going out to the desert. I'd sure like to see them do a

quick pickup before that big windstorm comes out and blows it all the way out there. There's a substantial amount of trash right outside of their footprint.

City Manager Whitehead: We'll make a request on both of those items. And again, they've been very favorable, anything we ask, they accommodate.

Mayor Hechler: Perfect, thank you.

a. Police Department Update.

Chief Tavizon reported the following:

- This report is for the month of March, just some statistics. March was a little bit busier than the previous months, we had:
 - 1,112 calls for service; Animal Control fielded 131 of those calls
 - 26 motor vehicle accidents; that number continues to stay fairly high, a lot of those are on private properties, so it's just people not paying attention, backing in, etc. So they're not all on Date Street downtown or anything, they're just random. We have done a study before, and like I've told you before, it's just random, it's everywhere and there's not necessarily a general consensus of where it's at.
 - 14 sky follow-ups, CYFD follow-ups
 - 1 DWI
 - 13 properties worked on by Codes
 - 253 traffic stops conducted by officers
 - 166 citations issued
 - 25 arrests
 - Training: We sent Lieutenant Jacquez to a taser instructor course, that way I'm not the only one having to do that, I can pass it along. Jamie, our Evidence Tech, went to crime scene sketching class – it's an older technique, nowadays there are cameras and they 3D print, but in the event that your program goes down, you still need to know how to do it, so she went to that and did well.
 - We opened up our safer New Mexico grants for the month of April, so we will have more enforcement with the STEP program, and we will have a couple of DWI saturations throughout the month, so there will be more activity; hopefully more traffic stops.
 - We are continuing to get complaints on speeding in different areas. This is what I've proposed, you'll see in the budget later on, to purchase two speed trailers. These trailers help with collecting data, so not only can we send the officers there, but we can set these up, and we could have them on what they call stealth mode, where it doesn't display speeds or anything, but it's just picking up data. So you can have it set for a time period, and it will give you data on when people are speeding the most, and then we can directed patrols during that time so it's more efficient and we're not just having officers sit there not doing anything. So that's something beneficial that we

can hopefully look forward to, if that's approved down the road. With that, I'll stand for any questions you may have.

Mayor Hechler: I'm in the process of delivering some PowerPoint presentations to other communities concerning our roundabouts, and the road diet. I need some information about the road diets, when they were in effect before we changed the striping, what was the safety in relationship to the past? Did we have any reportable incidents? Things of that nature.

Chief Tavizon: Okay, I can get that for you. When do you need it by?

Mayor Hechler: My next presentation is on May 6th.

Chief Tavizon: Yes sir, I'll get that to you.

Mayor Hechler: Thank you.

b. Department Head Updates.

Jamie Foreman, Interim Water Wastewater Supervisor reported the following:

- I'll start with the water projects:
 - As Gary said, Love's is completing the new water line up there. They're going to have to do a tie-in to the current water line, we're hoping to do it in the middle of the night the week of the 13th, and we're hoping to do it on a Thursday night. That is our goal, so that way if something does go wrong, the schools aren't affected and the hospital is on standby, I've been communicating with Don over at the hospitals, so he is aware.
 - Shovel ready is completing the work on 8th and 9th Street from Date to Silver this next week, and then they will be moving down to East 2nd from Cedar to Silver, and completing that work.
 - We had CDBG and WSPI-1 go out for bid, and we have potential contractors. We're hoping to get those started in the next few months.
 - Cherry Lane has a new water line, that was through the GO bond. They have a brand-new water main plus services out there. That was completed last week.
 - Well #8 was our last well to go onto SCADA, it is now on SCADA, so that is being completed also. Also, the third booster pump over at the Morgan storage tank.
 - Water leaks are higher than they have been in the last few months, we're contributing that to all the water shut-offs we've had to do with all these tie-ins that have had to happen. It just puts pressure on the lines and we end up with water breaks. Crews are out there working on them, we do have all – about 20 leaks right now – located. We are hoping to finish those within the next few weeks, so by the end of the month.
- Wastewater:

- Testing has been completed, and as required, we have an additional test that we had to start this month because we are getting to the end of our permit. We have to take three hexachlorobenzenes, which is one of the tests we have to do on a regular basis, we usually have to take one, we have to take three starting this year. I am going to be working with Jesse Cole to get our permit application submitted here in the next few months because it does expire April of 2027.
- For Hagen, we have a new vacuum line for the vac station going in on Hagen this week. It will be completed with that, they're doing a new main line trunk, plus all of the service lines that go to the pits for the vac station.
- Staff Update:
 - We are officially full, I am fully staffed as of, my new guy starts Friday at the wastewater treatment plant. I have 6 employees, including myself, pending test dates, ranging anywhere from Water/Wastewater 1 all the way up to a Water 3. I will stand for any questions.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell: That's good.

Mayor Hechler: Was the entirety of Cherry Lane replaced? I know that was the source of a lot of leaks over the last few years.

Jamie Foreman, Interim Water Wastewater Supervisor: Yes, from 2nd Street, all the way down to Riverside.

Mayor Hechler: That's a significant accomplishment, good. I'm glad to get that one out of the way.

Jamie Foreman, Interim Water Wastewater Supervisor: Yes, that one is now marked of the list.

Mayor Hechler: And for your certifications, who's taking the level 3, is that you?

Jamie Foreman, Interim Water Wastewater Supervisor: That's me.

