

CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, NEW MEXICO
CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 405 W. 3RD St.
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2024

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 via telephone
Hon. Destiny Mitchell, Commissioner
Hon. Merry Jo Fahl, Commissioner
Hon. Ingo Hoepfner, Commissioner

Also Present: Angie Gonzales, City Manager
Traci Alvarez, Assistant City Manager
Jay Rubin, City Attorney
Angela A. Torres, City Clerk-Treasurer
Jocelyn Holguin, Finance Director
Arnie Castaneda, Water/Wastewater Director
Luis Tavizon, Chief of Police
OJ Hechler, Community Services Director

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

2. SILENT MEDITATION:

Mayor Hechler called for fifteen seconds of silent meditation.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Hechler called for Commissioner Fahl to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

C. PRESENTATIONS:

1. Small Business Saturday Proclamation.

Mayor Hechler presented the Small Business Saturday Proclamation.

2. Presentation of City of Truth or Consequences Employee Service Anniversary Awards:

City Manager Gonzales presented an Employee Service Anniversary Award to Deanna Knull for 2 years of service with the City of Truth or Consequences.

City Manager Gonzales presented an Employee Service Anniversary Award to Leslie Romero for 2 years of service with the City of Truth or Consequences.

City Manager Gonzales presented an Employee Service Anniversary Award to Jude Vega for 6 years of service with the City of Truth or Consequences.

City Manager Gonzales presented an Employee Service Anniversary Award to Buster Smith for 2 years of service with the City of Truth or Consequences. He also served 25 years before his return.

City Manager Gonzales presented an Employee Service Anniversary Award to Denise Balko for 6 years of service with the City of Truth or Consequences.

City Manager Gonzales presented an Employee Service Anniversary Award to Jamie Sweeney for 8 years of service with the City of Truth or Consequences.

City Manager Gonzales presented an Employee Service Anniversary Award to Sonya Renfro for 11 years of service with the City of Truth or Consequences.

City Manager Gonzales presented an Employee Service Anniversary Award to Tim Hanna for 17 years of service with the City of Truth or Consequences.

City Manager Gonzales presented an Employee Service Anniversary Award to Chief Tavizon for 2 years of service with the City of Truth or Consequences.

D. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 Minute Rule Applies):

Tara Manning addressed the Commission with comments related to:

- The Animal Shelter. I am here to remind you guys of the grant that we received back at the end of September for Best Friends to help out with adoptions. We finally worked out all of the ideas on how we are going to do everything. We are going to start the event tomorrow. Starting tomorrow, all adoption fees for a fixed animal

will be completely free. We are hoping that this will empty the Shelter. Currently there are 39 animals in the shelter. 33 of them are dogs, and 19 of those are fixed, and we are getting 5 more fixed on Friday. We are hoping that this will free up some space so we can have some open kennels and not have dogs in crates and find them loving homes that they all need. This will cover cats and dogs. We only have 3 kittens that are currently fixed. We are bottle feeding a younger kitten, so he is going to be a while. We are hoping to get some of our long-term residents out. There are 5 of them and they have been there for 45 days so we are really hoping that we can empty the shelter.

Steve Green addressed the Commission with comments related to:

- Presently cardboard is the mainstream of the city's recycling program. Resolution 05 24/25 which will charge \$30 per dumpster per month to the assigned business, puts a nail in that coffin. The process of bringing forth this resolution was certainly unethical. You did it backwards. You had public comment and a vote, and then you had notification, and the notification from staff was requesting to implement new rates effective December 1, 2024. That's kind of after the fact. What you should have done is notify the customers first and give them the right to come to public comment (*you really should have had a public hearing*) and voice their support or opposition and then take a vote. I have a simple suggestion, rather than charging the businesses for an \$.80 fee per month charge for recycling on all trash wheels, \$.70 for operations and \$.10 for advertising and marketing, once the tonnage reduction by recycling to the landfill and the cost savings that, that generates equals the revenue generated by the \$.80 then \$.70 is dropped from the trash bills and \$.10 remains for marketing and advertising. In my mind, that is fair, reasonable and equitable. With what you are doing right now someone is going to put a lock on the blue dumpster, and someone will say that they don't want to pay the \$30 plus and ask for it to be removed and then people will start putting cardboard in the brown dumpsters which they are already paying for. I think just because we spend \$23,000 or \$28,000 for someone to take a look at our program and came up with a suggestion, they don't live here. They live in El Paso. We've got to do what's best for our community to move this community forward. \$30 a month for a dumpster is not the way to go.

E. REPORTS:

City Manager Gonzales reported the following:

- With Tammy resigning, and with my impending departure, I will be handing the lodgers Tax and Subrecipient applications over to the Clerk's Office for them to keep up with it.

a. Water/Wastewater Update.

Arnie Castaneda, Water/Wastewater Director gave a Water/Wastewater update. (Complete copy attached hereto and made a part hereof).

b. Police Department Update.

Chief of Police Tavizon:

- We have been extremely busy to say the least. Like in business, our department had to conduct a SWOT analysis of our organization. I don't mean what you usually hear in police work, SWAT, this is SWOT. It checks our strengths and weaknesses, and our opportunities, and the threats that we may have as an organization and address those, and we continue to address those as we progress every year. We've accomplished quite a bit. When I first took over, we had completed a 100% audit and inventory of our evidence vault which unfortunately hadn't been done in quite some time, and the staff that I have working on the evidence, Detective Shane Jeffers and Kyleen Coulter who is our evidence technician, they have done a phenomenal job working with the District Attorney's Office and the District Court to get destruction orders, and get us up into compliance. They have been diligently working on that on top of this case load. I really appreciate their dedication to that.
- We finally got our network to be in a position where we can utilize the report management system that we purchased a year ago, that we were unable to implement because of our network outages that we were experiencing at the time. So, we are finally able to start implementing that hopefully before the end of the year. It will fast track our IPRA requests and our data analysis and everything that helps us be a more efficient department.
- We are also maintaining IndentoGO. So, I'm very familiar with AGO. It's a digital fingerprint system, we use it with a 3rd party, so a majority of our nurses and teachers use it. They come in from all over the place. We're one of a few hubs in the area. They'll come from all over the place, set up appointments, and pay. We have a couple of technicians to take care of that. Deanna is one of them, on top of all of the other jobs and hats, and things that she does for us. She also maintains that with Casey, and so I greatly appreciate her and all the customer service that she provides with these new people that are coming into our community for these services.
- We've maintained our training to meet the minimum requirements. We've gone beyond those minimum requirements and have identified certain areas that the community may need a level of expertise, and we have addresses those with sending officers to specialized training as well, while staying within our budget. So that's exciting for us to have well-trained officers. I'd like to just take a minute to thank the officers that we have. We are very lucky in our community to being pretty close to being fully staffed. We push, and we try to get locals, and there are always openings and we always try to reach some of the local press as well as other areas to try to get people. We have some locals that serve in our department, but the officers that we have coming in from out of town, their level of dedication that they show every day to our community members, and the level of respect that they show, and professionalism is unmatched from what I've seen in my experience in 20 years of law enforcement. I greatly appreciate them and their dedication. Unfortunately, in this career you never know when you suit up when it will be your last. We all think that it's a small community, but Hatch

thought the same thing and they lost an officer as well, and that's just right down the road. So, you just never know, and I just thank them. It's really an honor to serve with them. I really appreciate them, and it's wonderful to be with them.

Stats for the month of September 2024:

- We slowed down some towards July and August. We are hitting the thousand call mark, and in September they jumped back up. So, we have been busy. We had 1,021 calls in September. The officers took 560 calls for service.
- Animal Control took 142 calls for service. We've kept Tara at the Animal Shelter busy. Our guys are out there catching stray dogs, and animals at large. They've been super busy. We would like to collaborate with Tara and try to get some of these programs that she's got going for adopting these dogs and helping out any way that we can.
- Our motor vehicle accidents are still a thing. We had 29 for September, which is pretty high. We just can't seem to eliminate those. We write citations, we run heavy traffic in order to try and prevent some of these crashes because the crashes affect all of us with our insurance rates.
- We took 10 SCI (CYFD) reports in September.
- Our School Resource Officer has been a busy guy. I appreciate his dedication to our schools. He's been awesome. The schools are extremely happy. The JPO is a little bit busy now because they have some reports that they have to take care of.
- We conducted over 26 follow-ups.
- We had 2 DWIs in September.
- Code Enforcement has been working on 6 different properties in September, and he's also been collaborating with Edgewood. We are hoping to get their folks down here so we could do a little presentation on what he proposed a couple of sessions ago and answer any questions that the commission might have.
- The officers in September conducted 240 traffic stops and issued 220 citations. The citations and the traffic stops are there. The crashes just don't reflect that enforcement.
- We had 29 arrests for September.
- We sent an Officer Knull to the New Mexico Zoning Officials annual meeting and that's where he dipped up the information on that, and he got some experience. It's always good to train them up. Code Enforcement on the civil side is a unique area. It's separate from law enforcement, for sure. You don't worry about the criminal side on that. I know we're interested in criminal citations, but there's a lot more civil liability and civil process that is done in code enforcement, and so it's good to answer any kind of gray area and get informed on any kind of information that we may be misinformed on.
- Kyleen also went to the Evidence Technician Association Conference, where she picked up some great ideas that she's implementing with policy. State statute requires us to do auctions for our evidence and property that meet a certain criteria, so we are working with an online company to get that done which will fast track things and make things a lot easier instead of just doing it every few months or twice a year as it was done being done before.

