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FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, October 19, 2015

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END OF CONSENT CALENDAR DISCUSSION

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MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF SANTA FE
FINANCE COMMITTEE
Monday, October 19, 2015

1. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the City of Santa Fe Finance Committee was called to order by Chair Carmichael A. Dominguez, at approximately 5:00 p.m., on Monday, October 19, 2015, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Carmichael A. Dominguez, Chair
Councilor Joseph M. Maestas
Councilor Ronald S. Trujillo
Councilor Christopher M. Rivera

MEMBERS EXCUSED:
Councilor Signe I. Lindell

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY IN ATTENDANCE:
Mayor Javier M. Gonzales

OTHERS ATTENDING:
Oscar S. Rodriguez, Director, Finance Department
Kelley Brennan, City Attorney
Teresita Garcia, Finance Department
Yolanda Green, Finance Department
Melessia Helberg, Stenographer.

There was a quorum of the membership in attendance for the conducting of official business.

NOTE: All items in the Committee packets for all agenda items are incorporated herewith to these minutes by reference. The original Committee packet is on file in the Finance Department.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Rodriguez said in the packet Item #10 had a duplicate memo of Item #11 and a new Memo has been provided.

MOTION: Councilor Rivera moved, seconded by Councilor Maestas, to approve the agenda, as presented.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Chair Dominguez asked to be added as a cosponsor on Item #18.

MOTION: Councilor Maestas moved, seconded by Councilor Rivera, to approve the following Consent Agenda as amended.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

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CONSENT AGENDA

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A Memorandum dated October 5, 2015, to City of Santa Fe Finance and Council Committee Meetings and Robert Rodarte, Purchasing Director, from Ron J. Vialpando, Division of Senior Services Director, regarding Item #10, is incorporated herewith to these minutes as Exhibit "1."

6. REQUEST FOR CONCEPT APPROVAL OF THE SALE AND PARTIAL VACATION OF A PORTION OF EARLY STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 3,080 SQUARE FEET ADJOINING THE EASTERLY BOUNDARY OF 1092 EARLY STREET BY WILLIAM M. SCOTT AND CAROLYN S. SCOTT. (MATTHEW O'REILLY)

7. REQUEST FOR CONCEPT APPROVAL OF THE SALE AND PARTIAL VACATION OF A PORTION OF THE ARROYO TENORIO STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY AND FORMER ACEQUIA MADRE DITCH RIGHT-OF-WAY KNOWN AS "TRACT A" CONTAINING APPROXIMATELY 2,158 SQUARE FEET ADJOINING THE SOUTHERLY BOUNDARY OF 424 ARROYO TENORIO BY GARY LO. SWANSON AND JANE W. SWANSON, CO-TRUSTEES OF THE SWANSON FAMILY TRUST OF 2007. (MATTHEW O'REILLY)

8. REQUEST FOR CONCEPT APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT – DEVELOPMENT OF A PROJECT PLAN FOR RECRUITING MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN A MAKERSPACE TO BE OPENED 2016; MAKE SANTA FE, LLC. (KATE NOBLE)

9. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION SECTION 112 TRANSPORTATION PLANNING FUNDS FOR THE SANTA FE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION; NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND APPROVAL OF BUDGET INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF $35,568. (MARK TIBBETTS)

10. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PROCUREMENT UNDER STATE PRICE AGREEMENT AND AMENDED GRANT AGREEMENT – FOURTEEN (14) PROGRAM VEHICLES FOR SENIOR SERVICES DIVISION; DON CHALMERS FORD, CREATIVE BUS SALES, CED/DON CHALMERS AND STATE OF NEW MEXICO AGENCY AND LONG-TERM SERVICES DEPARTMENT. (RON VIALPANDO)

11. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PROCUREMENT UNDER STATE PRICE AGREEMENT – REPLACE EXERCISE EQUIPMENT AT MARY ESTHER GONZALES, PASA TIEMPO AND LUISA CENTERS; THE FITNESS SUPERSTORE. (RON VIALPANDO)

12. *[Removed for discussion by Councilor Rivera]*

13. *[Removed for discussion by Councilor Maestas]*

14. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION RELATING TO A REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF FIRST QUARTER BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015/2016 ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2015. (CAL PROBASCO AND ANDY HOPKINS)

15. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF 20Q6 FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETINGS. (OSCAR RODRIGUEZ)

16. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION DIRECTING STAFF TO RESEARCH AND REPORT ON DEVELOPMENT OF A RAINWATER HARVESTING AND WATER CATCHMENT PROGRAM ASSOCIATED WITH RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL AND CITY-OWNED BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY (COUNCILOR IVES AND BUSHEE) (CARYN GROSSE) Committee Review: Public Utilities Committee (approved) 10/07/15; Public Works Committee (approved) 10/13/15; and City Council (scheduled) 10/28/15. Fiscal Impact – No.

17. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION UPDATING THE CITY OF SANTA FE COMMUNITY GARDENS POLICIES AND PROCEDURES. (MAYOR GONZALES, COUNCILORS IVES AND BUSHEE) (ROBERT CARTER) Committee Review: Parks & Recreation Commission (no quorum) 09/15/15; Public Works Committee (approved) 09/28/15; Parks and Recreation Commission (approved) 10/02/15; Public Utilities Committee (approved) 10/07/15; City Business & Quality of Life Committee (approved) 10/14/15; Sustainable Santa Fe Commission (scheduled) 10/28/15; and City Council (scheduled) 10/28/15. Fiscal Impact – No.

18. **REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION 2015-31, TO INCLUDE ALL NEW MEXICO VETERANS IN THE NO-COST TRANSIT PROGRAM DEVELOPED BY THE TRANSIT DEPARTMENT. (MAYOR GONZALES, COUNCILORS IVES, ~~AND~~ BUSHEE AND DOMINGUEZ) (JON BULTHUIS) Committee Review: 09/15/15; Public Works Committee (approved) 10/13/15; Veterans Advisory Board (scheduled) 10/14/15; Transit Authority Board (scheduled) 10/10/15; and City Council (scheduled) 10/28/15. Fiscal Impact – No.**

19. **REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING SANTA FE AS A PURPLE HEART CITY AS PART OF THE NATIONAL CAMPAIGN BY THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. (MAYOR GONZALES) (CHRIS SANCHEZ). Committee Review: Public Works Committee (approved) 10/13/15; Veterans Advisory Board (scheduled) 10/14/15; and City Council (scheduled) 11/10/15. Fiscal Impact – Yes – $1,500 approximately, to pay for design and manufacture of approximately 10 signs to be placed in and around the City that would advertise and promote Santa Fe as a Purple Heart City.**

20. ***[Removed for discussion by Councilor Dominguez]***

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END OF CONSENT AGENDA

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5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 15, 2015**

MOTION: Councilor Rivera moved, seconded by Councilor Trujillo, to approve the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting of September 15, 2015, as presented.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

CONSENT CALENDAR DISCUSSION

12. **REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PROCUREMENT UNDER STATE PRICE AGREEMENT AND EXEMPT PROCUREMENT– CITY-WIDE COPIER EQUIPMENT, MAINTENANCE AND SERVICE AGREEMENTS FOR ITT COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT; ROCKY MOUNTAIN BUSINESS SYSTEMS. (PAUL CAMPOS)**

Councilor Rivera asked if Rocky Mountain Business Systems has a business license, noting all he saw was a County business license in the packet.

Mr. Campos said yes they do, and a copy of the license was emailed to him this morning.

MOTION: Councilor Rivera moved, seconded by Maestas, to approve this request.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

13. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT – PROMOTE SANTA FE TO SURROUNDING REGION BY DISTRIBUTING THE SANTA FE TRAVEL PLANNERS TO FILL BROCHURE RACKS LOCATED IN AND AROUND TARGETED CITIES; CERTIFIED FOLDER DISPLAY SERVICE, INC. (RANDY RANDALL)

Councilor Maestas said under the requested action, it says, "*We are asking that the City Finance Committee and the City Council approve this contract so we can pay for services that were rendered after the termination of the contract...*" He said he said he doesn't believe that we can pay for services rendered after a contract expires. He said he needs a confirmation that the renewal will not pay for services rendered from the time the contract expired until we signed the renewal.

Mr. Rodriguez said under our procurement there is only way to remedy such a situation, and that is for staff to come to the Council and explain how it happened and request Council approval, retroactively, for such a mistake. He said it is a mistake to have let a contract expire and get those services. He said that is the reason we are doing this at this commenting, commenting that these cases should be far and few between.

Councilor Maestas said there are several provisions in the contract where we are held harmless when monies aren't appropriated. He asked how can our retroactive approval trump the language in a contract.

Ms. Brennan said, "Under New Mexico law, an agreement can be revised and extended by agreement of the parties upon the terms and conditions that existed at the time it expired. So by getting Council approval for this, we are, in fact, agreeing to revise and extend the contract and to basically re-accept the terms. And it is as though the contract never expired when it happened. And generally recognizes these kinds of circumstances, much is for governments in private contracts."

Mr. Rodriguez said, "Councilor, that is to your interpretation, but as to procurement policy, the only way we can remedy a situation where the contract has expired and the services have continued, is then to come to you be accountable for that, and so that's what's happening here."

