

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF RUIDOSO DOWNS  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 22, 2012  
5:30 P.M.

The Council of the City of Ruidoso Downs met in regular session on October 22, 2012. Mayor Williams called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and asked Chief Babcock to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Williams asked Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer to take roll call. The following were present:

Councilor Holman  
Councilor Miller

Councilor Hood  
Councilor Perry

Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer informed Mayor Williams there was a quorum.

Also present:

Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer  
H. John Underwood, City Attorney

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Williams stated next item on the agenda was Approval of Agenda.

Mayor entertained a motion to approve the Agenda.

Councilor Miller moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Councilor Hood.

Roll call votes: Councilor Holman, Aye; Councilor Hood, Aye; Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Perry, Aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Williams stated next item on the agenda was approval of the Consent Agenda.

Mayor Williams entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Councilor Hood moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilor Miller.

Roll call votes: Councilor Holman, Aye; Councilor Hood, Aye; Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Perry, Aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 9, 2012

Councilor Hood moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 9, 2012. Seconded by Councilor Miller.

Roll call votes: Councilor Holman, Aye; Councilor Hood, Aye; Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Perry, Aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Councilor Hood moved to approve Accounts Payable. Seconded by Councilor Miller.

Roll call votes: Councilor Holman, Aye; Councilor Hood, Aye; Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Perry, Aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MONTHLY REPORTS

Councilor Hood moved to approve Monthly Reports. Seconded by Councilor Miller.

Roll call votes: Councilor Holman, Aye; Councilor Hood, Aye; Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Perry, Aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilor Hood moved to approve Committee Reports. Seconded by Councilor Miller.

Roll call votes: Councilor Holman, Aye; Councilor Hood, Aye; Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Perry, Aye. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Williams stated the next item on the agenda was - Mayor's Comments.

Mayor Williams said the E-Waste Recycling Event is November 3<sup>rd</sup> at Lowe's Supermarket where you can bring pots and pans, computers, microwaves and things like that. I believe it starts at 9:00. This event has really taken on some steam over the years and includes many outer areas in participation.

Mayor Williams stated the next item on the agenda was - Councilor's Comments.

Councilor Miller said we have something we are trying to plan and is also a recycling event. It's from the Beautification Committee and where people can bring their aluminum, plastics, cardboard, newspapers, and phone books to the park on November 10<sup>th</sup> and goes along with our recycling day on November 15<sup>th</sup> that all of Keep America Beautiful puts on for the recycling day. We also want to tell people to set up their own table or from the trunk whatever they want to sell. Someone called me today asking about arts & crafts and someone

else about selling pies so whatever you want to sell. Bring all the stuff you have at home and if you don't want it or don't sell it maybe we can get the Hospital Auxiliary or Humane Society Thrift Shop or someone else to pick up what's left.

Mayor Williams stated the next item on the agenda was - Discussion on Reduction of Force-Hubbard Museum of the American West within Fiscal Year 2012-2013.

H. John Underwood, City Attorney said as the Council is aware when the election for the Quality of Life Gross Receipts Tax did not pass the Council faced some serious questions and situations at the museum as far as the money allocated from gift from the Hubbard Foundation being depleted. Those budget adjustments were presented in this past budget and previous budget but here we are today with approximately \$4,000 left in the museum fund and facing what we refer to as a reduction in force. It's not about personnel issues it's about reducing the salaries and costs to a position whereby the City can fund it. It is funded through the General Fund and transfers of Lodgers' Taxes. The Mayor asked if myself and Carol and Terri would meet with the staff at the museum. Mr. Kofakis prior to that time has given us his recommendations for the reduction in force. After meeting with staff we thought maybe cutting down the days the museum was open would be a cost savings. After discussion with the staff it was discovered the fact that you would have to maintain the heat and humidity and it wasn't saving electricity. So different solution prospects were set on the table with the museum staff. I was impressed with the museum staff and that they were dedicated to the museum and were probably disappointed that they are in the position that they are in facing a reduction of force and monies that are available to them. Some of the solutions involved a 10% cut in pay and are in the personnel code regarding full-time salary. We are in an effort to make sure that the museum employees that were eligible for health benefits and PERA retain those benefits. In order to do that there were proposals to do a 10% and 15% reduction in pay. There are other proposals other than Mr. Kofakis proposal on reduction in work force. Some of them involved the elimination of the Director himself and some other positions because that was the highest paid position over there. The bottom line is that the Council needs to make these decisions but whatever we do we are not going to do it quickly enough to make payroll in two weeks so we are going to have to make some transfers from the General Fund following making the final determination. There is also some concern that because of the health situation of the Directors' wife and the necessity that he be in Texas today for an appointment for his wife he is unable to be here tonight. I thought it was important to hear from him and other employees from the museum and that they should have an opportunity to speak their thoughts and suggestions tonight. I thought this would better help you make a decision but if you want to put it off until you can listen to Mr. Kofakis presentation at the next meeting you can put off you decision until then.