- October continued to be busy for us. We had a candy drive, and then we did our Trunk or Treat which was a huge success. We had tons of candy to give out. I felt sorry for their parents. I'm sure that they were bouncing off the walls.
- We had 160 calls for service in October.
- Animal Control jumped up to 237 calls for service.
- We had 37 motor vehicle accidents. These are non-injury and injury as well. It is not specific.
- The officers responded to 17 SCI (CYFD) reports.
- S. R. O. had 3 reports that he was dealing with.
- We had 47 follow ups.
- 1 DWI.
- Code Enforcement had 7 additional properties to try to get them into compliance.
- We had 160 traffic stops and 51 citations were issued.
- We had 16 arrests for that month.
- We continue to meet the biennium minimum requirements that the Law Enforcement Academy has changed. They've added some different curriculum, cultural diversity, and peer-to-peer intervention. So, we've started that. It also includes use of force training, which we've got scheduled for this Friday and next week. So, we're trying to address some of these issues that you see on a national basis. We are making sure that our officers are doing what they can to protect the city from any kind of liability or litigation.

Commissioner Fahl reported the following:

- I wanted to thank everybody who participated in the Veterans Day celebration at the Veterans Memorial Park. I serve on that board, and I've been on that board since Bobby Allen first started working there. The weather was perfect, and we partnered up with the Veterans Home and their new director. They hall over a lot of the veterans to come in the buses, and they get to enjoy the ceremony. It was a beautiful day. An individual donated that gorgeous, huge flag that was up there. That thing is big, and it was really hard to fold up and hang up, but it's a wonderful flag. It was a very inspiring day. The mayor gave a presentation. It was a beautiful acknowledgement of this family's history, but also in relation to Veterans Day. Senator Brantley gave a wonderful speech, and Representative Dow was there. They all gave a wonderful presentation. We had representation from most of the local veterans' organizations, and it was just very moving. The ROTC kids came and did the colors, they do such a great job. We had several speakers from the Veterans Home come and tell their stories, and the event, the Veterans Home invited everybody there, and they fed everybody that was out at out event and then all their veterans, and so it was just a wonderful day. I want to thank the community for supporting that. There was a car show afterwards.
- Jornada led another meeting for the Turtleback Trail Network and we are moving forward with that and phasing different parts of the trail. Unofficially, Jornada was successful in their application to the recreation trails grant program for signage. We have an education subcommittee of that group and we're going to start developing what we want for the signage for the trail. The gist of the proposal is to get some trailheads or trailhead signs and interpretive panels along County

Road A05. We're going to start working on that right away, so when we get the official word, we should be able to get it done within a few months. So that was exciting.

- I just wanted to do some community events. Thanks to MainStreet. Everybody mentioned how great the Halloween event was. That was wonderful.
- As one of my other hats, I asked to be a part of the wayfinding group. I'm excited to be a part of that, mostly because of my work with the Healing Waters Trail, because I don't want them to forget my signs that are on there.
- There's a turkey shoot this weekend. It is the 4-H annual turkey shoot. It's at the shooting range. The Geronimo Springs Museum is having a craft fair, so I encourage people to participate in those activities.

Commissioner Mitchell reported the following:

- We are moving forward with Fiesta. Our theme this year is 75 years of Fiesta. We are celebrating 75 years of the name change to Truth or Consequences. We went to the Lodger's Tax Board yesterday and asked for funding for promotion and we received about \$50,000 in promotion for the event. We plan on starting early this year, getting advertisements, banners, and merchandise out in the community, kind of a save the date sort of thing. We expect this year to be one of the biggest years yet. We're moving forward with Fiesta. We're still looking for volunteers to help with everything, so you can get a hold of me, and I can put you to work.
- I wanted to give a shout out to Tree New Mexico for coming down a week ago and doing their first tree planting in Sierra County. They gave away over 50 trees for public use, and they also planted, I want to say, another 50 trees in the community. I took a group of teenagers from Hot Springs High School with the SEBC program. We went out and planted trees all morning. We will continue to participate with Tree New Mexico. Our local group is called Tree or C. They will be planting again. I believe in March. They will be giving off these trees to people and our SEBC program is willing to come out and help plant them for you the proper way to keep them alive and make sure they're sustainable.
- I wanted to give a big shout out to the police department because it's really hard when you actually have to call them, and they have to respond to something and the fact that they are always there in a short amount of time is really impressive. Thank you guys for that.
- There is a Wayfinding meeting on November 19th at the T or C Brewery. They'll have two presentations from New Mexico Mainstreet on getting wayfinding signage in the downtown. We want public input. We want the public to come and tell us where we should direct people to when they come to T or C. Should we send them to the park, should we go to the museum? How do we address these issues.
- We had the second Saturday Art Hop on Saturday night, and I was participating in the Christmas soup thing with a couple of my swim team kids, and a car turned the wrong way in front of the old Radio Shack. I ran out into the street, and I was like, no, this is the wrong way. And so, I think we really have some serious signage issues downtown, and so I would appreciate public input from the

community. You can do that and drink wonderful beer at the brewery on Tuesday, November 19th at 4:00 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. there's two presentations.

Commissioner Hoeppner reported the following:

- I want to thank every business owner who opened up their store and shop and came out to be part of what Ben Street organized. It is just amazing to see the community coming together and enjoying an evening of dressing up. I'm all about building community and I hope we have in the future more events where we all come together.
- Secondly, the holiday season is starting, and we don't know what the future brings so I hope when you are going down your list for Christmas presents, that you think of shopping locally. The local businesses are prepared for what is coming.
- This is in regard to recycling. Yes, it is a fee of \$30 and yes, it is quite possible that businesses will lock their containers to the public so we should consider maybe marking the containers, so people know that they are strictly for cardboard and not for other rubbish. If the businesses decide to lock their dumpsters, then I hope that we can at least accomplish 5 or 6 separate containers for the public that are free to use. Maybe we should look into other places that would be willing to take recyclables other than cardboard. I want to say that we have some sort of recycling program, and we are going to try to keep it going no matter what.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister reported the following:

- I just want to apologize for not being there in person, but I was asked to go with the volleyball girls. They made it to state this year! I will be available by phone, and I am watching you guys on Facebook live. We have an escort through town. Thank you, Jamie Sweeney, for setting that up, and also thank you to all of the law enforcement that will be hands on deck doing that today for our volleyball girls. Go Tigers!

Mayor Hechler reported the following:

- On October 23rd we had a meeting at the Nadine Gardner Center with the NMDOT regarding the repaving of our streets, Date Street and Main Street, and signage and restriping thereof. Initially, we thought that we were going to have four different scenarios to include diagonal parking as choices A & B and then C & D were going to be parallel parking on both sides with bike lanes and things of that nature. The community was invited, and we did a great job with MainStreet TorC and the Chamber of Commerce getting the word out because we had a packed room and there were a lot of folks that were involved in making those decisions. They had a chart up on the board and we were able to put our names on what options that we liked. Option C was the main option that everyone picked and that included the bike patch downtown which was two ways with parallel parking on both sides. We were assured that it is just striping. They are

going to re-stripe it so there is a one way, but it is going to be a single lane now instead of a double lane and there will be parking on both sides and there will be a bike lane going through there. The good thing is that it is only paint, so 6 months down the road if we don't get adjusted to it than it can easily be changed. I have the highway department's commitment if we need to make a change, we will be able to make that down the road if we need to. I'm excited for the change. I kind of wanted to see some diagonal parking downtown because I wanted to see some additional storage space for our vehicles so you can park closer to your business and if somebody was having a special event or they were busy, everybody could park a lot closer. However, there is a regulation involving state highways that you can't have diagonal parking unless you go and petition the state highway commission. They only meet quarterly, so down the road we may have another public meeting, and we will see how this goes, and down the road, if we want to, and if there is enough push for it from our community, we can petition the state highway commission to maybe include diagonal parking or go back to the way we were. It needs to be community driven down the road, but we will address that when and if we have that opportunity.

- I attended the grand opening for the Workforce Connections on October 30th. They are now located at the new Tresco Building. The Cabinet Secretary for that department came down. I want to make sure that we link the workforce connections onto our city website if we can because there are job opportunities there. They will benefit from us being linked to the city website and we will benefit from them also because they are going to make sure they contact us and talk to us when they have people who are qualified to seek jobs. I think that's an important partnership and I want to make sure we exploit that to the fullest extent that we can.
- I attended the tree planting with Commissioner Mitchell, and I learned how to plant a tree. I have been doing it wrong all of these years, but now I have learned how to do it and I've become a trainer so down the road when we plant new trees I am going to be involved.
- Thank you for inviting me to speak at the Veterans memorial event. I was very nervous because it was in front of a very important group of people who have sacrificed a lot for our country so thank you for that. I had a good time, and I hope to come back next year.
- We recently received a grant for \$5.74 million from Senator Heinrich to replace old waterlines. It is just a continuation of fixing our waterlines. We are working through another step toward getting the initial \$4.4 million and the \$16 million which is coming. This year was the year that we went out for all of the money and next year you are going to start seeing it in the community. We are going to be experiencing some construction fatigue again, but that's okay. That means that we are progressing and moving forward so I am looking forward to that. Senator Heinrich's office has been responsible for bringing a lot of money to this community. He has been a strong supporter of our community. I will be reaching out to him again down the road. I think our next step is water/wastewater, and I sure want to get that vacuum system fixed and that is going to cost over \$5 million, so my goal this year is to go the governor's office and ask her for some

money for capital money for that, and to also talk to our Senators and Representatives. Aside from the small stuff that we did last time, we want to try to make sure that we get the vacuum stuff fixed because it's pretty traumatic to our citizens that experienced those things so we need to get that fixed if we can.