Councilor Maestas said one thing the packet doesn't say is how much those services will cost that were provided after the contract was allowed to terminate, and asked the amount.

Mr. Rodriguez said it is $29,800. Mr. Rodriguez said, "The purpose of correcting this is, any significant amount, anything above $1,000 is significant. We are trying to instill the discipline in the departments that contract expiration dates mean something, and if it expires, we don't back-date, we don't fix it. They have to come here and be accountable."

Councilor Maestas said, "I'm not going to be punitive, but I think it's worthy of asking how we're tracking these contracts going forward to ensure we don't have some kind of a termination. He said we had an option to renew but didn't exercise it, we just let it expire."

Mr. Rodriguez said that is correct, and said there is no good excuse for this.

Councilor Maestas said he didn't think we could do that.

Mr. Rodriguez again reiterated that the only way we can pay the bill and that is if the Council approves it. He said if you were to decline, there are provisions in the contract for you to do that, but staff is recommending that you don't do that because the vendor acted in good faith and the staff should have been more vigilant on contract expiration.

Councilor Rivera said this is being brought by staff, and asked if the company were to come forth and make that request, saying the City hasn't paid us for services, if that could be considered as well.

Mr. Rodriguez said yes, but if it got to that point, so many things would have broken down by then, the conversation would be a very different one that we're having right now. He said is below the $50,000, so conceivably it could have been handled administratively, but we're changing that and the reason it is before this Committee. He said if you decided to vote this down and not pay, which is your right to do, then you might have that conversation from the vendor. He said, "However, staff is recommending approval."

Councilor Rivera asked if had been decided administratively this shouldn't be paid, then we wouldn't hear about it.

Mr. Rodriguez said, "No. At some point it has to be addressed, because in essence, there was a procurement violation here. Somebody bought services or committed to services after the deadline which isn't allowed under the Procurement Code, so it has to be reported. We're think that by doing this that people will pay more attention and a deadline will mean a lot more than it does."

Mayor Gonzales arrived at the meeting

Councilor Rivera asked if Mr. Randall is available to tell us what happened here. He asked Mr. Rodarte if he knows what happened.

Mr. Rodarte said no.

Mr. Rodriguez said staff can explain why this is here, but why it led to this, he doesn't know.

MOTION: Councilor Trujillo moved, seconded by Chair Dominguez for purposes of discussion, to approve this request.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Rivera said he would like to hear from Mr. Randall with regard to the reason this happened.

Councilor Maestas agreed.

Councilor Rivera asked if there is time sensitivity with this item.

Chair Dominguez asked Mr. Rodriguez if he wants to speak on behalf of Mr. Randall.

Mr. Rodriguez said, "We are recommending approval. The vendor has delivered the services in good faith.

Chair Dominguez said the message from the Governing Body is that it may be good practice and something that is wise, but the Governing Body wants to know the reason it happened, and to pose policy so that won't happen again.

MOTION: Councilor Trujillo moved, seconded by Councilor Rivera postpone to postpone this item to the next meeting of this Committee on November 2, 2015, to allow Mr. Randall to be in attendance to answer questions regarding this item.

DISCUSSION: Chair Dominguez asked Mr. Rodriguez to be sure Mr. Randall is attendance at the next meeting.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

20. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PLACEMENT OF A QUESTION ON THE BALLOT OF A SPECIAL ELECTION, TO BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE REGULAR ELECTION ON MARCH 1, 2016, TO ASK THE VOTERS OF THE CITY OF SANTA FE WHETHER OR NOT THE SANTA FE MUNICIPAL CHARTER SHOULD BE AMENDED TO INCLUDE A PROVISION TO ESTABLISH AN INDEPENDENT OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR THE CITY OF SANTA FE (COUNCILOR MAESTAS). (KELLEY BRENNAN) Committee Review: Audit Committee (scheduled) 10/28/15; and City Council (scheduled) 10/28/15. Fiscal Impact – Yes – $400 estimated to place the questions on the ballot. Should the charter amendment be proved by a majority of voters at the regular 2016 municipal election on March 1, there would be substantial fiscal impact for establishing a new department within the City of Santa Fe structure.

Chair Dominguez said, "I pulled this to make a comment and ask a question. Charter Amendments I think are not things that should be dealt with quickly and not be taken lightly. And I feel like I've heard this issue before, maybe in a different form, so can you give a little history on it, Councilor Maestas, as the main sponsor."

Councilor Maestas said, "First of all, I had to ask you guys the Resolution we past last year, asking staff maybe to look into the feasibility of establishing an independent Office of Inspector General ["OIG"]. In summary, and Kelley can supplement whatever I say, but I think in summary it's something that's cost effective. It's typically a function of municipal government that is associated with large cities, but they have proven to pay for themselves many times over. So that's kind of the general gist of what we had asked staff to do. So, let's look at the City of Fe which does have some checks and balances through the Audit Committee and the Internal Auditor."

Councilor Maestas said, "So based on that study, I pursued legislation to create an independent OIG. And I must say that the legislation got watered down to the point where the result of that policy process was a recommendation to create a fraud investigator that would still be tied, I believe to the Internal Auditor's position. So when I came before Council, I think the consensus was it wasn't independent enough. And there are too many cultural issues that exist in the City and I think for something like this, that represents kind of a new aspect to our City government, really requires the voting community to speak and make that determination."

Councilor Maestas continued, "And so, I don't take this lightly either. I think this is a significant question. I see the City at a key intersection in its history, given some of the past issues we've had for the need for an independent watch dog, an independent investigative arm for..."

Chair Dominguez asked, "Is this really just kind of an another attempt to try and get that Inspector General on board, something you've been adamant about, and respectfully so. And so I'm just wondering if this another attempt to make sure that happens."

Councilor Maestas said, "No. I think this is the ultimate path to seek for something as important as this, so I'm not using it as a convenient way for me to establish this position. I think it's so important, given the budget situation that the City is in, I think the community should speak."

Chair Dominguez, "So as a voter, when I go to the polls, part of the concern that I'm going to have and it's the same concern I had before, is how do I understand and how do I know this is truly independent. Who is going to supervise this person. What are the guidelines under which this person is supposed to work. I'm not saying that it shouldn't be done, or that it can't be done, but it just seems to me like it's what has been before, just regurgitated under, maybe that's a too strong word, but we're just seeing it in a different form."

Chair Dominguez continued, "Those are some of the concerns that I have. And no one on this Council, more me I think, has been so adamant about making sure we have independence in the Auditor's office, with some of the legislation that has been approved and some of the changes that have been made. So, I support this watch dog kind of movement, but I just see the independence necessarily in a ballot question, unless we can... and I don't know if we want to do it tonight... but strengthen the language that creates a whole other bureaucracy that does that. Anyway, these are some of the concerns I have, and some of the...."

Councilor Maestas said, "The ballot question a very simple question. Do you want the City of Santa Fe government to establish an independent OIG. If they say yes, then they are empowering us, through their mandate, to determine how this is going to function. So this ballot question is not going to answer all those questions – who is going to report to, how independence is going to be.... I think it's going to be independent that's all we can surmise at this point. But it gives us cover in given the cash management issues that we've had, given the 2008 Park Bond implementation issues, we need this."

Councilor Maestas continued, "We need this independent watchdog. Not just based on the recent history, but going forward. But I think there are too many, I think, cultural... there's too many entrenched biases to something like this, whether it's budget, or we already have an independent auditor. I had staff send you the Ethics Code, the enforcement section. And if you looked at the second part of that enforcement section, the Ethics Code already provides for a future provision should the Council decide to establish and OIG, but that's in the context of assisting the Ethics and Campaign Review Board."

Councilor Maestas continued, "So it could have potentially a dual purpose and there would be ample time for us to discuss this. But there's already a need on the Ethics Code enforcement side and there's a need in investigating credible allegations of fraud, waste and abuse that are complex, that would require the need of an independent watchdog. I feel this is a key, good government initiative and if the people vote it down, then they vote it down. If they vote it up, then we're empowered, we have a mandate."

Chair Dominguez said, "I'm trying to be as respectful as I can and as responsible as I can with this. There may be other things that need to be placed as questions on the ballot. And typically what has happened in the past, is that all those questions are kind of brought forward, the Commission is established and they do their whole politics and the bureaucracies that exist there. And then the Governing Body ultimately decides whether certain things are put on the ballot, based on that public process. Are you willing to allow, if other things were to come forward for potential amendments to the Charter, are you willing to allow this to be part of that discussion as well, or is it just that if the Governing Body approves it, it's done and it isn't part of any other discussions that may come forward."

Councilor Maestas said he doesn't know if there are any other efforts to place questions on the ballot. He thinks we should hear, deliberate and discuss it. He said, "I believe I did attempt to try and use our own policy process and you all concluded, and I think it was clear that the fraud investigator option that our Internal Auditor and the Audit Committee wanted was not independent enough. And so, I think I already had enough bites at the apple. And I think the ultimate question is , let the people speak. Let them decide if our City government needs an independent watchdog. And I don't know..."

Chair Dominguez asked, "So, are you willing to allow it to be part of the discussion if there is something else that comes forward."

Councilor Maestas said, "Absolutely. Related to it or independent of it."