Mayor Hechler: Good luck.

Jamie Foreman, Interim Water Wastewater Supervisor: Thank you.

Mayor Hechler: We need that for our community.

Jamie Foreman, Interim Water Wastewater Supervisor: Yes, hopefully in the next couple weeks, I'll get my test date for my Water 3.

Mayor Hechler: Okay, and are you ready for this afternoon?

Jamie Foreman, Interim Water Wastewater Supervisor: Yeah.

Mayor Hechler: We have a video shoot this afternoon with another company, so you're going to be a star.

Jamie Foreman, Interim Water Wastewater Supervisor: Thank you.

Wyatt Graves, Fleet Supervisor, reported the following:

- I'd like to start off by saying that we finally got our full crew back. Mr. Country has come back from work with his comp time. He's restricted right now, but we're still giving him a lot to do.
- With that said, at the same time, I've got Daniel down in Las Cruces right now for his CDL, so he's excited to hopefully be done with that in about 4 weeks. That's something we've been waiting to do until Country came back, to send him down to do that, so I'm happy to see that progression.
- Otherwise, at the Service Center, a lot of small fixes; flat tires and such. We did have a company, Border Tire, they came up from Las Cruces, and they replaced a lot of tires on Streets equipment, some of those bigger – I mean, they're taller than me – so that was nice of them to come, and they just did it right in the yard. So those have been refreshed.
- Some of the larger projects that are at the Service Center; we've got a trash truck, a GMC, it's over 20 years old now, so parts are hard to find. It's one of those old grandpa trucks, so we're trying to keep it alive.
- That sweeper, the Elgin, we're just chasing hydraulic leaks.
- Streets have a DV23 Roller, we're fighting an electrical issue on that, and we've been trying to troubleshoot that issue.
- We have some things outsourced, we've gotten a backhoe back from John Deere, we had two police cars come back from body work, so it's nice to have those back in fleet. Currently, at Border International, we have a dump truck, another trash truck, and we've also had to send out 4 fords down to the dealership for recalls. That's my report, short and sweet. If you have any questions, I'd love to answer them. Alo, Gary's going to approve the garage doors to be purchased, we found a company out of Las Cruces that is going to do the doors and the motor units behind them, I think I mentioned that last time, but we're getting that taken care of.

Mayor Hechler: Thank you for the report.

Brenden Anglin, Interim Streets Supervisor reported the following:

- I would like to start off by saying that we have been continuing working with the Water Department, following behind them, catching up on water cuts and things of that nature.
- We've also been working hard on road signs, we've put up signage for the schools indicating when you can go 25mph, aligning with the safety corridor. I like the 7am-4pm timeframe, it gets all the kids out of there, and then it goes 4pm-7am, so I think it's working nicely. Especially with what the Chief said, with the speed signs, we could actually collect more data around the city, because we already have

those other signs that do that as well. Those would be portable, so it would help out a lot.

- Drainage and ditch maintenance, we've been working on the ditches, cleaning out Marie, Marie Dam, the Cuchillo Dam, repairing the road out there. Bar ditches all along Morgan, and just controlling the vegetation, working on cleaning out the one on Date Street, the one that runs from 2nd just below here. Tyler had called me and said that there was an issue with people going underneath that overpass underneath the building, so we're going to have to work together on that one, create a way to keep people from going under there. I believe we're going to have to get with the Flood Commissioner or someone to see what we can do, because if we had anything there to prevent people from going under, it obviously can catch debris and possibly flood. So we're going to look into that.
- Our street sweeper should be coming in by the end of this month, I spoke with Gary briefly about it yesterday, and I believe we got approval for the payment, we're just waiting for a couple things to be done, and we should be moving forward with that.
- Going back to the signage, I ordered new stop signs for inventory, I want to continue on replacing old, outdated signs. They're getting pretty bad out there.
- I also want to buy new arrow directional signs for our Fiesta, holidays, and things of that nature. We only have one arrow board, and every time we detour traffic or have a lane closure, we're supposed to have two. So we need to get on board with that.
- We have been approved for \$135,000 on our LGR project for next year, we have to change a couple of things, and then we'll send it off by April 10th.
- We also have chip seal projects coming along. I believe 5 roads – including Kopra as you mentioned earlier, we've been working on that one and it will be a bigger project once Love's gets done and out of the way, and then we can really get going. It kind of threw a wrench in our plans when they were going to connect the sewer line, so they cut a hole right through there. That's all I have to report today, any questions?

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell: I just like the fact that you're fixing up the old signs, we get a lot of complaints about that, where it's spelled "Forth" and then the next sign is "Fourth" or "Frouth" so I'm glad we get to see those getting fixed.

Brenden Anglin, Interim Streets Supervisor: Yeah, that's been a big thing with me for a long time, we have signs that are illegal, so I want to get those up-to-date, so no liability falls on the City or anything like that. It's going to be quite a big project, though, so that one's for the future, to come. And I haven't forgotten about your cul-de-sac sign back there on Locust. We're going to get that ordered.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell: Thank you.

Mayor Hechler: Are people camping out underneath the overpass, sleeping under there? Or what's happening?

Brenden Anglin, Interim Streets Supervisor: No, I shouldn't say they're not sleeping, but I did walk under there and there was evidence of people using drugs, syringes and things, there's a random chair down there. Tyler had called me and I told him I would get some information. What I'm going to propose in the future is kind of building a gate with shear bolts on it, so that somebody can't force it open, but if a certain amount of pressure accumulates against it, then it will just break away inside, and then after every rainstorm, we'd have to go in there and reset it, get the shear bolts set back up, and then go on our way with it.