- Yesterday I attended the Joint Powers Committee and Governing Board meeting at the hospital. As some of you have probably heard, we are losing our CEO Frank Corcoran. He is moving back to Louisiana with his family. He will be missed. He has done a wonderful job at our hospital. The hospital is in great shape and continues to be, and as a result we have had some wonderful candidates. We've had over 30 plus candidates that applied, and we had some help with a professional committee to cut the 30 down to 3 well qualified candidates that have CEO experience. I will be involved in the board selecting the CEO. We are going to try to do that over the next 2 or 3 weeks, so I will be spending some time on Thursday and Friday to interview these folks and show them around town. We have a good hospital that we are going to put in good hands, and we need to have that, so this is going to be a very important choice that we make.

Commissioner Fahl: Commissioner Hoepfner and I were both at the NMDOT meeting, and it was a great turnout. There were a lot of concerns expressed by the downtown business people. I get the re-striping thing, but do you know far they are re-milling?

Mayor Hechler: My understanding is that there is going to be an end to end community milling project from Williamsburg all the way to Exit 79 on the other end of town. So, to understand how this is going to work, the company that is going to do this is a major company and this is small potatoes to them. This project is probably several million dollars, but they are dealing with projects that are worth \$20 million or \$30 million on the interstates so they have to fit this in where they can fit this in, and this is when they could do it. I feel for our businesses, and I understand that they are going to be put out a little bit. The highway department has assured us that they are going to close one lane at a time when they do this so there will be access throughout our community. We may be slow, and we may have some delays, and I understand that this is the time of year that these businesses make their money, but you have to take into account, if we delay this will we ever get it done because then we may be in a rotation and it may be 3 or 4 years before we have that opportunity again. So, sometimes you have to deal with it as it comes. I know it is inconvenient, but we will get through it, and our community will be better for it. The same thing is going to happen when all of this money hits for our waterline replacements. There will be some delays and possibly some issues, but it will take care of half of our community, and then we will have to work on the other half. We are 3 or 4 years out from getting everything caught up, and it is going to be tough on us. We are going to have to get through it, but it's good because we are getting things fixed that have been neglected and not dealt with in several years. You don't deal with these things until it becomes an issue. People say, well you should have done this in 2016 or 2020. We had a few dozen leaks here and there throughout the year and we did fine, and we got through it, and it wasn't an issue. I wish we had better foresight, but now that we are in the middle of it, I really appreciate our water and wastewater departments

for getting out there and doing it. We are putting band aids on hemorrhages at this point, but we are just trying to keep going until this money hits so please be patient with us. They have already started on the project, and once they get the concrete work done, I think there will be a break for a week or 2, and then they are supposed to come back and start the milling. I'm hoping it's enough time before Christmas, but I don't know, we'll see. They should be done with everything by January.

City Attorney Rubin reported the following:

- Back around 2009 or 2010, the city was named as a defendant in a lawsuit filed by a couple of private citizens here in T or C. They were opposed to the Hot Springs Land Development and the city's involvement with that. I helped defend the city in that case and we successfully had the case dismissed, and the city was awarded some attorney fees in that case. We recorded a transcript of judgement regarding the attorney fees, and that became a lien on any real property that the people who brought the lawsuit may have. That sat for about 10 to 12 years, and recently one of the family members of one of the debtors contacted me because they wanted to get the lien paid off, and yesterday I got a check for it. We are going to process that case and get a partial release of judgement, and we will be done with that.
- Later today we are going to be discussing utility liens, and as a matter of coincidence, Ms. Alvarez asked me last week to get a title search done on a couple pieces of property. I sent them to one of the title companies and a couple of hours later I received a phone call saying that there is a possible closing that happened on one of the properties and we may be able to get fully paid for that. We don't know yet. The closing still has to be scheduled, and there are always a lot of particulars involved, but we may be able to get that resolved as well.

F. CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. **City Commission Regular Minutes, October 9, 2024**
2. **City Commission Regular Minutes, October 23, 2024**
3. **City Commission Special Executive Minutes, November 5, 2024**
4. **October 2024 Accounts Payable**
5. **Take Home Vehicle Form: Police Department**

Commissioner Fahl moved to approve the Consent Calendar as submitted. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

G. ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS/ZONING:

1. Discussion/Action: Publication of Ordinance 766 Amending the City of Truth or Consequences Municipal Code of Ordinances, Amending Chapter 11 Pertaining to Solid Waste.

Wes Myers, Sanitation Division: We're requesting to revise Ordinance 766, Chapter 11-14.2 to remove the application fee. I just want to let you guys know that we're not changing anything in Exhibit A or B pertaining to the Solid Waste and Recycling Service Collection Center rates. I'd like to go into the background as to why we made the conclusion to remove the application fee. The public explained, charging someone for an application fee seemed unfair. Of course, the main objective was to make sure that the exempt service would not be taken advantage of. By hearing what the public had to say, and keeping our objective in mind, we did some public outreach. First, we reached out to both the City of Las Cruces, and the City of Albuquerque, and we found out that they do not charge for their exempt services. We also went to the post office, and they also don't charge for an exempt service. Now, that being said, while doing our research between those two sources. They had some verbiage that we believe would assist us in our ordinance. Some of the verbiage that would be added would be incapacitated, which covers the criteria more thoroughly. This will cover a number of conditions such as physical health problems, strokes, or degenerative disease. Another change would be without any risk to existing health. It's in the same sentence. We added this because if the residents are in fact, incapacitated, the risk of something harming their health while trying to roll out the poly cart, could affect them and this would aid in ensuring the exempt service would be utilized by only those who are in need. Lastly, we added, if an additional occupant resides, in the home, a really long-term guest, they must also apply and qualify for exempt services. This will help cut back unnecessary manpower if there is an individual who lives there and is able to assist. That was our biggest thing too. To help in the prevention of the exempt services from being taken advantage of, alongside the verbiage, we'll be sending out exempt application renewal notices. This will happen every May 1st and they will be sent out by certified mail. This will give the applicants time to make an appointment, see the physician, for verification purposes. The application would be due July 1st of every year to verify eligibility. If the application is not turned in by July 1st. They can risk losing their exempt services. That pretty much goes for people who let it expire because they are no longer with us, unfortunately, then we wouldn't just continue the services. In the ordinance it says if an additional occupant resides in the home or a welcome guest, they must also qualify and apply, but it would sound much nicer if it said apply and qualify for exempt services.

Commissioner Fahl: Those are good catches on addressing what the concerns were, but not making it inappropriate. Good job.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: I like where we're going here. I don't want to be, you know, making money off our disabled. So, if we can help them out, I think that's a good idea and then we will just find the ones that are abusing their exempt services. Is that correct?

Wes Myers, Sanitation Division: Finding them? No, ma'am. We would just go through the verification process and see if there is somebody in the home that is able to help and that would disqualify them from being exempted.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: Oh, okay.

Mayor Hechler: I'm okay with the changes, mainly because you matched it up with the post office, which is already an established organization. I think that's important. We're not reinventing the wheel. With these changes, anybody that's on the exempt status now, would any of them not be exempt?

Wes Myers, Sanitation Division: Not that I'm aware of. We may have a couple that with the re-verification process, if somebody lives with them, they might have to also go through the proper steps. That would be the only thing. Everybody else should still qualify, which we have 24 as of right now.

Mayor Hechler: Well, that's fair.

Commissioner Fahl: That brings up a good point. What do we do since we're mid-year? Are you going to send a letter to these people?

Wes Myers, Sanitation Division: We're going to resend it out May 1st. We would just continue as it is right now. We have had some new ones since. It would just start May 1st.

Commissioner Fahl: I like the word incapacitated because that covers everything. You just have a broken way. For a while you're incapacitated. It covers just about any health issue so that's a good word.

Commissioner Fahl moved to approve Publication of Ordinance 766 Amending the City of Truth or Consequences Municipal Code of Ordinances, Amending Chapter 11 Pertaining to Solid Waste. Commissioner Hoeppe seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Discussion/Action: Amendment to Resolution No. 05 24/25 Establishing Solid Waste and Recycling Service and Collection Center Rates for the City of Truth or Consequences.

Wes Myers, Sanitation Division: Number 2 on the Resolution will be removed. There are no other changes to the Resolution. Anything would be carried on over for item G2.

Commissioner Hoeppe: One question. If we do something with recycling bins, you said before that we had problems with illegal dumping, is there a possibility for somebody to pay a fine if they get caught dumping illegally?