Chair Dominguez said, "Either/or. It all kind of... Again, I think I'm trying to look at what the responsible thing is and I certainly agree we need to have as much oversight as we can, independent

oversight is the key word. Of course, putting it out to a vote is always touted as the most democratic thing we can do. But nonetheless, there's some procedural kinds of larger discussions I think it could fit into."

Chair Dominguez continued, "One of the questions that I had with that. The Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline. Did we get members from the public... I don't know if you Kelley or somebody else."

Ms. Brennan said Liza Kerr may be able to answer that, noting there were 18 total callers through the period.

Chair Dominguez said we just had that report two weeks ago. Yes.

Liza Kerr said, "To answer that question, we did have some people from the public reporting to the Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline. But what we found is that it was the types of calls we were getting from the public were, for example, the Bike Lane on Cerrillos Road is not adequate. And we had a couple of tips about dealing with scrap metal. I think a couple of people from the public called me in regards to that, or one person from the general public, and we had a couple of employees calling on that. There were several referrals, mold in a building was called in. So many of these really weren't blatant fraud type issues where we needed an investigator. The hot line is primarily set up for City employees, that's what it was intended for, but we have been getting calls from the general public and as we get those calls, we have been routing them to the appropriate department or departments as the case may be."

Councilor Rivera said the intention initially was to start internally, see how it works, see how many calls we would get and then look at potential expansion as we went along. So the answer is yes, eventually to include the public in that as well.

Chair Dominguez said with regard to this piece here, it is difficult for him. He said, "The fact is you're saying it will allow it to be part of other discussions if there are other things that come up in front of the ballot that helps.... On one hand we're trying to make sure we slim-down government, and on the other hand we're kind of expanding government. I understand the long term benefit is it will pay for itself, I understand that, but I don't know if we even have the internal controls in place yet to make sure this independent person is working as efficiently as they can. So I'm going to reserve my support for right now. We'll see how things go by the time we get to Council

Mayor Gonzales said he always agrees we need to have an independent check in place to assure that, not only are we following policies and procedures, but if there is some kind of fraud we're able to uncover it. He said, "I guess my concern is similar to the confusion that I have over the recent Charter amendment that called for an independent auditor... what was the Charter question.

Ms. Brennan said, "I believe the amendment was calling for the creation of an Independent Audit Committee, and that Committed was created to be appointed by the Municipal Judge."

Mayor Gonzales said that Committee exists. And then if you put another question to support an OIG, is the sole focus of the Inspector General to pursue fraud claims that exists. He asked, "How would they have a different role than the independent Audit Committee has to be able to address some of the

issues that come forward."

Councilor Maestas said the Inspector General would have investigative powers.

Mayor Gonzales asked why we can't grant that now to the independent Audit Committee.

Councilor Maestas said he doesn't think the Audit Committee is an investigative body, and doesn't think they do that now.

Ms. Brennan said, "I can't speak to whether they have subpoena powers. You asked if they could. I think they probably could."

Mayor Gonzales said he is hoping there isn't a redundant effort to achieve the objective that we would [grant these powers]. Secondly, he said he gets concerned if we state that the reason we want to bring this forward is because of the recent history and the credible claims of fraud and cash management. He said he wonders what credible claims Councilor Maestas feels that have been made regarding fraud or the issue of cash management that have not been handed over either to the Internal Auditor or to others to be able to address.

Chair Dominguez asked Councilor Maestas to answer the question, and said, "Then we're going to make sure we continue to move forward, because I have Councilor Rivera wanting to speak as well."

Councilor Maestas said he doesn't think this will be redundant and would be unique in that it would be truly independent, even from the Audit Committee, and would have investigative powers. It would be an office that would investigate credible fraud claims, and can serve as intended in the existing Ethics Code and help to enforce the Ethics Code and assist the Campaign & Ethics Review Board. It also can be an incredible deterrent. He would imagine despite the Hotline and the Audit Committee and a process, that employees are still reluctant to call in allegations of fraud, waste and abuse, because he doesn't think they trust the independence of the existing process. The office of IG would send a clear message to employees and members of the public. He said if it is independent, it won't be redundant with the Audit Committee.

Councilor Rivera said he likes the idea but is unsure of the timing in view of the budget. He said the FIR is only for $400, and he feels it will be significantly more, with the benefit and cost of hiring staff, a vehicle, he thinks we're looking at a minimum of $200,000 to do it right.

Ms. Brennan said,"Albuquerque right now is advertising for an Inspector General, at a range of $86,000 and $95,000, annually."

Councilor Rivera said in this budgetary situation it should fall into an area that comes up for discussion during the budget along with everything else. He asked, if we're really looking for independence, if there is anything that prevents giving that independence to Ms. Kerr right now.

Ms. Brennan said, "Liza now basically reports to the Governing Body, to the City Manager and to the Audit Committee, but more directly to the Audit Committee. And she is audited every 3 years by a local government auditor association that has experience in her area. So in some respects, you could say she

reports to them on a professional basis. She could be more independent if the Ordinance was amended to provide for hiring to be in the hands of the Audit Committee. The Judge appoints the Committee, and if the Committee appointed the Internal Auditor it would remove prejudice from hiring to the extent that that exists, if that is your concern."

Councilor Rivera said, "So there are ways to do it without the expense of a whole OIG and the associated costs."

Ms. Brennan said, "I think you could make the Internal Auditor position more independent."

Councilor Rivera said he would rather look at something like that. He said, "Councilor Maestas, with all due respect, I know you've been pushing for this, but it's more the timing and the budget situation we're in, as well as the overall cost of this office I envision annually, which is at least $200,000. I support the idea, but the timing is wrong and/or that it should go through Finance and the budget process."

Councilor Trujillo asked the Committees this has gone through.

Ms. Brennan said, "It was considered by the Audit Committee for recommendation last week, but those minutes aren't available. However, they voted 4-0 for a non-recommendation. They were neutral on the proposed Ordinance."

Councilor Trujillo said he has the same concerns as Councilor Rivera. He asked if every Councilor has had the opportunity to have this discussion. He understands what Councilor Maestas wants to do and said he will vote yes to move this on to Council just to have that discussion "with every single one of my colleagues, so they can make that determination, if we're going to put this on the ballot."

Councilor Maestas said, "If this passes, and we get it on the ballot, the timing, the scale, the scope, the budget for such an office will be vetted through the entire Governing Body. He said we're not going to create a Boston-size OIG for Santa Fe. He said this is just to get a public mandate on this.

Chair Dominguez said these kinds of things create their own bureaucracies, noting we have seen it happening in other sections of the City. He said questions like this will pass because the public wants to have that independence and accountability, but the devil is in the details. He said we need to make sure that we don't raise unreasonable expectations of public when we do these kinds of things. He said if we can't provide an Inspector General with the necessary resources to be independent, we could be setting false expectations for the public. He said this is a word of caution, commenting he thinks everybody wants accountability, transparency and the independence that comes with it, but "how we get there is always a different story."

MOTION: Councilor Maestas moved, seconded by Councilor Trujillo, to approve this request.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Rivera asked Ms. Brennan, to her knowledge, if we ever have had a mandate to go to the voters and no way to fund the mandate.

Ms. Brennan said she was going to give the example of ranked choice voting. She said, "The question seemed simple, but was complex in terms of implementing it, not just because of cost, which was a factor, but because of the complexity of the machines and the conceptual issues that needed to be worked through so what I would say is, obviously, based on that example, we would not have to adopt an ordinance in the 30 days if the question were to pass."

Councilor Rivera said we need to let the public know how much it will cost. He said as we continue to hear from the Finance Department about the many things that need to happen, the public will want to know if they vote in favor of this they may also be voting for tax increase in order to pay for it. He said this all has to be on the table, and said, "let's be transparent and show the true cost of an OIG and let them decide how to pay for it."

Councilor Maestas said it's not just about the hard costs up front, it is about all the money it saves through the course of its investigations. He said Ms. Brennan can speak to this, and that these positions have paid for themselves many times over based on their results. He said the public will have to understand there are a lot of non-cash indirect benefits that far outweigh the hard cash costs of establishing such an office.

Ms. Brennan said, "We'll include in the packet as it advances, the minutes from when I made my report which Councilor Maestas is referring to, the advertisement from Albuquerque to get a sense of cost, the minutes of Audit Committee and any other thing that as emerged as a result of your questioning."

Chair Dominguez said the FIR in the packet doesn't deal with the substantial fiscal impact to create a new department. He would like for staff to take a shot at it and tell us what that means. He said this has the potential to create a bureaucracy that ends up costing more, and the fact that even though they pay for themselves, it's going to be a long time to realize the results. He said the cost for the election is only $400.

Ms. Brennan said that is the cost to add this question to the ballot.

VOTE: The motion was approved on a voice vote, with Councilors Trujillo and Maestas voting in favor of the motion and Councilor Rivera voting against.

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Councilor Trujillo said Randy Randall has arrived and he would like to go ahead and consider Item #13 and not postpone it to the next meeting.

MOTION: Councilor Trujillo moved, seconded by Councilor Rivera, to reconsider the previous approval of the agenda to consider Item 13 at this time, and to approve the agenda as amended."