Mayor Hechler: Thank you.

City Manager Whitehead: Just to add onto the topic of the street sweeper, the loan is closed with that particular project, and then all the documents will be ready, I think the 24th of April, so then we would be authorized to go ahead and make the purchase. We still have some work to do to get it ordered, but hopefully within the next 45 days, we'll have that street sweeper. The sweeper we're purchasing is readily available, it's not a special order item, they keep two or three of those in-stock, so hopefully we'll get that going sooner rather than later, we're all pretty excited about that opportunity.

City Clerk Torres reported the following:

- On my last presentation, I showed you guys our new cemetery module through All Funeral Services. That is live now, so it's been helping us, we've had a few people come in. We do sell our cemetery lots in order, but some people want to go out and see where the location is, so that does help us. OJ did order a marquee that we we're going to put out there, so there's going to be a code that they can just scan and it will take them to the website, so they can see where their loved ones' location is. We're pretty excited about that, it helps us and the cemetery crew as well.
- We also have a new module for our iWorQ system. The first one is our Short-Term Rental module, that is going to help us locate any Short-Term Rentals that are through Airbnb or VRBO. We were kind of looking at it yesterday, we're still doing our training and we don't have everything updated on it yet, but it will show us where the location is, it will give us a link to the website so we can actually go see it, and then it gives us the information of who the owner is. So we'll be able to get all of our Short-Term Rentals registered, hopefully, because we do have a lot, and I think we only have about 30 that are registered right now.
- We also have a new Business License module that is included on that. Using it, we can look to see any business that are connected with Google. It will let us know so we can go ahead and get those updated as well, so we're pretty excited about that.
- We have our animal ordinance that we're going to bring up at the end of this meeting, but after that, we want to work on a fee structure for all of that. It did change for the microchip, we've had a few people that have come in to register their animals and they have the microchip and all the information, so we don't charge for that anymore. Citizens will still have to go through the same process of bringing their updated vaccine paperwork, but there won't be a fee if the animal

has a microchip. So every time they have their new rabies certificate, they'll bring that information in, and then we will complete the process as usual, they will still get a certificate, as well as a tag for their cat or dog, they just won't be charged for it. I'm hoping in maybe May or June we will bring that ordinance so we can get all of that into the structure. I think that's all I have, if you have any questions.

City Manager Whitehead: As you can see, just by four departments, everybody is working diligently, attempting to continue to move the ball forward. I thank you for the opportunity, I thank all the department heads for spending time with me, and working so hard. I just want to say, across the board, everybody seems to be really connecting, working, and helping each other, we get a lot of different departments going to help other departments. I am really appreciative of all that.

2. City Commission Reports:

Commissioner Glines reported the following:

- Thank you for the opportunity to provide this report. While the road and street work, along with the water system improvements highlighted in today's agenda, such as the revenue bonds and meter replacement projects, requires closing different roads, as we've seen recently, I'm looking forward to these changes, maybe some different paths, some different road signs from the ones that we're seeing every day right now. They bring a temporary inconvenience for all of us and businesses, but they are a clear and positive sign of the much-needed progress happening in Truth or Consequences right now. Better infrastructure means safer streets, more reliable utilities, and a stronger foundation for our community's future.
- I'm genuinely excited for the upcoming Fiesta in May. It's patriotic red, white, and blue themed, celebrating our nation's 250th birthday, and this year's 76th Fiesta will be a wonderful milestone for that. It marks the beginning of a new chapter, and the proud history and legacy of our town. A time where we come together to celebrate our heritage, hot springs, community spirit, and resilience. Events like Fiesta, supported through today's agenda items, bring joy, boost local businesses, and remind us why we love calling Truth or Consequences home. Thank you and good morning.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell reported the following:

- My report is on the meetings I attended on behalf of the Commission. Last week I attended the South Central Council of Governments meeting, on behalf of Rolf, who had another appointment, it was a very enlightening meeting, I learned a lot, they had a really great presentation on the economic drivers and factors compared between Socorro County, Sierra County, and Doña Ana County. It was really great data to see where we've been in the past couple of years. So I learned a lot.
- I attended the Sustainable T or C meeting last week also, they are all geared up for tons of events going on this month for Earth Day. Volunteers from that committee are going to be staffing the free dump days that City Manager

Whitehead was talking about. They're partnering with the county, and other entities doing the Earth Day cleanups around town. I don't know the exact date, but it's on Earth Day.

- I attended the Sierra County Recreation and Tourism Advisory Board meeting yesterday. A lot of great information out there, a lot of great reports, they only meet quarterly, but they're rockin' and rollin' in between each meeting, and it's good to participate in that.
- Commissioner Glines mentioned Fiesta, we are excited for that, the Fiesta committee has doubled or tripled this year in size, they've got a lot of people working hard on different things. One announcement I wanted to bring back was that Steve Stucker is coming back for Fiesta this year. He called me and said he had so much fun and wants to do it again, but not as the grand marshal, he's just going to come back and offer an evening service on Saturday evening of Fiesta, I believe it's at 5:00pm at the Civic Center with Rebecca Dow, she's going to be here as well. He just wants to invite everybody in the community to come out, say hi, shake his hand, and be able to meet Steve Stucker, our local TV celebrity weatherman.
- Lastly, there will be an article in the paper today on the swimming pool, which OJ, Jesse Robinson, the City Manager, and all the entities involved have worked really hard to get open early this year. The inspection is Friday, lifeguards are being hired and trained, and the pool should be open in the next couple of weeks, depending on staff and our inspection. It was a huge process, we had to fix so many things, but it's looking like it's going to be a great season, there should also be a schedule in the paper. That's just half of it, but I'm done.