Terri Mosley, Finance Director said I've given you different scenarios to make the budget balance. We started with a 10% and 15% decrease. After some news that we got from the Hubbard Foundation we got a letter from them that they will contribute \$175,000 this year which earlier we had just budgeted \$100,000 so that helped us move away from the 15% decrease. I think the 10% is going to work. We looked at the 37.5-hour workweek. If we want the museum to operate and we want them to start bringing in more revenues we need to give

them as many hours as we can. We have a couple of options. Option D is all 10% decreases with a 40-hour workweek. Some of these options were given to us by the Director and some were given to us by the staff members. We have decreased all of the revenue amounts to be realistic so all of the options have the same revenue amount which is \$338,800 and all of the expenditures are the same on all of the options for the operations. The only thing we are discussing right now are the salaries. Just today we gave you an Option D2. She asked Mayor Williams if she should go through each option?

Mayor Williams said Council has read it and if they had any questions let them go ahead and ask.

H. John Underwood, City Attorney said each one of the options has a table under each proposal the cuts and the reduction of force. The bottom line is to make the cuts and get the museum back in the black.

Terri said page two has the summary of them all. Option D will give us a fund balance of \$49,166 if we collected all of the revenues that were budgeted and met all of our expenditures. Option D1 is \$42,184 and Option D2 is \$12,867 and we are increasing the transfer from the General Fund to \$50,000 in all these options.

H. John Underwood, City Attorney said there was some discussion that the Director's position was eliminated for salary consideration and if someone from the current staff were to take over some of the duties of that position that that person should receive consideration for not receiving that 10% cut. That must be in the policy consideration of the Council.

Janis Rowe said I am in charge of Membership, Graphics, and Marketing for the Hubbard Museum and David Mandel said I am Curator of Exhibits. Janis said I have been asked to speak on behalf of the staff but am not speaking on behalf of Jim Kofakis obviously because he is not here and cannot defend himself. I will say this and that is that Jim has worked tirelessly in the past couple of years trying to run the museum on an ever-decreasing budget. Seven years ago the Hubbard's generously gifted the City of Ruidoso Downs a multi-million dollar museum. The first museum in the whole State of New Mexico to become an affiliate of the Smithsonian. A museum with unparalleled equal at that time this side of Albuquerque with a collection worth over six and a half million dollars. That was an appraisal twenty years ago so that collection appraisal has risen drastically. Along with that a two and a half million dollar building. The building is old and requires maintenance constantly. Thanks to the Hubbard Foundation we fix that building as we can like the new HVAC system that keeps our collection in the proper humidity and the temperature is so crucial in keeping this massive collection we have in good condition. I just wanted to say that this is your museum and the people's of Ruidoso Downs. I'm not sure that the citizens of Ruidoso Downs realize what they have in this museum. It's an exceptional facility. Whether it's something we haven't done as a community to educate the people we've tried with our exhibits, we've tried with our events, to draw them in to come to the museum to see what we have and to make them a part of operating this facility. For some reason I don't think they understand. They think it's a burden, that it's a tax burden only. I don't think it's a tax burden or has proven to be a tax

