

**CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, NEW MEXICO
CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS, 405 W. 3RD St.
WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 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
Hon. Destiny Mitchell, Commissioner
Hon. Merry Jo Fahl, Commissioner
Hon. Ingo Hoeppepner, Commissioner

Also Present: Angie Gonzales, City Manager
Traci Alvarez, Assistant City Manager
Jay Rubin, City Attorney
Angela A. Torres, City Clerk-Treasurer
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 Hoeppepner to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister moved to approve the agenda with the following changes, move item H2 after public comment, item H8 and defer the public hearing of Ordinance NO. 767 to the August 14th meeting. Commissioner Hoeppepner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

C. PUBLIC COMMENT (3 Minute Rule Applies):

Ron Pacourek addressed the Commission with comments related to:

- He lives on Riverside and when the dam is open and there is heavy rain, there is a soot build up. He wanted to know if there was anything the city could do as far as turning the dam down during the heavy rains so there is no flooding. He emailed photos.

Bruce Swingle addressed the Commission with comments related to:

- Mr. Swingle stated he would wait till H8.

George Henson addressed the Commission with comments related to:

- I feel that we have a cancer in the town, partly because we can't fix the water. Randy Ashbaugh was here a year ago and said that it's important to get it fixed.
- I'm going to correlate with the raises that Traci Alvarez got. It seems like it's the same time our water stopped getting fixed. So, your assistant manager needs to go, and your attorney needs to go. I had to try and be a lawyer myself several times and your Santa Fe lawyers were attacking me saying I would go bankrupt if I would.

Becca Eza addressed the Commission with comments related to:

- We had a successful business breakfast in July. We had about 15 people attend. We have another one coming up in October and we would love for you guys to come.
- We started planning for Fiesta. We had our first big meeting, and we are still looking for dedicated volunteers to take some large roles in directing committees.
- MainStreet, along with the city has received the clean and beautiful grant so congratulations. Especially to OJ and Kathy who are the main people writing that.
- The city will be setting picnic tables and benches and Blue Star and Evelyn Renfro Park and MainStreet is going to get some money to do another round of trashcan painting by local artists and artistic people.
- There will be a sign competition for earth day for the youth to create some kind of anti-litter campaign sign.
- I started working with some people from the state's MainStreet who are graphic designers, and who have worked on projects in Tucumcari and Taos. We are working on getting a steering committee together for some first steps for some new wayfinding signs for town. We will be looking for a couple of people from the city to be on that steering committee to help represent. Pretty soon we will be putting out a public survey and having public meetings to get input from the community.
- We are looking at maybe 6 to 8 months to having a nice proposal in place that can help us then get some grant money.
- I want to take off my MainStreet hat and just say something as a private citizen as someone who lives here because of access to trails and the outdoors. I just want to emphasize to you guys how important the Healing Waters Trail is as a local asset. I am a runner, and I run it several times a week, and I see other people using it. Not a ton, but there is always someone out there walking their dog or going

for a stroll or looking for rocks. So, I have heard that you guys are looking of to selling off some city properties to put them back on the tax rolls which absolutely makes sense, but please consider the importance of the Healing Waters Trail, and protecting the use, and protecting that trail when you look at what might be done with the land and also access to the river. I feel it's important for the quality of life.

Ron Fenn addressed the Commission with comments related to:

- I want to talk about item number 7 on H6. I do not understand why the police department is seeking a grant for a minimal purchase of \$11,000 which out of their \$30,000 a month GRT can more than easily buy radios if they are necessary. If you have not read that contract 30 pages or 26 pages, I hope that will table this issue or cancel it all together because it doesn't just have strings attached it has ropes not ropes nooses to hang you. This is months, years beyond the life of the equipment you are going to be buying. You are going to be doing quarterly reports to the federal government not only on those pieces of equipment but on other financial dealings with the police department. If you have not read that contract do not vote for that today. You will be creating a tremendous problem for the city and who knows we may have to add some more administrative personnel just to take care of it for \$11,000. Chief, it's your money why aren't you spending it? Why are you not having city codes enforced? I see code violations all over the city and nothing is done, and the code compliance officer says I am not certified. I don't know what kind of certification he needs but the sign code for one in the city is atrocious. The violations are everywhere. We have a sheriff's department, we have bars, and we have gun shops with illegal signs. We have illegal signs outside of the police department. Why isn't somebody paying attention to it. You want to look like a nice city, get rid of the illegal signs, and you will get much more benefit from the city than you will with this illegality.

Sid Bryan addressed the Commission with comments related to:

- I have a petition that I would like to read. This petition is to support the T or C City Commission in its potential purchase of the PNC building for the new home of the T or C police. We are in favor of this purchase and believe it will be beneficial to all of T or C. I didn't have much time to circulate but I got all the owners on Broadway and a lot on Main St. All of which I didn't have to say anything. They signed it at Mile Marker 7. We think we would be better off with the police in that location where it would be visible and certainly a lot cheaper than when they were going to go to the other location. We are all in favor of that. I will give you a copy of that.

An unknown resident addressed the Commission with comments related to:

- I've only lived here for 2 years but I have been coming for 5 and there are all kinds of leaks everywhere. I did see in the paper last week that there are 45-48 leaks that they are working on. I did talk to Arnie I hadn't done it before. I got his phone number. But do you guys also answer questions. Are there just not enough people to work to take care of all the problems? Also, I read in the paper several months ago, is it the state that declared an emergency?

This item H2 was moved after public comment.

H2. Presentation/Discussion/Action: Electronic Message Board.

David Johnson Facility Management: We do have a small presentation if you guys want to take a look about our sign.

David Edwards Superior Signs Representative: I brought my truck as a demonstration to show Watchfire Signs are one of the best and most reliable led signs in the industry. We are going to show you what we do. We are out of Illinois. That is where we create and manufacture the signs. We have different resolutions of our signs. I know a lot of people in cities and jurisdictions are afraid of digital signs saying they might interrupt the community. I will say this about Watchfire signs are one of the most code compliance signs in the industry. They actually lower the light levels down at nighttime and then pick themselves up in the evening. We have been doing this for a long time. If you have any questions regarding city code compliance with it we will be happy to talk with you about it. All the training required for it is free for you for the life the life of the sign. We usually see about 10 to 12 years out of our signs. We do have a demonstration outside for you to see.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: Are we waiting on your partner because we can move you?

David Edwards Superior Signs Representative: He will be here if you have any questions for him. If not, we will be happy to show you the demonstration so you can see what a Watchfire Sign looks like we have several throughout the industry our service and support is probably one of the best. We will be here for you for the life of the sign. We have a lot of dark sky limits that we deal with in Arizona, that's where I'm from. I fully understand that if there is anybody in the audience today that has a concern or question about dark sky ordinances, we actually respect that. So, all of our signs have a dim down at nighttime for code compliance as well. Our goal here at Watchfire is to sell a sign that you will be able to get your money back with it, put up different ads, make ad revenue with some of the community events going on but also on the local business you want to promote you want to promote the local business especially in town out here. That's one way you can make your money back.

Mayor Hechler: One of the questions that came up outside from Dean Lamana was if we could operate this device with a handheld like a phone or what would you recommend?

David Edwards Superior Signs Representative: Our recommendation is to not use a phone but to use a table or a laptop. It is a cloud-based service one of the top security wise we have a GPS protocol for all our stuff. Your IT team for the city does not need to get involved in this either cause it all cloud based it is secured we have manager reign within the sign that you could set for managers who can get in a change the data that is on the sign, and we also have others who can be designers. Keep in mind this is all cloud based and you do it from anywhere.

Mayor Hechler: Can you have multiple users, or do you recommend just one?

David Edwards Superior Signs Representative: You can have multiple users and they are all secured by password. We also have security protection in a two-step verification. Our signs are built to last. We get 12 years out of them by that time usually you want to upgrade. Over the years 10 to 12 years, you're going to get your money's worth especially for the community.

Mayor Hechler: How often do you have software upgrades available?