Mayor Hechler reported the following:

- On March 18th, we held a town hall at the Civic Center, hosting several state and federal agencies to talk positively about issues related to tourism, water releases, economic development, the wildlife department was there, and state parks was there as well. This was a public meeting, attended by several hundred locals, that was great to see. Each organization had a table to display and give out things, give out information. Everybody that presented was happy with the format, it was different than coming in and doing a presentation for everybody. This was interactive, everybody got to go to the various tables and interact with any agency that they wanted to, and ask specific and poignant questions, and it went very well, I'm very pleased with that outcome. A shout out to Earl Greer for putting the majority of this together, he did a nice job, and it was a good way to spend the evening with our community. That was a great event.
- On March 25th, I provided the PowerPoint electronically to the North Regional Transportation and Planning Organization about the roundabouts and the road diet. Thank you, Carrie, for your technical expertise and help so that I could do it electronically. I think the reason they reached out to us was not only because we've had some recent success with the highway department, but the mechanisms in which we were able to communicate with the highway department, and the results thereof. Some of these other communities are struggling on how to communicate with their respective NMDOT's. We kind of

highlighted that portion of it in the presentation that we gave, and they reached out. So now they've reached out again and want a second presentation. This is for Grants, this person was from Tucumcari, this one is going to be for Grants, so I will again be providing that presentation on May 6th.

- On March 27th, I attended and spoke at the Ethos Broadband ribbon cutting, where we have the potential to connect nearly 3,000 homes and businesses to fiber internet. As you also know, our Fire Chief works there with Ethos, and he was very instrumental in making this project happen, so we really appreciate his efforts, both as a Fire Chief, and as a representative for Ethos. A thank you to Ethos for sponsoring a portion of our Fiesta for \$2,500, they came through for us again this year.
- Last week, City Manager Whitehead and I had a meeting with David Armijo, who is the Executive Director with the South Central Regional Transit Authority, about the possibility of providing shuttle service in the T or C and Elephant Butte area. If you'll recall, the Sierra Shuttle was in service before COVID for about three years, gained in ridership every year, and was pretty successful in my opinion. That seemed to work, so we are going to try to resurrect it in some way down the road, we're in negotiations and talks about that now, and we'll keep you guys informed, but that's a strong possibility.
- We had a Joint Powers Committee meeting at Sierra Vista Hospital. That went very well, the hospital is in good shape, it has lots of money in the cash reserves, and I think the new CEO is doing a great job. Everything is going well in the community as far as I can tell, thank you for allowing me this report.

3. City Attorney Reports.

City Attorney Rubin reported the following:

- I have nothing new, but just in thinking about our conversation earlier about the bond ordinance, I just want to assure you that I know that you're expecting me to properly guide, so we fully comply with all procedural requirements, so I anticipate they'll probably be calling Gary in the next day or two so we can talk about that a little bit. We might even get a second opinion from John Appel just to make sure we're on the right track. So I just want to assure the Commission that we will make sure we are proceeding in the right direction. I like the opinion I gave today, but it wouldn't hurt for us to still be considerate.

F. CONSENT CALENDAR:

- 1. City Commission Regular Minutes, March 11, 2026**
- 2. City Commission Regular Minutes, March 25, 2026**
- 3. City Commission Water & Wastewater Cost of Service & Rate Design Study Workshop Minutes, March 25, 2026**
- 4. March 2026 Accounts Payable**
- 5. Take Home Vehicle Form: Community Services Department**

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted. Commissioner Glines seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion/Action: Approval of Contract and Allocation of Funds to the T or C/Sierra County Chamber of Commerce for the T or C & Sierra County Treasure Hunt.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell: If I may, I'm going to have to recuse myself from voting on this, and since there are only two members here to vote, I would like to request that you guys move this to another meeting.

City Clerk Torres: I can bring it back to the April 22nd meeting.

Mayor Hechler made a motion to table this item until the next meeting. Commissioner Glines seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Discussion/Action: Approval of Contract and Allocation of Funds to the Sierra County Sheriff's Posse for the Fiesta Rodeo.

City Clerk Torres: This application is from the Sierra County Sheriff's Posse for the Fiesta rodeo. Their application request was for \$7,600. When we did our budget, we had \$5,000 set aside, and the Lodgers Tax board did approve the \$2,600. We're asking for the approval of the contract and the amount of the allocation for \$7,600. In your scope of work that's provided in your packet, it has everything broken down on how much they'll be using, and for what item.

Mayor Hechler: Did we previously approve the \$5,000?

City Clerk Torres: Yes, it was approved in our budget.

Mayor Hechler: So we are approving the full amount?

City Clerk Torres: Correct, yes.

Mayor Hechler: Thank you. Questions?