DISCUSSION: Chair Dominguez asked Mr. Rodriguez if he has the staff and information to discuss this item at this time and Mr Rodriguez said yes.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

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13. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT – PROMOTE SANTA FE TO SURROUNDING REGION BY DISTRIBUTING THE SANTA FE TRAVEL PLANNERS TO FILL BROCHURE RACKS LOCATED IN AND AROUND TARGETED CITIES; CERTIFIED FOLDER DISPLAY SERVICE, INC. (RANDY RANDALL)

Councilor Maestas said he wants to know the circumstances, noting he understands that staff turnover was the reason the contract didn't get renewed, and Mr. Randall now is asking for us to pay for services retroactively.

Mr. Randall said he thought there was a contract and a PSA in place that carried us through this time period. He said there has been a change of personnel in the office to monitor the contracts. He said it was just an oversight. He said this relationship predates him joining the City, so they've used Certified for several years as a primary distribution for the Visitor's Guide. He said we print 25,000 copies and Certified distributes 25-30% of those through this contract. He said the services have been rendered and now we need to pay for those services.

Councilor Maestas asked Mr. Randall if he has a centralized system where he tracks the PSAs.

Mr. Randall said the larger contracts are handled by the Financial Analyst, and the smaller contracts, such as this one, are handled by the position that is now the Office Manager for the Department. He said moving forward, the Financial Analyst is assigned the responsibility to monitor all PSAs. He said previously there were two people dealing with the PSAs and thus the possibility of a gap between the two. He said they trying to make sure that they all coincide with the fiscal year, to the extent possible, which makes it easier to monitor if there is a date certain that is pretty much the same on all of them.

Councilor Rivera said you mentioned you lost a person, and asked in handing it to one person, what happens if that person leaves or gets sick. What will prevent this from happening again.

Mr. Randall said first of all we have a system in place, noting there was not a good system in place previously. He said part of the issue is that the person who was monitoring this went out on FMLA for a period of time for more than 60 days, and then we found out that person was going to retire. He said they went for 4-4 ½ months with no one in the position. He said there is a system being put in place by the Financial Analyst, but he and others can access that system to see if anything is coming up.

Councilor Rivera asked how that system works.

Mr. Randall said they don't have it in place, and he had this discussion with the Financial Analyst when this problem was discovered and she told him it wasn't her responsibility, and he corrected that and made it her responsibility. He said she will bring the system back to him for approval.

Councilor Rivera said then she will create a system when PSA's are set to expire.

Mr. Randall said yes, noting it will be a list of PSA's on a calendar basis, and there will be a place to check when it's done. The list will be kept electronically and they will have a paper copy as well, and can be referred to on a regular basis.

Councilor Rivera asked if there will be redundancy in the event people leave or are on leave and don't return.

Mr. Randall said, "We are creating redundancy for all responsibilities in the Department."

MOTION: Councilor Rivera moved, seconded by Councilor Trujillo, to approve this request.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

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END OF CONSENT CALENDAR DISCUSSION

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DISCUSSION AGENDA

21. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE CITY OF SANTA FE'S OPERATING BUDGET DEFICIT AND ITS OUTLOOK; AND COMMITTING TO ADOPT POLICIES CONSISTENT WITH BEST PRACTICES TO ADDRESS THIS DEFICIT AND ITS OUTLOOK (COUNCILOR MAESTAS). (OSCAR RODRIGUEZ) Committee Review: Public Utilities Committee (approved w/amendment) 10/07/15; Public Works Committee (postponed) 10/13/15; Public Works Committee (scheduled) 10/26/15; and City Council (scheduled) 10/28/15. Fiscal Impact – No.

Chair Dominguez said he wanted to put Item #20 on the Discussion Agenda, because there was some relevance to the budget, but he didn't, so Items #21 and #22 specifically are discussion items. This is an attempt to instigate further discussions about the budget as well.

Councilor Maestas said this Resolution was supposed to go to Public Works, but it was postponed. He asked if there is a sense that resolutions like this should start in Finance and then go through the policy committees. He said he thinks vetting it through other Committees prior to Finance might be a good thing. He asked if this is the usual process and asked the Chair's intent in terms of postponing it and bringing it to Finance.

Chair Dominguez said he doesn't know if there is a process that has been consistent, especially lately, with all of the legislation that is being introduced at Committee, and a delay in getting things on the table for discussion. He said the attempt was to have a discussion about our budget and this certainly is relative to the budget. He said we will get to the Mayor's bill, noting this bill lacks some specificity and the Mayor's has quite a bit of specificity.

Chair Dominguez said one of his questions on this Resolution is what are the actual best practices. He said this is legislation that probably get approved because it incorporates best practices. He said, "Maybe for this year, we're not going to do something that is extraordinary, and not necessarily a best practice, and does this tie our hands to be able to do that – to get us to the next fiscal year and our budget from here on out. I'm not necessarily opposed to it, but it's intended to instigate some discussion about our budget."

Councilor Maestas said he felt we needed to put down a formal policy marker to represent a formal, official kickoff of our deliberations. And the first step is acknowledging the current financial condition of the City and that's what this does. He said another objective was to establish a general time frame for a number of policies, and he doesn't know what those policies are at this point, but at least, to create a goal for a timeline for a series of policy actions to try and address the deficit which was his second objective. The third objective was to call attention to a lot of the existing practices that are less than desirable. He was advised by the City Attorney's Office that bondholders and lenders wouldn't look favorably on the City for listing all the less than desirable practices that in large part that have contributed to where we are today. He had those removed, commenting it's not all doom and gloom. He said we haven't had an obvious Resolution to acknowledge the problem and that we all agree that we need to get to work and come up with a policy action plan. He said, "If you think it's frivolous, then don't vote for it."

Chair Dominguez said he doesn't think it is frivolous, but, "the politics obviously are part of the environment we're in, so I certainly will call it that." He asked Councilor Maestas if he changed the date to eliminate the expected FY 2017, and asked him if he still is targeting FY 17 on this bill.

Councilor Maestas said the anticipated budget deficit is expected in FY 17, so if we make the right decisions before the end of this fiscal year, then we'll be prepared and put the City in a position to address the budget deficit in the next fiscal year. He said when the Resolution was heard at the PUC, there was some concern about establishing a hard deadline, and he agreed to remove the deadline of June 30, 2016, because of this notion that we have 2-3 years to address a one year budget deficit. He said he hasn't accepted that yet, but he did agree to remove the date.

Chair Dominguez said this Resolution asks us to enact appropriate policies with some transparency, robust public involvement although he doesn't know what that means. He thinks the intent is to ensure there is a public process.

Councilor Maestas said he thinks it specifies key stakeholders that would be impacted by any budget decisions we might make and calling for a collaborative process in coming up with a strategy to address the budget deficit.

Chair Dominguez asked Councilor Maestas if he wants to keep the $15 million plus/minus figure in the Resolution.

Councilor Maestas said yes, because "that's that the low estimate."

MOTION: Councilor Maestas moved, seconded by Councilor Trujillo, to approve this request.

DISCUSSION: Chair Dominguez said he may propose some amendments before this goes to the Council. He said it's a start for the discussion, but if there is any chance for us to be able to put teeth in bills like this, he thinks we should take that opportunity and be specific on certain things.

Councilor Maestas said he sent issue papers to the Chair, the City Manager, and one thing that should be in a piece of legislation at this point is to say that any budget cut-backs should not impact the poor and the disadvantaged in our community, and incorporate some themes and principles that we should identify at the outset of this dialogue, commenting he would be open to those kinds of amendments.

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

22. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING POLICIES FOR GUIDING THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CITY'S FINANCES AND FOR ASSISTING THE GOVERNING BODY AND CITY STAFF IN EVALUATING CURRENT ACTIVITIES AND FUTURE PLANS. (MAYOR GONZALES). (OSCAR RODRIGUEZ) Committee Review: Public Works Committee (postponed) 10/13/15; Public Works Committee (scheduled) 10/26/15; and City Council (scheduled) 10/28/15. Fiscal Impact – No.

A copy of an amendment sheet with proposed amendments to the Resolution by Mayor Javier M. Gonzales, is incorporated herewith to these minutes as Exhibit "2."

Mayor Gonzales thanked the Finance Committee for its continued diligence in addressing the current and future budget issues of the City. He said the deficit has existed for some time, so it won't start at the end of this year but it is already in place. He said moving forward there is an incredible opportunity to develop a budget, which could take more than one year, to right size City Hall in such a way that puts us into a position to grow more effectively on behalf of the public. He said the current environment is that each year this Committee meets and determines the City's needs, and the staff assembles revenues/cash to meet those needs and we move forward. However, we are barely able to provide the level of service we are obligated to provide, and we can't meet those service lines with any type of recurring revenues.

Mayor Gonzales continued, saying as we go forward, and this Committee begins to develop a new budget for upcoming fiscal year and beginning to address, long-term, to build a foundation to properly move forward, he would ask the Finance Department to work with him to come up with a set of best practices in terms of budget formulation. He said this is what is before this Committee. It is meant to be a strong message to the public that there are parameters by which the Committee and Council will formulate the budget, that are driven by best practices in the industry and lays the foundation for how we can have an annual budget that is transparent to the public, reflects the needs of the City and the residents, and assures that we practice sound fiscal policy when developing our annual budget.

Mayor Gonzales continued, noting the proposed amendments [Exhibit "2"]. He said we will be addressing what happens to the excess cash, but doesn't think it is needed as part this formulation, because that's not part of how we are going to move out of the current budget deficit.

The Committee commented and asked questions as follows:

- Chair Dominguez asked the Mayor how flexible he is on some of these provisions in the proposed Resolution.