David Edwards Superior Signs Representative: That's the nice thing about being cloud based there are no software upgrades we do that for you. If there is an issue with the sign you call out to Watchfire we will help you. We can remote into the sign and diagnose it. We will save you guys money in the long run instead of calling a side company out every time there is an issue. if there is an issue say a night a power surge and the sign shuts down call Watchfire we want to do that for you want us to reset the sign or talk with one of your technicians onsite you can actually ask us to flip the braker get us back up and it will reset. That's what we would like to do for you, it will save a lot of money over time. If there is an issue our signs are built on 12x12 squares so if there is an issue with one of the panels over the years somebody has shot a panel out it's a single panel it's not a whole sign we are replacing. Nice thing about Watchfire if you look around town, I did see there are some digital signs. Theres is some that look really well that is a reason for that because Watchfire takes a lot of pride in their signs if we give you another panel it's going to match the sign that you currently have its not going to be pixelated where you see a bunch of clouds all over the place, we don't want that.

Mayor Hechler: So, the plan is if you didn't know is that we were going to use the City's portion of lodgers tax to pay for the sign if we wanted to acquire it. One other issue right now is that I just got another quote yesterday from another company, so we need to evaluate those. I don't know if you got it Dave or not so you and I should have our discussion and see what we want to do. Then we will have another presentation to the commission and our final decision. We will have to get into the nuts and bolts of it whether we want the 10 or the 16.

David Edwards Superior Signs Representative: The ones I would recommend especially for your location that I currently read about the 10 or the 8. I have a 6 in my truck that's my top of the line it all depends on how your budget is. I'm not here to sell you a sign I'm here to educate you so the 8 is right in between the 6 and the 10 that's a great one to go with. I think if you go with the 10 is great if that's what you want to go with. Just be very careful with the competitors out there because when they are usually in their first year, they usually have a side company, but I like I said I'm here to educate you and that's it.

Mayor Hechler: Is the sign that we are proposing is it 2 sided like the one out here or is it one sided.

David Edwards Superior Signs Representative: It's a double face.

Commissioner Fahl: I have a question about the pixels so, the one on the other side that's a 10 right but where you had us stand, I'm assuming you're going to put the sign out there where the civic center sign is? Right and so people are driving by that there where we were standing, they are going to be further away I don't see how they are going to be able to see it as well.

David Johnson Facility Management: they should be able to see it just fine because the sign is high not only that its closer to the road than this when we were standing out in front of it.

David Edwards Superior Signs Representative: What's the distance to the road from where the sign is at.

David Johnson Facility Management: I would say about 10ft.

David Edwards Superior Signs Representative: So, about 10ft so that's why we recommend either going to the 8. Depending on budget wise this is a great example that why I brought this truck out. You're going to buy something for the community to love and I'd hate for out in a 10 and so ok this is it, 10 is a great unit don't get me wrong but if it's that close might want to look at the next one which is an 8 best thing now is it would be worth it in the long run.

Commissioner Fahl: Right, because if we are going to fork that out and if people are walking, I mean both of those that distance that we were standing it's a little bit closer so if we are going to do this let's do the quality one.

David Edwards Superior Signs Representative: Keep in mind with budgets LED signs are not all equal out there so there will be a lot of price differences in LED signs. Watchfire and a couple of my competitors out there stand by our pricing because of what we do. So be careful if you see one that's \$10,000 off it's probably a reason for that it comes across in a box and everybody puts it together and everything else, just keep that in mind when comes down to budget. I fully understand Watchfire is not cheap I will say that and there is a reason for that. There are also other manufacturers that believe in the same statements as we do.

Commissioner Fahl: That's good that we get to pay for it out of lodger's tax but if we are going to do that. Let's do it right.

Mayor Hechler: You coordinate the electric to the sign, the placement and permit all those things? So, it's a ready project, turn keep project? If we wanted 2 signs, one on each end of town are they intergraded together? Can we operate them separately?

David Edwards Superior Signs Representative: Since its cloud based, I can put multiple signs around the city from once dashboard you can actually see each sign if you have a comment on one and you want to bring it over to the other you can put it on each sign its what we call different domain.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: So, they can be intergraded and be the same or we could do separate things on them.

David Edwards Superior Signs Representative: Yes. The nice thing about our stuff too is that you can just drag and drop. One thing I say is have administrative rights and then people that are designers. If you are the only one that is the administrator, you have the content of that because you have people who are in and out of the chamber, I understand that. You want to make sure you fill them in. If at nighttime, you want to turn the signs off its one button maybe and midnight then go back on. It's up to you how you want to do that. There is a lot of functionality, but we are going to teach you guys. This is fully turnkey we help you with it we teach you. You get new people that come in you call us and we will do the training for you again you're never going to be left in the dark. If there is an issue you call Watchfire first, we will help you and then we call Pablo out we try to make it as seamless as possible.

Mayor Hechler moved to table this item to the next meeting so they can look at another bid that came in for the Electronic Message Board. Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

D. REPORTS:

City Manager Gonzales reported the following:

- We were finishing up the budgets yesterday.
- Arnie is here to address the water concerns. I do want to say that we hear you, and we are trying. Yes, we have been in here talking about how wonderful it was that we have gotten all these millions of dollars, but just because we get it doesn't mean we have it. There is a process. If you think local government is bureaucratic, wait until what we have to deal with on bureaucrat side. We have to deal with state and federal. We have to make sure our financials are in order and we have to make sure our part of the reports are in order. There is lots of that stuff that we have to do from an \$11,000 JAG grant to a \$11 million dollar USDA grant. I just want to make sure we address it, and we are working on it, but it is going to take time.

City Commission Reports:

Commissioner Fahl reported the following:

- The Recreation & Tourism board meets quarterly, and they meet shortly before the second Tuesday. They have representation for Chloride, Hillsboro, Kingston, and they talk about things that are going on in the tourism world to keep us up to date. We always get emails from Kim Skinner who is the president, to what is going on in the hospitality and tourism world, and recreation is always very informative.

- I'm excited about the work that the Black Range Ranger District and Forrest Service is doing. Years ago, the forest had actual trail crews, and they went out horseback for 2 weeks at a time and worked on those trails. The funding for trails kept going away. The trails have been in terrible shape for probably 20 years because they just don't have the money or the people to work on them. The money that came from the black fire and the rehab. Jim Apodaca is the recreation specialist for the Black Range Ranger District, and he told us that they have already done 20 miles of trail improvements, and they have a lot more they are going to be able to get to. A professor that went to the Ladder and stayed at Hermosa for several years is retired, and he created and non-profit and worked on an agreement with the Ladder Ranch, and he purchased that Hermosa town site. That organization hosts young kids all the time for education and for conservation. They partnered with the Forest Service, and they house people, and work on trails out of there. That's going to be a really big asset for our community, and for recreation in our county.
- The Turtleback Trail group meets every other month, and they met this month. We had the Recreation Specialist from the BLM office in Las Cruces attend by phone this time. That's the first time he has participated. They are a key component in the big development of that plan because we want to open up the land on the other side of the river on public land, so that we can actually develop specific trails for hiking and biking. Some of us have been here a long time. Bruce probably remembers when we did how many versions of the tri county plan with the BLM. It's been going on for 25 years probably, and when federal agencies have to re-do their management plans, they are supposed to do them every 10 years well they have been working on this plan for 25 years but they are getting close to getting it done. They are going to come back out again for public comment. What I would like the city to think about doing and you know do your research with how the formatting that it would be good for the city Deb is going to have the Village of Williamsburg do it also, to send letters to the BLM soon within the next couple of months to ask them to look at doing more trail development while they are finalizing their tri county plan. It's not going to cost us anything but for them to think about it I think that would be a really good thing.
- The Jornada RC&D is going to apply for a recreation plus trails grant for signage on interpretive panels on the other side of the river for the Turtleback trail if a rural area it's a 2 to 1 match and it could be in-kind, and the education committee has that lined up and we are going to apply for that this fall. The dam owner's coalition meeting is going to meet in northern New Mexico in late April early May hopefully not during fiesta week, but we are hoping to have it in Taos because they have a big dam on the reservation, but the community is in charge of it so that's pretty complex so put that in the back of your mind maybe some of you can go.

Commissioner Mitchell: Are they not doing one in October?

Commissioner Fahl: The dam owners had meetings usually in the spring and then covid ended they wanted to have them right away, but we are going to stay away from the fall

because there is a lot of engineers that attend these conferences and there is a whole bunch of them in the fall.