City Attorney Rubin: I would just make one legal point here, just analyzing. For items G1 through G4, we're talking about allocations of funds, and I just want to make sure, as long as the Commission is satisfied; you feel that you're getting consideration for the money you're spending, if it's going to be benefitting the community, then I think that takes care of the anti-donation question. I always bring it up to make sure you're

satisfied when you vote on something that yes, you think you're getting a benefit in return.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell made a motion to approve the Contract and Allocation of Funds to the Sierra County Sheriff's Posse for the Fiesta Rodeo in the amount of \$7,600. Commissioner Glines seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion/Action: Approval of Contract and Allocation of Funds to the New Mexico Square & Round Dance Association for the Fiesta Square & Round Dance Festival 2026 Civic Center Rental.

City Clerk Torres: At our meeting where we approved our new rental agreements for the parks, it was mentioned that they could come to the Lodgers Tax board to request funding for the rental amount. They did go to the board, they requested the \$450 rental fee, and the Lodgers Tax board awarded the entire amount of \$450. I do want to note that when they come to the board and the Commission for approval for these, we're only going to approve the rental fees, they still have to pay the deposit because they are refundable. I will recommend approval for the \$450 amount.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell made a motion to approve the Contract and Allocation of Funds to the New Mexico Square & Round Dance Association for the Fiesta Square & Round Dance Festival 2026 Civic Center Rental in the amount of \$450. Commissioner Glines seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Discussion/Action: Approval of Contract and Allocation of Funds to the Veterans Memorial Park & Museum for the Veterans Memorial Park Entrance Sign.

City Clerk Torres: For this one, the Veteran's Park and Museum brought it to the board previously, however, the board wanted additional information on how much they would get for it, so they went and talked to Bo, they talked to the contractor, and they got all of that information. The board was satisfied, so they approved the application amount of \$8,988.89 for the entrance sign at the Memorial Park & Museum.

Mayor Hechler: Is this an electronic sign?

City Clerk Torres: Yes.

Mayor Hechler: And the reason that we talked to Bo was that we're going to have to electrify it and do all of that?

City Clerk Torres: The sign has power now.

Mayor Hechler: So the whole package will be done with this almost \$9,000?

City Clerk Torres: Correct.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell made a motion to approve the Contract and Allocation of Funds to the Veterans Memorial Park & Museum for the Veterans Memorial Park Entrance Sign in the amount of \$8,988.89. Commissioner Glines seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Discussion/Update: Sequence of Events for Interim FY 26/27 Budget.

Jocelyn Holguin, Chief Financial Officer: I'm going to read a bit of this letter. "A brief note to inform our City Commissioners of the interim budget process. The finance department along with management have implemented the new budget process and the results thus far have been very satisfactory." Just for clarification for the public, we used to use spreadsheets for every single part of the budget process, but now we're implementing the budget process in the Tyler system, which went really smoothly and really fast compared to last year. I'm really happy with that, so is the staff. We intend to have comprehensive info budget hard copy binders for each member of the Commission, hopefully I will have those done by tomorrow, they're just pending some documents that I included in there. For the all-day workshop scheduled April 14th, it will begin at 9:00am. Lunch will be provided by the managers and finance department, we ordered some food trays, and those should be available for the public and for staff. The calendar of events is as follows:

- 5/13/2026 – After everything is completed with the changes and updates on the interim budgets, we will have on the agenda for the final budget approval by the Commission, to send to DFA.
- 6/20/2026 – We will minimize the issuance of purchase orders so that we can reconcile for the current fiscal year. Then we will try to minimize purchasing in the fiscal year so that we can stay within our budgets, but if items are needed, we will continue to process those.
- 4/26/2026 – We will compile a list from the departments of agenda items over \$60,000, present it for the Commission's approval, in order to be in-compliance with our audits, and moving forward, to avoid delay in the processing of purchase orders over \$60,000, which are the electric department's usage of those, of other sources that we need, i.e. Verizon, and so on.
- 7/1/2026 – Requisitions for the new fiscal year will be implemented into the system.
- 7/1/2026 – Processing of the contracts and projects for the purchase orders, in order to avoid delay for payment on contracts.
- 7/9/2026 – Purchase orders will be open to the rest of the city. We will not have our final budget approved from the state at that time, but we can't shut down production, so we will minimize the expenses at that time as needed, and then once the final budget is approved, we will be full-blown. We are estimating

September if the state gets back to us at that time. There are no BAR's for the first quarter, because there's technically no budget, it's in flux at that time. I have the list for our interim budget meetings, I set everybody up within 15 minutes, based on our review that we had with the departments prior to this meeting setup, they went by really smoothly. We're going to have it up on the screen, and comments and corrections, we're going to fix in real-time during that meeting, so that it could process smoothly for us as well, because that's how we did it in the interim budgets. I'm not on this document, but in the packet that you will receive, I've added the list for the subrecipients form the Lodgers Tax. Each group will have 10 minutes for their presentation, discussion, and review. That should be within the 1pm-2pm hour. I stand for any questions.

Mayor Hechler: For department head meetings, is there a format for them or do they just get to say whatever they want?

Jocelyn Holguin, Chief Financial Officer: Do you want a format?

Mayor Hechler: Well I'd be curious to hear what milestones they accomplished last year, and what their major goals are for this year. Budgets are budgets, right, but I'd like to know *why* they're asking for what they're asking for, what they achieved last year that they were going to try to do. I think those are a couple of questions that we'd like to have answered.