burden, not yet. I will give Mayor Williams credit because he came to the museum before he was Mayor many times and after he became Mayor. He genuinely was interested in the operation of the museum and that's where I feel some of you have failed because you still don't know how a museum operates. That's the way we feel, like we are stepchildren over here on the other side of the street. Judy has come over quite a lot too and we'll give her credit for that. We've heard the words oh, we love the museum, we're going to save our museum. But, that's as far as it's gotten. We've had more attention in the last month than we've had in seven years and that's sad. To tell you the truth I am bewildered over the neglect and irresponsibility that's been laid at the door of our museum. Shame on everybody. While some of you were not directly involved with the museum gift you each own responsibility as elected stewards to maintain the City's interests, that's your job. We appreciate the work you're doing now but we feel like where were you years ago? Where were you three years ago? Some of you will say that's water under the bridge but that water under the bridge has consequences. The water is eroding and that bridge is collapsing around us. We are now out of money and just recently found out how much out of money we are because we didn't know. The past administration and the current Director just didn't keep us abreast of what was going on between the City and the museum. Like I said, before we felt like stepchildren. I think we have done a pretty darn good job of keeping up the museum with the little respect that we have. We have cut every corner we could possibly cut and we are going to cut more. At some point the cutting has to stop because the museum can't run on air. We have to maintain some kind of fiscal responsibility for that facility to get good quality exhibits and you can't get that without money. David does an exceptional job at research and this last exhibit we just had took over two years of researching. Plus putting all the things together, interpretations, photos, pictures, to give the public something to see and appreciate. We have borrowed items from other museums in the State. There has been talk about turning the museum into an event center which is fine. We know that we have to generate more revenue to do our fair share to keep the museum open. I want you to consider something. This could be detrimental to the very foundation of our museum, our collection. Without the certified staff knowing what they are doing over there this can't be done. For instance if we have a wedding at the museum and they have fresh flowers, they want to burn candles, we can't have this going on in our museum because it deteriorates our collections, the fumes, the bugs off of the flowers would eat up the leather and a valuable rug. On the other hand, who is going to help us? Can we depend on the City in the future for having these events to help setting up the chairs, tables, linens, and the list goes on and on. We've enjoyed and we appreciate Public Works in the past helping us because they have done a good job. There are seven of us left and we are doing our jobs and planning events, and working the events. Another question I would like for you to consider should none of these solutions work and the museum has to close, what's to come of that massive collection, expensive collection, worth over fifteen and a half million dollars? You can't sell it, you can't give it away. You need to start thinking about what you're going to do with that collection. I think we all need to hope and pray that the Hubbards continue to support our museum. Very generously I might add. Whether their name is removed from the museum or not because without them and the donators and the Foundation we're dead.

David Mandel said I can't talk but we did all write out our thoughts and Janis said what those were. In addition to the cuts in salary Jim Kofakis has already slashed the budget for

operations. I have been working in this sense for over thirty years and the budgets for operations, collections and exhibits, and education have all been reduced to \$1,000 each. You cannot do even one exhibit for \$1,000. We do at least five or more exhibits in-house each year. We research them, design, them, build them, and install them. We've also lost a maintenance person in the budget. It's going to be very difficult for us to keep our heads above water in the next year. This budget will take us through perhaps eight months and then something else will have to be done. I have no solution. Our goal is to keep the museum running and to improve it and be given the chance to plan new revenue sources. We gave a list of possible resources to Carol and Terri and Mr. Underwood but at the time they said that's all well and good but you have this money now. My soul concern is that the museum survives and prospers and that we bring in more money in revenues in order for us to break even each year.

Councilor Hood asked if Option B2 would be the best solution?

Janis Rowe said yes. What was explained to her this afternoon by Terri, and I explained it to the staff at the museum in detail today that Option B2 would be the best. We do have a consensus and it may not be one hundred percent unanimous but we do have a consensus. We don't need to lose our jobs but like David said we are doing this for the museum.

Councilor Miller asked if the museum staff wants to meet with the City Council before we make a decision?

Janis said we would love it. If that's the way to decide and if there is no vote tonight then yes, we would love to meet with the Council so we can explain the operations of the museum. You all taught us how to be good City employees and we've never had the chance to teach you how to operate a museum.