Commissioner Hoepfner reported the following:

- I hope that here soon we can sit together with the New Mexico Department of Transportation and talk about Main Street and Broadway, and find a solution for drainage, so we don't have standing water. Especially during the heavy rains. I'm also pro-outdoor recreation, and I see our county as an outdoor recreation place to be for New Mexico and I think that when the state is developing, we should try our best to maintain and expand even our healing waters.
- I'm also standing for the for the police station and its location as a business owner.

Commissioner Mitchell reported the following:

- We are planning our 75th anniversary for Fiesta, and we are wanting to make it bigger, better and longer and we still need volunteers. The next meeting will be on August 20th at the MainStreet office if anyone is interested.
- We will begin free swimming lessons in August. I ended up getting over 40 kids signed up. I also have a mommy/baby class which has 20 people in it.
- The swim team went to state, and they did well. We will have the awards party this weekend.
- We have the RC&D meeting tomorrow.
- National Night Out is on August 6th at the Albert Lyon Center.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister reported the following:

- We just wrapped up volleyball camp at the high school for kindergarten through 5th grade. We had about 26 kids attend and that was really fun.
- I want to give a shout out to the water and wastewater department. I believe you were there on 3rd street last night working on some stuff.
- August 3rd is going to be a busy weekend. We have a volleyball round robin, as well as the Winston Fiesta, in conjunction with the Peterson Memorial Rodeo.
- We need to get NMDOT down to Main Street to figure out what is going on with the drainage.

Mayor Hechler reported the following:

- On the river issues, I did call the local BOR representative and asked him to give a presentation in the near future, but just in a nutshell, by the time they get the information to shut down the dam, it takes 3 or 4 hours for the water to actually recede, so it's not going to do anything. The other night the rain caused the arroyos to flood to the side equal to the river in town, and when that happens the river fills up quickly, and even if you turn the dam off it would have no effect. We do need an emergency action plan of some sort. We will talk about those things in the future.
- I want to thank Sid Bryan and Susie Buhler for coming and speaking on behalf of Ordinance 767 even though we tabled it. We tabled it not for our reasons. The state had some wording in their documentation that needed to be changed and

they requested us to table it, and we did. With that in mind, I hope the community supports this move to the building. This building is different than the armory. When you factor in the cost of this building, it's a third of the cost that the armory would have been. When you talk about the armory, it's \$4.5 million then almost \$7 million dollars by the time you pay it off. The total for the PNC building is going to be \$2 million or real close to that. If we borrow \$1.68 million, and I'm not advocating that we borrow the whole \$1.68 million. I want to borrow the least amount possible to get the building up and running for our police department. I think the chief is in line with that, so we are going to work that end. It's good that the police department will remain downtown as requested by many of our citizens and they signed the petitions for that. I thank them for doing that for us. The cost of new construction for a new building and we talked about putting a new building where the municipal court is. Its \$200,000 to \$250,000 per square foot a new building would be between \$1.4 million and \$1.75 million from the ground up and that's not furnishing with technologies, security, furniture and things like that that not furnishing, so we are talking about \$2.5 million dollars, and we are talking about 2 years down the road. That is not an immediate solution. The PNC bank is under \$2 million, and it can be done, and it can be moved into within 6 to 8 months. This gets us out of an old mortuary which has issues all of its own and they are well documented issues. This building solves the problem of relocating the police department at the best cost. It's the best location, and it's under the best terms. I'm really hoping the community stands up for us in this regard.

- Last week I met with Jay Armijo and Angela Rael of the South Central Council of Governments, and I'm really pleased to see Gary Whitehead is now working there. We all know Gary Whitehead as a former county manager, and he has been in our community for a long time. I went there specifically to do a couple things. We have been successful in getting money for our community in the form of water. A long list of things that come along often require us to go out for a loan, and we have several of these things out. For instance, with the \$1.6 million loan that we had to take out, we had to take out a \$440,000 loan. I'm asking the City Manager to show us a spreadsheet and build all those things up to see how much money we got flowing out the door, and how much money we got flowing in the door to see if we can continue to keep asking for money because it's getting to be a problem for us. I wanted to ask the South Central Council of Governments to jump in and advocate for us. I know we're not the only community. I'm sure a lot of small communities have the same problems that we have. We have also sent the information to our lobbyist. I think it's important that she gets on board with us in that regard, and we start fighting for our small communities and we see if we can either forgive our matches, or not require us to have these matches so we don't slow down trying to get money for our community and fix the problems that we have. I think that's going to be an important initiative for us and we need to work on that.
- The other things I wanted to talk about are funding for things like the recreation center, maybe the Lee Belle Johnson Center to fix our water. There is a specific grant under the EDA. It's a government program where they fund \$1.2 million. I asked Jay and his crew to talk to the program manager for this fund, and ask

them which would be the best one for us to apply for, and that was for the recreation center, the Lee Belle Johnson Center. Knowing that we are a distressed community, and that's one of the criteria under this grant, I think we have a good chance of applying for that money, and we will work on trying to get that.

- We know our elementary school is suffering from low water pressure, but we don't know the genesis of that. We know that our hospital has some issues with low water pressure, and it's had those issues for a while. Here is a timeline of what we have been doing to try and get ahead of it and get help. The start of that when I wrote an email to Mr. Bowers with the Environment Department on June 27th of last year with that, we sent a presentation about the water issues and the highlights of concern regarding the disparity. One of the things was the disparity that we have between the award money that we get for to fix the water for \$12 million to fix a certain project then we got the bid, and the bid is coming in at \$16 million or \$15 million there is a disparity there. So, we end up shaving up portions of those projects and we don't get the things done that we need to get done. I want to make sure that our Governor and our Governor's secretary know what those disparities are, and how it worked. We had a meeting scheduled for July 22nd. Senator Brantley was there, and Secretary Kenney was not able to attend so we had to table that. I generated some email in the presentation we had, and I sent them to Secretary Kenney and Mr. Bowers we have support to help us with that disparity that I just discussed, and we sent them actual illustrations of \$8 million to \$10 million in projects where we have those issues. They are well aware of what is going on and we have an opportunity here. Shortly after I became involved in the water pressure issues that we have with the elementary school and the hospital. We have the highway department and the construction engineers on site at the roundabouts to try and determine if the water pressure issues are a result of that construction, nothing was discovered. We opened and closed every valve. We believe they may have been, but we weren't sure. We met with the maintenance supervisor at the schools, and Arnie as well as some other people and we tried to see what the problem was. We believe we are delivering water pressure to the hydrants but from the hydrants to their facility there is an 18-to-20-pound drop. We don't know why we are trying to figure that out. The city has called Pure Ops, a private company out of Las Cruces, to help us diagnose the problem. They got hit with covid and strep, so they had to cancel the meeting. If you remember Rebecca Rue, she is the infrastructure specialist we met with earlier in the year. I sent an email to her and illustrated the issues we are having and asked for assistance. She directed me to the governor's office, and I talked with them. I provided the new information to the governor's office regarding the water pressure issues and that was sent to Secretary Kenney and Mr. Bowers. This resulted in a second meeting scheduled for this Friday at noon to discuss all those things that I have just related. I have invited Superintendent Burgin from the schools and the hospital CEO Cochran. They will either be there or have representation there, so we know that their story is going to be heard. Also attending will be Governor's Cabinet, Secretary Kenney, Deputy Lenamon, and Director John Rodrick. I had a long talk with John Rodrick

who seems to be well versed with these water issues and the integration between the city issues and these major community issues with the buildings like schools and hospitals and things like that. Hopefully we will get some answers and get ahead of this thing. Superintendent Burgin did say that they have emergency things in place to put portable washing stations at the elementary school so the kids can go to school they don't get to use the bathrooms. Right now they are having to physically change the water from the kitchen to the bathrooms and vice versa whichever one is going to be in use they can't wash the dishes if the bathroom are flushing and things like this. We have to get this rectified. Right now, we don't know if it's a city problem, if at school or hospital problem to me it's a community problem. Wherever the chips fall we are going to get it fixed. I've had these discussions with the superintendent and Frank and if the problem is on their side they will pay for it. If the problem is on our side obviously, we are going to pay for it, but we have to get through it.

City Attorney Rubin reported the following:

- I wanted to explain the reason why we tabled Ordinance No. 767. The problem wasn't really on our end. I talked to Chis Muirhead yesterday, and it will come back at the next meeting on August 14th. There may be some minor changes to what is currently in the packet, and I am hopeful that Mr. Muirhead will be here to clarify a few points for us.

