

CITY COMMISSION  
CITY OF TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, NEW MEXICO  
JUNE 23, 2015  
REGULAR MEETING - ACTION MINUTES

**TIME & PLACE:** The Mayor and the City Commission of the City of Truth or Consequences in the County of Sierra, and State of New Mexico met in Regular Session in full conformity with the law and ordinances of said Commission in the Commission Chambers of said City, June 23, 2015, with the meeting starting at 6:00 P.M.

**PRESIDING OFFICER:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandra Whitehead, who presided and Judy M. Harris, City Clerk acted as Secretary of the meeting. Mayor Sandra Whitehead explained that Commissioner Kathy Clark was on the telephone to participate in the meeting tonight.

Upon calling the roll the following Commissioners were reported present.

**ROLL CALL:** Hon. Sandra Whitehead, Mayor  
Hon. Steve Green, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Hon. Jeff Richter, Commissioner  
Hon. Kathy Clark, Commissioner (Via Telephone)  
Hon. Russ Peterson, Commissioner

Also Present:

Juan Fuentes, City Manager  
Jay Rubin, City Attorney  
Judy Harris, City Clerk

**QUORM:** There being a quorum present, the Commission proceeded with the business at hand.

**CEREMONY:** Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for fifteen seconds of Silent Meditation.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for Commissioner Jeff Richter to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for a motion to approve the agenda.

“Mayor pro-Tem Steve Green moved for approval of the Agenda as presented.”

Mayor Sandra Whitehead noted that the City Commission Meeting Minutes were May 26, 2015 and not 2016 as on the Agenda.

“Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Green made the motion to approve the Agenda as noted.

Seconded by Commissioner Jeff Richter.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for further comments or questions, with none, the Mayor called for a Vote.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**COMMENTS FROM  
THE PUBLIC:**

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for Public Comment, noting those wishing to comment would get three minutes, may only approach the podium once, and any material for the Commission was to be left in the black box by the podium.

Sue Penner, Finance Director for Senior Joint Office on Aging, approached and made comments about what they do with the monies allocated. She noted Transportation at 8,752 units, Home Meals at 26,898, congregate meals at 35,356, Homemaker at 400 hours a month and respite care more hours.

Diane Lambardo, 704 Silver, approached and read a quote about democracy, she noted people were angry for signing the petition without knowing what they were signing. She mentioned that if what they did was illegal then arrest them.

Jay Rubin, City Attorney, spoke up regarding the Public Hearing to be heard in tonight's meeting.

Audon Trujillo, 506 W. Third, approached and read a prepared statement about trust of the Commission. (A complete copy attached hereto and made part hereof.)

Ariel Dougherty, Caballo Road, approached and made comments regarding referendum 52 14/15 noting the AD HOC Citizens on notice. (A complete copy attached hereto and made part hereof.)

George Szigeti, 913 Spruce Street, approached and made comments about the AD HOC going into the Hospital in patients rooms and howling at people to sign the petition, he explained there were laws for liable. He noted that this group of 12 were poorly conceived and were hurting the community not helping.

Ron Fenn, T or C, approached and made comments for anyone listening. Noting fact resistance. (Paperwork was left by Mr. Fenn and is attached hereto and made part hereof.)

Kim Audette, no address given, approached and noted item K5 on the agenda, she noted we were in a housing glut and there was poverty in our Community.

Nadyne Gardner Daves, no address given, approached and made comments regarding rules and regulations that are set by the Commission. She noted that a group of 8 which are against everything the City tried to do or improve.

Sophia Peron, T or C Resident, approached and made comments regarding clean up.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for response to Public Comments, none came forward, the Mayor thanked everyone for the comments.

**CONSENT  
CALENDAR:**

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for the Consent Calendar, consisting of item City Commission Meeting Minutes of May 26, 2015.

“Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Green moved for approval as presented by the Mayor.”

Seconded by Commissioner Russ Peterson.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Mayor Sandra Whitehead noted item J.1. Public Hearings regarding Ordinance No. 665, an Ordinance of the people of the City of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico for the Preservation of a City Property, at a permanent an perpetual Recreation Center for the People of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, City Clerk Harris

Judy Harris, City Clerk, approached and explained the Citizen’s Initiative Ordinance was approved as to form on April 24, 2015. Per State Statue 3-1-5, the Petition was received for verification by the Clerk on May 26, 2015. The Petition had a total OF 262 Valid Signatures, 195 were required. The Clerk received 27 affidavits stating those who signed requested to remove their names from the Petition. City Clerk Harris explained that they cannot remove names from the Petition, she wished to report those to the Commission. She explained the Clerk did publish the entire petition as per 3-14-18(A) in both papers. City Clerk Harris explained the City Commission have several options regarding the Proposed Ordinance 1), Adopt the Ordinance as Presented. 2).Adopt as amended by the Commission or 3).Refuse the Ordinance. If the Ordinance of the People is denied or refused, that will trigger the Election for September 22, 2015. City Clerk Harris explained she would stand for questions, if there were any and then she would turn the discussion over to City Attorney Jay Rubin.

Mayor Sandy Whitehead asked the Commissioners if they had any questions. The Commissioners did not have any questions. Mayor Sandy Whitehead turned the floor over to Attorney Jay Rubin.

Attorney Jay Rubin stated that this is the Public Hearing for the Ordinance which has been recited by the Mayor. The seat here is actually very informal, it’s a public hearing and we allow each speaker to speak five minutes. They will be divided into two categories, those who will be speaking for the ordinance will be speaking first, and then the people who are against the ordinance will speak next. It’s not like some of the other hearings we have had in the past when it was

zoning issues or property issues, it's a complicated process called Battershell process. There's not going to be a question and answer session, there's not going to be cross examination or anything like that so we can keep it relaxed when they approach the podium. He stated that what he does next is he usually will summarize what the ordinance is all about, since he is not the one directing this and since the ordinance is only one page long, he thinks the proper thing to do is to read it out loud and then they can go ahead and see.

Attorney Jay Rubin read the ordinance out loud. See copy of Ordinance attached hereto.

Attorney Jay Rubin stated that is the ordinance that we will be having our public hearing on and then when the public hearing is closed, then the City Commission will the deliberate this ordinance as part of new business. So that is the process.