Councilor Miller said I was on the Council when the City received the gracious gift of the museum. I for one think that name should stay just like the Hubbard Room. I do believe maybe on top of that it should say the City of Ruidoso Downs Hubbard Museum of the American West just so people know it does belong to the City and that might help them feel an ownership in it. Bob Miller was the Mayor at the time and we were very grateful. I for one want to keep that museum going. I think it's a great asset for the City and for the tourism for this area. There are so many plusses and it's beautiful.

Councilor Hood said I would be glad to meet with anyone there and if they want the whole Council we can schedule an Executive Session.

H. John Underwood, City Attorney said you wouldn't have grounds for an Executive Session. You would go into an Open Meeting with the museum staff.

Councilor Holman said don't we need a motion at some point that we are going to start participating in this discussion?

Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer said I understand what you are asking but I believe Mayor Williams with the suggestions and what City Attorney Underwood allowed the two speakers come before the Council tonight to speak on behalf of the rest of the museum staff to give you their views of how they would come up with a proposal and maybe make a recommendation to the Council.

Councilor Holman said I am a little concerned that we are interacting without a motion.

Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer said until the Mayor entertains a motion this is allowable.

Janis Rowe asked if you call it a workshop would it be allowed for the whole Council to meet with us like in the museum meeting room in an informal atmosphere because no decisions would be made?

Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer said yes the Mayor can call for a workshop and it can be held at any City owned public facility should the Council agree on that and it would be open to the public.

Mayor Williams said it would be a public meeting with a notice given to the public.

Mayor Williams thanked the Council and Janis and David from the museum.

Mayor Williams stated the next item on the agenda was – Consider Approving Resolution No. 2012-18 Budget Adjustments – Hubbard Museum of the American West Fiscal Year 2012-2013.

H. John Underwood, City Attorney said now we are going to have to address the budget issue. He said we didn't prepare the actual Resolution because we didn't know which way the Council was going to go but we are going to listen to Terri's statement and then you can make your recommendation on how the Resolution should read.

Terri Mosley, Finance Director said the original budget isn't included in these options but because as of the end of September we have \$4,935.47 in the Museum Fund. We did get the \$50,000 contribution from the Hubbard Foundation that will hit the books in October. I never get the revenues from the admissions and gift shop and I'm estimating it's \$9,000. At the end of October we may be running into the red with our payroll. I'm estimating \$35,000 for October so I'm asking now for a Budget Resolution to do a temporary transfer from the General Fund to take care of operations and payroll next week.

Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer said the payroll runs through Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup>. If Council approves the temporary transfer of \$50,000 with the \$54,935.47 the estimated payroll is about \$35,000 and that's not including any of the operational costs that are coming in for the month of October. There may be a 95% chance that at the end of October you may be in the deficit.

Terri Mosley, Finance Director said currently I've posted the last payroll and Accounts Payable to date and they have spent \$26,000 for the month of October and that includes salary.

H. John Underwood, City Attorney said our next formal meeting, unless there is a Special Meeting, isn't scheduled until November 13<sup>th</sup>. We would need to have consideration with this budget resolution to carry us through the middle of November.

Mayor Williams said so the \$110,000 of the General Fund money added to the \$4,935.47 that's left.

Terri said I think we could do it with \$50,000 and that's what I'm asking for. Then on the 13<sup>th</sup> we can do more.

Mayor Williams said for the Council's sake they need to be kept abreast probably on a weekly basis of the expenditures for the museum because of the decisions they will be making in the future. So I would like for you to keep them informed on the expenses and revenues coming in.

H. John Underwood, City Attorney asked if it would be possible to have the resolution state up to \$50,000 so that if you don't have to transfer it all you won't have to?

Councilor said that wouldn't take care of November at all?

Terri Mosley, Finance Director said she would start keeping track of the revenues so I will know about November.

Councilor Holman asked when the next Council Meeting is so that you guys can get by and still make it to the next Council Meeting? Are you going to be okay until the next Council Meeting?

Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer said without knowing what the revenues are in the Gift Shop and Admissions we can't give you a clear picture of where we are going to be on November 13<sup>th</sup>. I can assure you that Terri will be able to keep the Councilors and Mayor abreast of where they are on expenses and revenues and in the next two weeks the salaries will be included in that spreadsheet as well. Then on November 13<sup>th</sup> if it's not looking good we are going to suggest that if an emergency meeting needs to be called then that's what will need to be done.

