

# City of Santa Fe, New Mexico

# memo

**DATE:** December 12, 2015

**TO:** Finance Committee and City Council  
Brian K. Snyder, City Manager *BKS*  
Oscar S. Rodriguez, Finance Director *OR*

**VIA:** *Isaac J. Pino*  
Isaac J. Pino, Community Services Department Director

**FROM:** Chris Sanchez, Youth and Family Services Division Director *CS*

## ITEM AND ISSUE:

Veterans Advisory Committee Fund allocation.

## BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY:

On November 4, 2015, during the Veterans Advisory Board Meeting and in accordance with Resolution No. 2013-2 adopted on January 13, 2013, the Veterans Advisory Committee has voted, approved and is recommending the following budget allocation of the available \$161,992.82 Veterans Fund:

- Veterans and Families Fund - \$35,000.00
- Veterans Scholarships - \$10,000.00
- Dependents Scholarships - \$8,000.000
- Veterans 4<sup>th</sup> of July Community Run - \$10,000.00
- Homeless Veteran Housing - \$10,000.00
- Veterans Marketing - \$7,000.00
- Interfaith Shelter - \$2,604.00
- **TOTAL = \$82,604.00**

## RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approval of the proposed Veterans Advisory Board Budget. The funding for the Veterans Advisory Budget is in business unit 22605. The funding will come from 510310 for \$62,604.00 (service contracts) and 510400 for \$20,000.00 (professional contracts). The remaining \$79,388.82 will be allocated at a later date.

Attached:

Resolution 2013-2

Veterans Advisory Board Minutes dated August 12, 2015

Veterans Advisory Board Minutes dated November 4, 2015



1 CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

2 RESOLUTION NO. 2013-2

3 INTRODUCED BY:

4  
5 Councilor Calvert  
6 Councilor Wurzbarger  
7 Councilor Bushee  
8  
9

10 A RESOLUTION

11 RELATING TO THE NEW MEXICO VETERANS' NATIONAL CEMETERY FUND  
12 ESTABLISHED BY SECTION 7-1-6.1 NMSA 1978; DESIGNATING FUNDS RECEIVED  
13 FROM THE NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICES (NMDVS) FOR  
14 PROGRAMS FOR LOCAL VETERANS; DIRECTING STAFF TO ESTABLISH A FUND IN  
15 THE BUDGET FOR THE MONIES RECEIVED FROM NMDVS TO BE DEPOSITED IN;  
16 DIRECTING STAFF TO ENTER INTO AN MOU WITH NMDVS TO DESIGNATE A DATE  
17 SPECIFIC ON AN ANNUAL BASIS IN WHICH THE NMDVS SHOULD TRANSFER  
18 FUNDS COLLECTED TO THE CITY; AND DIRECTING STAFF TO SCHEDULE A  
19 SUMMIT WITH THE NMDVS AND OTHER VETERAN SERVICE ENTITIES TO  
20 ESTABLISH A PROCESS IN WHICH TO USE THE FUNDS FOR VETERAN PROGRAMS.  
21

22 WHEREAS, in the period from 1985 to 1987, the City of Santa Fe and the United States  
23 Department of Veterans Affairs/Santa Fe National Cemetery (the "Cemetery") began the process of  
24 working together to expand the land area that comprised the Cemetery; and

25 WHEREAS, thereafter, the City purchased approximately 40.4 acres of land valued at

1 \$1,070,000 from a landowner adjacent to the Santa Fe National Cemetery for expansion of the  
2 cemetery; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the City deeded the land to the Cemetery at no cost with the understanding that  
4 the money would be paid back to the City without interest; and

5 **WHEREAS**, in 1987, to raise funds to pay the City back, legislation was passed in the New  
6 Mexico State Legislature which would allow for any individual to, if they wish, contribute any  
7 amount of their tax refund to the New Mexico Veterans' National Cemetery Fund simply by checking  
8 a box on the Voluntary Contributions Form, now codified as Section 7-1-6.18 NMSA 1978,  
9 "Distribution veterans' national cemetery fund." In 2011, Section 7-1-6.18 was amended and reads:

10 *Upon a certification by the state board of finance that the city of Santa*  
11 *Fe grants and conveys additional acreage for the Santa Fe national*  
12 *cemetery, a distribution pursuant to Section 7-1-6.1 NMSA 1978 shall be*  
13 *made to the veterans' national cemetery fund of the amounts designated*  
14 *pursuant to Section 7-2-28 NMSA 1978 as contributions to that fund;*  
15 *provided that when the sum of contributions received on or after January*  
16 *1, 1988 equals one million seventy thousand dollars (\$1,070,000), any*  
17 *contributions received in excess of that amount shall be distributed to the*  
18 *substance abuse education fund."*

19 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 7-2-28.1 NMSA 1978, the Department administers the  
20 Fund and money in the Fund at the end of a fiscal year "shall not revert to any other fund;" and

21 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to the state law between 1988 and 2002 the City received \$235,101.25  
22 from NMDVS and on December 12, 2012, the City received a ceremonial check for \$150,000, with  
23 an actual check of \$150,000 to be received by the City prior to December 31, 2012 at which time the  
24 balance owed to the City from NMDVS is \$684,898.75.

25 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**

1 CITY OF SANTA FE that the funds received from the NMDVS this time forward in accordance  
2 with the New Mexico Veterans' National Cemetery Fund be designated solely for veteran programs.