Wes Myers, Sanitation Division: That's kind of where it comes into where we need the manpower for that, and that's something that we're not going to be able to do right now, as far as I'm aware. I can get some answers for you, but we have to have manpower to be able to watch somebody and then actually catch them.

Commissioner Hoeppner: For me, it's more the point of putting a few blue dumpsters and label it to say, when you put your household trash in it, there could be a fine associated with that. That would maybe detour people from illegally dumping in the recycle bins. Or we could put something that says these are for the business owners and if you get caught illegally dumping you will have to pay a fine.

Wes Myers, Sanitation Division: Most of our trash cans, most businesses will have the assigned businesses use only, and our recycling cans do have flat cardboard on it and we could probably put something as suggested, and the recycling containers are free to dump at the recycling center. We have plenty of cardboard cans out there for you to dump.

Mayor Hechler: So, people can bring their recyclables to the recycle center.

Wes Myers, Sanitation Division: Yes, sir. Commercial businesses may not want to pay for the cardboard, so then they can make it flat, and bring it to the recycling center, and recycle it for free.

Commissioner Fahl: The recycling bins are only out if the business ops to do that. Is it not a requirement? I think we as a community need to do a better job about our recycling program. Maybe we can do something today, and then we can come back. We need to do something. I think we all want to support recycling. It's just like, what's that going to look like, but I'm glad that it's not a requirement for the businesses. It's only if they want one. And what you were saying, Commissioner Hoeppner, stencils are not very expensive. You could just get stencils and spray that on there.

Commissioner Mitchell: And I can also say, for free manpower, you could contact Tigers and see if they would be willing to paint them with the students.

Mayor Hechler: I'm just going to weigh in here, and I don't know, pick out some others, but it's just kind of the way I feel about it. We've been kicking this can down the road now for six months. People know what we're going to do. They know the rates. They know what we're going to do, and every two weeks, we can't come back and say, well, I've got another idea, and I want to change this, or I want to come back and say, I've got another idea, and I want to change that. So, I think we need to go ahead and go through with publishing our rates and dealing with these things, but I'm intrigued by what Mr. Green said about the additional fee of \$0.70 or \$0.80 cents. I'd like to actually see an extra dollar, but we need to revisit that. Wes, I would like to ask you and Andy to research what that would generate for us if we charged an additional dollar per customer for recycling on top of that. Then we can put that money back into the program so we can do a better job recycling. It is kind of productive to charge people to

recycle. It's not going to happen. You aren't going to have businesses pay \$30 to recycle. I think you would have very poor participation and that's not what we're after here. So, let's put those numbers together. If this does pass, that doesn't mean it's the end of it. We need to move forward and keep moving for the city because you know quite frankly, every month that we go by we're losing money. This should have been passed a while back and we need to move forward with that, but it doesn't mean that we can't visit into this thing. Sometime in January, let's have a presentation to the commission about, if we charge an additional dollar for every customer, in bear market for recycling, what that would present to us, and what it would be valued at. And then let's get some figures about what recycling costs. I think it's like 80-some thousand a year. If you can get all that stuff together and bring that presentation back to us. And then whatever we have to go through down the road, if we have another public hearing, or whatever we need to do to get that done, if that's the case, let's move forward. But that's not delay it for six or eight months. Let's move this thing through and get it done once and for all. I don't want to kick this can down the road any further. I think we should make a decision and then revisit it as soon as we can. That's A. B is that we need to stay engaged with our recycling committee. I know that you've been attending some of the meetings, Andy has to some degree. We need to stay engaged with that committee because they do great things for our community, and we need to have vibrant participation. I think it's important for us to do that, so I would challenge you guys to keep on doing that if possible, and let's get these things done.

Commissioner Fahl: That's a great idea. Let's get this done, but that doesn't mean that's the end. We can come back, and we can change our mind whenever we feel like it. So, wanting more information and making it better for our community, I think, is all of our goals. We want to do a better job recycling. There are all kinds of ideas out there. The recycling committee, that's our passion, so collaborating with them is just going to be a win-win for all of us. Then we can come back, and we just change that, and then we're thinking better.

Commissioner Fahl moved to approve Amendment to Resolution No. 05 24/25 Establishing Solid Waste and Recycling Service and Collection Center Rates for the City of Truth or Consequences. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion/Action: Resolution No. 21 24/25 CIF-6441 Colonias Infrastructure Project Loan Grant Agreement.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: This has been to you a couple of times before. This is the second to the last step before we'll actually start gaining some access to the funds. This is a resolution for execution of all of the loan and grant agreements for the \$4.4 million that we received from Colonias. That's a grant in the amount of \$3,960,000, a loan of \$440,000, and a cash match of \$440,000. The second page in your agenda packet will show you the generalized area that we are looking at putting in these funds. The \$4.4 million is going to cover these three items listed. The streets are noted in

yellow on the map, and that's going to be roughly Lead Street, Ore Street, iron, Aluminum, Mercury, Tungsten, Hackberry, and Steel Street. That is some of our metal streets that are definitely experiencing a lot of waterline leaks. We anticipate approximately six to eight months for construction. The timeline, once we get this fully executed back from NMFA, the design for this, even though this slide does say four to six months, we're looking at closer to six to eight months. We are finding a little bit of delays in the approval process after the design is done to submit it up to the state. They're bogged down with a lot of this water funding. We're still about a year out for construction. Getting closer.

Mayor Hechler: Thank you for the extra detail. I think it's important for our audience to hear that there is relief coming, and you know now the area is coming, too. And if you look at the map, there's a lot of red spots in those areas that will be eliminated. That will really solve a lot of the leakage issues that we have, I think, and maybe it will also result in a lot less call-outs. We also have now kind of a time frame. Next year is going to be a busy year, but it's not going to happen until after July. So, it's good to know.

Commissioner Fahl: Traci, can you just reiterate to the public our loan and match that is coming, that we have sufficient money to pay the loan, and we have a cash match, so the public knows that.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Correct. We're taking from the water fund for sure, but these are ones, like I said have come to the commission prior to approval for application and approval to accept the awards, so we looked into that. These aren't new ones, these are just taking forever to get down the line.

Commissioner Fahl: Right, it's just good to reiterate that to the public. It's exciting, but sad that it is going to take that long, but it's coming.

Commissioner Mitchell moved to approve Resolution No. 21 24/25 CIF-6441 Colonias Infrastructure Project Loan Grant Agreement. Commissioner Hoeppner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Discussion/Action: Resolution No. 22 24/25 CIF-6442 Colonias Infrastructure Project Loan Grant Agreement.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: This is another funding that we received from the Colonias Infrastructure this year. This is in the amount of \$305,400. That's a grant in the amount of \$274,860 and a loan of \$30,540 with a cash match of \$30,540. This will go for the Wastewater Treatment Center. This is specific to the design of our head work system.

Commissioner Fahl moved to approve Resolution No. 22 24/25 CIF-6442 Colonias Infrastructure Project Loan Grant Agreement. Commissioner Hoepfner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Discussion/Action: Resolution No. 24 24/25 in support of the display of static equipment on city property located at the Veterans Memorial Park and Museum.

City Manager Gonzales: The resolution is for the city to support the long-awaited helicopter that is going to come eventually to the Veterans Museum, and this just gives the approval. They just need official approval so they can put the helicopter there.

Mayor Hechler: Does this resolution provide that approval, or do we have to write a separate letter?

City Manager Gonzales: No, this says that the City of Truth and Consequences City Commission recognizes the addition of a static equipment display, and what has been wanted is a helicopter that would enhance the Veterans Memorial Park Museum, that would be honored to house the piece. This is the important part, whereas the City Commission does hereby grant and give permission for the static equipment display to be displayed.

Mayor Hechler: Well, that'll be a welcome addition to that park. I forgot to mention that Maggie Allen has done a wonderful job at that last memorial thing. So, it's good. I'm so glad that we continue to have her support. She asked about the letter. That's why I asked what I asked, and I'm thinking that the resolution should cover it. She doesn't need a separate letter.

City Manager Gonzales: She got a letter. I gave her a letter. This is the legal document. This is what is needed. This is by the elected board of commissioners approving this. This is gospel.

Commissioner Fahl: I think about a year ago, the city sent in their application to the Army Depot, so now this is also the Veterans Park, so one or the other, then with our name on the list, we have a better chance of maybe getting another display. So, it just reinforces the support of the community. We have our name on the list and apparently, you have to renew your name on the list every three years. They had offered the Veterans Park, to see if we wanted a big static gun, I think it was a .50 caliber gun or something, but I said, well, if we take that, that would be cool, but she said, well, if you do that, then you don't ever get anything else. They only give one thing, so I said, no, we want a helicopter or nothing, or a tank.

