

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF RUIDOSO DOWNS
AUGUST 25, 2003

The Council of the City of Ruidoso Downs met in regular session on August 25, 2003. Mayor Miller called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and asked Bonnie Richardson to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call, the following were present:

Councilor Miller Councilor Morales
Councilor Garrett Councilor Olivo

Administrator Waters informed Mayor Miller there was a quorum.

Also present were:

Dan Bryant, City Attorney
John P. Waters, City Administrator
Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer
Tom Armstrong, License/Permits Supervisor
Robert Logan, Chief of Police
Ken Mosley, Public Works Director

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Miller entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Motion was made by Councilor Morales and seconded by Councilor Olivo to approve the Agenda. Roll call votes: Councilor Olivo, Aye; Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Morales, Aye; Councilor Garrett, Aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Miller entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Miller moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Councilor Garrett. Roll call votes: Councilor Olivo, Aye; Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Morales, Aye; Councilor Garrett, Aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 14, 2003 REGULAR MEETING

Motion was made by Councilor Miller and seconded by Councilor Garrett to approve the Minutes of the August 14, 2003 Regular Meeting. Roll call votes: Councilor Olivo, Aye; Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Morales, Aye; Councilor Garrett, Aye. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion was made by Councilor Miller and seconded by Councilor Garrett to approve the Accounts Payables. Roll call votes: Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Olivo, Aye; Councilor Morales, Aye; Councilor Garrett, Aye. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Councilor Miller moved to approve Resolution No. 2003-18 2004/2008 Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP). Second by Councilor Garrett. Roll call votes: Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Olivo, Aye; Councilor Morales, Aye; Councilor Garrett, Aye. Motion carried.

Councilor Miller moved to approve Resolution 2003-19 SAP 03-0328 STB Authorized Signatures. Second by Councilor Garrett. Roll call votes: Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Olivo, Aye; Councilor Morales, Aye; Councilor Garrett, Aye. Motion carried.

Councilor Miller moved to approve Resolution 2003-20 Approving and Accepting Cooperative Agreement Control No. 85998 with the New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDT) For Project No. SP 02-04 (922). Second by Councilor Garrett. Roll call votes: Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Olivo, Aye, Councilor Morales, Aye; Councilor Garrett, Aye. Motion carried.

Councilor Miller moved to approve Personnel Policy Updates. Second by Councilor Garrett. Roll call votes: Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Olivo, Aye, Councilor Morales, Aye; Councilor Garrett, Aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Miller stated next on the agenda is Selection of 2004 CDBG Project and asked City Administrator John Waters to enlighten the Council. City Administrator John Waters informed the Council that the City of Ruidoso Downs held five (5) CDBG Public Hearings. These CDBG public hearings are necessary to bring folks in from the community and give input on what they believe our needs are and, of course, staff also provides needs as well as the Councilors at these meetings.

As is the case with last year, the community and the staff are in agreement of what projects they believe need to be accomplished, the water system improvement was at the top of the list, sewer system improvement would be next and then drainage improvement followed by park and swimming pool. Those were the requests you had down on your record in order as to which of the projects would be done. Staff recommends we have several water projects to choose from; the biggest one I believe is the reservoir. We are looking at a 2 to 3 million dollar reservoir be put in at the Spring site; this would radically change the amount of water that we could store. A lot of the time when the water runs over in times when we don't have people here we couldn't capture that water to use for times when we do have people here. It is a

major project to do; it will cost us approximately 1 to 1-1/2 million dollars to complete. We plan on using this for the Colonias project. It is probably our best shot at getting the CDBG grant for the Colonias project because we don't have many people to compete with. We go for a \$500,000.00 Community Colonias Grant Project for this and then we also go for other grants. I plan on going to the legislature and asking for somewhere between \$400,000 to \$500,000 from them as well as our matching funds should put us in the ballpark for what we need. There are some other grants that are available that we are also looking at.