E. CONSENT CALENDAR:

1. City Commission Regular Minutes, June 26, 2024
2. City Commission Special Minutes, July 2, 2024
3. Acknowledge Public Utility Advisory Board Minutes, June 17, 2024
4. Acknowledge Public Arts Advisory Board Minutes, June 4, 2024
5. Subrecipient FY 23/24 4th Quarter Reports
6. Take Home Vehicle Form

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

F. ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS/ZONING:

1. Discussion/Action: Resolution No. 08 24/25 approval of final 2023-24 Budget Adjustments.

City Manager Gonzales: This is our budget adjustment resolution for the end of the fiscal year 23/24. At the end of the fiscal year, we have to go through and make sure that no funds are in the negative. We had to increase some expenses and revenues on the 294, 280, 509, 403 and 315 funds.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister moved to approve Resolution No. 08 24/25 approval of final 2023-24 Budget Adjustments. Commissioner Fahl seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Discussion/Action: Resolution No. 09 24/25 approval of FY 23/24 4th Quarter Report.

City Manager Gonzales reviewed Resolution No. 09 24/25 approval of FY 23/24 4th Quarter Report.

Commissioner Fahl moved to approve Resolution No. 09 24/25 approval of FY 23/24 4th Quarter Report. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Discussion/Action: Resolution No. 10 24/25 to accept the final 2024-25 Budget.

City Manager Gonzales reviewed Resolution No. 10 24/25 to accept the final 2024-25 Budget.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister moved to approve Resolution No. 10 24/25 to accept the final 2024-25 Budget. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Discussion/Action: Amendment to Resolution 03 22/23 Animal Shelter Fees.

Tara Manning, Animal Shelter Manager: We are amending some of the wording on this resolution in order to benefit everyone. For example, in court cases, animals not picked up within 72 hours after court release shall become property of the animal shelter because we have had cases where people abuse that. Same with the mandatory quarantines. We are also no longer calling it a safekeep hold. It is now being called an incarceration hold or a hospitalization hold. The incarceration hold is up to five (5) calendar days. After five (5) days the animal may become the property of the shelter. A boarding fee will be applied after 72 hours. A medical hold will be up to ten (10) calendar days. After ten (10) days the animal may become the property of the shelter. A boarding fee will be applied after 72 hours.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister moved to approve Amendment to Resolution 03 22/23 Animal Shelter Fees. Commissioner Hoeppner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro- Tem Forrister made a motion to move item H6 after item F4. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

H6. (New Business) Discussion/Update: PD Update.

Chief of Police Tavizon: I want to start off by thanking you for your continued support. There is no way you could ever be accused of malfeasance. You are doing your due diligence to address issues that I brought up, and I appreciate that. As you are aware, my goal for the Police Department is to eventually become accredited with the Municipal League, and part of the accreditation is the building itself. My guest here today is Roberta Baca from the Office of the State Investigations. She also works with the Municipal League and the New Mexico Association of Chiefs of Police. She works on accrediting agencies. I was working on our policies and some of our software that we were doing, but I wanted the community to understand what it is about our current facility that is going to prevent us from future accreditation.

Roberta Baca, New Mexico Office of State Investigations: It's an honor to be here before you. We have an office in Albuquerque, and one in Santa Fe. I run the statewide Auto Theft Authority which is also a big deal in New Mexico. There are not just problems in Albuquerque. There are problems everywhere, and as we push out from Albuquerque, those problems become our smaller community's issues. And we are aware of that. I've been doing this job off and on for about 26 years, so I have a lot of experience. I am the president of the Standards Council, and we travel around the state looking at different Police Departments. Your Chief and law enforcement staff, and civilian staff should be commended. They've done a really great job. One of the things I think is very important to remember is that a Police Department that is accredited in today's day and age means that we adhere to a higher standard. It also means that if you are insured with the New Mexico Municipal League Risk Program, you get a discount for good behavior for Police Departments, so it cuts insurance premiums. One of the things I want to remind the community about is that you wouldn't pass accreditation today. I inspected your current building. You are aware of all of the other issues, but I think some of the things that the community doesn't think about are some of the things that citizens, or this council may have to pay for such as ADA fines, and OSHA compliance fines. There could also be some work compensation injuries that could occur with some of the issues you have with the building. I think the biggest one is the Civils Rights Compliance Act, and it doesn't just apply to Police Officers. People forget that it's any public body, or any public person. It's \$2 million per incident, but I want to remind the public that they have a pass from the attorney fees, because our legislators are mostly attorneys, and a lot of them are defense attorneys. We can say we are going to be capped at \$2 million per person, but you don't know what the attorney fees will be, and there's not a cap on those. What we're seeing

right now in the trend is close to \$3 million for attorney fees. You can have one incident that costs you \$2 million, and the attorneys are going to be paid about \$3 million. These are some of the costs that we don't put in the budget, because it doesn't occur to us until a major disaster or something else happens. I commend this body and your Police Chief, and the people that keep your streets safe every single day because they're taking these steps to really mitigate your risk. And that is a public service. I also want to remind the public that it's a "pay me now" or "pay me later" situation, and it really hurts for the "pay me later" situation because with a small council like this, and a budget that, I'm looking at perhaps \$5 million. Risk premiums would wipe a lot of issues out, be it water, sewer or other things, so we really want to mitigate our risks. I also want to thank you for being in support of a new building. We look forward to coming back out when you do get them moved, and really working with the Chief to get them accredited. Again, that applies to your risk premium. There are around 20 or 30 employees that are there, and you get a discount on all of them. You are also making an investment in a reduction in other types of premiums.

Commissioner Fahl: Thank you for coming in and trying to explain this to our community.

Mayor Hechler: Ms. Baca, do you have any examples of a community that had issues that we could potentially be facing, and what the result was?

Roberta Baca, New Mexico Office of State Investigations: There are smaller communities that are similar in size like Moriarity, and Edgewood, and their Police Departments have had some issues with their evidence rooms, where they have been sued for civil rights issues, safe keeping issues, and safety issues. Those losses have resulted in approximately a \$5 million to \$7 million settlement. Again, we have insurance for a reason, but the problem is that once the self-insurers pool dries up, the cost to buy a re-insurance risk premium policy is almost 15% to 16% higher in New Mexico, than they are in any other place in the nation because of the liabilities that we don't necessarily take care of. I think the citizens and people of this state really need take a look at what our risks are in government. The Police Department is probably, and unfortunately, one of the biggest. We want to keep them safe, and we want to keep your community safe. These dollars that we invest in the public safety realm are to do just that. Another example right now that they are facing is something that is going on in Las Cruces, and they are probably looking closer at a \$10 million or \$20 million settlement, and that does not include attorney fees. I am an attorney, and I have been for 26 years. It is a little disconcerting. A lot of my colleagues are charging anywhere from \$300 and \$500 an hour for these cases, and their paralegals and assistants are charging anywhere from \$75 to \$150 an hour. Which means, when you call your attorney and the receptionist answers the phone, they are charging you some amount of \$75 because they get to charge all of these fees. Again, when we look at caps of \$2 million, we are not looking at those attorney fees. They vary depending on how long a case will drag out, which is why sometimes we are settling cases. We are very quick to settle. I think it's going to be a very delicate balance moving forward into the future, and it's going to be something that we all have to deal with. It could be the City Clerk, it could be your legal office, or it could be any one of us. It's any public person now, so it could be any one of us that something is brought against. It doesn't

mean that the claim is viable, but a lot of the time, your city attorney will tell you let's settle this because litigation is really expensive. You're rolling the dice when you have 12 people on a jury, because they can wake up today and feel really great about city government, or they could wake up tomorrow and feel really bad about it, so it's really important to be mindful.

Mayor Hechler: Thank you. That illustrates to us that we need to mitigate all the risks that we can upfront when we can, and by doing some of those things, I think it not only helps us with our premiums, but it also reduces the risk of lawsuits, and that is important for us.