Jocelyn Holguin, Chief Financial Officer: Okay, and then also in the notes that are now in this new system format, each line has a section where you can put a note or a detail, and that will be within the packet as well, so that will help in that aspect a little bit. That being said, I will send out an email out to staff per your request, so that they will be prepared for the meeting.

Mayor Hechler: Okay, thank you.

City Manager Whitehead: I would like to just re-comment on Jocelyn's last comment. The really nice part about the budget process is it allowed and had a requirement to put notes in, and we asked them to note every expense, if it was going to be the same as last year, or different. So I think when you see the way the copies come out, I think the first part of your question is going to be really significantly answered, but certainly, the vision of where they want to take their departments is very good. You're going to like the way the budget looks, it's got nice information.

Mayor Hechler: Thank you.

6. Discussion/Action: Change Order to Increase/Correct PO 80427-R1 to the Amount Awarded.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: May 22nd of 2024, we awarded Wilson & Company a CDBG contract, the full award was for \$77,043. In the process of entering the requisition, a portion of that was left off, they had exhibit B and exhibit C in their contract, and we entered in the amount of exhibit C, and left off the amount in exhibit B, because it's a CDBG contract, so it's broken down with design, and then construction oversight services. This is a request to correct that original PO, it had been done for only \$40,257.85 but we need to add that additional \$37,785.15 to bring it up to the full award amount of \$77,043. With that, I stand for any questions, I know that's a little confusing, so if you have any questions, I can definitely clarify that.

City Attorney Rubin: I think the good news is actually, this is different than a typical change order, where you have a contract amount that you need to increase because there's extra work that may have not been contemplated or addressed. Here, the amount already was approved, the \$77,000 in the contract. Unfortunately through, I guess some confusion, with the paperwork, it just wasn't reflected correctly. But we're not changing the contract amount, what you already approved is going to stay the same.

Mayor Hechler: Obviously, you've already had the money.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Correct, this is through CDBG funding, it is part of the grant.

Mayor Hechler: So we didn't change it, it didn't cost us anything extra.

Mayor Hechler made a motion to approve the Change Order to Increase/Correct PO 80427-R1 to the Amount Awarded. Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Discussion/Action: Approval of Purchases \$60,000 and over.

a. Wilson & Company Inc. – CDBG Water meter Replacement Engineering Services.

Carlos Miyagishima, CPO: The first item I am presenting is one that was just discussed, this is the CDBG water meter replacement engineering services, it's a change order. We're increasing it by a total of \$36,785.15 which will bring the total to over \$60,000 which makes it \$77,043. This is because of additional funds required for engineering services. It was already discussed, but if you have any more questions, I'll refer to Assistant City Manager Alvarez.

Mayor Hechler: I just noticed that the amount in the document is different.

Carlos Miyagishima, CPO: Yes, and I'd like to point that out. Thanks to Traci, she caught that mistake, I did my numbers wrong, the \$77,043 is the correct amount. When I originally submitted it, that was a mistake, but it's all corrected now. I apologize.

Mayor Hechler: That's okay, as long as we catch it, that's the important part.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: The total amount for the contract award is \$77,043.00.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell made a motion to approve the Purchases \$60,000 and over for Wilson & Company Inc. – CDBG Water meter Replacement Engineering Services in the amount of \$77,043. Commissioner Glines seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Smith Co. – WSPI-1.

Carlos Miyagishima, CPO: This one is for the construction services of WSPI-1. We will fund this through USDA loan and grant. That USDA loan and grant will come out to \$4,599,733. We're going to use the NMGRF for a total for \$385,227.64.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: This PO is for our WSPI-1 bid opening. We went to bid on March 19th. Within your packet, you'll see that there were 9 proposals that were received. By approving this PO, you're approving us awarding that contract to Smith Co. They came in at the lowest bid, allowing us not only to award the base bid, but award both alternates as well, which is the complete project, that's going to include 8 pressure-reducing valves, about 15,000 linear feet of water line mainly located on New School Road, Silver Street, Smith Road, and also including a new water line extension over towards Holden Road in the Bosque area, which will greatly increase the fire pressure of that as well. So the request is to approve the PO to Smith Co. for \$4,984,960.64 and with that, you are approving the award of WSPI-1 and contract to Smith Co. It has had USDA concurrence as well.

Mayor Hechler: That makes sense.

Jocelyn Holguin, Chief Financial Officer: In short, it's a big project that's going to be awarded to the lowest bidder.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell made a motion to approve the Purchases \$60,000 and over and contract for the Smith Co. – WSPI-1 project in the amount of \$4,984,960.64. Commissioner Glines seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Discussion/Action: Approve Letter of Support for the application Destination Forward grant.

City Manager Whitehead: I'm going to allow Gina and Carrie to speak. We have done some work and we are applying for some grants again for Lee Belle, they were able to find a pot of money through the Tourism Department, called Destination Forward. We'd like to make that application, but it also requires a letter of support from you.

Gina Kelley, Geronimo Springs Scenic Byway Representative: We have been working on the Destination Forward grant with the New Mexico Tourism Department, this grant funds tourism infrastructure projects. Kim Skinner, the chair of our tourism board, and I, have been talking to Lancing Adams at the Tourism Department about this for three years, ever since we first heard about the Lee Belle issues. He's very supportive of our application for this grant, I believe we are going to ask for the full \$500,000 that's available in tier 3. The 5% match will be based on whatever we get awarded. So if we're awarded the full \$500,000 then it'll be \$25,000, going down from there. There's no guarantee we would get the \$500,000 but if you don't ask you don't get. So we did add that to the letter of support, the very first sentence indicates that the City is committing to that match, which I believe is coming out of the infrastructure portion of Lodger's Tax collections.