Commissioner Fahl moved to approve Resolution No. 24 24/25 in support of the display of static equipment on city property located at the Veterans Memorial Park and Museum. Commissioner Hoepfner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Discussion/Action: Publication of Ordinance 770 NM Finance Authority Waterline Replacement Grant/Loan WPF-6323.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: This money will be used in conjunction with the Colonias funding. Colonias does their loan grant agreements by Resolution and the Water Trust Board does theirs by ordinance. The first phase is for publication of the ordinance. This is for the amount of \$16 million. The grant is \$14,400,000. The loan is \$1,600,000 and there is a cash match requirement of \$1,600,000. In regards to the cash match, we are using the HUD funds that were received from Heinrich in 2023, so we don't actually have to pay that cash match. We'll be able to use that against it. You will find a task order, and a PO presented for POs over \$20,000 in this agenda as well. So, this funding is for the Phase 1 and Phase 2 portion, and that's going to cover Cedar Street, 7th Street, Pine Street, and the Maple area, on the other side of town. That's another area where we've been experiencing a lot of breakage. It's also going to cover some of the blue that's on there, back over towards your metal streets of Simpson, and Veater Street. Veater Street is also listed in our WISP2 project, so we might find some savings on this, because it's easier to re-scope or adjust for the critical water line at Water Trust Board than it is to re-scope on USDA. So, we might have some funding savings here, depending on how our bids come in when we get to that point. The design is actually closer to nine months out, not three months, and it's probably about a ten-month construction. We are looking at another year away, but we are hoping to get this stuff going.

Mayor Hechler: So, when we get that first part done, that's the \$4.4 million, this should be piggybacked right on the back of that, right?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Yeah. We're going to be potentially doing both of these along with the \$1.6 million design that goes with this. It is all happening one right after the other.

Mayor Hechler: Right. And the bid process, are they going to be bid separately or can they be bid together?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: They will have to bid separately per the funding sources, which would be okay because potentially if we're still working on one, we could bid on the other. If the same contractor wins the bid, they've got extra crews they can deploy, or we could have two different contractors out there working in separate areas.

Mayor Hechler: It would be really interesting if the same contractor were able to do both quotes, mainly because they wouldn't have to remobilize. And then if they came in with all their equipment and started work, they wouldn't have to leave, and then somebody new came in and had to remobilize all over again. If we had the same contractor, it might work for a lower bid. So that was my question in that regard, if that could be worked out.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: The only thing to keep in mind is, we're ready to go out on bid on WISP1, and so we'll have contractors putting in for WISP1 then potentially putting in for the \$4.4 million as well as the \$16 million and depending on where the contractors are coming in from, how big of crews they have. We are Truth or Consequences, and they put a lot of money into infrastructure and so there are a lot of towns that are going out for bid as well. There are going to be crews deployed all over New Mexico for this funding.

Mayor Hechler: Okay. Thank you.

Commissioner Fahl: It's just exciting to see that picture and say, look at what we're going to be able to accomplish.

Mayor Hechler: So, this will take care of everything on the south end of town pretty much. They're going to keep us busy, but then that's what we'll have to work on, but it'll be nice to eliminate the majority of those problems over there on the south end of town. And it'll make good neighbors with Williamsburg.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: We do have our \$4.4 million that we got in Capital Outlay, and the \$4.3 million that Heinrich gave us, as well as this additional funding that will be coming through. So hopefully we're going to be addressing the majority of the city all the way through.

Commissioner Mitchell moved to approve Publication of Ordinance 770 NM Finance Authority Waterline Replacement Grant/Loan WPF-6323. Commissioner Hoepfner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

H. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion/Action: Utility Collections.

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: This meeting has been positive, I'm the bearer of bad news. What I bring before you are the collections from 2019. This is a spreadsheet of what we do in the office to collect on debt. This is a list of people that I would like to send to collections as soon as possible. This is the first time that we've brought collections to the commission for you guys to view them and see them. I feel with our staffing and the issues that we've been having, the best way probably to move forward

with this is to allow us to send everyone to collections from 2019 to 2023, and then we can start a spreadsheet and keep track and bring that to you guys on a regular basis. I know that Assistant City Manager Alvarez was really interested in a spreadsheet, and I agree with her because there are a lot of repeat offenders. It may not necessarily be the people on this list, but it's the people who own the property that are on this list, and that's what I'm bringing before you today.

Commissioner Fahl: If you turn them into collections, how does that process work?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: One of the issues I think is that once we send them to collections, that's that, but I want you guys to know that we're continuously collecting our accounts every single day. Just in the last two weeks, I've talked to a property owner, and we've been negotiating, and talking. I think that's going to bring us in about \$8,900 of past due revenue that we didn't collect. Yesterday alone I collected on an old account for \$1,200. So, the utility office is constantly collecting. When we have people move back to town, when we have people come in to move back from the lake to turn on utilities. It's a constant collection for us. So, we do this on a daily basis. Once they're sent to collections, that's not it. It's just they have the manpower, they have the time, and they have the knowledge to be able to collect on these accounts. Once you're getting 10 phone calls a day, it's going to be a lot different, especially if you live in a different state or town.

Commissioner Fahl: So, it would be a company that you would turn it over to and then they'll do all that, is that what you're saying?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Yes.

Commissioner Mitchell: Do we still get that money back?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Yes. They're going to get a percentage of it if they collect on it. What happened in the past when we had a collection agency do collections, once they started hounding these people, that person would come in and settle with us or they reached out to us.

Commissioner Fahl: When I was looking at this list, I don't know a lot of those names but two or three of them came to mind because they passed away. What are our options when that happens.

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: They would be write off's. There are actually some companies and a few people who filed bankruptcy on their utilities and there's some people who are incarcerated. There are numerous factors.

Commissioner Fahl: So, if they passed away, or if it was settled in probate, or the house was sold and the utilities were turned back on, we don't have any options to collect at that point?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: We had someone come in yesterday because someone had passed away, and their nephew got the property. He called to have utilities turned back on, and I said, this is how much is owed on utilities, and so then he went ahead and called our online payment, and he made that payment, and we collected that amount. We're always trying to collect from people to the best of our ability.

Commissioner Fahl: But we can't force them to you make the payment. Can you make them? Can you put a lien on it?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: We can put a lien on a property, and we do, if it's a person who lived there, and they own the property. We've even collected from property owners who have rentals.

Commissioner Mitchell: Is there like a differentiation on the amount? So, if it's over \$15,000 or \$1,500. So, if somebody owed \$80 or whatever for 10 years, it's not a big deal, but if it's a significant amount of money, does that give it higher priority to collect on?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Yeah. We are definitely trying to go after the bigger amounts, of course. We put a lien on a property for \$700, and we've put a lien on a property for \$8,000. I think \$700 is probably the lowest we've gone so far.

Commissioner Mitchell: And so why haven't we been using a collection agency all along?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: We lost our collection agency, I believe in 2018. At that time, we were still under finance, and then when we finally got out from under finance, and it wasn't the Finance Director's decisions anymore, then we had a new City Manager and he kind of took hold of that. Then COVID hit, and then whenever I found a new collection agency, I brought it before you guys, and you guys approved that contract. I actually reached out to a bunch of sister utilities in New Mexico, because that's what I like to do. I like to see what other utility offices are doing to collect, or especially for the COVID situation, because from February of 2020 until August of 2021, the Governor was not letting us turn off utilities. They weren't letting us red tag. We had a lot of problems with that. We worked with a lot of the customers to try and get them money because New Mexico was offering money for COVID help, and we did get a lot of those accounts paid down. I could honestly say we probably brought in about at least \$15,000 that we probably wouldn't have gotten without offering these people the means to apply for the help. So, now we have a collection agency, and I really think it would be best just to move forward and send everyone there. I also want you guys to know that we never stop collecting in the utility office.

Commissioner Fahl: Well, just my opinion, but it takes a lot of time to follow up on collections and keep calling people. And I think even though they keep a cut of it, at least they're focused on that, and then you guys can do your other jobs. We should just

automatically do it. I don't know what the policy is, but maybe after X amount of time, then we just automatically send them over there. Does that have to come before the Commission to do collections, or what is the normal?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: No, putting in front of you all is not in the ordinance for collections. I will be bringing something to you for write offs so we can clean up our system. Whenever we switched over from ADG to Tyler, for some reason or another, a lot of accounts that were already written off were still put into Tyler. So, we have all this debt that's sitting in there that we do need to write off. And I know it's a pain for Assistant City Manager Alvarez because whenever we do water reports, we reach out for grants or stuff like that. They see all that debt that's sitting there still because it builds up on the system.

Commissioner Mitchell: Why do some of these have a zero balance?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Because those were paid. This spreadsheet is actually like a collections report in Tyler. So, I can run the report, and it turns into a file, and I send it to the collection agency. This one I put over to excel, so those zeros are there, but they don't owe us anything.

City Attorney Rubin: I always say, probably one of the most important things you could do when someone is in default is to get the lien recorded. That's really an important practice for several reasons, because what it does, the lien actually acts as a lien on the real property. So even if later on, someone sells the property, or even if someone dies, you still have your lien on the property. You can still enforce it with a foreclosure suit. It's probably the best way to collect a lot of these debts. I mean, it's happened where you'll report a case to me, and I'll do a complaint for foreclosure, and I'll come back and report to you that we've done this, and we've gotten some good results, et cetera. Recording the lien quickly is probably the best thing to do. I understand that the collection agency writes them letters and that's fine, but if that fails, your best bet is going to be foreclosing on a lien. If we are talking about referring these cases to a collection agent, and if they are unsuccessful, are we still reserving the right that we still do a foreclosure suit?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Anyone that we are able to put a lien on their property, we're going to do that, and we'll still send them to collections, but, of course, we'll do a lien first because our priority is to get the money that's owed to us.