Councilor Holman said I keep hearing this for the last five or six years, why don't we close the museum? That's not an option. I try to tell constituents that's not an option, there's a contract. But, if we don't have the money then what?

Mayor Williams said the topic is the Budget Resolution and they should keep on that.

H. John Underwood, City Attorney said I will then change my recommendation to make a \$50,000 to \$75,000 transfer to carry them through November.

Mayor Williams asked Terri what are the normal monthly expenditures?

Terri Mosley, Finance Director said for July it was \$77,431 and revenues were \$17,306, August expenditures were \$50,978 and revenues were \$44,453 and that included \$25,000 contribution from the Hubbard Foundation, September expenditures were \$50,329 and revenues were \$18,010.

Mayor Williams said then \$75,000 would be a safe figure?

Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer read a quick summary of what the resolution will say.

Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer read the following:

Resolution 2012-18 Whereas the City of Ruidoso Downs Governing Body has adopted its operating budget for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2013 for the Hubbard Museum of the American West; and whereas the City of Ruidoso Downs meeting in a scheduled regular session this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2012 after a lengthy discussion determined that it is in the best interest of the department of the Hubbard Museum of the American West within the City of Ruidoso Downs to make a temporary transfer from the General Fund to the Hubbard Museum of the American West not to exceed \$75,000.00 due to shortage in revenues and wishes to make budget adjustments to its Operating Budget within the 2012-2013 Fiscal Year.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Governing Body of the City of Ruidoso Downs meeting in regular session this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of October 2012 adopt the budget adjustments and respectfully request approval from the Local Government Division of the Department of Finance and Administration to affect this budget adjustment immediately.

Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer reminded the Governing Body that this was a temporary transfer and when and if they museum does exceed and are in the good for months and months they do have to repay the General Fund of whatever they spent out of the 'not to exceed' 75,000.

Councilor Holman said we have invested so much in that museum and then more and more that we are just upping the ante. We cannot afford and then what we have invested and then it goes under we have to make it succeed in addition to a contract. We can't just throw our hands up and walk away. We have to find a way.

Councilor Hood said I agree with Councilor Holman and I am for the museum.

Mayor Williams entertained a motion to approve Resolution No. 2012-18 Budget Adjustments - Hubbard Museum of the American West Fiscal Year 2012-2013.

Councilor Hood moved to approve Resolution No. 2012-2013 Budget Adjustments-Hubbard Museum of the American West Fiscal Year 2012-2013. Seconded by Councilor Miller.

Councilor Holman asked if we are legal on transferring these funds because it was mentioned that we have to get the funds back in the General Fund?

Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer said the resolution that will come up for a vote will be sent to the Department of Finance for their final approval and then we will be able to make the temporary transfer.

Roll call votes: Councilor Holman, Aye; Councilor Hood, Aye; Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Perry, Aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Williams stated the next item on the agenda was - Discussion and Possible Action - Request of Renewal of Cable Television Franchise Agreement.

H. John Underwood, City Attorney said I have no problem with the Cable Television Franchise Agreement except for paragraph 7-1-7C. It deals with relocation of facility and the last sentence has language regarding relocation that say when the village and it probably should be amended to say city, and I'll make that recommendation also, but it says shall require the relocation of reinstallation in any of the streets will be the obligation of the cable company upon notice to cooperate with timely removal and relocation and shall be at the cost of the cable company. John said then there is a dangling sentence that says unless funds are otherwise available partially or wholly franchise will be reimbursed to cable company. I wouldn't want that to become an issue if someone were looking at our General Fund and saying we have the money to reimburse the cable company. I would recommend that the language and subparagraph C be stricken beginning with 'unless' and ending with 'franchise' so that doesn't become an issue.

Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer said with the request from Baja Broadband it should request those changes and it should be done by ordinance since it is a renewal for fifteen years.

H. John Underwood, City Attorney said his recommendation is to schedule it for a Public Hearing for an ordinance with an amendment of the recommendations for changes.

