

CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR WORKSHOP  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2022  
5:50 p.m.

1. The Workshop was called to order at 5:50 p.m., at the City Council Chambers. Councilmembers present included Mayor Rachel Medina, Mayor Pro-tem Arlina Yazzie, Lydia DeHaven, Robert Dobry, Matt Keefauver, David Rainey, and Dennis Spruell. Staff members present included Assistant Chief of Police Andy Brock, Parks and Recreation Director Creighton Wright, IT Technician Kyle Kuhn, IT Technician Aaron Holleman, Deputy City Clerk Donna Murphy, City Clerk Linda Smith, City Manager Drew Sanders, and City Attorney Patrick Coleman. There were thirteen people present in the audience.

2. Seven presentations were made by the following Community Grant recipients: Cancer Resource Alliance of Montezuma/Dolores Counties; Community Connections; Four Corners Child Advocacy; Four Corners Community Band; San Juan BOCES; School Community Youth Collaborative; and Dolores Watershed and Resilient Forest Collaborative. Each spoke about their program, what they did with the grant money received and answered questions from Council. Each entity thanked the City of Cortez for their support.

3. Jim Spratlen, CIP Program Director/Montezuma County Emergency Manager, gave a presentation on the Community Intervention Program (CIP). Mr. Spratlen stated that leaders in the community, together with Axis Health Care and EMTs came together to develop a program to aid law enforcement in mental health issue responses. He presented the Mission Statement of the program and noted that the program to date has been successful since its introduction in May of 2022. Molly Rodriguez, Director of Residential and Crisis Services with Axis Health gave an overview of the program including the type of calls that they take for service. To date there have been 157 calls for service, including: 31 referrals for primary care, 53 community resourcing, 17 de-escalating opportunities, and 14 calls regarding suicide ideations. 132 of these calls have been within the City of Cortez. Mr. Spratlen then spoke about the contribution the City of Cortez provided, discussed finances for the program and future funding as well as the steps the CIP Program plans to take going forward. Members of the team were introduced. It was also mentioned that they are hiring a behavioral health professional to join the team.

4. General Discussion: Councilmember Dobry requested to add to a future workshop an opportunity for Council to discuss and develop a process and application standard, as well as the kind of reporting desired for future grant funding awards. Councilmember Keefauver spoke about how grant funding was determined by past Councils.

The regular workshop was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.



CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2022

1. The meeting was called to order in the City Council Chambers at 7:38 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call was taken and the following Councilmembers were present: Mayor Rachel Medina, Mayor Pro-tem Arlina Yazzie, Lydia DeHaven, Robert Dobry, Matthew Keefauver, David Rainey, and Dennis Spruell. Staff present included Director of Public Works Brian Peckins, Assistant Chief of Police Andy Brock, Parks and Recreation Director Creighton Wright, IT Technician Kyle Kuhn, IT Technician Aaron Holleman, Director of General Services Rick Smith, Director of Finance Kelly Koskie, Airport Manager Jeremy Patton, Deputy City Clerk Donna Murphy, City Clerk Linda Smith, City Manager Drew Sanders, and City Attorney Patrick Coleman. There were five people present in the audience.

Councilmember Keefauver moved that the agenda be approved. Councilmember DeHaven seconded the motion and the vote was as follows:

DeHaven	Dobry	Keefauver	Medina	Rainey	Spruell	Yazzie
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

2. The Consent Agenda items acted upon by Council were as follows:

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the Worksession and Regular Council Meeting held on July 26, 2022.
- b. Approval of the Expenditure List for August 9, 2022.
- c. Approval of a renewal Brew Pub Liquor License for L&D Development, Inc., DBA J. Fargos, located at 1209 East Main Street, Cortez.
- d. Approval of a renewal Brew Pub Liquor License and Outdoor Dining Agreement for WildEdge Brewing Collective, LLC, DBA WildEdge Brewing Collective, located at 111 North Market Street, Cortez.

Councilmember Dobry moved that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented. Councilmember Keefauver seconded the motion, and the vote was as follows:

DeHaven	Dobry	Keefauver	Medina	Rainey	Spruell	Yazzie
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

3. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Montezuma County Commissioner Update. Commissioner Lindsey thanked the Council for their continued relationship with the County. He stated that he came with a request for funding to the Montezuma County Senior Center due to a shortfall in state funding. He stated that the majority of the meals distributed to seniors were home delivery and many times, this is the only time these

seniors have contact with the outside world. This also gives the county the opportunity to check on the well being of these individuals. He noted that the Town Boards of Mancos and Dolores have contributed \$20k and \$12k respectively and asked Council to consider a contribution in the 2023 budget process. Commissioner Lindsey also spoke regarding a 42 foot in diameter grow dome that is being made available to Montezuma County and they are in the process of determining a suitable location and asked the city to work with them in regards to planning and zoning. He stated the grow dome would be used to help with senior meals, jail meals and/or a food co-op for the area.

Mayor Medina opened the Citizen Participation noting the time of 7:46 p.m.

a. Paul Ermigiotti- 317 N Chestnut, Cortez, spoke regarding the care of trees in the old MCHS property. He stated that the mature trees are in bad shape and are a valuable asset. He asked that action be taken to care for these trees.

No other citizens spoke and Citizen Participation ended at 7:48 p.m.

#### 4. PRESENTATIONS

a. June 2022 Financial Statements. Director of Finance Koskie spoke about the June 2022 Financial Statements. Director Koskie stated that she included a memo specifically emphasizing the funding between the General fund and the Enterprise funds. She stated that there is a Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) that has a standard regarding Enterprise funds and that the City of Cortez also has their own financial policy regarding these two funds. She said that Enterprise funds are separate funds from the General fund and are organized to meet and fund their own expenses. Council questions included Worker's Comp, departments of concern and who manages these funds.