City Attorney Rubin: Now, let me also just express an issue here. That's actually going to be a problem. Whether we send them to the collection agency or whether we try to do it ourselves, from what I'm hearing what you're saying, and by also reading the spreadsheet we're talking about debts that are in 2019. We're talking about debts that are five years old. I've had discussions several times with the city about whether they would still be enforceable with a foreclosures suit, for example. It boils down to, do you have a signed contract, which would make it a six-year statute of limitations, or if you don't have a signed contract, then it's only four years. What I have successfully argued

in court by someone signing an application, and us accepting it, that is a written contract. And that's the argument I've been making, and it's been working, but, you know, that's what you have to look at. So, if I was a collection agent, and if I were to be asked to write a letter about a 2019 account, I would look into it for a while to make sure that I know it's enforceable before I write a letter. So, I'm saying there's issues here, you know. I guess the concern I have is, you know, we're talking about debts that are five years old. So, they should be reviewed individually to see really what our chances are, and what our success would be, because that's always what I do when someone brings in a foreclosure case to me. I look at it to see what the chances of success are. So these are just points I'm just raising.

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Right, and anyone that has had services with us does have a utility application on file. Now, when this came up with Mr. Rubin a couple years ago, we changed it from a utility application to a utility contract. So, there's a few other more in-depth things that people have to fill out on the application, and it also goes with our collection agency office also, like spouses or where you work when you're putting in your utility application and applying for utilities. We have taken a lot of what Jay has suggested, and we have implemented it.

City Attorney Rubin: I'm really glad to hear that. I'm not at all discouraging the fact that you are using a collection agency at all. Please don't understand, but what we had done when we sat down and talked about a lot of accounts a year ago, like you said, we look at the ones with a big dollar amount as a priority and we try to get a foreclosure lawsuit filed as soon as we possibly can. I think we should keep doing that whether we use a collection agency or not.

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Absolutely. I totally agree with that.

Mayor Hechler: Sonya, how many liens have you put out in the last year?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: I would say maybe 30.

Mayor Hechler: And what's the criteria? What are you looking for when you do a lien? Is there a threshold for \$500? I mean, why go on a lien if they owe \$32, right?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: The lowest one was \$700. We haven't really sat down to come up with a criteria, but, I believe me and Ange have discussed it before this, and I think we definitely need something there to where we have a procedure because our fee to file the lien is \$25 and even mailing out the letters costs us money, and by then, we've spent more than they owe us.

Mayor Hechler: Yeah, absolutely, you have to work it that way. So, looking at this spreadsheet, no offence, but this is not a spreadsheet, it's a list.

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Yeah. Sorry.

Mayor Hechler: Among other things, there is an account for \$3,000, but there's no notes next to it. We have steps on page 276, about two-thirds of the way down. It's \$3,955. It was cut off in 2019, and it was started in 2017. There's no notes next to it. I don't know what the disposition is. A true spreadsheet to me flags things, and then when you have a customer that has an issue, and then they re-sign up, all of a sudden it comes up, and then you look at it and say, well, I'm sorry, ma'am or sir, you can't sign up you have a lien here. We have to have an interactive spreadsheet here. This is not that.

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Forgive me, and I'm not good at spreadsheets whatsoever. This is the best I could come up with. Our Tyler system keeps track of all of that stuff for us. So, we have alerts set up on accounts, and it pulls up by social security number. So even if someone's name changes and they come in and they sneak by us and we're entering their information, and we enter their social security number, it pulls up on Tyler and says this person owes us money. There are also some accounts that have hundreds of notes on it.

Commissioner Fahl: So, it shows up in Tyler and we can't transfer it over to the spreadsheet?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: I don't even know how I would accomplish that with all the notes and everything we have in Tyler. I filled up all the accounts from 2019 and I just exported it and that was so I could bring it to you guys. Like I said, I went through, and we mailed out certified letters for every single person on this list. I believe maybe 10 of them were signed for, and all of the rest came back. That's how we even actually found out that some of these people were deceased.

Mayor Hechler: So, all this information is available under Tyler, and we just don't know how to use it, is that what you're saying?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: No, I know how to use it, I just don't know how to export that into a spreadsheet.

Mayor Hechler: That would be really valuable information. Who's in charge of collections in your office?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: We all are. I've been working on it mainly, and then I had a girl that was helping me.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: She has all of that stuff in Tyler, it's just when she transfers it to a spreadsheet to provide to us, that stuff doesn't transfer. Is that what I'm hearing?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Yes.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: So, if anyone wanted to go in and get on Tyler, you could see all of the other information that you have. It's not that it's not available. It's when she

transfers it out of the application, it just doesn't transfer how we want it to look like. Is that correct? If so, we can't do anything about that.

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Yes ma'am. Granted, in the future, I would like to have a working spreadsheet for all of us, and then the girls would have access to it too. And then as we collect on these, we all are able to make notes on that. We just haven't done that up till now because we entered all that information into Tyler.

Mayor Hechler: Last year when we had this meeting, we approved a collection form?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Collection agency, yes.

Mayor Hechler: What happened with that?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: It was approved, and that's why I'd like to start utilizing it.

Mayor Hechler: I'm really concerned because we have a lot money out there that we need to get.

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Oh, yeah, absolutely. I agree.

Mayor Hechler: I know that you are short staffed, but from last year to this year, there has been a lot of time that you weren't short staffed. We can't let this stuff go. So, when I see a bill for \$3,900 but I see no action afterwards, then I don't understand why its not being collected.

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Like I said, starting this week, there's only going to be three of us total in the utility office for who knows how long. That's me, accounts receivable, and one utility clerk.

Commissioner Fahl: Well, I think it's good that you clarified that some of the notes didn't transfer from Tyler, and Tyler's keeping track of that.

Mayor Hechler: I'd like to see anything that's over \$20,000 graded out, and I would like to have it report submitted to the Commission once in a while. Am I speaking on turn, and are we okay with that?

Commissioner Mitchell: I'm good at excel. Would you like me to come and help you with the spreadsheet.

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Yeah, that would be wonderful. I think starting now and having a living spreadsheet would be the best way to go. And then I have no problem bringing that in front of you guys every so often. Also, just bringing you utility updates in general. I would like you guys to see how much we're collecting, not just how much hasn't been collected.

CITY COMMISSION NOVEMBER 13, 2024 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Fahl: I was also thinking perhaps you guys come to us with a policy, like if it gets to \$500 then we're sending it automatically to collections.

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: You know, honestly, we haven't come up with a problem. I did find a property on this list where the owner still owns the property, and they owe us money. I think it's like \$240.

Mayor Hechler: We need to come up with a threshold. I saw several names in here that I recognized and I know that they are still around. I think \$500 should be a threshold. If there is an account where the person is deceased, I think we should automatically put a lien on it. Jay, would you weigh in on that?

City Attorney Rubin: You can do that.

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: We can if the person owns the property because if they live the Rio Abajo apartments, we can't put a lien on Rio Abajo.

City Clerk Torres: We put a lien on a property in the past for a utility bill that was ran up by a tenant, not the property owner, and that turned into a big mess and we had to end up releasing the lien because the property owner was upset that a lien was placed on their property when they were not the one who racked up the utility bill.

Mayor Hechler: I remember having that discussion last time. I don't think we ever figured a way around that, but we need to figure that out. I don't know if we do that by ordinance. If we have a renter and they leave us bill, why can't we go to the property owner?

City Attorney Rubin: Don't we already have some understanding when an owner is going to be using a renter that both parties will actually agree that the renter is the one that's responsible? I don't know how that works.

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Whenever somebody's setting up utilities at somebody's property, we ask for the rental agreement, the renter usually puts the utilities in their name. We've had problems in the past where people were bringing in letters of non-responsibility, and they were property owners, and that is approved through New Mexico State statutes. Landlords are allowed to do that. They can bring in a letter, and it doesn't matter how much the tenant owes you, because they are not responsible, and you cannot come after their property for that.

City Attorney Rubin: You have the right to approve that, though, I think, don't you?

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: What we decided to do is the property owner has to bring in a new letter with every renter and they have to renew it every year. So, someone can't just bring one in and say, this is for anyone I rent to from here on out. That makes the property more responsible, because we do have a lot of property owners who don't care who they rent to.

Mayor Hechler: We need a remedy for that because I'm looking at another one here from an old business that went out of business, and it's for \$15,000. That's unacceptable to me. Somebody has to be responsible for that somewhere. So we need to figure out a mechanism to get that done.

Commissioner Fahl: Well, maybe Sonya and Jay can sit down and draft some kind of policy and then they can come back to us with their ideas.

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Just to clarify. With that \$15,000 debt, we asked to have that shut off when it was at \$6,000. I think they were 2 months behind and somebody over us at the time approved for them to go 5 months without making a payment, and then we were able to finally turn them off after the 5 months, but by then they were long gone.

Commissioner Mitchell: That was all during COVID.

Mayor Hechler: They are still responsible. I just hate it when the city gets stiffed for stuff like that.

Sonya Renfro, Utility Office Manager: Absolutely.