Mayor Hechler: I will take this opportunity to thank you, Miss Kelley, for your hard work and the way you care about our community. I know you volunteer a lot of your time, and these things are important to you, and they're important to us. Thank you so much for your time and your effort, and I'm not going to say anything to Carrie because she gets paid for it.

Gina Kelley, Geronimo Springs Scenic Byway Representative: They're also important to our community and to our visitors.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell made a motion to approve the Letter of Support for the application Destination Forward grant. Commissioner Glines seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Discussion/Action: Request Approval for Updated Payroll Salary Chart.

City Manager Whitehead: Two meetings ago, I presented a reorganization chart to help me restructure some management ideas I've had within the city. We had some good debate and conversation about that. Coming out of Executive Session, when the Commissioners were able to understand the individuals that would have to be moved, you authorized and approved the structure of that. The request was that I come back and present to you the positions and how they would flow into the current pay study. What you have in front of you are the current pay studies, and what I would like to point

out is that we are not proposing any changes to the values within the pay study, the way it was done by our consultants. The numbers are the same, the values are the same. The items that are in red would be the changes that we would be taking immediately. We would be moving these particular individuals into new spots and new positions, so I'll start on page 1, going down to the NE4 class, we would be taking our administrative assistant from the Water/Wastewater Department, and adding one component. We had a compliance/testing job available there, when I moved Jamie into the Supervisor position, I held onto that position just in case things didn't work out, if it wasn't the right structure, so we've never filled that position. In this structure, Jamie's position would be moved to a permanent Supervisor position for Water/Wastewater, so the compliance individual will fill that spot, but I'm going to move the compliance obligations up to the Administrative Assistant, so it's just a few more tasks for that particular individual. You can see, next to that in NE5, there's an orange box, we would be creating the new Field Testing and Work Orders person using the compliance job that we had within the structure. Again, keeping the same dollars, just creating another, so we're going to add another person. What's happening to us in Water/Wastewater, it's a challenge, we're short-handed, we have a lot of tasks in the day, we need to turn on meters, turn off meters, we need to fix meters, we need to put red tags out, so we're going to try to take this person and try to create a consistent job where we're not pulling somebody out of the field to go accommodate that, that's the challenge, to see how we serve and get that handled quickly. In the Police Department, they had an Administrative Assistant, and the Chief has requested that we change that title to be an Executive Assistant to the Police Chief. That job comes with significant public and private information, the tasks are a little more important than just an Admin Assistant, so we would be changing that position, moving that up, and getting that more responsibilities and a new title. We have already moved the Parks Department into an NE7, so the structure of the city has been department-head heavy. Every single field had a department head, so in Community Service, we're going to let the Community Services Director oversee the parks, so we've moved the Parks Supervisor, if you will, out of being an exempt employee, and they'll be hourly within this system. We'll continue to do that throughout this structure as department heads move on. We have a lot of strength in our department heads, I don't think it'll happen quickly, but eventually, we would have the two departments, and then supervisors in each one of those positions running those departments. Then we have our Streets Foreman, who would now become the Streets Supervisor, working under our Public Works. Then in NE9, we would be moving, at some point, our Library Director, from being a department head in the exempt side, and would move over to become the Library Director under Community Service. That won't happen, that's why the green there, we have solid individuals in those places and we're not proposing any changes at all. If you keep going down, you'll see the light yellow, we'd change the Solid Waste Supervisor eventually, instead of having a Solid Waste Supervisor, we would move it up and eliminate the Solid Waste department head. We have good strength there, there's no changes in that particular department coming, that would be just a future move, so you'd be approving that for the future. We would still maintain the current structure we have at the Solid Waste Department. Then, of course, the Water and Wastewater Supervisor would stay in the same category, it would just now become permanent. If you move to the next chart, you'll see that under NE4, for Community