Roberta Baca, New Mexico Office of State Investigations: Internally, I think if people had to actually visit your police department and see that some of the roof is almost actually caving in, and they are probably going to have to move some desks around until you can get them moved because you don't want that falling in or anything else on anybody who internally works there either. Work comp claims are just as expensive as anything else. I think these are things we don't think about as everyday citizens, but I think that all of our citizens need to think about it because nobody wants to pay more taxes. We live in a very poor, rural state. We all live paycheck to paycheck, including myself. We are in public service for a reason, because we love it, and we're trying to serve the people where we live. I think the less that we pay, and the more we get to keep in our pocket is good for all of us. It's a win/win, and we really need to look at it like that.

Chief of Police Tavizon: I just wanted to bring up a concern that one of the citizens had earlier about one of the grants. When it comes to government work, we are required to answer for any kind of money that we get, whether it's just for our budget or anything else. This is free money that we are getting through a grant. We've already worked with this grant in the past. We were able to purchase 15 laptops for our officers' docking stations. I am familiar with these grants. I'm the one who does the monthly and quarterly reports. When you get in the groove of things, it's part of the routine, and I am quite capable of continuing to take these grants. These are smaller grants. It's just under \$12,000 for handheld radios for the officers. The ones we have are outdated. It has been the past practice to get loans for the equipment that is needed, but I am totally against getting a loan for anything that we can get for free. All we have to do is a little bit of paperwork for it. There is no cash match or nothing. We got close to \$60,000 last year in equipment from the same grant. This year there were a few more people who applied so the funding was a little bit less. I will always continue to look for funding out there for anything that is available for law enforcement or for community benefit. I'm sure there are grants out there that will get us a sign put up for the PNC Bank to advertise and slow people down. Whatever the case may be. The Officers are extremely busy again this month. We can't seem to get crashes under control. We've utilized the traffic safety grants that we get. Our officers have worked overtime in addition to their regular duties so they can address certain problem areas in our community. We sent an officer to the State Academy, and we are sending officers to First Line Supervisor training and investigation training.

Calls for Service in July:

- 238 Traffic Stops.
- 158 Citations/warnings (Including handwritten)
- 580 CFS calls.
- 80 ACO calls.
- 6 SCI (CYFD) calls.
- 2 DWI/DUI.
- 11 Arrests

Commissioner Mitchell: I wanted to remind everyone that the JAG grant is not something that is brand new. It is something we have received every year, and we are going to continue to utilize it for the benefit of our community.

Chief Tavizon: It may be just a little under \$12,000 but that's free money that I don't have to spend out of my budget. It's a smaller amount, but it will open it up to larger amounts down the road. Some of the other areas get bigger amounts. I got around \$97,000 for equipment right before I left Deming.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: I would like to challenge those citizens that make those comments to come with us with some constructive ideas. If they can find money that is for free out there that we don't have to do any paperwork with, then please let us know where to find that.

Commissioner Fahl: Chief, I want to thank your Animal Control Officer and Code Enforcement. He is doing both jobs, and he is doing what he can. We understand that people are frustrated, but when you can't meet your staffing needs, there is only so much time in the day.

F5. (Ordinances, Resolutions, Zoning):

Discussion/Action: Publication of Ordinance 768, Amending Sec. 3-98 of the Municipal Code of Ordinances pertaining to safekeeping of animals by the animal shelter.

OJ Hechler, Community Services Director: We kind of hit on this a little bit earlier with Exhibit A of the Animal Shelter fees. We are removing the title of safekeep, and we are going to call it an incarceration hold or hospitalization hold. The length of time we came up with is a reasonable amount of time for an animal owner to get their animals from the shelter. If the animal owner cannot get their animals from the shelter, they are responsible for finding a designated party or organization to come for the animal. We have had some issues with the safekeeps because we don't know what we are doing with these animals so if they can make contact with the Animal Shelter, there may be circumstances where we can hold the animals up for longer with a boarding fee applied. I feel like this is very reasonable. Most responsible animal owners know that their animal is at the shelter, and they come and get their animals.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: What do we do if they don't want their animal and it has been there for a long period of time. Do we go after them to pay the fees?

OJ Hechler, Community Services Director: We should. If you look at that last sentence, it says "*Owners who knowingly abandon or fail to arrange for pickup of their animal(s) at the Animal Shelter may be prosecuted under other sections within the Municipal Code*" so we may go after them. That is a possibility. We have everything logged. Tara does an amazing job entering everything into our IWorQ system and that saved us on a couple cases because we had everything logged. People don't know behind the scenes is that when that animal is there for 19 days, sometimes those animals turn or become feral or they get sick, or they have kennel stress. Things of that nature, so we also have to take into consideration what is best for the animal.

Mayor Hechler: Do you guys make efforts to contact them? You don't just rely on them to contact you? You also try to track them down, correct?

OJ Hechler, Community Services Director: Tara calls the hospitals, the jails, and she listens in on court hearings. She does all of this to make every attempt to find a way to make contact. The goal is always to get the animal back to its owner. We just need some sort of communication from them. One other issue that we fall into when they get out of jail is that most people don't have the money to pay the boarding fee when they get out of jail, so those are other things that we have to take into consideration. We changed some verbiage in here from "*may*" to "*shall*" because those are very important key words. What we are trying to do is grant a little bit more reasonable time for the animal owners to get their animals from the shelter. We've done better with the 72-hour rule than we have ever done bad. We want to get this in writing so we can have it posted at the shelter. There is one more sentence that I would like to point out," *due to unforeseen circumstances*" to me that is something that is not planned. I want to make sure that was included as well.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister moved to approve Publication of Ordinance 768, Amending Sec. 3-98 of the Municipal Code of Ordinances pertaining to safekeeping of animals by the animal shelter. Commissioner Fahl seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Tara Manning, Animal Shelter Manager gave an update on the Jordan's Way event:

- It was supposed to be a 3-hour event, but an hour into the event the towers went down, they came back for 20 minutes and then it went down permanently. That was before I got slime(d) and before Chief got dunked. The Chief and the Mayor got locked in a dog kennel. The last time they came they separated us into teams. I was one team lead and Mark was the other one, and they did the same thing this year. I won the first year, but Mark won this year. The first year we raised \$4,800 and this year we raised a little over \$7,600.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister mentioned that Tara was named as one of those who make a difference in our community, and the shelter was mentioned as well in the article.

G. PUBLIC HEARINGS (5 Minute Rule Applies)

- 1. Public Hearing/Discussion/Action: Final Adoption of Ordinance No. 767 Authorizing the Execution and delivery of a loan agreement and intercept agreement by and between the City of T or C, and the New Mexico Finance Authority, evidencing a special limited obligation of the governmental unit to pay a principal amount not to exceed \$2,000,000, together with interest thereon for the purpose to acquire, construct, renovate, furnish, equip, beautify and improve a public safety building for the benefit of the city and its residents.**

The item was deferred to the August 14th Meeting.

H. NEW BUSINESS:

- 1. Discussion/Action: Approval of Purchase Agreement for 210 Main and Authorization of continued city action.**

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: In your packet is the purchase agreement for the 210 Main and Authorization of continued city action. This is for us to purchase the PNC Bank.

City Manager Gonzales: The tax parcel is included. I think it is pretty well known what it is. I just wanted to bring it to you for your approval.

City Attorney Rubin: The title company is working on the title search right now. I should have that by the end of the day today.

Commissioner Fahl: I think that it is very important that we do this. We got an excellent amount for that, for what we are going to spend.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: You did an excellent job, and we appreciate your hard work, Mayor.

Mayor Hechler: Well, we had an opportunity, and I couldn't pass it up. I didn't have the authority on my own, so thank you folks for jumping in.

City Manager Gonzales thanked Commissioner Hoeppner for his help as well.

Commissioner Mitchell moved to approve the Purchase Agreement for 210 Main and Authorize continued city action. Commissioner Hoeppner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Presentation/Discussion/Action: Electronic Message Board.

This item was moved after public comment.

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

City Manager Gonzales reviewed the Purchase Requisitions over \$20,000 provided in the packet.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister moved to approve the Purchase Requisitions over \$20,000. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Discussion/Action: Amendment to the Letter of Agreement between the Truth or Consequences Animal Shelter and Sierra County Animal Rescue Society.