Mayor Hechler: Let's put anything over \$1,000 onto a separate spreadsheet. To me that is worth going after and then let's figure out a plan of action and maybe we can revisit that and maybe you can do a presentation to us again next month sometime or in January, with that threshold in mind, unless you guys have a better idea.

Mayor Hechler made a motion to proceed with the collection agency and asked for another report in January that highlights the items that are between \$500 and \$1,000, and anything over that amount from 2019. After we review them, we can send some of them to collections and do some of them ourselves. We will then look at 2020 and go through the process. Once we have a mechanism for collections and a pathway, we can then move forward with 2021 and so forth. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Discussion/Update: Ralph Edwards Skate Park.

OJ Hechler, Community Services Director: I wanted to bring this to you to keep you updated with where we are headed with the skate park. We did an online survey on our city website that was posted on September 24th, and we received 29 comments back, and I attached that to the packet. The biggest comment was regarding shade and the other comments concerned various things. So, we've heard the comments, and we've incorporated most of that into the design.

Commissioner Mitchell: I know that some of the kids were concerned about it being black and it gets too hot during the summertime, so if there is a way that we could work on something that won't be too hot in the summertime for the kids that would be great.

3. Discussion/Action: MOU between the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management State Fire Marshal's Office and Local Governments Operating New Mexico Fire Departments.

Fire Chief Tooley: This MOU allows us to use the resources at the Fire Marshalls Office. Your larger governance takes them on themselves. They have the resources and staff to do that, us smaller entities don't. We receive all of our funding from the State Fire Marshall Office, but they do have resources that we can tap into. This is to have a cooperative agreement between Fire Departments (or Districts) and the Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, State Fire Marshal's Office to promote fire and life safety by conducting and/or assisting the State Fire Marshal's Office with fire code inspections, to enter upon building and premises for the purpose of examination and inspection, when deemed beneficial to both parties.

Commissioner Fahl moved to approve the NMDOT Cooperative Project Agreement for the design Sidewalk Improvements Project Control No. 1102250. Commissioner Hoepfner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Discussion/Action: 297 W. Third Street (Municipal Court Building/Property).

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: This was brought to you previously and I was directed to get quotes for surveys and appraisals. During the update at the last meeting, Commissioner Fahl asked that I bring those back as documented and so that is what I am doing here. In your packet is the quote for the survey, as well as the quotes for the appraisal via email.

Commissioner Fahl: Is the survey for part of the lot? I couldn't figure that out.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: The survey would survey the property, and a portion of the parking lot that is specific to the building, so we would still leave parking available for the Tennis Courts.

Commissioner Mitchell: Would this be specifically for the lease agreement or for a sale?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: The survey would be either or, and the email for the appraisal shows the cost for two separate appraisals or the combined appraisal. The survey could be used under the assumption if we have the property surveyed, and we

are going to lease it, they are going to lease that same section as if they were going to sell it, we'd sell the same section.

City Attorney Rubin: The key is that we need to get the survey done, so I would be in favor of that. After that is done then we can make a decision on how we would like to proceed with the appraisals.

Commissioner Fahl: Should we do it all today, or just do the survey?

Mayor Hechler: I think we should just do the survey now.

Commissioner Fahl: Then we will know what the cost is.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: I can bring the survey back so you all can look at it and see if there are any adjustments you want done to the survey before we go out for appraisal. Please keep in mind that surveys are a ways out, so I won't be bringing it to you at the December or January meeting. Maybe in February or March.

Commissioner Fahl moved to approve the for acquiring a survey for the property at 297 W. Third Street (Municipal Court Building/Property). Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Discussion/Action: Vacation of Well and Vacation of Easement.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: I have a property owner that owns property on the other side of I-25 on the on ramp, off ramp area of the Village of Williamsburg. They contacted me because there was a very small section of property right smack in the middle of their property that is owned by the city. It is something that we didn't have knowledge of until this was brought to our attention. There is an old well that has been decommissioned on that property. Back in 2016 or 2017 the Commission and City Management at that time diverted that point of diversion over to our main water right wells. The property owner is asking if we would vacate that little section. We would still maintain the property rights, they wouldn't get any of our water property rights, but they want us to vacate that section so they can potentially sell their area property.

Mayor Hechler: If you look at the property that is to be vacated, and you look at the house next to it on the left (*photo provided in packet*) it gives you an indication of how big it is. There isn't that much property there. I was originally worried about it, and originally thought we should get some money for it, but it doesn't do us any good, and I think it would be better served just to vacate it and give it up.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: The property owner paid to have the property surveyed themselves and the surveyor has been working with the attorney to make sure that we are going through the process properly.

City Attorney Rubin: Assuming you approve the vacation, I will be preparing a notice of vacation for the basis of vacating a property, and we will also be quitclaiming against the property owners.

Commissioner Fahl: As long as we maintain our water right, what else do we need that for.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: If it gets approved, then everything is done by the attorney, and we just give a copy of that to OSE, and it gets put on file.

Commissioner Mitchell made a motion to approve the Vacation of Well and Vacation of Easement. Commissioner Hoepfner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Discussion/Action: State Grants-in-Aid to Public Libraries.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: This is the annual allocation that our library receives. They send these out via DocuSign and the Mayor has to respond and sign those via DocuSign. This is requesting that the Commission accept the grant and approve that the mayor has already signed the documents via DocuSign. This is free grant money for our library.

Commissioner Mitchell stepped out of the meeting momentarily.

Commissioner Fahl moved to approve the State Grants-in-Aid to Public Libraries and the signature of Mayor Hechler. Commissioner Hoepfner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried 4-0.

7. Discussion/Action: Update City Commission on AIPP (Art in Public Places) selection/location and approve Mayor to sign required documents for installation.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: We received funding appropriation for our Animal Shelter, and within that we had an allocation of \$4,500 for art in public places. That art does not have to be specific to the Animal Shelter, but it has to be in a public area, and it has to be selected from slides of art that are provided to us by New Mexico Arts. The selection committee members were the mayor, me, City Manager Gonzales, the Chief of Police and our Public Arts Advisory Board member Eduardo Alicea. We went through multiple slides, and we submitted some of our favorites that were selected, and I've added those in. It does exceed the allocation amount, but New Mexico Arts of the Art in Public Places will pay the difference. Instead of placing this art at the Animal Shelter, we've decided that it would be really great to place it in the lobby of our upcoming new

Police Building. This all comes installed. The artists come in and put it together, and there are documents that I just received in my email that the mayor will need to execute.

Mayor Hechler: Just a quick note, the value was actually more than \$4,400, but they went ahead and wrote off \$700 for us, so we are actually getting a little bit more than what we are paying for, and the artist actually gets to come down and hang it and set it up for us. All of that is included in the package.

Commissioner Fahl: That is very disheartening because we have so many artists locally, and there is maybe only one picture of our community.

Mayor Hechler: We had limited items to look at and it is a state mandate.

Commissioner Fahl: I don't like that at all.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: There weren't a lot of choices within our appropriation amount, and we don't get the choice of what artists we choose from. They provide them. It is almost an interactive PowerPoint. We selected these, but she had to go back and see if these art pieces were even still available, and I did get the email today that they are.

Mayor Hechler: We do have the option of not accepting it, but then we wouldn't get anything.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: We could potentially lose our funds for the Animal Shelter.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister made a motion to approve the selection of art presented in the packet and approve Mayor to sign required documents for installation at the Police Station. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer.

Hon. Destiny Mitchell, Commissioner voted aye.

Hon. Amanda Forrister, Mayor Pro-Tem voted aye.

Hon. Rolf Hechler, Mayor voted aye.

Hon. Merry Jo Fahl, Commissioner voted nay.

Hon. Ingo Hoepfner, Commissioner voted aye.

Motion carried with a 4-1 vote.

8. Discussion/Action: Approval of Purchase Requisitions over \$20,000.

Finance Director Holguin: This first one is for the Parkhill task order to be increased for the Solid Waste Department. It was initially \$19,000, but with the increase that they are requesting exceeds \$20,000. I attached the task order to the packet, as well as the line item and funds that it will be coming out of.

Mayor Hechler: This is for the property out at the Golf Course, right?

Commissioner Fahl: What is the purpose of the task order? What are they doing?

City Manager Gonzales: They want to do a whole bunch of stuff to the driving range, and this is for us to be able to stay in compliance with NMED as per the closing of the landfill. This has to do with the monitoring.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: The company doing the project at the driving range submitted an amended, corrective action plan that the city had already submitted and had approved through NMED. That prompted them to come back with a lot more requirements now that the city has to do, and we need to get the engineer involved to ensure that we are staying in compliance and the additional things that now have to be done and watch for if they start watering that driving range. This task order stemmed from the additional work that we will now have to do.

Discussion ensued regarding whether or not this is an investment on our part, and if we should consider maybe selling it.

Assistant City Manager: Back when City Manager Swingle was here, and the developers first came to us, we did try and offer them to potentially purchase it, but they don't want it anymore than the city wants it. It's an old landfill that has to be monitored. When Bruce came to you as a representative from the developer, and the Commission approved proceeding forward with them, they on their own took it upon themselves to submit a corrective action plan into NMED and it just kind of spiraled into this at this time. We will be having a meeting with Parkhill to dive into this even more to see what this is going to potentially cost the city, and what concerns there are, and then we will come back to the Commission with that. In order to dive into that corrective plan, and now amend that corrective plan, we have to have Parkhill do their portion, so that's what the increase is for.