Service, and for the Assistant City Manager, we would be adding an Administrative Assistant. What I've done here is we're not adding the department head back for Facilities, so we're going to use that job and those funds to create an Administrative Assistant for now, the Community Service and Assistant City Manager with those funds. Then, we'll use the additional to help with increases throughout that. Then we're moving the Facilities Foreman up to the Facilities Supervisor, and then would add back for additional employees there. Still working inside the structure and inside the budget. Under NE6, We'd like to add a position for the future, which is our Human Resource Specialist. Right now, we have that title, that's where our Human Resource Department is within Finance, but in the restructure, we'll be moving the Human Resource Director out to be directly under the City Manager, as their own department, so they'll go up into a director-type position. We recognize there's a lot of work there, we have over 100 employees. At some point in the future, we would like to fund, potentially, an assistant to help with Human Resources. Our Animal Shelter Supervisor, currently we're in great shape there, we have a solid Animal Shelter, not planning any changes at all in that, but in the future, if there was to be a change in the leadership, then we would then have an Animal Shelter Supervisor under the non-exempt class, versus the exempt class. That's the only thing you're seeing there. Under IT, we want to add an additional IT Specialist to our system. Currently, our IT Supervisor, we have one. He's requested a different change in his work, he'd like to move more to part-time. He also runs and has some other business interests, and working full-time does not fit into his schedule, so what we've come to as a conclusion is that we'd like to have him remain as a Supervisor of our department, and then we'd like to find kind of a mid-entry point, someone that could work 8am-5pm Monday-Friday and be able to do the physical stuff that needs to happen. Again, I can only say that computers need to be moved, need to be changed, printers need to be fixed, copiers need to be repaired; we have a lot of technical things, so that person would do that. Then, our current IT Specialist would be able to take care of all the software, the general applications, the router work, and can do that either on-site or remotely. So we want to build that out, so we would be adding the IT Specialist. I pointed out that the Facilities Maintenance Supervisor would move up from the Foreman position to be the Supervisor under Community Service. Then under the Electric Department, we're moving our Electrical Supervisor, our crew Chief, would now become the Electric Department Supervisor. As you know, in the structure I have, I'm moving the Electric Department Supervisor now up to what we're calling the Public Works structure, so that person would be in charge of the overall items within Public Works, as well as one person in charge of the Community Service items. Those are the changes that we'd like to make. The exempt side is going to come to you through the budget process. As you'll remember, last year, when we did the reports from the consultant, we agreed that we would take care of all the non-exempt employees first, and then in this budget process, we would take care of all the supervisors. So we'll be presenting the supervisor changes to you inside the budget process. I will stand for any questions.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell: It looks good, the way it's going to shift around, and like you said, the money that we save is the money that we're going to spend, so it all balances out.

City Manager Whitehead: That's correct. As I pointed out, it will cost the City about \$51,000 from the general fund, based on current numbers. It's a savings of about \$52,000 in the enterprise funds to make these shifts and these movements. Again, remember, we did commit to taking care of the exempt employees, the department heads, through the salary study, so we will see some salary increase based on that proposal, but we looked at these based on the current numbers that we're paying.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell made a motion to approve the Updated Payroll Salary Chart. Commissioner Glines seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

H. ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS/ZONING:

- 1. Discussion/Update: Acknowledge revisions correcting typographical errors contained within Ordinance No. 771 amending Chapter 3 of the City of Truth or Consequences Municipal Code of Ordinances pertaining to animals.**

City Clerk Torres: On February 25th, we brought Ordinance 771 (amending our animal ordinance) for public hearing and final adoption. After review, once everything was signed and approved, we did notice that on one of the chapters, it had the same number on there, so we had to amend that. In doing that, some of the numbers changed in the exhibits on there. We don't have to take it back for approval, just because it was some typos, it didn't change any of the structure, the wording is the same, it's just that doing that changes some of the numbers, and we wanted to be transparent with the public, so we're bringing this to you just as an update to let you know that this is going to be a little bit different from the ordinance that was signed on February 25th. On the agenda request form, it does outline all the changes we made.

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 1. Limited Personnel Matters Discussion/Action: Employee Reclassification including Public Service Director, the Public Works Director, and the Public Safety Director, to include the following employees: Chief Tavizon, Bo Easley, Chris Rees, Brenden Anglin, OJ Hechler, Alona Niebergall, Deanna Knull, Kailey (Keegan) McCraw, Zakaila Carrera, Thomas Cool, Jamie Foreman and Michael Kozloski; pursuant to 10-15-1(H.2).**

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell made a motion to go into executive session at 10:31 a.m. to discuss Limited Personnel Matters Discussion/Action: Employee Reclassification including Public Service Director, the Public Works Director, and the Public Safety Director, to include the following employees: Chief Tavizon, Bo Easley, Chris Rees, Brenden Anglin, OJ Hechler, Alona Niebergall, Deanna Knull, Kailey (Keegan) McCraw, Zakaila Carrera, Thomas Cool, Jamie Foreman and

Michael Kozloski; pursuant to 10-15-1(H.2). Commissioner Glines seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Hechler reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:59 a.m.

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell certified that only matters pertaining to Limited Personnel Matters Discussion/Action: Employee Reclassification including Public Service Director, the Public Works Director, and the Public Safety Director, to include the following employees: Chief Tavizon, Bo Easley, Chris Rees, Brenden Anglin, OJ Hechler, Alona Niebergall, Deanna Knull, Kailey (Keegan) McCraw, Zakaila Carrera, Thomas Cool, Jamie Foreman and Michael Kozloski; pursuant to 10-15-1(H.2) were discussed in Executive Session and no action was taken in executive session.

J. RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION; ACTION (if any)

1. Limited Personnel Matters Discussion/Action: Employee Reclassification including Public Service Director, the Public Works Director, and the Public Safety Director, to include the following employees: Chief Tavizon, Bo Easley, Chris Rees, Brenden Anglin, OJ Hechler, Alona Niebergall, Deanna Knull, Kailey (Keegan) McCraw, Zakaila Carrera, Thomas Cool, Jamie Foreman and Michael Kozloski; pursuant to 10-15-1(H.2)

Mayor Pro-Tem Mitchell made a motion to move this item to a future agenda for full Commission approval. Commissioner Glines seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

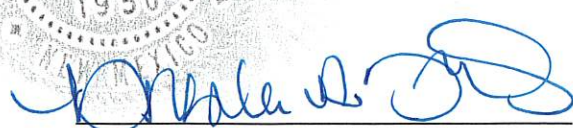
K. . ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Hechler adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

Passed and Approved this 13th day of May, 2026.



Rolf Hechler, Mayor


ATTEST:


Angela A. Torres, CMC, City Clerk