

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Gallup City Council, City of Gallup, New Mexico held in the Council Chambers at Gallup City Hall, 110 West Aztec Avenue at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 8, 2022.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Palochak.

Upon roll call, the following were present:

Mayor Pro Tem:	Fran Palochak
Councilors:	Linda Garcia Michael Schaaf Yogash Kumar (arrived late via Zoom)
Absent:	Louie Bonaguidi, Mayor
Also present:	Maryann Ustick, City Manager Curtis Hayes, City Attorney

Presented to the Mayor Pro Tem and Councilors for their approval were the Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on January 25, 2022.

Councilor Schaaf made the motion to approve the aforementioned minutes. Seconded by Councilor Garcia. Roll call: Councilors Schaaf, Garcia and Mayor Pro Tem Palochak all voted yes.

Presented to the Mayor Pro Tem and Councilors were the following Discussion/Action Topics:

1. Budget Adjustment: Red Rock Park – Patty Holland, Chief Financial Officer and Jennifer Lazarz, Tourism and Marketing Manager

Ms. Holland explained the Department of Finance's reporting requirements and deadlines, including the separation of Lodger's Tax funding for operation and promotion spending. She explained staff's request for the entire amount of \$500,000 reserved for operations and intentions to spend the remaining 40%, reserved for promotions, now that COVID restrictions have been loosened.

Mr. Alonzo expressed appreciation to staff for recognizing much needed improvements at Red Rock Park and help in securing the funding to do so. He provided details regarding the intended improvements throughout the facility and the arena.

Brief discussion followed regarding plans to contract the work out and the facility walk-through Mr. Alonzo provided last year demonstrating the facility's needs. Mayor Pro Tem Palochak offered her discretionary funds to help with certain cosmetic needs of the facility.

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Ms. Lazarz clarified the requested amount of \$500,000 from Lodger's Tax and \$7,500 from the General Fund.

Councilor Schaaf made the motion to approve the budget adjustment for Red Rock Park, as presented. Seconded by Councilor Garcia. Roll call: Councilors Schaaf, Garcia and Mayor Pro Tem Palochak all voted yes.

2. Budget Adjustment: New Website Promotion – Patty Holland, Chief Financial Officer and Jennifer Lazarz, Tourist and Marketing Manager

Ms. Lazarz described plans to promote the new tourism website and app using print and digital resources, including post cards and a master ad containing the City's summer events.

Councilor Garcia made the motion to approve the budget adjustment for the new website promotion. Seconded by Councilor Schaaf. Roll call: Councilors Garcia, Schaaf and Mayor Pro Tem Palochak all voted yes.

3. Budget Adjustment to Revenue and Expenditure for the Octavia Fellin Public Library in the amount of \$26,742 – Tammi Moe, Library Director

Ms. Moe presented the budget adjustment and requested spending authority in the amount of \$26,742 for an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Grant for FY2022 between the New Mexico State Library (NMSL) and the Octavia Fellin Public Library. She said the grant is to support digital inclusion efforts, provide emergency relief in response to the pandemic and support library services and associated indirect costs to meet the needs of the community.

Brief discussion followed regarding the deadline for spending.

Councilor Schaaf made the motion to approve the budget adjustment to revenue and expenditure for the Octavia Fellin Public Library in the amount of \$26,742. Seconded by Councilor Garcia. Roll call: Councilors Schaaf, Garcia and Mayor Pro Tem Palochak all voted yes.

4. Update Finance Cash Control Policy – Patty Holland, Chief Financial Officer

Ms. Holland explained the recommendation to update the cash controls section of the City's Finance Policies to improve processes and reporting, as well as to provide guidance to Council Members and staff members when planning budget proposals and operational spending. She also provided and explained details of cash balances the City would maintain and consider for any future spending proposals.

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Councilor Kumar arrived at the meeting via Zoom.

Discussion followed regarding Risk Management's unspent funding and Lodger's Tax spending requirements.

Councilor Garcia made the motion to approve the Finance Cash Control Policy Update. Seconded by Councilor Schaaf. Roll call: Councilors Garcia, Schaaf, Kumar and Mayor Pro Tem Palochak all voted yes.

### 5. Approval for Resolution No. R2022-4 In Support of the Hydrogen Hub Development Act – Maryann Ustick, City Manager

Ms. Ustick mentioned numerous changes made to the Hydrogen Hub Development Act, which is currently listed as House Bill 228. She provided information regarding the bill's urgency, intent and mechanisms contained within the bill to help stimulate hydrogen production within the state, such as the development of a Hydrogen Hub Board, State funded loan and grant programs and the authorization of public-private partnerships. She highlighted the removal the section referring to tax deductions and credits, the positive economic impact and the potential to compete for available federal funding. Ms. Ustick recommended approval of the resolution to encourage the Legislature's passage of the bill.

Councilor Schaaf made the motion to approve Resolution No. R2022-4 in support of the Hydrogen Hub Development Act. Seconded by Councilor Garcia. Roll call: Councilors Schaaf, Garcia, Kumar and Mayor Pro Tem Palochak all voted yes.

The following Presentation and Information Item was presented to Mayor Pro Tem and Councilors.

### 1. Presentation: New Visitgallup.com Website and Visit Gallup App – Jennifer Lazarz, Tourist and Marketing Manager

Ms. Lazarz thanked Lisa Rodriguez, the Chamber of Commerce and other key players for their help with this project. Ms. Lazarz presented a full overview of the entire website highlighting the website's functionality, organization, structure, directories and filter capabilities. She provided information regarding the app and the number of viewers the app has had so far. She asked anyone experiencing any issues with the app or the website to report them to her.

Discussion followed regarding the content created and posted on the website in terms of specific events, obtaining lodging rates through the website and the endless possibilities the web applications create for the City.

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**Comments by the Public on the Non-Agenda Items**

None

**Comments by Mayor and City Councilors**

Mayor Pro Tem Palochak mentioned her time in Santa Fe for this year's Legislative Session and her willingness to speak with legislators regarding pay increases to state police officers and the negative effects that it will have on municipalities and counties in funding their law enforcement departments and to address other items including the funding for wells and capital outlay needed for the City.

**Comments by City Manager and City Attorney**

Ms. Ustick mentioned the upcoming budget hearings and the importance of the strategic planning sessions, which will be held on Wednesday February 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. The strategic planning sessions are opened to the public and will be recorded on Zoom and posted to the City's Facebook page thereafter.

Mr. Hayes provided updates on the opioid settlements, including distribution ratios, the Attorney General's participation in the Johnson & Johnson settlement, importance of local government participation and additional settlements with regard to pharmacies and manufacturers.

Councilor Schaaf made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Councilor Garcia. Roll call: Councilors Schaaf, Garcia, Kumar and Mayor Pro Tem Palochak all voted yes.



ATTEST:

  
Alicia Palacios, Deputy City Clerk

  
Louie Bonaguidi, Mayor