Mayor Sandy Whitehead thanked Attorney Jay Rubin and stated that at this time she does have the signup sheet for those who wish to peak in favor or against the ordinance, have you signed in. Remember once we start our public hearing, if you are not on the list you're not going to be able to speak. At this time the proponents that are on the list are Ron Fenn, Ariel Daugherty, Sophia Peron, Kim Audette, and Audon Trujillo. She asked that they approach the podium as they are listed here, give your name, address and stay on topic. You will have five minutes to speak on this subject. Mayor Sandy Whitehead called Ron Fenn to the podium.

Ron Fenn greeted the commissioners and stated his address as 316 N Foch Street, Truth or Consequences. He stated that this has been a much more contentious situation than he originally anticipated that it was going to be after the taking of our building. However, the fact that 262 out of 400 people who signed within 11 days were all of the same mind, or mostly all of the same mind, given the fact that no one at that time had been coerced or intimidated into changing their minds which has been subject to numerous print, media stories and ads. He stated that he has some very grave reservations about the purpose of this whole thing. He stated that he has a copy of the plans for the recreation, or for the spaceport visitor's center, and one of the things that he noticed on it is that, number one, there is no retail section in the visitor's center. However, now we have a retail center. Some of the business people in this downtown area, most of whom signed the petition by the way, but the few that refused to sign it were concerned about their money that they were going to earn from tourists. He stated that he was afraid to tell them that now that there is a retail center in this Visitor Center, and they will be selling souvenirs and t-shirts and all these things, and they will have a captive audience because no one else is open at nine o'clock in the morning save a couple of restaurants, which is good for the restaurants, but the restaurants don't just serve tourists. But those that were expecting to make great money from this horde of tourists that are going to come in are going to be very disappointed, and to find out that the City has now allowed something that was not originally designed, it was never listed in the lease, and he doesn't know how it just popped in. He stated that these are the plans for the two facilities and the retail center is supposed to be at the spaceport, not here. He stated his second concern was the major exhibit that was given to the City of Truth or

Consequences, and he wonders why it was designed in the first place, is a mock rocket of some sort that is supposed to appeal to children. He stated that unfortunately demographics say that only 5% of the people going to the spaceport are children, so our major display is designed for people who aren't coming and it makes sense. This was all designed by ideas in Florida who builds Disneyworld and all that kind of nonsense, not nonsense, but things that appeal to children. Disneyworld, frontier land, tomorrowland, all these whatever they make displays and they make rides and all of that for children mostly and the children drag their parents into it. This is a totally different situation; this is a number one, a construction zone and when it's not a construction zone it going to be an airport. He stated that airports are not conducive to drawing large crowds of children that want to go out, let's go out and watch the planes dad; they are all sitting there with their thumbs on their pads instead. He stated that 5% is the numbers for two years that have come off of Spaceport America's bookings. He said think about it, a retail center and an exhibit that 95% of the people won't be interested in, and for this we gave up our recreation center. He said as Mr. Fuentes said everybody has to sacrifice, but I say how are you sacrificing. I'm sacrificing.

Mayor Sandy Whitehead thanked Ron Fenn for his comments. She then called Ariel Daugherty to the podium.

Ariel Daugherty stated her address as 1580 Caballo Road. She stated that at the heart of this ordinance is whether we the people, citizens of our community control our community's destiny. Or do we allow special interests to have undue influence and permit our government to work on their behalf. 262 citizen signatures were validated on the petition that brings us this ordinance, Not everyone wants to speak and stand here before the public. Denigration of the people and the chilling of different voices by our town's two papers inhibit public discussion necessary to practice an open democracy. She stated that government has the responsibility to be transparent and operate in the open. Its actions must be for the public good and the public welfare. She stated that in the taking of the Lee Belle Johnson Senior Center for the purpose of a visitor's center, The T or C City's Commission did neither. For five Commission meetings between September 26 and January 13, all Commissioners were mute on anything to do with the visitor's center. She stated on two separate lengthy discussions about City branding during this period, not one Commissioner mentioned the visitor's center or Spaceport America. Essential to the City's image, not one Commissioner in any report felt any need to update the community on developments. She stated that this means to her one of two things that the visitor's center was really not that important, or you were hiding development from the public. She asked why just before finalizing the lease does a New Mexico Spaceport Authority withdraw altogether. Could it have something to do with that pesky New Mexico Statute 3-54-1? Unfortunately this leaves Follow the Sun as the primary tenant in violation of your own resolution of September 26. Follow the Sun is a for profit business with no mention in the resolution. It is sole sourced by the City and the New Mexico Spaceport Authority. She stated that this is hardly a benefit to public welfare. She stated that Spaceport America now blazes in from of the building, not the tenant. She asks for what reasons, but this agency at almost every turn is calling the shots.

She stated that at the center of the display are some NMSA questionable 9.4 million dollar boondoggles, the exhibits. They are going to be an albatrosses. The term interim must be considered, it was omitted initially in the hastily constructed motion to take the Lee Belle Johnson Senior Center. She stated that the likelihood of New Mexico Spaceport Authority ever building a spaceport visitors center at this point is about negative 200. So interim is another fantasy spouted by the City. She stated to the Commissioners that it is their own lack of transparency with the public that has led to the creation of this ordinance, your taking of the Lee Belle Johnson Senior Center is an act against the welfare of the public. You have cast aside 4,500 active mostly senior users of the LBJ Center. Members of our public, to speculate in a dubious endeavor with public funds for a private business. She stated that you have no findings to warrant this taking, its pie in the sky. That Civic Centers Facilities are equal to the Lee Belle Johnson Center is categorically false, they are not. She stated that you all who say they are, refrain please from advocating that they are. The amount of resistance fanned by outlaws in the Sentinel to the ordinance represents the degree of skullduggery and guilt held against citizen's actions to retain our rights. She stated that the Sentinel has for far too long worked to silence public disports. She stated that sir Richard Branson just last week warned about Virgin Galactic's spurn rate at 14 million, that's about 170 million a year. She stated that this is not such a subtle warning that he's going to pull out altogether. The newly polished Lee Belle Johnson Senior Center, which is sorely needed, will not hide the growing number of empty store fronts, one of which should instead been filled with this endeavor. She stated that all eggs in the spaceport basket may be a death meal for T or C, you all did it Commissioners, not we in the public. She stated that what we lose if we citizens allow this action by the City to stand is the center heart, the stage of our cultural heritage, the meeting place for us to share community joy, create and inspire. Tonight return the Lee Belle Johnson Center to the people.

Mayor Sandy Whitehead thanked Ariel for her comments and called Sophia Peron to the podium.