3 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that staff is directed to:

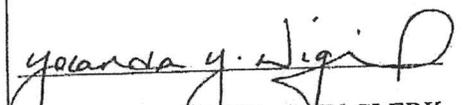
- 4 1. Establish a fund in the budget for the monies received from the NMDVS from this  
5 time forward to be deposited in;
- 6 2. Enter into an MOU with NMDVS to designate a date specific on an annual basis in  
7 which the NMDVS would transfer the balance of funds collected by the State and  
8 deposited into the New Mexico Veterans' Cemetery Fund to the City; and
- 9 3. Schedule a summit with the NMDVS and other veterans' service providers to  
10 establish a process in which to disseminate the funds received from the NMDVS and  
11 deposited by the City for veteran programs.

12 PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED this 9<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2013.

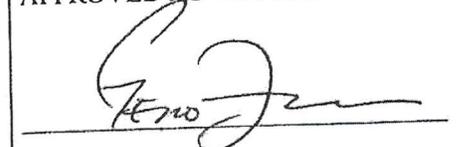
13 

14 DAVID COSS, MAYOR

15  
16 ATTEST:

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18   
19 YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

20 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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22  
23 GENO ZAMORA, CITY ATTORNEY

24  
25 *M/Melissa/Resolutions 2013/2013-2 Veterans Service Funds*

Ms. Rodriguez explained that the VA does not pay for office space for Mr. Herman. He essentially worked out of the trunk of his vehicle and in the break room. The Interfaith Community Shelter offered him an office to be consistently available to veterans who are seeking his assistance. The Shelter did not receive reimbursement for Mr. Herman's office space during last fiscal year (2014-2015).

Each of the other partner providers at the Shelter that have designated office space pay a monthly amount determined by the square feet of office space used and the frequency of use.

The Interfaith Community Shelter is requesting the monthly payment of \$217 (\$2,604 annually) be funded from the City's Veterans Fund. This will allow Mr. Herman to continue to maintain an office and presence in the building so veterans who are experiencing homelessness can access the services they need and become contributing members of our community.

**Mr. McCormick moved to approve the proposal from the Interfaith Community Shelter for rental assistance. Mr. Dettelbach seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**

*Mr. Abeyta left the meeting.*

Mr. Dettelbach said as the Board develops its policies, it should limit any individual organization to a number of times that they can come to the Board for funding in a year's time.

Mr. McCormick would like for John Herman to speak to the Board at the next meeting. Ms. Rodriguez agreed that it would be a good idea to have him talk to the Board.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF**

Ms. Rodriguez announced that this would be her last day because she is retiring. Chris Sanchez of the Children and Youth Commission will be the interim Youth and Family Services Division Director.

There was consensus of the Board to hold a planning retreat as soon as possible, and possibly before the next meeting.

Mr. Hughes asked how long did it take to build to this amount.

Chair Calvert said fifteen years. Last year only \$2,000 was donated. With electronic filing it is harder to find. It is incumbent on us to get more money. It should be included as a line in the revenue section. He said he is just saying duplicate, remind ourselves not one and done and make sure our budget is sustainable.

Mr. McCormick said we can't stay on education for the entire meeting. There are other Veterans as well.

Mr. McCormick said we can have something new at the Veterans Center. We can get information out there about this Committee with the money available. It should be split as well. There are other centers who have access as well. We should talk about that and have a broader base than just education. You have our support for scholarships.

Ms. Mabel said what kind of things at the Veterans Center.

Mr. McCormick said he was not sure.

Mr. Hughes said what about if we make up a budget for \$50,000 for now and give us a chance to see what kind of impact we have.

Chair Calvert said this budget does not have to be spent entirely right now.

Mr. Sanchez said adding what we have talked about with the previous amounts gets us to \$102,000.

Mr. Dettelbach asked do we want a decision today. We could spend all day on this. Maybe we take a look at this and put our thoughts together. He thinks Mr. Hughes is right, it is better to manage and show results on a smaller amount of money than on a bigger amount.

Mr. Scargall suggested that the Board revise the Family Assistance Fund to \$25,000, scholarships to \$10,000 for Veterans and for dependents to \$8,000, homeless support \$10,000 and \$5,000 to business assistance.

Mr. McCormick said as a banker with lots of organizations giving micro loans is a mistake.

Chair Calvert said once we have the total amount, then we can move from one line item to another.

Mr. Scargall said let's do \$35,000 for the Veterans and Families Fund, \$10,000 for the Veterans scholarships, \$ 8,000 for dependents scholarships \$10,000 for the run

on the fourth, \$10,000 for homeless Veteran housing. That totals \$73,000. Add \$7,000 in additional money to be spent. The total budget would be \$80,000.

Chair Calvert said he hoped we will get a return on the run and he hopes it can be done for \$5,000.

Mr. Scargall said this will be the first time. We will make it a big deal.

**MOTION** Mr. Scargall made a motion, seconded by Mr. Abeyta, to approve the budget with revisions in the amount of \$80,604.

Chair Calvert asked to make a friendly amendment to replenishment the fund.

Everyone agreed with that amendment.

Mr. Dettelbach asked to add that not one penny be spent without full Board agreement.

Everyone agreed with that amendment

The motion was changed to include two amendments.

**VOTE** The motion with both amendments was passed unanimously by voice vote.

## **2. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON VACANCY**

Mr. Abeyta said he talked to Phillip Chavez at the Veterans Center. He is the outreach person there. He wants to serve and he would be great.

**MOTION** Ms. Rodriguez made a motion, seconded by Ms. Mabel, to recommend Phillip Chavez for the vacancy.

**VOTE** The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

## **5. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. UPDATE ON BUS FARES FOR VETERANS**

Mr. Sanchez said the City Council passed this unanimously.