- Mayor Gonzales said he is very flexible. He said he just wants to make sure that whatever we all agree to, that it will deliver a budget where there is good fiscal policy driving the budget. He is hoping to create a framework we can use year after year as opposed to regardless who is on the Governing Body or on the Finance Committee, so that year after year there is a document and process that is consistent that is rooted in good fiscal policy.

- Chair Dominguez noted there are things in the Resolutions that are specific, such as dates for the administration to recommend a budget to the Governing Body. He said he knows that we should try to be as aggressive as possible, but not overly aggressive so we don't get a recommended budget that absolutely sets us up for failure.

- Mayor Gonzales said that is a "very sound and reasoned point. He said the date of February 1st was to try to get a budget that would give sufficient time for the Committee and the public to weigh in on what they supported and what they did not, as opposed to waiting toward the end of the budget seasons that puts against deadlines imposed by the State, and we're having to sit here and make decisions which the public and ourselves haven't had the opportunity to really understand the impacts. He said, "I think the administration would be very happy if we moved that to later, because this is an aggressive timeline, but I feel the sooner we can get something up, because I think we have to start somewhere. The sooner we have a document by which the Committee and the public can weigh in."

- Chair Dominguez said his sense is that it's been difficult to make the changes that the Governing Body has asked for, noting the evidence is the capital budget we're trying to make happen. He said, "I think we should say the City Administration recommended budget should be submitted before March 1, 2016 for the upcoming budget. That's just to help staff get used to go through this transition, and really, if you look at it, if this gets approved at the end of October 2015, the departments have 30 days to come up with a budget. And I know your staff and the administration will put together a budget. I'm just asking for some flexibility there. I think it really is going to be incumbent on management to meet those deadlines."

- Chair Dominguez continued saying the other thing he is concerned about is on page 6 under Revenue Policies, Section 2 Subsection E, and thinks we need to have a thorough discussion about that, because "quite frankly, I don't even know what all the user fees are." He said that Section provides, '*The City will seek to recover the full cost of services provided directly to citizens, unless the City interest is identified and approved by the Governing Body to reduce a specific fee.*'

- Chair Dominguez continued, "I think I understand the intent, but I believe we need to have a clearer picture of what all those user fees really are, because I know I don't. I know there are all kinds different user fees out there. I think I had this discussion with Brian. It may be beneficial to give the City Manager some flexibility or it's more cost effective to pay people overtime than to collect on user fees. I'm not necessarily looking for that flexibility now, I just want a better understanding of what user fees are and to have a list of those."

- Mayor Gonzales said he thinks that is the right direction. He said for example, this year, for both the Spanish Market and Indian Market, the Parking Division charged the full amount to both organizations for hooding all of the parking meters. He said, "But these are strong cultural institutions that already receive some type of financial benefit from the City. It didn't seem to make sense that that would be the case. There has to be a methodology for determining and some reasoning as to why there would be a reduction of fees, the economic benefit to the City. And do it in such a way that it's made available to the Council and that there is reasoning behind it do it so it doesn't appear as if we decided to do it for one group and not another. The hope is that there is some governance behind the use of user feels. This includes the use of the Plaza, the Convention Center, and assets we use for City benefit that aren't fully charged, but we want to help the community and it's not necessarily documented or reasoned how we do it."

- Chair Dominguez said, for example during the budget hearings we discussed Ft. Marcy which collects user fees has $890,000 in expenses and $267,000 in revenues which is a difference of about $620,000. He said what we're going to be saying that the revenue we generate in user fees has to equal the costs and expenses. He said this means we're going to have to increase the user fees, and perhaps if we had a list of those user fees we could make those decisions.

  Mr. Rodriguez said he can get that information, noting that there are more than a dozen pages listing user fees.

- Mayor Gonzales said it does say that the Governing Body shall explicitly approve any fee that is designed to cover the full cost of the respective services.

  Mr. Rodriguez said it is a basic practice here that when you approve a budget you also approve fees, taxes, whatever goes into the budget.

- Chair Dominguez said that will be a good exercise for this Committee, the Governing Body and the public. We provide a lot of services to the public which is good, but we all need to understand the cost of that, noting there are instances where we want to subsidize those activities.

- Chair Dominguez said the Transfer from Enterprise Funds says, "*Net revenue generated by the City's Enterprise Funds shall be used for capital investment, repair and replacement, debt management, revenue stabilization with working capital within that fund.*" He asked if that clause, "within that fund," is relevant just to the revenue stabilization or is intended to be part of capital investment within that fund, repair and replacement and debt management.

- Mayor Gonzales said it is meant to assure that the practice of what happens with excess revenues in funds stay directed toward those funds, and that we don't move into the practice of taking the excess revenues to fill budget gaps and other portions of the City's budget. So being able to use that excess money and to reinvest it back for capital costs, repair and replacement, debt management, revenue stabilization. He said we know, because we are highly dependent on GRTs, that there are times when GRT revenue can go down, and opportunities to create fund balances that will help in creating some level of support during the tough years is part of that revenue stabilization component. He is speaking of all enterprise funds.

- Chair Dominguez said this language warrants some heavy discussion, because it contradicts the direction the Governing Body gave as to how we are supposed to use the water revenue. He said he keeps going back and forth on this issue. On one hand, we don't want to reduce rates because consumption will increase. On the other hand, what are we going to do with all the money that we continue to receive and that amount will continue to increase. He said when it's all said and done, it's the taxpayer that pays the rates as well as the increase in taxes to maintain the level of service they are getting, or they will have to realize the cuts the Governing Body impose. He said instead of having the money just sitting there and available to whichever member of the Governing Body can get 5 votes for how they think it should be used, having sound policy behind it might be worth the discussion.

- Chair Dominguez continued, "I know that Councilor Rivera, and I don't want to put you on the spot, but maybe that is how we deal with that utility and cash generated is a good discussion for Public Utilities. On the other hand, we don't want to deplete that money when in 10-20 years we're going to wish we had it, but we've used it."

- Mayor Gonzales said it's the reason they pulled out the direction as to where it could go, and to leave that separate from this because those things need to be addressed by the Governing Body, but not as part of this document which is meant to set budget guidelines for the Governing Body and staff, but it does need to be addressed. He said the 12% is based on best practices and what we see in the industry, but it's a marker for discussion.

- Chair Dominguez thinks there needs to be more detailed discussion on this.

- Councilor Rivera said he has similar questions on user fees and is glad the Chair brought that up. He asked what the Mayor means about community acceptability on packet page 6, line 22, regarding new revenues.

- Mayor Gonzales said this is a series of considerations he is proposing which will force a dialogue between the Council and the community. He said community acceptability goes to the issue of taxation and the issue of property taxes. He said there has been discussion about business improvement districts as an opportunity to generate new revenue for certain parts of the City. It is meant to say that we will consider whether the community really can buy into and support any type of new revenue source we would want to bring to the table.

- Councilor Rivera said he thinks of early neighborhood notification or public hearings, and asked if that is what the Mayor envisions in terms of community acceptability.

- Mayor Gonzales said not to the ENN. He said if we chose to impose those, we need to make sure there is consideration on the impact to the community, and the community understands exactly where it is going and there is benefit and support. He said it is meant to make sure that any Governing Body that adopts revenue enhancements has some type of support from the public and it isn't done without it.

- Mayor Gonzales continued, saying it is up to the Council, if there is a decision to enact new revenues, to establish a separate process to allow for public input. He reiterated these are just considerations and not meant to be requirements. He said we could argue that any new GRTs we would impose would be a regressive tax against lower and lower middle income people. It's all about how we approach new revenues and making sure the public knows there will be some thoughtful deliberation and consideration. He believes it's hard for the public to agree to any type of new revenue, especially in the form of a tax. However, in the past, the public has supported through referendums or other means, revenues that go toward a benefit that is quantifiable that they can see is coming back to them.

- Councilor Rivera said to him, acceptability means that you have meetings and the community weighs in on the new revenue, and that we take all that into consideration, "but I think you have qualified that." He asked on the next line, regarding competitiveness relative to neighboring communities, if it is really a fair assessment in comparing Santa Fe to Rio Rancho or Albuquerque. He is unsure neighboring communities have the same cost of living issues as Santa Fe, and have the same median income and cost of homes.

- Mayor Gonzales said that was put in, because in reality, a large opportunity for the City to be able to address the budget gap is to grow our way through the gap, which means we build our economy. He said we have the highest GRTs in the State and we're competing for new businesses to come into Santa Fe, or to stay in Santa Fe. However, there are much lower GRTs in Las Cruces, Albuquerque and other metropolitan areas in the State and that can impact us in being able to grow. He noted that our property tax rates are actually very low in comparison. He said these kinds of things for sure has a huge impact on small businesses in Santa Fe.

- Mayor Gonzales continued saying, "So, it's meant to send a nod to not only the business community, but the workers in our community that, if you choose to live in Santa Fe, or create a business in Santa Fe, we're going to make sure that we are at least in line with, or competitive with, any community in which you can live within the State when it comes to paying the GRTs for consuming some type of goods. Again, this is all meant to send a strong message to the public that we're going to manage expenses within reasonable revenues, and those revenues are going to be competitive with however we create that table competitiveness with other jurisdictions around New Mexico. And whether we want to admit it or not, as the State looks to growing its economy, tax structures and tax rates in each community does matter. It's meant to give a nod to the fact that we are going to at least look at how we fare with other places."

- Mayor Gonzales continued, "Now to the issue of expenses, that's a different story. When we start evaluating what it costs us to run certain services, I think you're right, it's kinds of apples and oranges when you look at other cities. When you look at the number of employees we have versus other cities, you have to take into account service by service to make sure that exists. This is not more so from the revenue side."

- Councilor Rivera noted on page 8, line 17, it talks about a Chief Procurement Officer, and asked if this position currently exists in the City.

  Mr. Rodriguez said that just states State law that there has to be someone, whatever the position is called, responsible for the duties of the Procurement Officer. He said our Procurement Officer is Robert Rodarte.

- Councilor Rivera said the Resolution says the City administration shall appoint a chief procurement officer, and asked why we need to appoint somebody else if we already have a chief procurement oficer.

  Mr. Rodriguez said that is to keep the City in compliance.

- Chair Dominguez said it means that the City has to keep someone hired in that position.

- Councilor Rivera said, "Well, basically I'm not very sure why it's in there if we're required by State law to have one."

  Mr. Rodriguez said that is so you're never in a situation where you don't have one.

- Mayor Gonzales said, "I think there are some things in the Resolution that we're already doing, and this is meant to formalize the set of parameters that result in both financial and budget houses around the State, but it's not meant to be in here because we don't have it and we need it to help solve our budget issues. So, it can be removed if you want."

- Councilor Rivera said on page 7, line 7, it provides, *"The City will invest in technology and other efficiency tools to maximize staff productivity."* He said the word "will" suggests this is going to happen, and whether it's by Resolution, Ordinance or what, it says this is the route we're going to take. He is unsure we're in a financial position to mandate that. It is strong language, and unsure "if you're in agreement that it needs to change. I think technology would help with efficiency, but the word 'will' suggesting that we are going to do that is pretty strong for me."

- Mayor Gonzales said it could be modified to say, "*The City will invest in employee efficiency programs, training, such as technology and other operation.*" He said the message here is the constant commitment to drive efficiency in government operations and the role that technology can play in doing that. So if we say we want to be more efficient, but we don't provide the tools

through technology to achieve that, there is a big gap there. This was meant to give a nod to the role that technology can play in helping employees increase the delivery of service in a more cost effective way.

- Councilor Rivera said he would prefer the language that says there are training, technology and other means to deliver efficiencies.

- Mayor Gonzales agreed, but said he does think this language is appropriate, but it is a matter of us following the language.

- Councilor Rivera said he would rather that we pick one way and decide that's how we're going to do it, instead of picking and choosing what works best for us. He said he could be wrong, and perhaps this is the best way to do it. We passed a Resolution stating we weren't going to do it and then quickly do this.

  Mr. Rodriguez pointed out the language on line 13, page 10 of the Resolution, which provides that it can be done only at the discretion of the Council. This prevents the situation about how did this happen – it happened because the Council explicitly said to do it or not to do it.

- Councilor Rivera said that gets around the Council's decision which is what he wants to avoid.

- Mayor Gonzales said, "But it's by Council order as opposed to the concerns in the past that this decision was made by the administration using its broad discretion."

- Councilor Rivera noted the language on page 13, line 21 of the Resolution, and asked who is the Cash Management and Investment Officer already in place, and if that is Helene Hausman.

  Mr. Rodriguez said yes, noting there is a policy that designates such a position.

- Councilor Rivera asked if that is Mr. Hausman's current job title.

  Mr. Rodriguez said yes. He said, "This is not intended to ascribe a job title, but the duties itself. For example, Finance Director ultimately is all those things."

- Councilor Rivera suggested the language should reflect the current terms we're using, so whatever Helene's title is, perhaps that's what the Resolution should carry forward. Or, change her title to whatever it is we're talking about here so the two match so there are no questions in the future when we're all gone.

  Mr. Rodriguez said, ".... it describes the broad duties of somebody doing that kind of job. As you imagine, it could very well be, over time, the Council decides to contract this out. I'm not recommending that in any way, but I'm saying you very well could do that. But the responsibilities that go along with that go kind of with the title, so it is a vehicle to assign those titles to wherever it goes."

- Councilor Rivera said, "Well it doesn't make sense to do a Resolution based on titles that don't exist within the City right now, so if they do exist they should reflect the current positions, or we should change the title of the position. That's just my opinion."

- Councilor River asked who is the Cash Management & Investment Advisor.

  Mr. Rodriguez said it is a subsidiary of First Southwest, noting we contract this position.

- Chair Dominguez said perhaps what we need to do is in this document is to identify which positions are filled and which ones are contracted.

  Mr. Rodriguez asked if that should be done in the document itself, or "should I just sort of give you that information on the side."

- Mayor Gonzales said, "You don't want that in the Resolution, because we may change it. We could change it at any given point in time."

- Councilor Dominguez said, "I think the idea is to differentiate those that are in house, those that are outsourced and that there isn't an expansion in the organization just because this document has a title in there that is intended for one thing, but it's not explicit, so a City Manager could come and say, well you guys approved it in this document. I think as clear as it can be, the better."

- Councilor Rivera said, "Just so it matches. I've worked in the City and dealt with employees that have said literally, that's not my job title, that's not what I'm supposed to. And if it really matched and everything coincided with what was in the Resolution, then there wouldn't be that question. That's all I had Mr. Chair. Thank you Mayor for answering some of my questions and concerns. I have read this document twice and had more questions after the second time I read it. I imagine if I read if 3-4 times more, questions would come up. It's a long document. I think it's a good idea, but again still think that are issues that need to be vetted."

- Councilor Maestas said he will avoid repeating what has already been said, and thanked the Mayor for attending, commenting he thinks the Resolution is quite comprehensive and appreciates the Mayor's focus on giving us some sideboards as we go forward to address financial issues. He said, as Councilor Rivera said, every time he read the Resolution he had more or more questions.

- Councilor Maestas said what we have is a mix of common, accepted, financial practices to significant policy issues. He said, "I'm focusing on the policy and not the common practice." He said at this point his general recommendation is to identify the content that is part of the City's common financial practices, and identify any aspect of it that already exists, and maybe consider removing that and just "expose kind of the policy."

- Councilor Maestas continued, saying in terms of a two-step process, he knows the Mayor wants to put his signature on the budget and the Charter requires him to deliver a State of the City address, and..... He said before one hour is spent on the budget, the Governing Body needs to weigh-in on the priorities and principles, and give guidance to the administration. He said if we have priorities on the Finance Committee which differs from the Mayor's proposal, it will make the reconciliation process more difficult and onerous.

- Councilor Maestas continued, saying given the time frame, he agrees with Chair Dominguez, that you are "pushing up on some incredible deadlines. And in looking at the first page under budget preparation, there is no process, no time allowed for us to have a broad discussion on our budget priorities and principles to give you guidance on where we think the priorities should be." He said he supports the early development and moving up the timeline to get a budget from the administration through the regular timeframe. He thinks the Mayor should have the prerogative to start implementing some of your priorities in the budget, even in advance of the deliberation of this Committee. However, he thinks it would be inefficient for you "to go off without hearing from the Governing Body in terms of our budget principles and priorities, so I would suggest factoring that into the timeframe."

- Councilor Maestas continued, saying he is unsure if we have enough time for a two-step process, and is unsure if we need a two-step process, but think it's the Mayor's prerogative to be able to do that. He said he is unclear on the order of things entailing budget management. He believes we need some principles for guidelines which speak to our desired order as to how things will happen. His desired order is to look at all possible avenues to realize efficiencies in the City and some savings. He wants that done before considering revenue enhancements. He said the Mayor's top priority in new revenues is community acceptability, and asked how we go about gauging community acceptability, commenting it could be a fatal flaw. He said there won't be community acceptability if we have to raise revenues.

- Mayor Gonzales said he doesn't need to submit a budget separate from the Council, and thinks there needs to be a working document that starts somewhere. He said when the new form of Mayor-Council Charter is effective, the responsibility to submit a budget will be the Mayor's. He said we need to begin to prepare for that practice that some point, so in year one it isn't so difficult.

- Mayor Gonzales said this Resolution is meant to be a comprehensive guide as to how we address our finances, and the management of our finances which includes the budget formulation. Without this comprehensive guide with the input of the Council up front, we will find ourselves managing the budget by individual Resolution. He thinks this allows for searching for efficiencies before we address the revenue. This Resolution isn't meant to dictate how the Finance Committee will do that, and is meant as practice not directive to the Council as to how to put that together.-

- Councilor Maestas said, then these are guidelines for future policy, it's not policy.

- Mayor Gonzales said yes, and the reason a Resolution was chosen to do this, versus an Ordinance.

- Councilor Maestas said breaking this down to simple principles would have been more helpful to him, because we're mixing good financial practice, with existing City policies along with policy recommendations on policy issues that are still of concern and not agreed upon.

- Councilor Maestas continued, saying in the Resolution on Page 5, line 13 provides, "*The City will address its exposure to revenue volatility through a strategy of promoting economic development and diversification to strength its overall economic base.*" He said that implies we aren't going to consider revenue or tax increases, noting a lot of the economic development affects the GRTs, and as long as we're reliant, we'll still be vulnerable.