OJ Hechler, Community Services Director: we've been in this agreement for a couple of years, and we are actually growing a little bit with our partnership. It used to say up to one time per week and we are going to change that to a minimum of one time per week. We are actually doing this a couple of times a week now. This partnership means so much to our community because we are spearheading a long-term solution to our animals, especially with the cats. SCARS traps kittens, they have them fixed and they have their vaccinations done. They don't always have a place to put their animals, so we are charging them the owner surrender fee. That is what we have to do according to our setup, and this will allow us to also help find a placement for these animals.

Commissioner Mitchell moved to approve the amendment to the Letter of Agreement between the Truth or Consequences Animal Shelter and Sierra County Animal Rescue Society. Commissioner Hoepfner seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Discussion/Update: Water Update.

Arnie Castaneda, Water/Wastewater Director presented a water update. (Presentation attached hereto and made a part hereof).

Mayor Hechler: As far as the school is concerned, I appreciate your efforts. I know it's been tough and we're stretching everybody to the limits trying to figure this out, but as I said earlier, this is a community problem. We've got to help them get through this thing. I guess what I'm concerned with is that we've done everything that we can on our end, but

our obligation is to deliver at least 40 lbs. of pressure to their property, but what is really mystifying to me is that between the hydrant and their facility, there is 30 yards, and the water pressure drops 20 lbs., and we don't understand that. It may be debris in the system. I don't know if it is or not. There is no way to flush their systems, so that's why I reached out to the governor's office. They'll be coming down on Friday, and they are bringing their specialist. Hopefully we'll be able to come up with a solution. If there is an issue with the water pressure, and it's on us to provide more pressure, then we will have to figure that out. Our first tranche of money is \$4.4 million that we're getting from the governor's office. I'm going to request that DFA release that early to us. We'll have to change some engineering things on our end to try and figure out a way to get adequate pressure or water to the school, and to the hospital. I think that should be a priority for us.

6. Discussion/Update: PD Update.

This item was moved up on the agenda.

7. Discussion/Action: Accept 2023 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Award.

Chief of Police Tavizon: I got a notice of funding for the JAG Grant. There are two different JAG Grants that are available. They are both federal, but one is filtered through the state and the other one is directly through the feds. This one is through the state. I asked for funding to purchase some radar units. They are around \$3,500 apiece. We also need new handheld radios. They wanted to focus on public safety. When you submit your application, you have to list what you are wanting to buy, you can't just request money and use it for whatever you want. You have to stay within the parameters. We were approved for a little under \$12,000 for 15 handheld radios. If this is approved and signed, then we will send it up to the cabinet secretary and they will release those funds.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister moved to accept the 2023 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Award. Commissioner Fahl seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Discussion/Action: Revised Parcel Survey for Property Appraisal.

This item was tabled.

9. Discussion/Action: Reed Rocket Minimum Offer Acceptance.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: After the Public Arts Board recommendation and Commission approval on the potential sale of the Reed Rocket. The request was to find out how much it was worth as scrap metal. Scrap metal prices are extremely low right now so it would actually be less than \$50 so we are requesting that the Commission come up with a minimum bid offer, so we don't under value the Reed Rocket and post it for sale and accept offers no less than the amount you come up with.

Commissioner Fahl: How much did the city pay for it?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: We paid for it both through the city and the Sierra County Arts Council. The records that I've been able to locate show that the final payment that the city made was close to \$3,000. I want to say the total was somewhere around \$6,000 or \$7,000. Some of that was for storage, and some were for changes that Mainstreet had requested at the time.

Mayor Hechler: So, the history is that we weren't able to put it up in a public space because of insurance requirements. It had some moving parts and people were concerned with pinch points and things of that nature, so the state wasn't comfortable with us putting it up anywhere on city property, so it's been in storage since then. The objective now is, that we believe that someone from the arts community or likewise will be able to purchase this piece of art, and when they do that, we'll put it up on private property where it can still be displayed, and the city won't have any liability. That's the plan, so we need to establish a minimum value of it so we're not giving it away, and hopefully we'll be able to sell it to a person who is going to be able to put it back to use, and it will come back to our community at some point.

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: Once we advertise it for sale, any offers that come in will come to the Commission for acceptance of the offer. If it is your will, once you come up with a minimum bid, anybody that makes offers will be requested to come to you so you can ask them any questions that you want before making a decision to accept an offer.

Commissioner Fahl: If it was worth \$6,000 then we should at least get \$1,000 for it.

Mayor Hechler: We're hoping a local artist buys it and we are able to put it out for display.

Commissioner Fahl: I just don't want us to give it away. The community \$6,000 into it, so I think selling it for \$100 is crazy.

Commissioner Mitchell: Is any of the money that we sell it for going back to the Arts Council?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: I think we would have to do our due diligence to see if we can find the records to find out where the cost came from because I think it was a

combination overall of the Sierra Arts Board, the City Public Arts Board and the city's general fund, if I remember correctly.

Commissioner Mitchell: If we are going to end up splitting it with money going back to the Arts Council, and we set a minimum bid at \$2,000 then that is a guarantee that we at least get some compensation for both organizations.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: I get what you all are saying, but we are probably looking at somebody who is wanting to purchase it that can't afford it at that cost.

Mayor Hechler: I would be very surprised if we got any kind of bid over a couple hundred dollars. I've already received some calls from our community members that they have a vested interest. Our previous Mayor Steve Green was kind of worried about it, and he wanted us to donate it to Spaceport, if they would accept it because we want it to be visible so it can be displayed in our community somewhere. If we don't accept the minimum bid, then it's going to stay in storage for another 5 years.

Commissioner Fahl: Well, I want it to be \$1,000. I'm just going to throw that out there, so we can debate the amount.

Mayor Hechler: When we get the bids in then we can make that decision.

Commissioner Fahl: Yes, but we have to set a minimum bid. I think the minimum bid should be \$1,000.

Mayor Hechler: Ms. Alvarez: Do you have any indication that our bid is going to be more than \$100?

Assistant City Manager Alvarez: No. The ones that have come in, and even the artist when he came in wanted us to sell it for \$1.00 because he had somebody who potentially would be interested in purchasing it, like the art park that is over by the Police Department. We can't give it to them, and we can't give it back to him, so he asked if we could put it up for sale at \$1.00.

Mayor Hechler: So, we have to establish a minimum value for it.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister: Why don't we just set a low minimum and just see what happens.

Mayor Hechler: We can suggest a minimum bid of \$1,000, but we can take all bids.

Mayor Pro-Tem Forrister made a motion to allow the offer amount of \$1,000 but all offers will be reviewed for the Reed Rocket Sculpture. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Discussion/Action: Approval of the Records Inventory List for destruction.

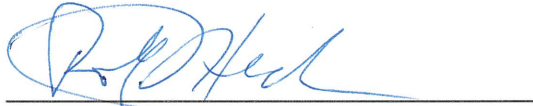
City Clerk Torres: This item is to approve the records destruction of 28 additional boxes for the Municipal Court. In your packet is the list of records and we recommend approval.

Commissioner Fahl made a motion to approve the Records Inventory List for destruction. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Clerk-Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

I. ADJOURNMENT:

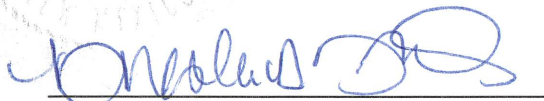
Mayor Hechler adjourned the meeting at 12:02 p.m.

Passed and Approved this 14th day of August, 2024.



Rolf Hechler, Mayor

ATTEST:



Angela A. Torres, CMC, City Clerk

Good morning here are some more pictures of my neighbors two doors up the river shoving *silt* off their deck.

The other picture is *silt* covering my sidewalk and it over an inch deep.

The point is that *silt* has been building up for years. I have lived here for 25 years and have not seen the Rio Grande ever been channeled.

The river is running higher than normal also; is it because they are letting more water out and on the *silt* build up over the years.

This can be a danger to our community, as our representatives what will you do to protect us and our natural resource (Rio Grande) river?

This is out my window and what it looks like when it a heavy rain here in Tor C.

It has been scary to see the river come up and almost in my yard.