Mayor Hechler: City Attorney Rubin, what if the city drafted a letter to the person that wants that portion of it and ask them to pony up for part of the fee. It doesn't benefit us. It's for them. If they hold the driving range, then why are we paying for it. We can leave it like it is right?

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: Is this going to be a regular thing that will be occurring? If we this is something that we have to do, I understand that, but is it because of something they want to do? If it is, then let's go back to them and say, here you go, you can buy it from us, and we can be done with the thing, and they can continue whatever they have to pay to keep running it.

City Attorney Rubin: I would like to do some research before I give you any advice to write a letter. I don't know so I would like to talk to Traci a little bit more about this.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: Can we talk to them and ask them what they are thinking? I'm sure the mayor could call up our ex-City Manager and ask.

Mayor Hechler: I'll have that discussion with him. We are on the hook for \$40,000 anyway. I understand that, but I have questions about the additional \$20,000 for the benefit of another entity.

Commissioner Fahl: What happens if we table this?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: The developer submitted an amendment to our corrective action plan. We now have to change our plan because of that. We have to answer the questions that came in through the environmental department, and as far as how in-depth that has to be done, that's the initial task order to get Parkhill to start reviewing that amendment, and potentially having to re-write that plan to meet what was submitted. They weren't supposed to submit to environmental. They were supposed to send that information over to us, but that didn't get done. It got submitted to environmental, and environmental is wanting to have discussions about what they want to have and what changes they want to make. We don't have the expertise or the knowledge to answer environmental on this stuff, so we need the engineer who originally wrote the corrective action plan to be able to sit in on those meetings with us with environmental. The task order for \$20,000 I think would complete a fully re-amended corrective action plan, but it doesn't necessarily mean that we have to use that entire \$20,000. Maybe we can potentially put this off until the December 18th meeting and between now and then I can set up a meeting that the mayor can attend with Parkhill so we can kind of understand the concerns that they and environmental have.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister made a motion to table the Parkhill Purchase Requisition over \$20,000 until the December 18th meeting. Commissioner Hoepfner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Finance Director Holguin reviewed the Wilson & Company Purchase Requisitions over \$20,000 provided in the packet.

Commissioner Fahl made a motion to approve the Wilson & Company Purchase Requisitions over \$20,000. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

I. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- 1. Limited Personnel Matters (Chief of Police Contract) Pursuant to 10-15-1(H.2).**
- 2. Threatened & Pending Litigation (Ron Fenn) pursuant to 10-15-1(H.7).**
- 3. Threatened & Pending Litigation (Montgomery vs. City of T or C) pursuant to 10-15-1(H.7).**

Commissioner Fahl made a motion to go into executive session at 11:51 a.m. to discuss Limited Personnel Matters (Chief of Police Contract) Pursuant to 10-15-1(H.2), Threatened & Pending Litigation (Ron Fenn) pursuant to 10-15-1(H.7) and Threatened & Pending Litigation (Montgomery vs. City of T or C) pursuant to 10-15-1(H.7). Commissioner Hoepfner seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Hechler recused himself from discussion regarding Threatened & Pending Litigation (Montgomery vs. City of T or C) pursuant to 10-15-1(H.7).

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister reconvened the meeting in open session at 1:01 p.m.

Commissioner Fahl certified that only matters pertaining to Limited Personnel Matters (Chief of Police Contract) Pursuant to 10-15-1(H.2), Threatened & Pending Litigation (Ron Fenn) pursuant to 10-15-1(H.7) and Threatened & Pending Litigation (Montgomery vs. City of T or C) pursuant to 10-15-1(H.7) 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 (Chief of Police Contract) Pursuant to 10-15-1(H.2).

Commissioner Fahl made a motion to approve the Chief of Police Contract for the next 2 years at \$95,349 with the accrual of annual, sick, or other compensation leave. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Threatened & Pending Litigation (Ron Fenn) pursuant to 10-15-1(H.7).

Commissioner Fahl made a motion to instruct City attorney Rubin to proceed with the motion to dismiss the suit due to failure to state a claim. Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Threatened & Pending Litigation (Montgomery vs. City of T or C) pursuant to 10-15-1(H.7).

No action was taken.

I. ADJOURNMENT:

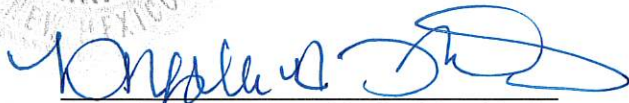
Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister adjourned the meeting at 1:02 p.m.

Passed and Approved this 18th day of December, 2024.



Rolf Hechler, Mayor

ATTEST:



Angela A. Torres, CMC, City Clerk



Water and Wastewater update

November 2024

Water Leaks

- Water leaks are at a current count 30 through the City as of November 12th 2024.
- Crews were able to complete 57 leaks in the month of October. This included emergency leaks.
- Leaks repaired so far in the month of November is 6. There are 26 to be fixed in the next 3 weeks.
- Our potable water storage tanks are up for inspection. We need to procure a certified contractor to perform the inspections. Preliminary estimates came in at \$21,500. We are soliciting quotes from other sources to obtain competitive prices.



A look back

2023

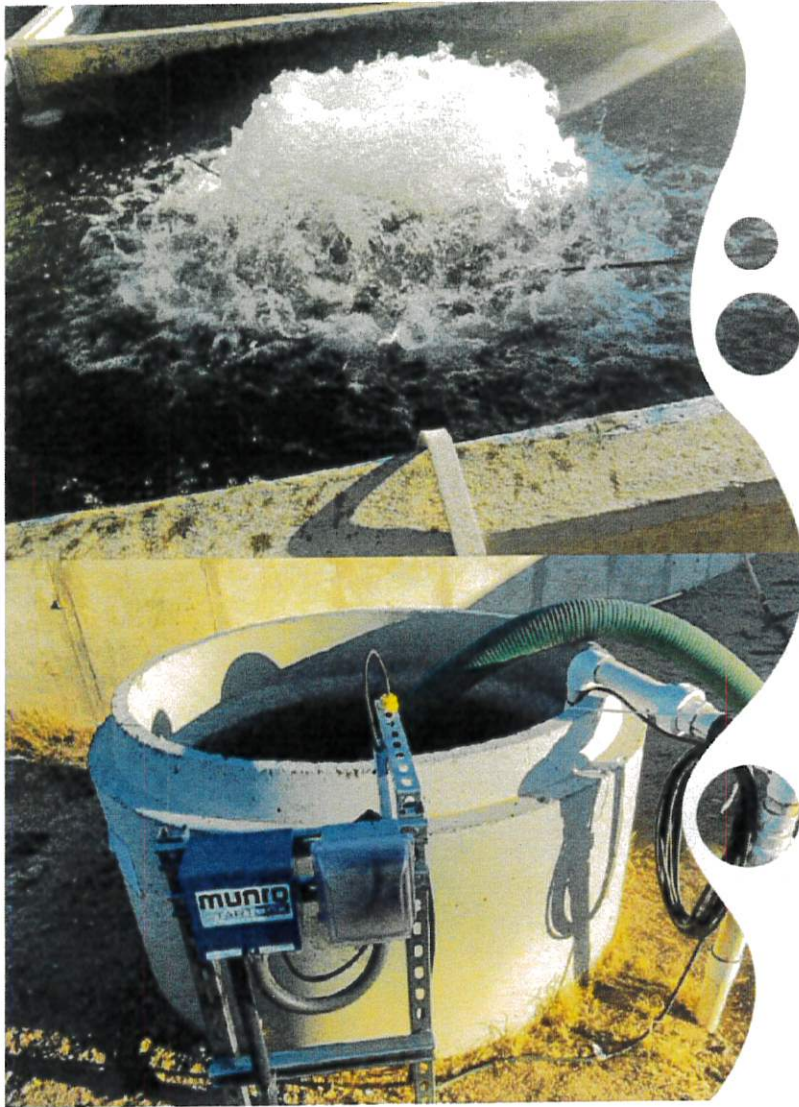
- November 2023 leak count-70
- Cost from July to October 2023-
\$65,493.43
- Average cost of leaks- \$987.01
- Water employees were only able to fix leaks as one crew due to limited equipment and staff



2024

- November 2024 leak count- 30
- Cost from July to October 2024-
\$56,898.18
- Average cost of leaks \$669.39
- Water employees are now fixing leaks as 2 crews with more staff and now 2 hydro excavators (vac truck and vac trailer)





Wastewater

- Headworks pump for the WWTP should be ready from JCH by the end of the week to be reinstalled shortly afterwards.
- Headworks level transmitter has been ordered, we are awaiting the part and installation.
- The reuse pond is in the process of being inspected. So far, we have drained the majority of the water. We will be working on removing the silt and residue to be able to inspect the liner. The pond will hopefully be up and running again by December. In the meantime, we have provided hydrant meters to the local contractors.
- The electrical motor for the golf course reuse water is currently in Las Cruces and being repaired. We expect this motor back in the next several weeks.
- Most of the electrical work has been completed. Our scum box pump was wired in as well as our aerator pump. Our area lights at the treatment area are yet to be repaired.