City Administrator Waters stated that would be the top project that staff would recommend. The second one, we also have the second half of the current program to replace the leaking lines and we have \$750,000.00 to replace lines and build PRV stations and so forth in the community that are currently undergoing. As a matter of fact, today we met with our engineers and are getting lined up for all the different areas. Allison is getting ready to start; we have a lot of areas around Wright Lane that currently do not have fire protection or have 2" lines that do not support the fire hydrants. That's on the schedule to replace; however, that won't be enough. As you are aware, that project requires about five hundred thousand more dollars in replacement and that would be the second priority to go for with the regular community infrastructure grant. So we would request from the Council permission to seek the Colonias Grant for the water system improvements for the reservoir and the Community Infrastructure for the water system improvements to complete the second half of the current phase that we are in right now. The priority being of the first of the two, and then we would seek other funding.

Councilor Morales moved to select under the Colonias Program Water System Improvement for the Reservoir and under the Community Infrastructure Project to apply for the completion of the second half of the current phase in replacing lines and building PRV stations. Seconded Councilor Garrett. Roll call votes: Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Olivo, Aye, Councilor Morales, Aye; Councilor Garrett, Aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Miller stated next under New Business is rescinding Resolution No. 2003-15 Fire Restrictions. Jim Badjar, Assistant Fire Chief, reported to Council that within the last three weeks Ruidoso Downs has received just over 2 inches of rain. Mr. Badjar also reported that he was out in the forest yesterday and several spots were still dry, but everything has greened up, the grounds are still wet and would request from Council to rescind to allow outdoor smoking and the use of charcoal grills.

Mayor Miller entertained a motion to rescind Resolution 2003-15 Fire Restrictions as recommended by Jim Badjar, Assistant Fire Chief. Councilor Morales moved to approve recommendation to rescind Resolution 2003-15 Fire Restrictions. Seconded by Councilor Miller. Roll call votes: Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Olivo, Aye, Councilor Morales, Aye; Councilor Garrett, Aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilor Miller stated that she had talked to Mr. Waters about this the other day and have talked to a few people who had gotten letters that they would have to hook up to the sewer. There are a lot of them that are expressing concern that it will cost them a lot of money if they do have to put in lift stations, with a possible cost of \$4,000 to \$6,000.00 which would be a hardship for them and was wondering if there is any way the city can come up with some kind of a plan. I did talk to Mr. Waters in case of a hardship case; we might be able to give them one to three years.

Councilor Miller stated that we might look at that as a Board, put that on the agenda and have a plan for people so it isn't a scare tactic to them that they have to hook up to sewer immediately. I know it is a State Statute and we are hoping everyone does, but we sure do not want to place someone on a hardship case.

Attorney Bryant informed Council that there are a number of ways to set up a program to prioritize those or to allow them to pay out over time. The Council decides on that and all we have to do is set it up, put the procedures in place and then run the program.

City Administrator John Waters informed the Mayor and Council that this is a concern and knows that in the past the lift stations have been an issue. Mr. Mosley can probably address that, we are not requiring the people to put in lift stations. City Administrator John Waters at this time turned the meeting over to Public Works Director, Ken Mosley. Mr. Mosley informed Mayor and Council that in the letter that went out to the public states that if they have to have a lift station for means of not being able to get to the sewer system, at this point we are not requiring it.

Mr. Mosley asked City Attorney when he said that we could put the people on a payment plan, if he was saying the City would be responsible for putting the lift stations in for them. City Attorney informed Mr. Mosley that there are a number of different ways to set it up. We can go out for bids to allow private contractors to do that and even work with a local institution to allow for the payments to come not necessarily from the city. We just have to have a consistent set of thresholds both in terms of encumbrance costs involved and what are the economic thresholds we want to use and just apply that across the board.

Councilor Garrett stated we need to look at all the avenues.

Mya Mya thanked the Mayor and Council for voting on this particular subject. Mya Mya stated to Council that the city is growing, it is almost like a business, we have to make sure we protect the city. Therefore she would like the Council to consider standardizing the sewer process, need to hire experts as employees of the City. We want to place an interest on the money payment over the three or four year payments. We have to look at it from a business point of view.

PUBLIC INPUT

None.

There being no further business to attend to, Mayor Miller entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Councilor Miller and seconded by Councilor Olivo to adjourn at 5:51 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Bob A. Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:

Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer