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CITY OF SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-__

INTRODUCED BY:

Mayor Alan Webber

Councilor Roman “Tiger” Abeyta

Councilor Signe I. Lindell

A RESOLUTION

ESTABLISHING AN OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR THE BICENTENNIAL POOL FOR THE 2021 SEASON.

WHEREAS, the City of Santa Fe (“City”) owns and maintains four pools throughout the city: Fort Marcy, Salvador Perez, Genoveva Chavez, and the Bicentennial outdoor pool; and

WHEREAS, the Bicentennial Pool is the only public outdoor swimming pool in the City, located at 1121 Alto Street; and

WHEREAS, the Bicentennial Pool provides the opportunity for a variety of water activities to the public during the summer season, including water Zumba, recreation swimming, lap swimming, and special events such as the season-ending Doggie Dip; and

WHEREAS, the Bicentennial Pool is typically open from Memorial Day weekend to the first week in September and serves approximately 200 patrons each day, generating approximately \$33,000 in revenue annually; and

WHEREAS, various community groups utilize the Bicentennial Pool each year, including the City’s youth programs, Santa Fe Aquatic Club Masters program, Santa Fe and Pojoaque Boys

1 and Girls Club, and numerous other private groups and schools; and

2 **WHEREAS**, the Bicentennial Pool was constructed in 1976 in honor of the bicentennial
3 of the United States, and has received no major renovations since that time; and

4 **WHEREAS**, since the pool was built, there have been upgrades to the pump room
5 including new sand filters, pumps, filtration systems, and electrical shut-off switches as well as the
6 addition of two play structures and three shade structures; and

7 **WHEREAS**, on January 8, 2021, the Public Works Department became aware that
8 Recreation Department staff believed the pool was leaking approximately six inches of water per
9 day; and

10 **WHEREAS**, Recreation Department staff had obtained a quotation on January 5, 2021 to
11 repair the gutters and replaster the pool at an estimated cost of \$222,383; and

12 **WHEREAS**, Public Works Department staff established a purchase order and contractors
13 began work on February 24, 2021 to assess and propose solutions for the 2021 season with the goal
14 of performing the minimum repairs necessary, not including the repair of the gutters, to the pool to
15 open by Memorial Day, 2021; and

16 **WHEREAS**, contractors confirmed that the pool gutters were the primary source of
17 leakage and that the gutters could not be repaired in time for the 2021 season due to a six-month
18 lead time on procuring replacement gutters; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the City has contracted to repair some leaks as soon as possible, including
20 sealing the bottom drains and repairing some inlet water leaks, which staff believe will reduce the
21 rate of water loss; and

22 **WHEREAS**, City staff have determined that there are no safety risks to the public
23 associated with the water leaks; and

24 **WHEREAS**, water meter data from June through October of 2020 shows that the pool
25 complex used an average of 168,000 gallons per month; and

1 **WHEREAS**, not more than 28,000 gallons per month could be attributed to evaporation
2 from the pool; and the remaining 140,000 gallons per month of water useage is a result of shower
3 and bathroom use, water splashed out of the pool, and leakage, indicating the maximum size of the
4 leak at the time it was discovered was approximately 3 gallons per minute; and

5 **WHEREAS**, SFCC 1987, Subsection 25-3.2(A) states that municipal facilities shall not
6 waste water and that leaks in excess of 0.25 gallons per minute constitute wasting water; and

7 **WHEREAS**, SFCC 1987, Section 25-3.2(B) states that “flow resulting from temporary
8 city water systems or malfunctions” is not wasting water, but should be minimized; and

9 **WHEREAS**, Santa Fe, and the broader Southwest Region is in the midst of a “mega
10 drought” in which water resources may become even more scarce, necessitating increased
11 conservation of this precious resource; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the Public Works Department and the Recreation Department intend to work
13 with the Water Conservation Office to follow the same monitoring and action plan that other
14 businesses with identified leaks would take; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the Santa Fe Community College has two indoor swimming pools that are
16 available for use by the public and Defined Fitness recently opened with access to a pool; and

17 **WHEREAS**, while positions within the Recreation Department have been unfrozen and
18 filled, the Department currently only has staff to operate three pools, but is working to add staff to
19 be able to operate four pools; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the recently remodeled Salvador Perez Pool will be opened to the public
21 before Memorial Day, 2021, to respond to community demand for pool facilities.

22 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE**
23 **CITY OF SANTA FE** that, in light of the information provided by City staff, including those from
24 the Public Works Department, the Recreation Department, and the Water Conservation Office, the
25 City shall perform any repairs that can be made prior to opening for some portion of the 2021

1 summer season and, after passing an inspection by the New Mexico Environment Department,
2 establish and publicize a date to open the Bicentennial Pool for the remainder of the 2021 summer
3 season.

4 PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2021.

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ALAN WEBBER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

KRISTINE MIHELICIC, CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



ERIN K. McSHERRY, CITY ATTORNEY