Sophia Peron greeted the Commissioners and she stated that she is proud to be associated with any group of ad hoc citizens who do anything that's good for this town. She also stated that she has a pretty good track record of winning most of the battles. She stated she would like to say something as a person who comes from a community development background. In Albuquerque I was on the board of directors of Unites South Broadway Corporation and I was also on the City of Albuquerque economic and housing development committee which administered over 10 million dollars in funds redeveloping the saw mill project and all the main street projects. She stated that when we did things, we did things the way Mrs. Daugherty explains here in her request for public records. Before you do anything, you hire experts and you sit around with your constituents and your neighbors and the people who are going to spend money and first she asked to this town, she asked, Ariel asked about a list of criteria of what the City sought in its search for the best location of a spaceport visitor's center. The date of creation of this establishment of criteria and name of all parties involved in creation of such criteria. No records exist. Two, was this criteria made available to the public, if so how and when. She stated that this is a question and there is no

answer. She stated that its not official question I guess. Three, a list of community organizations, businesses, and/or agencies that took a lead in the selection and/or criteria process were consulted during the process or had some role in participation with the City or individual Commissioners in developing the criteria or input into the selection of a possible building for the spaceport visitor's center. No records exist. A list of the owners of buildings in downtown and addresses of those buildings that were sought as possible sights. A summary of the results of those views and discussions. A list of who was in attendance and who viewed the properties and their involvement. No records exist. Seven buildings were looked at, fire station, Civic Center, Elks Building, Andy's, Pixies, The Fourth Arts Studio and Lee Belle. Any department head reports, that's a question. Like from parks and rec department that investigated the shift in use of the Lee Belle Center. No records exist. Inclusive should be any reports and findings from community boards, like the industrial and economic development board and the convention and entertainment board, or any other community boards the City found relevant to shift the repurposing of Lee Belle Johnson. No records exist. A summary of the City's data collection of use of Lee Belle Johnson. She stated that the records can be viewed at the City Clerk's office and they are incomplete, they had a lot of things left out. Any and all reports, data collection, financial analysis and findings that might be included in any City manager's summaries. No records exist. She stated that it's just like they took the rules of City planning and said let's just skip each one of them and do whatever the heck we want and that's what they did. She stated that no civilized City does this. They just pull things out of their head. They got work to do and this is what they are doing and we will watch it. It will be really fun to see the economic development of this project.

Mayor Sandy Whitehead thanked Mrs. Peron and called Kim Audette to the podium.

Kim Audette greeted the Commissioners and the Mayor. She stated that the first thing she would like to mention is that the City is created by laws and statutes that we are all supposed to understand and comply with. The first one that really bothers me about the way the City has handled this recreation center change of use is NMSA 3.14-12. The powers vested in the Commission and the duties of the Commission. She stated that what she was really looking at was to fiduciary duties. This is where the City is given a fiduciary responsibility to manage the public's money. Then what happened is that the City took executive actions, the City Commission, when actually it's a legislative body. So they changed the use without an ordinance, and particularly starting a bus terminal without a conditional use permit. She stated that that violates the City's own zoning codes section 11-9-7D6 which requires a condition use permit. She stated that usually if there is going to be a permit of some sort, there's bench marks and penalties. So proof of capacity is one of those things when they are setting a sole source monopoly permit. Of course that wasn't addressed because the condition use permit wasn't addressed. She stated that the lease did not specify penalties for failing to meet the protections because there are no protections. There must be penalties assessed for failure to perform, liability issues come up because there are places for children to play and children do fall down and break things, usually themselves. So the lease, as long as the fiduciary fails to set performance

benchmarks and penalties for failure to perform, makes the lease pretty much invalid. She stated that Commissioner Green has been taking executive actions by legislating findings, which he has backed off from and is no longer calling them findings, so we are holding this public hearing instead. Unfortunately the public hearing was not properly noticed, it was less than two weeks' notice, so it's not really a public hearing. She stated that they are six months late, the building has already been changed; the use has already been changed. There's a grand opening tomorrow. And there's no Battershell procedures. So, the Commission apparently had since May 12 to go ahead and set up a proper public hearing and has declined. She stated that is another executive action. So the City's got a history, actually of acting first and making it legal later, which is executive actions by a legislative body and that's where the problem under 3-14-12 arises. This City has the duty to create offices, which it hasn't exactly done properly and perform acts required for the general welfare of the municipality. She stated that includes low incomes, this takes away from low incomes. She stated to Juan that she recommends that there is possibility of free admission to the locals of share with the community as a partial recreation center rather than completely remove the public from it. One of the promises that was made was bus rides up the hill, so that people, including tourists, could work with the community which is way tourists come here in the first place is part of ecotourism. Interacting with the community, it's a big deal. She stated that by legislating the City is, the way that the City has legislated, the tourists can't really visit with the locals. We are going to have to paint people on the buildings in order for the tourists to see any people downtown; you moved them up the hill. She stated that she is in support of this ordinance because it will save the people \$6,500 in referendum election. She thanked the Commissioners.

Mayor Sandy Whitehead thanked Mrs. Audette and called Audon Trujillo to the podium.

Audon Trujillo thank you for allowing me to speak, Commissioners. Businesses downtown are desperate for growth and the Commission is desperate for growth and our citizens for growth and everyone wants more jobs. I recognize that this is what you think this is going to help. I recognize 250 million dollars has been spent by this state for the spaceport venture up to now and frankly it galls me that we are spending any of our money on the spaceport. They should be footing the bill on this, they being the state, should be footing the bill on this. That it's not the biggest game in town, we have got wonderful resources that we just fail to promote. This town used to be called Hot Springs and that's really one of our basic resources is the hot mineral baths that it offers citizens and tourists and whoever comes here. Hot mineral baths rock, they're known to help with retirees coming here. Yet what do we do? Is there a big sign about how many bath houses we have five miles out of town so people can just stop, no? We would rather spend the money, time and our resources on the Lee Belle Johnson Center. We are going to get by this; I mean I get it; we've got to do something to have the town grow. I get it, but I don't think it's the only game in town and the comprehensive plan should have been done better to focus on that. This Lee



Belle Johnson Center being turned into a spaceport, we didn't have that in mind. And that's how seriously people take it; it's not taken very seriously. When you allowed that one entity to rent the Lee Belle Johnson Center initially, you disallowed private businesses from competing. Why didn't you put it in RFP? The City could have put in an RFP off of the LBJ Center. But someone else could've also. You know, sole sourcing is a dirty word in procurement. You try to avoid it, I know, I did that for about twenty years, you don't do that, you avoid it. We have what's called negotiation memorandums that are written up, as a professional you do that, not in this town, but as a professional in procurement, every procurement you do has have to have a negotiation memorandum and all the actions taken, who you solicited, the buildings that were supposed to, all that information is written down. We don't have anything to back us up on the decision, so it's the trust issue, like we don't know. Was there a rolling quorum? I mean if we view this back in July, or excuse me, September or October, then how many Commissioners were involved in this, who was doing it? We don't know. Frankly I don't want to do it, an IPRA to find out; I don't want to do it. Enough is enough, but we have the petition that undoubtedly you'll Vote against it and we will go to an election. You need to think about some things you've got to do if you want to make this work. You have on the books a convention entertainment ordinance; I spoke about this a year ago. Take the darn thing off the books, Vote it out. That ordinance calls for you to have a five member board to suggest things to happen to the Lee Belle Johnson Center or the Civic Center, you're not doing it. You are responsible for that Juan; you are supposed to comply with all ordinances on the book. You've got to put them into effect and you commissioners are supposed to make him responsible and you're not doing that. You can't pick and choose which ordinances you want to follow, you're supposed to follow them all, and if it's a bad ordinance, if you feel it's a bad one, get it off the books. I'm lecturing I'm sorry but it gets me emotional because I just feel it's a lack of professionalism in what we do here. It's embarrassing, this is my home town too guys, you know I love the town just like you all do. We have water resources like I've already said and that's where we should be promoting for Truth or Consequences, not the spaceport guys. Let them spend their money on it. Thank you.

Mayor Sandy Whitehead thanked Audon Trujillo.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for Opponents naming George Szigeti, Diane Lombardo, Ruanna Waldrum , Linda DeMarino, Naydyne Gardner-Daves, Mario Portello, Randle Lawson and Hans Townsend. Mayor Sandra Whitehead explained each person was allotted to five minutes to speak.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for George Szigeti.

George Szigeti, 918 Spruce, I said before that this was a poorly conceived Ordinance, listening to Attorney Rubin read it I just realized there's something else wrong with it. The Ordinance requires the City to return the Lee Belle Johnson into the State it was in January of 2015, what does that mean to the

\$40,000 dollars' worth of improvements made to the Center that Ordinance would require the City to undo all the improvements that have been done. Is that a well-conceived Ordinance? I also really planned to counter some of the arguments made last session, the first point I'd like to argue, would be the rent being charged to Follow the Sun Tours is the allegation that the building rent is too low because the building is worth one point six million dollars. Any realtor can tell you that they use what they paid for it, to get the amount to get a reasonable payback on the investment. However what you can actually expect to receive is based on the market for that area. Any space in downtown, that would rent for what these people feel is reasonable, would remain vacant, due to the cost. Looking at it another way, the Lee Belle Johnson earned \$1500 dollars in revenue, divide this figure by 12 months and you get a hundred and twenty five dollars a month, this is the true market value of this property prior to the Visitor Center lease. This is what people were willing to pay. So the lease to Follow The Sun Tours comes out to about 800% of the market value. That's not a very shabby negotiation is it? Now for their slide 14; they claim that this action will remove 4, 465 people from downtown. Where did this astounding figure come from? Well they took an average of 12.2 users per day and multiplied it by 366 days, well since one year out of four is a leap year, they really should have been using 365.25. I'm even willing to admit that this number of users per day is fairly low, it does vary quite a bit. But even if you use 20 per day, you have to understand this is the same group of 140 people that show up each week for their regular weekly activities; 140 NOT 4,465. If you add to this the few hundred that show up for an occasional concert or other event, two or three times a year, it may get you up to around 1500, but not is still less than a third of what they claim. Prove your allegations people. I challenge you to collect the names of 4,465 different individuals who have actually even stepped foot into that Visitor Center, or the Lee belle Center, in the last year. Good Luck. Just to show you how ridiculous this logic is, the SJOA Senior Meal serves more than 300 people per day. Using their AD HOC logic, you would multiply this by 365 and claim that the meal site serves more than 109500 people every year. Wow. Now I will not deny that Ron Fenn is an intelligent person, the fact that even with his help, this group of 12 could not come up with any better argument than these ludicrous arguments just go to show how pointless this action is. This is not about preserving a recreation center, this is a blatant attempt by a small group of malcontents to hijack control of our City Government. Vote No."

Mayor Sandra Whitehead thanked George Szigeti and called for Diane Lombardo to come forward.

Diane Lombardo, thank you very much. Last week I talked to a friend of mine, and she's companionate and caring person, and a very good person, we're on opposite sides on this issue. We're still friends. She would state some of the stuff that she heard from the AD HOC people, and I would refute what she heard with facts. And she would say yes, but. – and she would tell me something else she heard, and then I would tell her what was said in the meetings that quite a few of the AD HOC People didn't bother to come to, and she would say yes, but - finally I said to her, this is an emotional issue for you, isn't it. And she admitted yes, it's an emotional issue, you can never convince these people with facts, because it has nothing to do with facts; it's an emotional issue. People

who came here 10, 20, 30 years ago, are used to the Senior Center being a rec center; they can't handle change. But these people cannot accept change. They cannot accept the Civic Center, they cannot accept that if they play badminton in the Civic Center, their shuttlecocks won't be caught in the lights. These are people who are stuck in their ways. My question is – if you were 35 years old and had two kids in this City, how would you feel about it? Maybe it is a pie in the sky to go ahead with the Visitor Center, who knows. But what we've been doing doesn't work, you need to try something different, you need to go above and beyond and reach out. Ted Turner is standing by us, he is investing in us, look at the difference he's made in the Sierra Grande, he's started his eco tours, we've gotten a new, a new company came into the Space Center, just because Branson may or may not do whatever he may do, that's what all the big hype is, but other companies will move in. If it wasn't a good thing, other states would not be looking at doing it. We need a Visitor Center, and yes, maybe right now only 5% of the people are kids, but you know what, that's because there is nothing in this town for kids. A Visitor Center with rockets would be great for kids. My twelve year old grandson comes and we go to the hot, the spas. He can sit still for a little bit, and then he's splashing around and humming and doing what twelve year old boys do. You can't bring kids here with hot springs, you need to have something for them to do. You need to have a Visitor Center and then they can discover, once they see the rockets and everything, they can go to the museum, maybe they're not in to Dobie Gillis and Rosemary and who knows, Ralph Edwards, ya know, kids know, and they will know the fossils, they will know the Indians, they will know the rocks, if we can have more things here, maybe we can build and get more to come. It's got so much potential, and if I had kids in this town, I would want us to go forward with this. I would want us, and if at some point we get some transportation in here and other amenities, a call center may look at us and say Hey this town would be good for a call center. And then there will be jobs. And we will have a higher tax base. The hou.....this is my time thank you. You have to look ahead, you cannot look behind, thank you.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for Ruanna Waldrum.

I'm Ruanna Waldrum, I live on Juniper Street in Truth or Consequences, I help run Hot Springs Frames and Art Supply, a business downtown that's owned by my partner Andrew; and I'm a freelance web developer. As a business owner I constantly defend the fact, you know, I hear that businesses are never opened, someone said no one's opened at nine. I can argue that for a while, but it doesn't matter, we are opened; we're now open five days a week, you know, if you give us a reason to be open more we will be. Somebody told me if I spoke here tonight to you guys, I'd just be preaching to the choir, so if anyone is not convinced, or anyone who was already convinced, just open your hymnals to page 54 please. (laughter) Since I admin the Sierra County Tourism Website, I know a lot about visitors to the site, and I thought I'd give you some statistics on how the Spaceport America Project is attracting interest. Over the past year the Spaceport page, in the Spaceport Tour page have ranked 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> respectively behind things such like Hot Springs, Lakes, Hotels and Boating. Together those pages have had 11,000 visits in the past 12 months. Never the less, I don't expect the downtown Spaceport America Visitor Center to turn T or C into San Luis Obispo over night, but I know that it will increase the exposure

and foot traffic in downtown, and I'm the world's worst capitalist, so I don't honestly care how much, I just want to see an increase. I'm really glad we've been given a chance to have a Visitor Center Downtown, and I really appreciate you guys making it happen. As a Broadway business owner, I sit staring out the window whenever I'm there and I can see how busy our block is, or isn't, and up ticks in traffic do come directly after positive press on the town. The most recent example being the New Mexico Magazine Article on Mr. Turner's ECO Tours. On the flip side, we've got this constant up evil brought on by this small group of unreasonable people of people in the AD HOC Committee. They whistle blow, phone call the Albuquerque News Stations, trespass, publicly name call in the paper and twist facts and it's embarrassing us and I feel they damage our town's reputation, and by extension it's economy. There are all kinds of examples of how unreasonable they are and how they twist the facts, but in last Friday's Sentinel there was a letter to the editor written by in this group referring to what I guess is the Ralph Edwards Civic Auditorium as a distant, dank moldy closet; I've been there a few times, and I just don't see this is accurate and there are other venues for people to use for the purposes that are needed, I just don't see why there's a problem. I really try not to pay attention to all the chatter that's out there everywhere these days, and I see the same handful of people continue to rake you guys and our town over the coals, in meetings and all over the internet it make me so mad. And when they for an expensive election on a community that is strapped for cash just because the lighting was better for the LBJ for badminton or because nobody had asked their permission, I think I have reason to boil. Most of all I've been resenting for years that six (6) to twelve (12) people can represent the town and the people, especially downtown. That just isn't true. Vote No.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Mayor Sandra Whitehead stated thank you Ms. Waldrum; Our next Opponent this evening is Linda DeMarino.

Linda DeMarino on behalf of MainStreet Truth or Consequences, I'm urging you to Vote Against this Ordinance. To piggy back on what Ruanna was saying, I met with State Senator John Arthur-Smith earlier this year, and he said, so I guess you're here for money. And of course, everybody's there for money, right? And he said you know what's killing you guys, you can't get along. He said you have this group of people, you know, that's so vocal, you guys can't get along, and that's what hurting you, and you're not getting money for projects because of that. That's where we are, and this is the group of people that's, again, causing our community harm, they're harming our reputation. It's gotta stop. I don't know how many times, you know, we have to do this, but that's okay, I'll do it. So one of the reasons to vote against the Ordinance, something exciting is coming up on 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend, Sierra Vista Hospital's having busses that are going to be going from Elephant Butte Lake, they're going to go to the RV Show in Elephant Butte, they're going to come to T or C, you know where they are going to drop off? The Spaceport Visitor Center. How many people are there going to be that see that, Oh Spaceport America Visitor Center, let's go to T or C; that wouldn't even have thought about it before they come here. And I think really quickly we're going to see somebody turn on the investment right there. As far as retail is going, I spoke to the shop owners, most of the shop owners are really not that concerned about the retail in that building,

because why, because they're not selling art. They're not selling birthday cards. They're selling exclusive Spaceport America stuff, that's the gist of it, there's not going to be a huge crossover. Thirdly, Mr. Fenn said airports aren't conducive to tourist and children. Talk to Kennedy Space Center, 1.5 million a year go to Kennedy Space Center in a year. And you know, I went there, as a child, there were lots of kids there, a lot. It's a family trip. So I don't expect it to get 1.5 million people, but at least we have the opportunity to get some. If we kept it as a senior rec center what are we going to get? We get no children. None. We don't get families, we don't get children, and we don't get anybody. And we get that piddly amount of money that we were getting last year. I just want to say, that I think you guys are going to make a good decision, we have to plan for the future. Not for the past. And as we move forward, you know, hopefully we can get along better, so our town can move forward, and have money for projects. I want to thank you guys for being progressive and for recognizing an opportunity that maybe when the Comprehensive Plan came, maybe this wasn't an opportunity, but I appreciate you recognizing the opportunity and moving forward with it. Thank you.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead thanked Ms. DeMarino. She stated the next opponent is Nadyne Gardner-Daves.

Nadyne Gardner-Davis I would like to give my time to Hans, since he wasn't....."

Mayor Sandra Whitehead "I don't think we can do that, can..."

City Attorney: "well, yeah, we really can't, however, excuse me mam, what I was going to say is there were people who walked in late. And I think actually, cause we're trying to keep this very open, I would I wouldn't have any problem with people who walked in late and people want to sign in to talk. That's all I wanted to state, I would have no problem with that. And so, Ms. Daves can still speak if she wants to."

Mayor Sandra Whitehead stated Ms. Daves you can still speak if you wish to.

Ms. Nadyne Gardner-Daves declined.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead asked if they needed to sign in.

Attorney Jay Rubin answered "Yes, whoever walked in late and wants to sign to speak, and sign in if they are Proponent or Opponent."

Mayor Sandra Whitehead stated okay, lets finish with the list and then we'll go back and the ones that came in late, then we'll address them, okay?

Jay Rubin, City Attorney answered Yes.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead asked Nadyne Gardner-Daves does not want to talk? Okay. Next on the list is Mr. Portillo.

Mario Portillo: Hi there, I'm Mario Portillo, I'm a Certified Accountant and I also own the Grape Vine Bistro which happens to be on Sims Street where I guess the new visitors center is going, I'm not very prepared for this, I've heard from different people, these people of 8 or 12, whatever it is. I appreciate them being a watch dog for us, that's good that they're watching out for the Community. The issue I saw here was first we're going to displace our seniors. So then I thought, I don't want that, what does it really mean? Well it means they are moving to a building however many blocks away, I say three they say four. And apparently have the same services. An so, that sounds pretty fair to me, the other side of the coin is, okay we're going to have more foot traffic, we're going to have people coming in on shuttles, buses, I think that's nothing but good. Good for the community and possibly be as a business owner. So after weighing the facts, I am definitely for the Visitor Center, which I assume that means vote no on this proposition. Thank you.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead thanked Mr. Portillo. She explained the last opponent for this is Randle Lawson.

Randle Lawson, Thank you. I'm Randle Lawson, and I live on Poplar here in T or C. I've sit back here and everybody that has come up here and talked, whether it was for the AD HOC folks, or the people that are against this. Certain people have just set up here and do nothing but snicker and carry on conversations, to me that's rude. And that's just one reason, they're like a bunch of spoiled children, they're not getting their way, so they've run through this mess that they've got us into now, if they were worried about money, that supposedly we've all spent. But now, we may end up having to pay \$6500 dollars, that doesn't seem to worry them too much, does it. You know I just can't tell you how furious I am at this group of folks, because they are not good for this town. Not one thing that they do, that I can think of, has been one positive thing that would have been good for this town, what so ever. Its stuff like this, and its giving us a bad light. Seems like there is something that we can do about this, I don't know what, I mean I'm not a lawyer, I'm not, but I'm just really sick about this. When I first moved here, I know we had elections for the taxes, I didn't vote for it, I wasn't in favor of the Spaceport, but you know it's here, let's make the best of it. We do need to do something, I mean this town is dying. I'm not gonna say it's a big light pie in the sky or anything, but maybe it's a start. At least you're gonnna try something, that's better than sitting on your hands and not doing diddly squat of anything. But, ah, I vote no. I hope you vote no to it. I'm tired of people holding our City captive, and that's exactly what they're trying to do. Like a spoiled child, they're not getting their way, so they're gonna cause as much trouble and havoc as they can. Thank you.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead thanked Mr. Lawson. Mayor Whitehead stated there were a couple of people, three people that I know of walked in, if you'd like to sign in and come up and speak, your more than welcome to do that. I have the list right up here, if you want to speak as Opponent or Proponent.

Kim Audette called out from the audience, where do we leave paperwork.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead answered in the little black box. Okay it looks like

we've got two more Proponents and one more Opponent. I'm going ahead to the proponents who just signed in. She called for Proponent Shawn Franco. Come down to the podium please, give your name, address, and you're allowed five minutes to speak.

Shawn Franco, I'm at HC 31 Box 43 in Williamsburg, and good evening Mayor and Commissioners. Mainly I want to say that I'm a Proponent of the Ordinance and I love Lee Belle Johnson Senior Recreation Center, and I would even like it if an advisory board for it and if it was just a plain old recreation center for everybody, for all ages. I think it's a unique building, a beautiful building that ought to be preserved for the community and for generations in the future. Thank you,

Mayor Sandra Whitehead thanked Ms. Franco. She then called Proponent Mayela Costales.

Mayela Costales My name is Mayela Costales and I live at 803 Palo Verde, T or C. What I wanna say is I love the Lee Belle Johnson too, and I wanna keep it as it is. We had a lot of more buildings that you guys can use for that, and um, just keep it, look for another building, for the space center, we can have that too, but you guys have to look at more buildings, something different, like example, get the gas, we have the highest in the state. Everybody fills it up, like in Socorro, everybody's a lot higher, look at that point first. That's the way to bring tourist here. And if you want more activities, the people to get more activities for the center, for the building, the Lee Belle, that's what we need, people who did organize, do it different things. So that's my advice, thank you.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead thanked Ms. Costales. Mayor Whitehead called for the Opponent, Hans Townsend.

Kathy Clark, via telephone, stated some people are not speaking into the mic, unfortunately calling in, I would like to hear what is being said, when people are speaking could you ask them to speak directly into the Mic.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead asked everyone to speak directly into the microphone.

Hans Townsend, currently president of the Chamber of Commerce, and owner of the Desert View Inn. This competitive scene that we've had around us for a little while now, I have to confess, when I first found out that the proposal was to put the Visitor Center into the Lee Belle Johnson, my first question was, don't we have somewhere else, do we have to take something away to get something else, and I was given a lot of reasons, and I understand them. To have the visitor center in town, was for the Chamber and for myself, over the last four years, really important. We pushed for the City to put a proposal for the Spaceport Welcome Center, and you'll find we wrote a letter to you asking you to put in a proposal because we wanted the City to have this Visitor Center in the City, otherwise we were losing all the advantages, national and international press, which has been quite enormous after the past year, there's been nothing here, and the people who came before this and we had nothing here. All we had were the tours, and the tours didn't start from downtown, and the people that came for the

