CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-61

INTRODUCED BY:

Councilor Chavez
Mayor Coss
Councilor Bushee

A RESOLUTION

CALLING FOR THE CITY COUNCIL TO PETITION THE PRESIDENT AND THE
UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO IMMEDIATELY CEASE COMBAT OPERATIONS
IN IRAQ, END THE OCCUPATION, AND SAFELY BRING HOME ALL AMERICAN
TROOPS.

WHEREAS, the citizens of the City of Santa Fe and their local elected officials have the
constitutional right to petition the federal government on matters of grave concern to our
community; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe is The City of Holy Faith, whose residents hold high the sanctity
of human life; and

WHEREAS, war is not a humane or effective means of resolving international conflicts;
it dehumanizes all people; it causes destruction and waste on an unprecedented scale; and it
creates environmental and ecological devastation that takes decades if not centuries to correct;
and

WHEREAS, the country and people of Iraq have at no time posed any threat to the
United States or its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Fe City Council, on October 30, 2002, passed Resolution No. 2002-69 voicing its opposition to a preemptive attack on Iraq and urging the exhaustion of all diplomatic avenues in order to avert a war; and

WHEREAS, in February 2003 Virginia Miller, representing the City of Santa Fe, as part of a contingent of 160 Cities for Peace, went to New York City and Washington, D.C. to present Santa Fe’s Resolution opposing U.S. preemptive action against Iraq; and

WHEREAS, the federal government invaded Iraq in violation of the principles of the United Nations Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the rule of international law, all of which the City of Santa Fe has affirmed and endorsed; and

WHEREAS, this use of military force will not provide Americans with the safety and security they need; and

WHEREAS, this senseless war has brought incalculable misery, death and destruction; and

WHEREAS, the war in Iraq, now in its fifth year, has caused the deaths of more than 3,500 U.S. service personnel and hundreds of thousands of Iraqis; the physical and psychological wounding and disabling of more than 25,000 U.S. service personnel and hundreds of thousands of Iraqis; the destruction of the homes, communities, and livelihoods of more than 1.7 million Iraqis; and the creation of more than 2 million Iraqi refugees; and

WHEREAS, the economic cost of this war now exceeds $450 billion (with estimates of the total cost exceeding $2 trillion), while the basic services of government in this country have been cut, limiting access to health care, education, housing, infrastructure needs, and public safety for our citizens; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Priorities Project, the funds spent by Santa Fe taxpayers alone on the war and occupation equal more than $56,200,000, which instead could
have provided enough money for the hiring of 279 school teachers, OR 1,751 Head Start places
for young children, OR 588 affordable housing units, OR 3,922 four-year scholarships at public
universities, OR health care coverage for 4,167 people each year since the war began; and

WHEREAS, Santa Fe citizens have held many protests and local peace organizations
and citizens have been demonstrating against the Iraq War every Friday at the intersection of
Cerrillos Road and St. Francis Drive since August of 2002 urging the U.S. government to bring
our troops home now; and

WHEREAS, with this resolution Santa Fe will join more than 255 other cities around the
country that have passed similar resolutions; and

WHEREAS, this resolution is supported by the following Santa Fe organizations and
religious leaders: Veterans for Peace, Peace Action New Mexico, People for Peace, the New
Mexico Department of Peace Initiative, the Network of Spiritual Progressives, Women in Black,
Cranes for Peace, the Los Alamos Peace Project, Pax Christi New Mexico, Code Pink, Sister
Penny McMullen (Sisters of Loretto), the Social Justice Committee of the Unitarian Church, the
Forum Committee of the Unitarian Church, Deacon Anthony Trujillo (Guadalupe Church), Rabbi
Malka Drucker, Father Richard Murphy, Father Adam Lee Ortega y Ortiz (Santa María de la Paz
Catholic Community), Santa Fe Friends Meeting (Quakers), Father John Dear, Azher Saleh
(Board of Trustees of the Islamic Society of Northern New Mexico), New Mexico Conference of
Churches, the Peace and Social Justice Committee of the Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of
Assisi, the Social Action Committee of Temple Beth Shalom and the Archdiocese of Santa Fe
Office of Social Justice.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
CITY OF SANTA FE, that the Governing Body on behalf of the citizens of Santa Fe urges the
United States government to immediately commence an orderly and rapid withdrawal of United
States military personnel from Iraq; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the returning troops be ensured compensation and
care including full mental and physical health care, education, housing, employment, and
disability and rehabilitation benefits; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the financial resources used to prosecute the war
be redirected to address the urgent needs of the most vulnerable portions of our population in the
areas of housing, health care, job creation, and education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded
immediately to George W. Bush, President of the United States, and all members of the New
Mexico Congressional Delegation.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 11th day of July, 2007.

DAVID COSS, MAYOR

ATTEST:

YOLANDA Y. VIGIL, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

FRANK D. KATZ, CITY ATTORNEY