#### 5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

a. Ordinance No. 1308, Series 2022. Director of Finance Koskie stated that Ordinance No. 1308, Series 2022, presented on final reading amends the 2022 Budget. She reviewed Appendix B, noting that the total amount of the mid-year budget adjustment is \$470,044. Mayor Medina opened the public hearing however, no public comments were made and the hearing was closed.

Mayor Pro-tem Yazzie moved that Council approve on final reading Ordinance No. 1308, Series 2022, approving an ordinance amending the 2022 Budget. Councilmember Dobry seconded the motion, and the vote was as follows:

DeHaven	Dobry	Keefauver	Medina	Rainey	Spruell	Yazzie
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Ordinance No. 1309, Series 2022. Airport Manager Jeremy Patton stated that Ordinance No. 1309, Series 2022, authorizes a ground lease with Jared and Karen Hansen for construction of an aircraft hangar at the Cortez Municipal Airport. He stated that the ground lease was brought to Council July 26, 2022 and approved on first reading. Mayor Medina opened the public hearing however, no public comments were made and the hearing was closed.

Councilmember Dobry moved that Council approve on final reading Ordinance No. 1309, Series 2022, authorizing a ground lease with Jared and Karen Hansen for construction of an aircraft hangar at the Cortez Municipal Airport. Councilmember Rainey seconded the motion, and the vote was as follows:

DeHaven	Dobry	Keefauver	Medina	Rainey	Spruell	Yazzie
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Recreation Center Natural Gas Contract. Director of General Services Smith presented a contract to lock in natural gas prices for the Recreation Center. He stated that locking in a rate was started in 2008 and has saved the city a significant amount over the years. The Recreation Center is currently contracted with Symmetry Energy, who approached the city regarding locking in a rate for the next 24 months at the rate of \$7.61 per M/btu. City Attorney Patrick Coleman also spoke on the contract stating that there was an issue with the previous contract in regards to multi-year contracts and how they pertain to local government budget and TABOR laws. He stated there is an issue with the contract noting that it needs to be amended to read “City Funds” replacing “State or Federal Funds”. Council discussion was held.

Councilmember Keefauver moved that Council allow City Manager Sanders to sign a contract with Symmetry Energy to lock in natural gas pricing through August 2024 at a rate of \$7.61 per M/btu with the amendment to disclude “State or Federal Funds” and replace that of “City” funds. Councilmember DeHaven seconded the motion, and the vote was as follows:

DeHaven	Dobry	Keefauver	Medina	Rainey	Spruell	Yazzie
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

8. DRAFT RESOLUTION/ORDINANCES – None.

9. CITY ATTORNEY’S REPORT

a. City Attorney Coleman stated he is working on contract amendments and the City is keeping him busy.

10. CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

a. City Manager Sanders stated that the City has met with the Director of CDOT and her key staff members to create and renew relationships with the agency and find ways to work more closely together. It was a great networking opportunity and the city now has a staff member meeting with them on Thursday. City Manager Sanders also spoke on a graffiti mitigation program that is being rolled out stating that it is time to address the problem and take the necessary steps to “Keep Cortez

Beautiful". Mitigation has already started on City property and the city is working with select property owners who have been hit the hardest. Communication and community outreach information is being finalized and expect to be sent en-masse in the near future. This initiative will be managed by the Police Department with the support of Public Works, Parks and Recreation Department and the Community and Economic Development Department. City Manager Sanders emphasized that graffiti is a crime and the first step is to report it to the police. The City is providing guidance on how to remove graffiti from the property and is here to help mitigate graffiti as needed. More information on the program will be forthcoming. He also spoke about receiving the first draft of the 2017 audit report and this is the first step towards closing out the high-risk audits and that final drafts will be presented to Council for acceptance once received. Employee Highlight: Lyle Bair, Acting Parks Superintendent, is a remarkable employee. He is dedicated and committed to doing the best job possible. He is a quiet, yet caring leader for the Parks team. Early this spring, Lyle wore many hats including leader, mower operator, facility worker and many others. When short staffed Lyle would work on weekends to mow and to ensure the parks were well manicured for our residents. Lyle is a steadfast leader of the Parks Maintenance Team. He and his team are dedicated, committed and provide an unmatched parks system, especially for such a small community. City Manager states he is proud of the work the Parks Team has accomplished this summer under Lyle's leadership.

## 11. CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Mayor's Report on Workshop. Mayor Medina stated that seven presentations were made from the Community Grant recipients in 2022 and Jim Spratlen, CIP Program Director/Montezuma County Emergency Manager, made a presentation on the Community Intervention Program.
- b. Historic Preservation Board. Councilmember Dobry attended the Board meeting and spoke about the possibility that a new Real Estate member will be joining the Board. He spoke of an award that the Board received and will be presented at a later Council workshop. He also stated that tomorrow is the initial meeting regarding the grant that the State Preservation Society received regarding a survey of 1950's highway buildings, of which ten building in Cortez are on the survey.
- c. Arts Advisory Committee. Councilman Rainey attended the last meeting. He spoke how the committee is looking for ways to spread awareness for arts and music and looking for new venues and options for the arts.

## 12. OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS – None.

## 13. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION- None

14. **ADJOURNMENT:** Mayor Pro-tem Yazzie moved that the regular meeting be adjourned at 8:19 p.m. Council Member Keefauver seconded the motion, and the vote was as follows:

DeHaven	Dobry	Keefauver	Medina	Rainey	Spruell	Yazzie
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Rachel Medina", written over a horizontal line.

Rachel B. Medina, Mayor

ATTEST:



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Donna Murphy", written over a horizontal line.

Donna Murphy, Deputy City Clerk