Mayor Williams entertained a motion to approve Renewal of Cable Television Franchise Agreement subject to amendments recommended by legal counsel and having it made into ordinance after a Public Hearing.

Councilor Holman moved to approve Renewal of Cable Television Franchise Agreement subject to amendments recommended by legal counsel and having it made into ordinance after a Public Hearing. Seconded by Councilor Miller.

Roll call votes: Councilor Holman, Aye; Councilor Hood, Aye; Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Perry, Aye. Motion carried.

Next item was a Consent Agenda item – Consider approving Wastewater Treatment Plant Operating Invoice for September 2012.

Councilor Hood moved to approve Wastewater Treatment Plant Operating Invoice for September 2012. Seconded by Councilor Miller.

Roll call votes: Councilor Holman, Aye; Councilor Hood, Aye; Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Perry, Aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Williams stated the next item on the agenda was – Consider Approving Mayor’s Appointment of Tom Armstrong to the Economic Development Board.

Mayor Williams entertained a motion to approve Mayor’s Appointment of Tom Armstrong to the Economic Development Board.

Councilor Hood moved to approve Mayor’s Appointment of Tom Armstrong to the Economic Development Board. Seconded by Councilor Perry.

Roll call votes: Councilor Holman, Aye; Councilor Hood, Aye; Councilor Miller, Aye; Councilor Perry, Aye. Motion carried.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

**(Items are for discussion only – no action will be taken)**

Mayor Williams stated the next item on the agenda was Other Business – Informational Only – Certificate of Destruction of Marked Paper Ballots – Special Election September 4, 2012.

Mayor Williams asked if there were any comments from the public?

There were no comments from the public.

## PUBLIC INPUT

**(All concerns to be addressed only to the Governing Body as a Whole with a 3-minute Time Limit)**

Mayor Williams stated the next item on the agenda was - Public Input.

Wayne Williams said I would like to thank the Mayor and Dale from Public Works for cleaning out my water can. This deal with the museum. These people out here were partially right when they blame it on the City Council but there is a lot of blame to go around. This makes my seventh year of coming here and hardly missing a day. In fact when Mr. Smith was curator there was an open check to him. Anything he wanted City Council approved. That included Bob Miller, John Waters, and then when Tom Armstrong came in it was the same thing. The second part to go around is like these people from the museum when they come here it is for their own personal interest. I'm ashamed of the whole City employees that don't come down here for every single meeting to find out what's going on. It's just as much their fault as it is your fault. The people like us that are the activists or taxpayers have been given the impression that we want to close the museum. We want to save the museum by stopping the runaway spending. Can you imagine if seven years ago we would have done what you are doing now? The Hubbard money would be hundreds of thousands of dollars and we probably could have lived off of the interest from it. I know myself and my wife and Bobby and Joyce Gustafson get blamed everyday that we want to close the museum but we don't and never have. What we wanted to do was stop the runaway spending. Way back then we heard people say it's free money so let's spend it. It's not free money when you have matching funds and this Council is doing better than in the past but you don't have a choice. It's going to break the City along with transit system that we pay two thirds of now. I blame every single employee and every citizen that didn't get involved. How can you tell if City Council is wasting your money if you don't come in and if you don't read the expenditures? I don't know how to say it but I would rather see the museum close than see our City go bankrupt. They better come up with something better than a temporary budget transfer.

Jotene Wright she is a volunteer at the museum. She said the museum was the best thing that has ever happened to Ruidoso Downs. She asked Wayne Williams if he had ever been to it? After he answered that he had she asked him if he liked it? He said he goes to it once in a while. Ms. Wright said surveys during the past two mayoral administrations show that the museum was popular with out-of-state visitors and they had nothing but praise saying the museum was one of the cleanest they had been to and that it was well-managed. Jotene Wright said I can't understand why somebody like this man gets up and says what he says. She said she still volunteers at the museum.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to attend to, Mayor Williams adjourned the meeting at 6:44 p.m.



*Gary L. Williams*  
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Gary L. Williams, Mayor

*Carol Virden*  
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Carol Virden, City Clerk/Treasurer