tours didn't come downtown or even see the downtown. So that to us was a big negative, that all this publicity was wasted as far as T or C was concerned. And T or C has the most people in Sierra County, so getting this visitor center in town has been very, very important to town, how big, how small – the main thing is that this becomes the center for those people who come to tour the Spaceport, we become the place, and that is really important for the business in town, we don't get any advantage if we don't have that. If those buses are leaving from the freeway or from Elephant Butte there's no advantage. All this publicity in the papers, nationally and internationally, you'd be amazed at the international publicity we are getting. If we are not the starting point, we don't get those visitors. I get visitors at the hotel that ask where do we go to see Spaceport. And I can't give them an answer, they come on Tuesday, two guys from Australia, remember very well, flying out of Denver Saturday, they wanted to see the Spaceport,, there's no way you can see it. We came all this way, we heard all about this, and there wasn't anything. Which if we send them to the visitor Center now we're going to have a place in town, they are also going to see the rest of our downtown. They 're not going to drive around go to look at it, they're going to drive down the roadway even to get away, so this mean it's the hook, it's the lure, we can fish now, we can get those people. We couldn't do it before, there was nothing that brought those people here. And so this is really important. So sacrifice, if you wanna call it that. The Lee Belle Center as it was, which wasn't doing very much, we all know that. And the few that used it for pleasurable past times, have got alternatives, but it doesn't even compare what we're going to get out of it, no matter how many visitors may start, the big thing is we have a draw downtown, when we get publicity we have something to tell them, somewhere they can go, and it's the start of something we hope. Now we've come around to having this, and it may be much smaller but it still it's a big step in the right direction that we haven't take before. And so I oppose the Ordinance. Thank you.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead thanked Mr. Townsend. She noted that was the last name, so she was going to close the Public Hearing.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for New Business, Item K.1. Discussion/Action: Ordinance #665, An Ordinance of the People of the city of Truth or Consequences, New Mexico for the Preservation of a City Property, at 301 South Foch Street, known as the Lee Belle Johnson Senior recreation enter, as a permanent and perpetual recreation center for the people for Truth or Consequences. Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for questions or comments.

“Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Green moved to NOT accept the Ordinance.”

Seconded by Commissioner Kathy Clark and Mayor Sandra Whitehead.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for further comments or questions, with none coming forward she called for a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Sandra Whitehead responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.



Hon. Steve Green responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.  
Hon. Jeff Richter responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.  
Hon. Kathy Clark responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote. (via telephone)  
Hon. Russ Peterson responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for the next item, Item K.2. Discussion/Action: Resolution #52 14/15 Election Resolution. Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for and questions or comments, with none coming forward, Mayor Sandra Whitehead requested a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Sandra Whitehead responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.  
Hon. Steve Green responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.  
Hon. Jeff Richter responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.  
Hon. Kathy Clark responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote. (via telephone)  
Hon. Russ Peterson responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for the next item, Item K.3. Discussion/Action: Sub-recipient Funds, City Manager Juan Fuentes.

City Manager Juan Fuentes explained these were some Sub-recipient's whom had turning in their reports late. He explained that by the guidelines, Linda Sparks, Executive Secretary, denied the paperwork because it came in late, so that's why it's in front of the Commission this evening, for them to get approval.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for Linda DeMarino, MainStreet Truth or Consequences to approach.

Ms. Linda DeMarino explained that she was usually on time, but this time she was late, admittedly late with her report. She asked the Commission for leniency, explaining it was a mistake.

Commissioner Jeff Richter stated we have discussed this before, and everyone knows how he feels about this. It is in the guidelines that if they are late they forfeit the money. No report, no money.

Commissioner Russ Peterson agreed with Commissioner Richter.

Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Green also agreed but asked the Commission to

consider how much each of these sub-recipients do for the Community, and how we could never replace the amount of time in money, noting that they had been sufficiently chastised.

“Mayor Pro-Tem Steve made the motion to approve the payment of \$7,500 to MainStreet Truth or Consequences.”

Seconded by Mayor Sandra Whitehead.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for further comments or questions, with no further coming forward, Mayor Whitehead called for a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Sandra Whitehead responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Steve Green responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Jeff Richter responded NAY to a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Kathy Clark responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote. (via telephone)

Hon. Russ Peterson responded NAY to a Roll Call Vote.

Motion Carried three (3) to two (2)

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for Joe McClintock, Senior Joint Office on Aging (SJOA) to approach.

#### REPORTS:

Joe McClintock, SJOA Director, approached and explained the 9<sup>th</sup> quarter Invoice for the amount of \$5000.00, noting that it was late, he noted the request was for reimbursement for the fourth quarter transportation, fourth quarter reimbursements for congregate meals, fourth quarter reimbursement for home delivered meals and fourth quarter reimbursement 2014/2015. Making the total \$5,000.00.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead asked for questions or comments.

“Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Green moved to approve payment of the Sierra Joint Office On Aging, invoice number 105 in the amount of \$5,000.00.”

Seconded by Mayor Sandra Whitehead.

Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Green suggested that they come up with a penalty for those filing late reports.

Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Green stated that we just heard all that SJOA is doing, and explained that he could not see people go hungry.

Kathy Clark, Commissioner, (Via telephone) stated she thought the motion should be amended to add a 10% late penalty.

Jeff Richter, Commissioner, stated we do have a penalty it's right there in the agreement, no reports no money.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for further comments or questions, with no further coming forward, Mayor Whitehead called for a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Sandra Whitehead responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Steve Green responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Jeff Richter responded NAY to a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Kathy Clark responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote. (via telephone)

Hon. Russ Peterson responded NAY to a Roll Call Vote.

Motion Carried three (3) to two (2)

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for the next item, Item #K.4. Discussion/Action: Resolution #53 14/15 a Resolution of support executing a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the City of Truth or Consequences and the MainStreet Truth or Consequences Organization; Assistant City Manager Bill Slettom.

Bill Slettom, ACM/CDD, approached and explained that this is a two year agreement, the City is now in the sixth year of working in the public-private partnership with MainStreet Truth or Consequences to enhance the economic development of downtown Truth or Consequences. Assistant City Manager Slettom stated that an example of this is the \$70,000.00 grant for the downtown Master Plan for Revitalization which was completed last year, and the Economic report prepared by BBER and presented last month. The approved MOU Funding shall be \$30,000, with an additional \$5,000.00, with an additional \$5,000 for marketing and promotion. He explained that the partnership opens further opportunities for special appropriation capital outlay support for the planning, design and construction of catalytic downtown projects.

“Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Green moved for approval of Resolution #53 14/15”; then asked City Attorney Rubin about the last paragraph.

Jay Rubin, City Attorney, explained yes, they could remove the last sentence and change it to read “the approved OU funding shall be \$30,000 with an addition \$5,000.00 for marketing and promotion as set forth in the Subrecipient application and the agreement with MainStreet and Truth or Consequences.

“Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Green moved to approve Resolution #53 14/15 with the changes as noted deleting the last line and replacing with the wording as mentioned.”

Seconded by Commissioner Jeff Richter.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for further comments or questions, with none coming forward, Mayor Whitehead called for a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Sandra Whitehead responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Steve Green responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Jeff Richter responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.  
Hon. Kathy Clark responded AYE to a Roll call Vote, (Via Telephone)  
Hon. Russ Peterson responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for Item K.5.Discussion/Action: Resolution #54 14/15 a Resolution for partnership for the Economic Strategy through the Truth or Consequences Colonia's, Housing Economic and Development Steering committee (TORCHED) Initiative; City Manager Juan Fuentes.