- Mayor Gonzales said part of it is more a look back, which is easier to do today than it was 20 years ago. He said our reliance on GRTs to fund more than 70% of our General Fund created enormous volatility and shows what can happen to our budget. He said we generate $56 - $58 million in GRTs and property tax annually, of which property tax accounts for only $3.4 million. The idea is to find some way to develop revenue policy to reduce the volatility of incoming revenues in a way that doesn't impact adversely the public. Absent a healthy economy, we're operating at a $15 to $20 million deficit annually. We need more people living in Santa Fe, increasing wages and diversification in our economy. We need policy participation by the Council to address its exposure to revenue volatility through a strategy of promoting economic development and diversification to strength its overall economic base.

- Councilor Maestas suggested that competitiveness should be elsewhere and not under new revenue.

- Councilor Maestas continued, saying line 18 on page 6, provides, "*The City will seek to recover the full cost of services provided directly to citizens...*" He said if we try to recover the full cost, no one would be using our facilities, and suggested rephrasing, although he doesn't have the language. He said it applies definitely to enterprise funds, but not to parks and recreational facilities because it is impossible, noting the Transit fare box returns of 7% which doesn't pay for the overhead.

- Mayor Gonzales said it does in the second paragraph in a more transparent way, so we are able to elevate it to the public so there is an understanding of how much is being subsidized by the General Fund into user fees where we're not charging the full amount. He said we can't quantify it right now because haven't incorporated that into our budget process.

- Councilor Maestas said he would strike that entire first paragraph, because we will fail our policy if the first priority is to strive to recover all costs associated with a certain service. He doesn't want to include something at which we are failing.

- Councilor Maestas continued, saying on page 7, line 3, you have covered Expenditure Policy. He said it needs to be efficiencies instead of Expenditure Policy and needs to be broader. He said the language, "*The City will maintain a level of expenditures that will provide for the health, safety and welfare...*" is basic. He said, "However, if this is to be a guideline, our goal is to realize budgetary savings through a number of efficiency measures whatever that may be. Simply applying investing in technology to realize efficiencies as a way to reduce expenditures is much too narrow, and we need a much bigger toolbox for that. I would suggest a wider array of tried and true tools to bring our expenditures down, and make a statement in here that this would be a priority over raising taxes, just as a recommendation, Mayor."

- Councilor Maestas continued, saying regarding language on lines 22-24 at the bottom of page 7, he can't imagine we will have the luxury to have a reserve even over 10% in the next 2-3 years. He realizes this is aspirational. He doesn't know how we can justify more than the 1/12 reserve. He said perhaps we shouldn't use numbers and should say the City will strive to maintain a reserve above the required by DFA.

- Mayor Gonzales said it is more than aspirational. He said as long as we have a budget that is more than 70% dependent on GRTs, we have huge risks associated to public services when there is a downturn. He said unless we have built adequate fund balances to address those shortfalls, we're exposing the public to greater risk in the future. He understands the point that the public doesn't like to see a whole lot of their money that is saved up. However, we have a policy that will need that money in the future. He said, "There is no doubt that there will be another recession, and hopefully we have a long time before that."

- Mayor Gonzales continued, "None of us created the structure we're in today, but we have to manage based on that structure. So it makes sense to have an aggressive policy that socks away as much money as possible in these funds, so when we have cycles of downturn, we're not having to quickly consider cutting services, or raising taxes. We've taken the prudence of saving for those rainy days in each of those funds that are critical to delivering services to the public. And if we're just doing the minimum needed.... we've been in this downturn for 6-8 years. It's hard to know how much we would have needed to address the issue, but we can calculate that quickly."

- Mayor Gonzales continued, "This is the point of trying to be as frugal as we can in terms of putting money away for those rainy days, as long we are going to stay heavily dependent on GRTs. We're going to need that money at some point in the future. Unless the Council has a hurdle to get over, they are going to stay spending that additional cash... I'm not talking about us, but whatever future Councils will stay spending the additional cash in ongoing operations, expansion of government, etc., if we have an aggressive hurdle we have to get over in terms of maintaining a fund balance, you're right, it's going to take us a while to get there, several years, to get to those points. But at least while we're here, we can stay striving toward an aggressive fund balance to stash away money for when those downturns occur."

- Councilor Maestas said the only thing missing in this category is our practice of us using the cash pool. He doesn't know if we need to discontinue that practice, and rely on a more legitimate reserve.

- Mayor Gonzales said, "We actually have that in here, explicitly. That was a conversation we had with Councilor Dominguez on the issue of excess cash in a fund over cost would be used only to benefit the debt in that fund, repair and maintenance associated with that fund, but couldn't be used in other areas of the City that had nothing to do with the fund. That is in the area of Fund Balances."

  Mr. Rodriguez said he thinks Councilor Maestas is talking about something different here, and you're talking about in the interim." He said this has been a practice of the City for some time, and if it were cut it at this point, it would cut $6.2 million from the budget. He said we will do that if that is the direction of the Council, but at that point that means layoffs, raising taxes and cutting service levels, as well as trying to squeeze efficiencies.

- Councilor Maestas said that should be addressed here as well as being something that needs to be sunsetted.

- Mayor Gonzales said he thinks that is a good idea.

  Mr. Rodriguez said the idea is that the policy will be useful in all times and when things do get righted.

- Councilor Maestas would like to add a section. It is a common practice to assess the dedications for GRTs. He said priorities change, things change and a lot of our GRT dedications haven't been discussed in some time. He thinks it's healthy to assess priorities to see if the intent still meets its purpose.

- Councilor Maestas continued, saying he has comments on Transfers from the Enterprise Fund. He said by striking lines 24-25 on page 17, and line 1 on page 18, there is no action. He suggested leaving that language which defines what excess revenue is in an enterprise fund, commenting this strikes the policy for transfers of excess revenues. He said this language is almost verbatim from current policy that sunsets at the end of this fiscal year.

- Chair Dominguez said it is different from what we approved, noting the one we approved talks about 45 working days of capital for the utility and 0.4%, so there are some differences there.

- Councilor Maestas said, "It's a loaded issue. In closing Mayor, I think there's a lot of stuff going on in there and I'm not sure it's ready myself. I'm interested to hear from Councilor Trujillo."

- Mayor Gonzales said, "I would just say, Councilor Maestas, minus this document, we are going to continue to have to come up with resolutions, individually, that we feel will fix the issue. Like the one that you're putting through right now on the issue of putting in a hiring freeze or working to address those issues first. And that would be appropriate, even under some of these guidelines that are here, but I don't feel we have an overall set of guidelines that we can follow that will allow for year over year consistency in how the budget is formulated. If there are portions of this that we don't agree with, okay; portions that you want to pull out or add, that is what this for. It's meant to put something before the Governing Body so we have a set of policies we can go forward in moving our way out. I'm not vested, as Councilor Dominguez asked earlier, in any of these *per se*, although I do mean a lot of them make a lot of sense."

- Mayor Gonzales continued, "There are 5 key principles that I wanted to make are in whatever policy we have that comes forward as it relates to our financial and our budget side. (1) It needs to be equitable for everybody; (2) that it drives a set of fiscal policies that allow for full participation by our community; (3) that we have a guiding document that provides for stability in fiscal soundness year over year; (4) that we have a set of revenues/expenditures in place that are sustainable; and (5) that we have a budget or set of financing documents we know we can grow as a community and be competitive. Not only in the coffers of City Hall, but in the pockets of City residents."

- Mayor Gonzales continued, "This will be difficult, but I think we can live by these principles, no matter what happens in this planning document. And if we can drive to those key principles, I think we can restore confidence of the public in how we're developing our budget. In meeting these principles, we can assure that future Governing Body will look back on this action, and say that we made the hard decisions and the right decisions."

- Mayor Gonzales continued, "And then, we begin to address maybe social issues, using government to help address closing the gap of income and equality, being able to focus resources so we eradicate the issues of poverty, being able to make sure we have the right tool set in our budget to address environmental issues. I think we can hit all those things without feeling we have to make it through the year as opposed to managing into the future, so that is what this meant to be. And again, if it's got to be changed through this committee process, or we have to delay it, that's okay. I just want to make sure we get to a set of guiding principles the administration can use and begin to start doing the work of the Council in helping to formulate ideas, and recommendations, and governance, so you don't get a document up here and, you're, like, wait a second, that's nowhere near what I'm feeling should be right."

- Councilor Maestas said he wrote down the principles which he thinks are way more powerful than this document. He thinks couching it terms of the principles the Mayor would like to see in the budget means more and is more relevant to him than mixing common financial practices, existing administrative policies with broader policies, and particularly policy issues that have not been deliberated and properly discussed, like enterprise transfers. He said, "I think this is like spot on in my opinion, Mayor."

- Mayor Gonzales said these are values we have, but it's our time to be able to weigh in on management of the delivery, by getting into the weeds and saying here's how all these issues here are going to map up to those values if we want to adopt them. He said, "If we don't have it, Oscar might have a different idea than Brian, and Brian a different idea than I will. That's the only thing I'm worried about. This is such a important time in the history of this government, I want to be sure we get it, and right-size so we can truly have a broad impact on our community."

- Councilor Trujillo said he looks at the Mayor's proposal as a set of plans that can be tweaked along the way, "just as yours too can be Councilor Maestas." He said he is glad that we are finally setting a path, which is something we have been lacking in this process.