I have asked this question years ago with no response from the city commissioners,

is there any Procedure or Protocall by the city in place in reference to the Dam

in case of an emergency? How can we the people who live on the Grande River

and in Tor C be protected from our river from overflowing when the river

is running and raining? What can the city and commissioners do to protect our community from this happening?..... *Like what happened in Las Vegas NM.*

Thanks

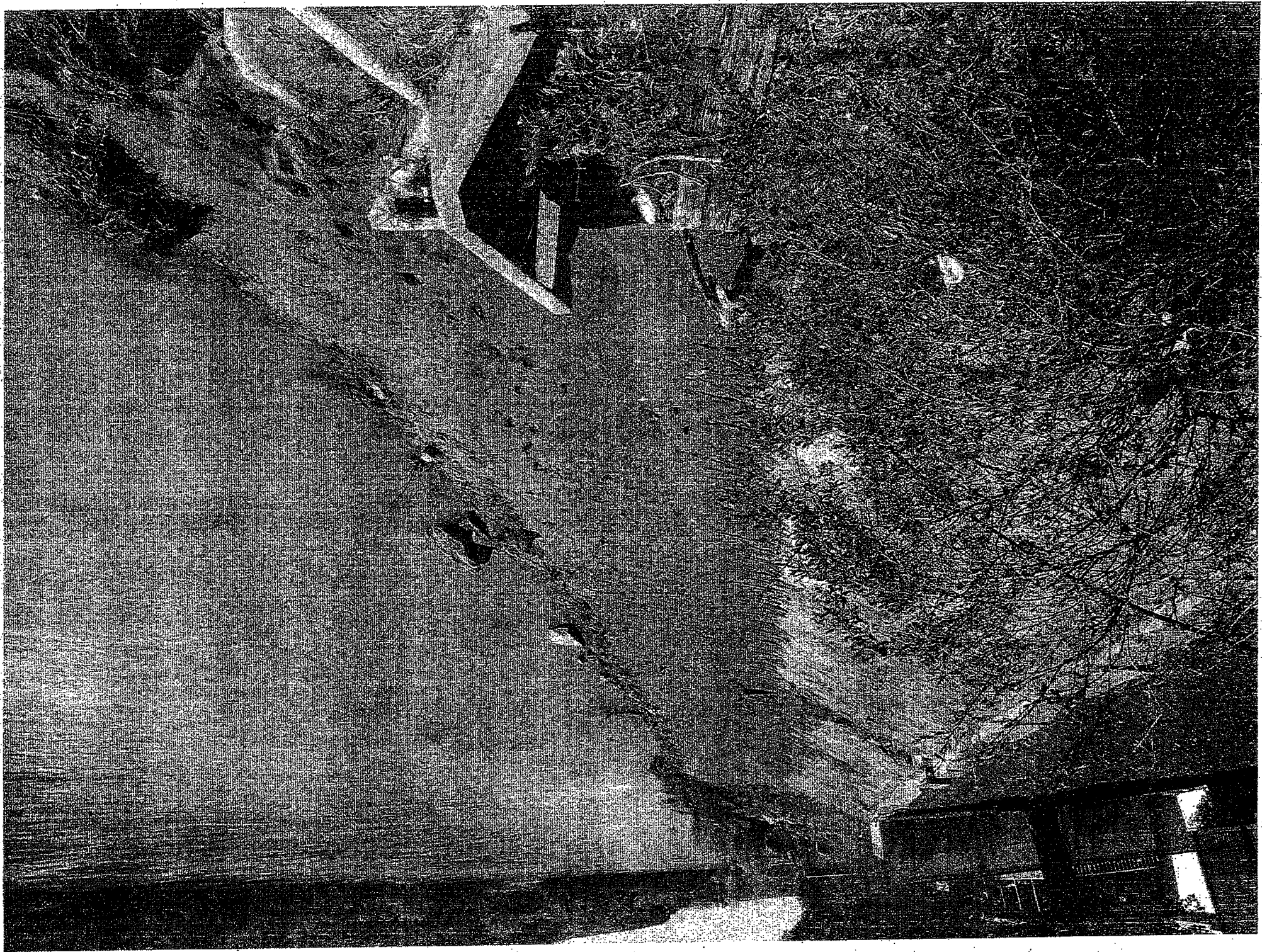
Ron Pacourek

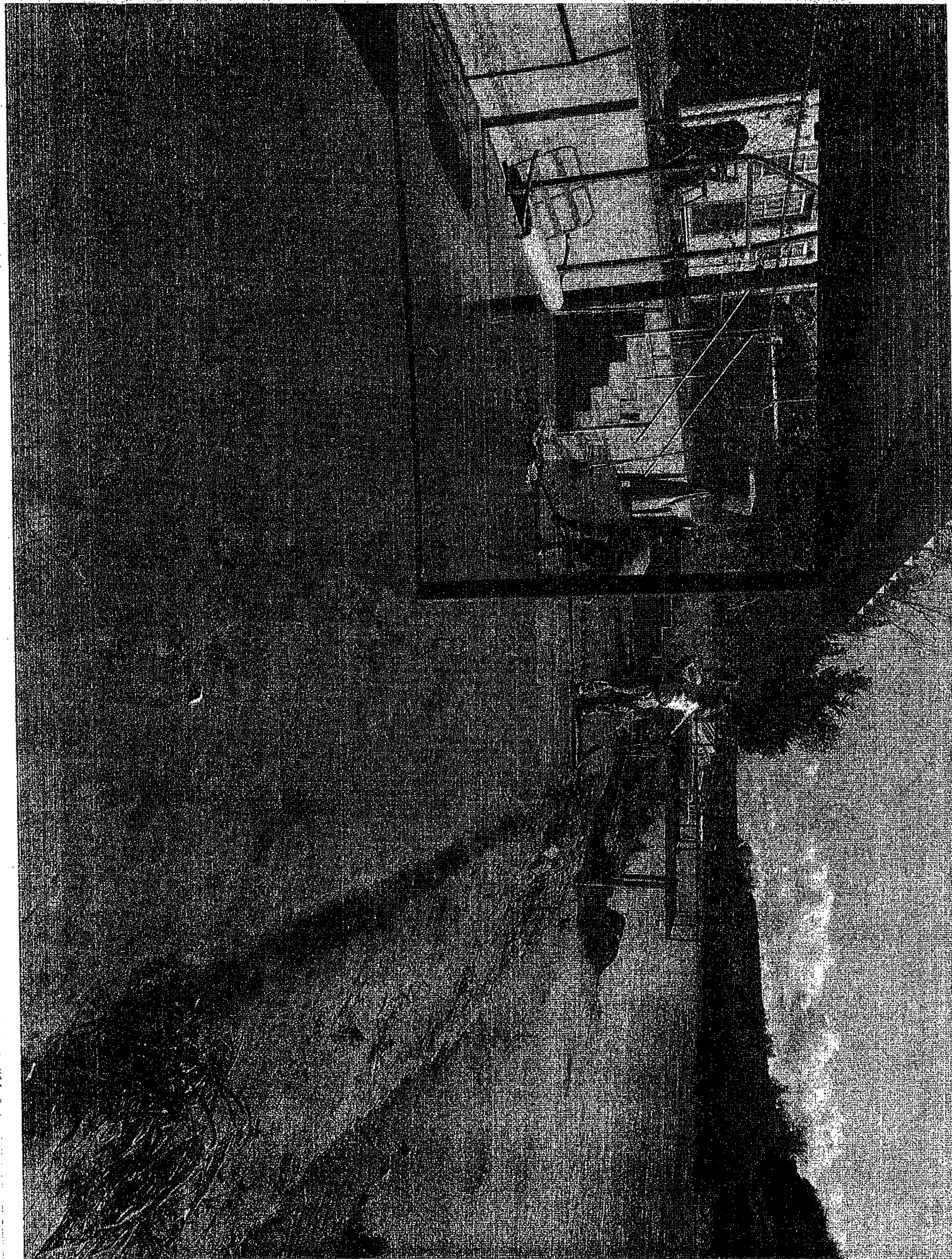
575-740-4747

ps I have videos of it raining, but my internet provider said the files are too big to send.

I will send more pictures by themself.

Any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.