Juan Fuentes, City Manager, explained that this Resolution would make it possible for a partnership for the economic Strategy through the Truth or Consequences Colonia's Housing Economic and Development Steering Committee (TORCHED) Initiative. He noted that we all recognize the importance of the local economy, explaining that the city wishes to become a partner with other Federal, State, and local agencies to help our City succeed to further develop its local economy. Explaining that along with the Colonia's, Housing Economic and Development Steering Committee, the City will dedicate a person to officially participate in the Steering Committee as a Start Up Initiative, working for the development of the community. City Manager Juan Fuentes explained some of the funding programs, as shown in the handout to the Commission. City Manager Juan Fuentes stood for questions.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for questions or comments, none came forward.

“Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Green moved for approval of Resolution #54 14/15 a Resolution for partnership for the Economic Strategy through the Truth or Consequences Colonias, Housing and Development Steering committee (TORCHED) Initiative.”

Seconded by Commissioner Jeff Richter.

Mayor Whitehead called for further comments or questions, with none, she requested a Roll Call Vote. Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for further comments or questions, with none coming forward, Mayor Whitehead called for a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Sandra Whitehead responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.  
Hon. Steve Green responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.  
Hon. Jeff Richter responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.  
Hon. Kathy Clark responded AYE to a Roll call Vote, (Via Telephone)  
Hon. Russ Peterson responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for the next item, K.6. Discussion/Action: Resolution #55 14/15 Budget Adjustment; City Manager Juan Fuentes.

Juan Fuentes, City Manager, explained that the Commission had approved of the final budget June 23 of 2015. Noting that the information provided to the Commission showed the items as General Fund \$3,000.00 as expenses are estimated to exceed the budgeted amount. Explaining the transfer out and in to balance the account. Transferred to the Correction Fund, \$3,000.00 for expenses which are estimated to exceed the available amounts. The expenditure of \$4,000 for the Correction and transfer of the same \$4,000.00. City manager Juan Fuentes stood for questions.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for questions or comments, with none coming forward she requested a Roll Call Vote.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for further comments or questions, with none coming forward, Mayor Whitehead called for a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Sandra Whitehead responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Steve Green responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Jeff Richter responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.

Hon. Kathy Clark responded AYE to a Roll call Vote. (Via Telephone)

Hon. Russ Peterson responded AYE to a Roll Call Vote.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for the next item K.7. Discussion/Action: Naming Pat Wood as Chief Procurement Officer (CPO) for the City of Truth or Consequences; City Manager Juan Fuentes.

Juan Fuentes, City Manager, explained that the State of new Mexico now requires that on or before January first of each year beginning in 2014. All local public bodies to designate a Chief Procurement Officer for the entity. The deadline for CPO's to be in compliance with NMSA 13-1-95.2. He explained that in March of 2015 he and Pat Wood had attended and received COP Certification which is required. City Manager Juan Fuentes explained that since Ms. Pat Wood is the City's designated Procurement Officer, it would be appropriate to name Ms. Wood as the Chief Procurement Officer for the City. City Manager Juan Fuentes stood for questions.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for further comments or questions, with none coming forward, Mayor Whitehead called for a motion.

“Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Green moved to name Pat Wood as Chief Procurement Officer for the City of Truth or Consequences.”

Seconded by Commissioner Jeff Richter.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for the next item, K.8. Designating Depository for Maturing CDs; Juan Fuentes, City Manager.

Juan Fuentes, City Manager, explained that this was for authorization to deposit withdraw and-or re-invest balance amounts of maturing Certificates of Deposits for the R & R Sewer, R & R Water and Pledge State Accounts. City Manager Fuentes noted the paperwork provided to the Commission, he explained that the City received notice that the following certificates of deposit will be matured on June 17, the current grace period ending date is June 27<sup>th</sup>. He noted that City Clerk Harris had called the banking institutions and First Savings Bank has the best interest rate of .35%, he explained that through First Savings there is no charge or pre-payment penalty on the CD, even if the money is needed on the same day if necessary. His recommendation was to have the three CD's invested with First Savings Bank. City Manager Fuentes stood for questions.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for questions or comments, with none coming forward Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for a motion.

“Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Green moved to authorize the re-investment of R & R Sewer CD #06372 in the amount of \$143,190.37, R & R Water in the amount of \$126,531.23 and Pledge State \$584,862.93, with First Savings Bank.”

Seconded by Commissioner Jeff Richter.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for further comments or questions, with none coming forward she called for the Vote.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for reports, starting with City Manager Juan Fuentes.

Juan Fuentes, City Manager, reported that we received preliminary approval for the preliminary budget.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for City Attorney Rubin.

Jay Rubin, City Attorney, no report.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for Commissioner Jeff Richter.

Jeff Richter, Commissioner, no report.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for Commissioner Russ Peterson.

Russ Peterson, Commissioner, no report.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for Commissioner Kathy Clark.

Kathy Clark, Commissioner, noted it was 55 degrees on the Pacific Ocean.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead reported that over the weekend there had been Class of the 70's Reunion at the Civic Center. The Mayor also acknowledged the Opening Ceremony for the Spaceport Visitor Center, inviting all to attend.

Mayor Sandra Whitehead called for Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Green.

Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Green reported about the presentation made 2 weeks ago by the AD HOC, noted they were on the right on slide 4 & 5 in the presentation, but that was about all that was correct in the presentation. He went over the Ordinance and refuted several items.

Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Green called for any further comments or questions. With none coming forward, she called for a motion to adjourn.

“Commissioner Jeff Richter made the motion to adjourn.”

Seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Green.

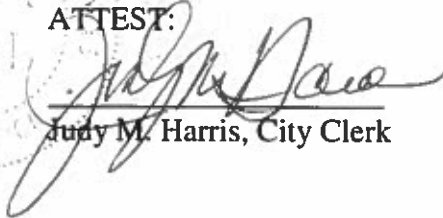
Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Green asked for any further questions or comments, with none coming forward, the Commission adjourned.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015, on a motion duly made by commissioner Peterson and seconded by Commissioner Richter, and carried.



Steve Green, Mayor Pro-Tem

ATTEST:



Judy M. Harris, City Clerk