- Councilor Trujillo said line 21, page 10, provides, "*Project Life. Only capital assets or projects with an economic value lasting more than five years shall be financed using debt.*" He asked what is means by project life.

- Mayor Gonzales said that is meant to say that when we issue debt meant for capital, it should go into project that have a loner life cycle than 5 years, because we're borrowing for longer than 5 years. So if we're spending money on expenditures with a short life cycle or for salaries and employees, then we're creating a lot of debt that isn't going to have a life cycle for a period of time that matches that debt. And that's how we've been able to build some things, but long term for the citizens who are paying on that debt, they would have lost the benefit the second you wrote the check to the employee was covering something on the park or wherever. He said, "The point is, let's have a policy that says if we're going to issue debt, it's going to go into fixtures, capital or infrastructure with a life cycle that is equal to or close to the term of the debt."

- Councilor Trujillo said, "I see yours as plans. We're all going to come up with other ideas, and this isn't going to be set in stone. I'm glad it's before us. I want to thank Oscar for the work you did on this. I know it's been rough. It's been hard. In talking to people throughout the community. Everybody thinks we're $15 million short, the sky is falling, Chicken Little. That's what I've been hearing. I hear we lost $30 million. It's ridiculous, it really is. And it bothers me to hear this coming from constituents in this community. And I tell them, we're doing an audit, let's let the audit go through. $15 million, this is something that we knew was going to happen, it didn't come on us overnight, and we are looking at ways to fix this. We're just not sitting on our butts, we're definitely working. I'm glad you brought this forward."

- Mayor Gonzales said he isn't in a rush to get this in place, and it's okay if we have to keep it here for a while to work through or figure.

- Councilor Trujillo said we do need to keep it here for a while to do more work on it.

- Mayor Gonzales said if the Committee believes we need some kind of plan, then let's invest in working on the plan here before we take it forward so it is reflective of the Finance Committee. He said he wants us to agree on a financial document that we can rely on year over year.

- Councilor Trujillo said he is not ready to vote on this Resolution.

- Chair Dominguez asked Councilor Trujillo if he has any specific policy recommendations he wants to "tackle and work on."

- Councilor Trujillo said one of the things he discussed with Mr. Rodriguez is what we, as a City, is authorized to impose as a gasoline tax. He wants to look at all aspects of this and get the $15 million deficit under control and not put it on the backs of this community.

- Chair Dominguez said it is not the Mayor's intent to use this Resolution to address the fundamental challenges which we have, which is we are spending more money than we have. He said so much of it has to do with our tax structures and other things out of our control. He said, "I think that if each of the members of the Governing Body, or at least the Finance Committee, can really address or come up with specific policy recommendations, because just say we have a fiscal crisis and it's our priority is not going to be good enough. Just saying, or having discussions about, and with all due respect Councilor Maestas, best practices, and with all due respect to you, Mayor, guidelines, does not really address the fundamental fiscal challenge we have which is we're so reliant on an unreliable source of income. And it's not like we can go and change State law to make that happen. We certainly need to show efficiencies."

- Chair Dominguez continued, "And so what I'm going to propose is this. Okay, did you have anything specific. There is some wordsmithing that needs to happen on this a little bit. I think there are some things, you know. It can be organized differently, maybe. But if this Finance Committee is going to roll up their sleeves and utilize this as a first step to get to a better place, then we need to put our words on paper and get them addressed and debated. I don't want to get into the wordsmith issues I have now, but we need to take some action...."

- Mayor Gonzales said, "I would just ask, Mr. Chairman, as the sponsor, to table it and allow for that to take place, to ask the Committee, whether it's 2 weeks or a month, for the time needed to go through and do the gut check. But keep in mind that the idea is to pass a Resolution that it is as relevant today to our budget as it will be 10 years from now, because these are policies that can be effective, whether than we are earning more revenues than we are spending, or we are spending more than we're earning. They are sound, bedrock principles for how we can approach formulations of budget and fiscal management. That's clearly what I would love you guys to look at, because that's step one of a multi-year process to build a stronger, healthier budget, that's effective for the public and better management tools."

- Mayor Gonzales continued, "The other thing I'll say is that we are actively looking for and I think we are going to find budget software that is relatively inexpensive that will allow the public to be able to see much better what we're up against. And there actually is budget software out there, citizen budget software that actually allows them to actively participate on line, which we're looking at. But there has to be a way people can really understand what we talked about tonight, so they can process it themselves."

- Mayor Gonzales continued, saying he would ask the Committee to see what works, what doesn't and think about today and 10 years from now and see if these make sense.

MOTION: Councilor Trujillo moved, seconded by Councilor Rivera for purposes of discussion, to postpone action on the Resolution for 30-60 days, with specifics that any wordsmithing of the Resolution be submitted via email not later than the Friday before the meeting, so there is language we can debate and consider.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Maestas said two things. He thinks the Mayor should move forward with separate legislation just on his 5 principles which are embedded in this comprehensive policy. However, he thinks the public and the Governing Body, quite frankly, would want to hear broader principles first leading into this.

Councilor Maestas continued, "I would support you moving forward with legislation, at least beginning a discussions on principles for the budget. My first comment. My second comment is some of this stuff can be done administratively. If you want to move up the process, but obviously I have some issues. I think through Oscar we can move up the timeline, provided you come up with a mechanism to get some feedback and agree on principles and priorities needed before you go off and give department heads some general guidance. I think there are things you can do short of waiting for this thing to be just right. That's the problem, there's so many things in there Mayor, that it makes it unwieldy and easy to finish it. So I'm just saying the low hanging fruit is move on your principles, see if we can do some of the things he's already urging us to do. Move up the policy process. And then, like you said, let's just get to work. This is a roadmap, not just for this next budget cycle, but going forward. I will do my diligence and I hope Jesse wrote my comments down, but I will get comments in."

Chair Dominguez said Committee members should submit their comments and suggestions to Mr. Rodriguez, the City Manager, the sponsor and him, so he can make sure the direction is being followed by the staff and the sponsor.

Councilor Maestas asked Mr. Rodriguez to identify what is existing policy in the document.

Mr. Rodriguez said only one piece of policy currently exists which is the Investment Policy, and all the other stuff is "just word of mouth."

Councilor Rivera said, rather than seeing the 5 principles in a separate document, he would like to see them in the Resolution, and thinks it clearly is on point to what the Mayor is trying to accomplish, and could be part of the "Now Therefore Be It Resolved."

Mayor Gonzales said he will do so.

Councilor Rivera would like those as the very first part of this document to give us an outline of where were need to go and what the guiding principles as we move forward. He will work on the language on the other things that were brought up.

Mayor Gonzales said this is meant to be a starter document for this process, commenting it isn't "mine," and stressed that he doesn't want anyone to feel there is any personal connection on any of these issues. He said, "I appreciate that you are willing to bring it forward, so thank you."

Chair Dominguez said he wants to make sure that we have a deadline for communications that is appropriate and we don't violate the Open Meetings Staff, and "so go through staff and at least copy me as a member of the Governing Body and of course the sponsor."

VOTE: The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

23. OTHER FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Mr. Rodriguez said he sent out an email with attached letter from the Financial Advisor today, outlining 3 options for the June 2016 call date to refinance or repay. He is working with him on the pluses and minuses of each option. He will talk about this in greater detail at the next meeting. He urges this discussion as soon as possible and would welcome Committee ideas.

Chair Dominguez asked, "How do we have a real discussion about how we want to be able to use that cash, and how to set priorities and address the big elephant in the room, which is that we're spending more money than we have. How do we have that discussion, as my favorite Councilor Montano used to say, with 'the pontificating that we sometimes do'."

Councilor Rivera said he wants to make sure that we clean up our own house first and make sure we're not spending money inappropriately, that we are righting the ship before we move forward with any new decisions about how to increase revenues or decrease services or whatever we do. He said, "I know you're working on it Oscar, but I would hate for us to fall over ourselves because we have so many things trying to address this issue, that we forget the first basic step – take care of things within first."

Councilor Maestas said this could be an opportunity to take a small step to make the Water Fund self-sufficient, how to use existing revenues for other priorities outside the Water Fund that are perfectly allowable under the State Statute for the GRT. He said we voted on two issues that mention there is a set aside for Art in Public Places, and he would like that discussion on one of the next two agendas – an update with figures.

Chair Dominguez asked Mr. Rodriguez to provide us with the policy in place in dealing with funds for Art in Public Places, and he will get that on the agenda.

24. MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

A copy of Bills and Resolutions Scheduled for introduction by members of the Governing Body at the Finance Committee on October 19, 2015, is incorporated herewith to these minutes as Exhibit "3."

The following Resolutions were introduced:

1. A Resolution establishing City of Santa Fe Legislative priorities for consideration by the New Mexico State Legislature during the 52nd Legislature – State of New Mexico – Second Session 2016.

2. A Resolution establishing City of Santa Fe Legislative priorities by City Council District, for consideration by the New Mexico State Legislature, during the 52nd Legislature – State of New Mexico – Second Session 2016.

25. ADJOURN

There was no further business to come before the Committee, and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m.

Carmichael A. Dominguez, Chair

Reviewed by:

Oscar S. Rodriguez, Finance Director
Department of Finance

Melessia Helberg, Stenographer