Saturday, July 20, 2024

Petition to support the T or C City Commission in its potential purchase of the PNC Building for the new home of the T or C police. We the undersigned are in favor of this purchase and believe it would be beneficial to all of T or C

Subject to

NAME	BUSINESS
Sidney S. Bryan	Pelican Spa 306 Pershing
Barbara Stead	ATOUCH of Yesterday 409 Broadway
Allison Norton	"Forget About It" 407 Broadway
Victoria Taylor	Rebel Roadrunner 413 Broadway
CAROL LARSON	Somewhere in Time 419 Broadway
Hugo Ferland	Grateful Grill
Tiffany Ferland	Mile Marker 7 Coffee
JAMES AUTEN	UNITED PROTECTS ALLIANCE
Clinton L. Injya	VIC'S 405 BROADWAY
DENNIS C. STOCKEL	REHLTOR - SEA PROPERTIES
Linda L. Miller	Resident T or C
Susan E. Buhler	303 Gallery Main St.
Walter E. Behn	1500 E. Riverside Dr

RECEIVED
 Liability within NINETY (90) days
 for investigation and adjustment
 2-2036 or
 By _____

To Municipality of Truth or Conser

Claimant: Gregory A. Hanson DOB: 6-1-64 SSN: 601-44-1111

Address: 731 WYOMING City: T-C Zip: 87901

Home Phone: (575) 744-9972 Cell: () - Work: () -

Date of Occurrence: 6/10/24 Time of Occurrence: PRINT OF NEWS PAPER AM or PM (Circle One)

Location of Occurrence: Mayor's office JUNE 20 - 2024

Please describe what happened: (continue on blank sheet if necessary) Brianna Gentry Intel.
A Slander & Capricious Interviewer / Priv;
Claim of Junk - Not Valued By anyone
Rubbish Claim - NOT USEABLE as Built
REFUSE NOT to be Taken for RECYCLE
Theft of over 50,000 LBS.

Witness Name: _____ Contact #: () - _____

Witness Name: _____ Contact #: () - _____

1. <u>George A. Hanson</u>	\$ <u>48,000</u>
2. <u>10 year Slander of Home owner</u>	\$ <u>100,000</u>
3. <u>Malpractice of Administration</u>	\$ <u>48,000</u>
4. <u>Ledge Harassment</u>	\$ _____
TOTAL AMOUNT OF CLAIM	\$ <u>196,000</u>

Please attach all estimates, bills, or other information to support the amount of your claim.

Signature: George Benson

George A. HANSON
Printed Name

7 18 24
Date

***This information is required by the federal government. No payment can be made without this information.**

THIS SIDE FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICIAL USE ONLY.

Notice of Tort Received By _____
Name Title

Date: ____/____/____ Time: ____ AM/PM (Circle One)

Persons having knowledge of the circumstances surrounding this claim:

Name: _____ Phone: (____) ____ - ____

Name: _____ Phone: (____) ____ - ____

Name: _____ Phone: (____) ____ - ____

Name: _____ Phone: (____) ____ - ____

Attached are the following reports, statements or other documentation which support our understanding of the facts relating to this claim:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Please describe any other information which you feel is pertinent to this claim: _____

Submitted by: _____
Signature Print Name

Title: _____ Phone: (____) ____ - ____

Upon receipt of this claim, please provide the above information and *immediately* send to:

New Mexico Self-Insurers' Fund
P.O. Box 846
Santa Fe, NM 87504
(800) 432-2036 or (505) 982-5573
Fax (505) 820-0670

July 10 2024

Re

State of New Mexico
County of Sierra
Seventh Judicial District Court

Re. motion dismiss filed Santa Fe date 6 / 24

; case D721/ CV/2024 /00070.

FILED
7th JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
Sierra County
7/11/2024 11:49 AM
MARY MORA
CLERK OF THE COURT
Elizabeth A Sheele

A response to exhibits tendered

I am able to give evidence and have witness and also can show all effort and energy .
possible from a pro sey and extremely damaged homeowner.

All available fight and exhaustive contacts over more than a reasonable defenses

my case has more than legal ease the lack and capricious , constitutional truth can follow ,

as a senior with a lack of power to resist , my need, continues for the court at LONG LAST
to bring city code to a standard that does not cause and constitute cruel and unusual ,
interference of all concepts to a freedom , and good home .


Respect

George A Henson

July 11, 2024

5 Elect Saw
 10 UMBRELLA Large 8 LAMP (standing)
 4 Stone Polishers 30 LBS. COBALT hardware
 4 Wake Boards 7. Cooler Motors - Tested
 75 Complete Fish Pole's
 Gas Power washer 5. Tri Pod stands
 3 Elect Airless Paint 2 Elect Paint Spray
 10 Bicycle 40 wheels 6. Masts (4 Flag Po
 10 Special wheels truck, Buick
 6 Elect heater 5 Elec. A.C. 200FT Indust
 4 Small Gas Boat Motor ELECT CO.
 10 Paddle & ore (KNIVES special) New Batt E
 15 Tarp 10 Easy UP Shade 2 automot
 2 Large Barrel of Rope ROPE 4 FULL
 15 machine stands - Table Bat Charge
 15 Dip Nets. 10 Saw's 10 Shovel Fish Live
 6 Recycle Bins 4 heavy TRUCKS 4 Antare BOX
 500.00 Post X LUMBER 3 Batt Charger's
 2,000 \$ Double Paine window Stone age
 500 \$ storm Door. 5 Arrowhead
 200 \$ Solar Hot water collector Collection
 500 \$ Photo Elect collector. 7 sets
 200 \$ step ladders. Stainless
 7 steel & Plastic Gas tanks cookware
 4 Roll out Awning
 30 Gal. Latex House Paint
 5 gal. Special oil 2 stock Paint Thin
 T. 1. 8 22 George A. Benson



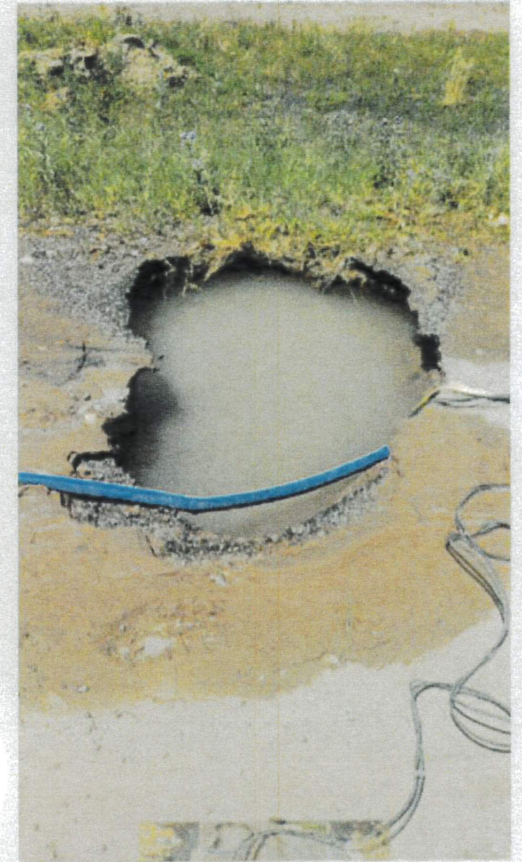
Water and Wastewater update

July 2024

Water Leaks

- Current number of leaks is at 45.
- Leaks fixed in the last 3 months-34
 - Vac truck was out for repair for approximately 1 month.

We are working on purchasing a hydro-excavator (approved thru the budget process) that will allow us to have working crews.



Elementary School

- Pressure at the Elementary school is consistently 38-45 psi. Normal operating pressure is 40-50 psi, pressure at the school is currently within range.
- City water system is providing adequate pressure to the school. We witnessed a 20psi pressure drop within the school grounds.
- We have met with district personnel and have discussed all the options with them.
- All the valves that feed the school are open and functioning properly including the valves at the round about. We met with DOT and the roundabout utility contractor onsite and located all the valves. All valves were open.
- An average of 40 PSI is more than the standard of 20 PSI.

Wastewater update

- Both Williamsburg lift stations have been having issues. Both had problems at different times in the last two weeks. We had to obtain assistance from several companies to repair pumps and pump out sewer.
- Pumps for the Vac Station were ordered in March, we were told they would arrive in June, then July and now they are pushing it to August. We will continue to work with city management and possibly city attorney to expedite the shipment.
- Clancy lift station's bar screen is currently inoperable. Currently trouble shooting and working towards repair.
- Crews are working towards installing a rebuilt blower/mixer at the treatment plant. This equipment keeps the treatment process aerated and mixed for proper treatment.