



County of Los Alamos

Minutes

County Council – Regular Session

*Denise Derkacs, Council Chair, Theresa Cull, Council Vice-Chair,
Melanee Hand, Suzie Havemann, Keith Lepsch,
David Reagor, and Randall Rytí, Councilors*

Tuesday, June 11, 2024	6:00 PM	Council Chambers – 1000 Central Avenue
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1. OPENING/ROLL CALL

The Council Chair, Denise Derkacs, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Council Chair Derkacs made opening remarks regarding the procedure of the meeting.

Ms. Linda Matteson, Deputy County Manager, listed the county employees in attendance via Zoom.

The following Councilors were in attendance:

Present: 6 – Councilor Derkacs, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann,
Councilor Reagor, and Councilor Rytí

Absent: 1 – Councilor Lepsch

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by: All.

3. STATEMENT REGARDING CLOSED SESSION

Councilor Rytí read the following statement to be included in the minutes: "The matters discussed in the closed session of County Council held on June 11, 2024, that began at 4:00 p.m. were limited only to the topics specified in the notice of the closed session, and no action was taken on any matter in the closed session."

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilor Ryti, seconded by Councilor Cull, that Council approve the agenda as presented.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 6 – Councilor Derkacs, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann, Councilor Reagor, and Councilor Ryti

Absent: 1 – Councilor Lepsch

6. PRESENTATIONS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND RECOGNITIONS

A. Recognition of Los Alamos Deputy Police Chief Oliver Morris on His Retirement (Accepted by Deputy Police Chief Oliver Morris)

Councilor Ryti presented the Recognition to Deputy Police Chief Oliver Morris.

Deputy Police Chief Oliver Morris spoke.

Police Chief Dino Sgambellone spoke.

Ms. Anne Laurent, County Manager, spoke.

7. CITIZEN PETITION

A. Citizen Petition Regarding/Requesting Four Actions to Improve Road and Pedestrian Safety in White Rock

Mr. Richard Skolnik presented.

Mr. Juan Rael, Public Works Director, spoke

Ms. Anne Laurent, County Manager, spoke.

Public Comment:

Mr. James Wernicke spoke.

A motion was made by Councilor Hand, seconded by Councilor Reagor, that Council acknowledge the petition, thank the petitioners for the recommendations/requests and request that staff investigate/research the matter in collaboration with the petitioners, the Transportation Board, and any affected developers and return to Council with information, options, and/or a recommendation for action within the next 60 days.

Councilor Havemann offered the following Friendly Amendment to the motion: Council will ask for a report to come back to Council within 45 days after the start of the school year in August. It was accepted.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 5 – Councilor Derkacs, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann, and Councilor Reagor

No: 1 – Councilor Ryti

Absent: 1 – Councilor Lepsch

8. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS ON CONSENT AGENDA

None.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

- A.** Approval of Amendment No. 1 to Services Agreement No. AGR 23-955 with Modern Mechanical Ice Systems, LLC, formerly known as American Arena, LLC, to Increase the Compensation Amount by \$440,000.00 for a Total Not-to-Exceed Compensation Amount of \$890,000.00 Plus Applicable Gross Receipts Tax for Temporary Chiller Services

I move that Council approve Amendment No. 1 to Services Agreement No. AGR 23-955 with Modern Mechanical Ice Systems, LLC, formerly known as American Arena, LLC, to increase the compensation amount by \$440,000.00 for a total not-to-exceed compensation amount of \$890,000.00 plus applicable gross receipts tax for temporary chiller services.

- B.** Approval of County Council Minutes for the April 29, 2024, Special Session, the May 7, 2024, Regular Session, the May 21, 2024, Work Session, and the May 28th Regular Session

Item pulled for further discussion under Council Business.

- C.** Approval of Budget Revision 2024-69 DPU Year-End

I move that County Council approve Budget Revision 2024-69 as summarized in Attachment A and that the attachment be made a part of the minutes.

- D.** Approval of Budget Revision 2024-67 to Budget Carryover Funds for the Wayfinding Project

I move that Council approve Budget Revision 2024-67 as summarized on Attachment A and the attachments be made part of the minutes of this meeting.

- E.** Board/Commission Appointment(s) - Los Alamos County Health Council

I move that Council appoint Leticia Luketich Martinez to the Los Alamos County Health Council for a term beginning on June 11, 2024, and ending on January 6, 2026.

Consent Motion:

A motion was made by Councilor Cull, seconded by Councilor Havemann, that Council approve the items on the Consent Agenda, with the exception of item B which has been moved to Business, and that the motions in the staff reports be included for the record.

Approval of the Consent Agenda:

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 6 – Councilor Derkacs, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann, Councilor Reagor, and Councilor Rytí

Absent 1 – Councilor Lepsch

10. PUBLIC HEARING(S)

A. Incorporated County of Los Alamos Code Ordinance No. 02-355 Modifications to Chapter 6, Animal Code

Police Chief Dino Sgambellone presented.
Mr. Alvin Leaphart, County Attorney, spoke.

Public Comment:
Ms. Wendy Burke Ryan spoke.
Mr. James Wernicke spoke.
Ms. Una Smith spoke.

Councilor Lepsch arrived at the meeting during the discussion of Item 10.A at 7:06 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilor Cull, seconded by Councilor Hand, that Council adopt Incorporated County of Los Alamos Code Ordinance No. 02-355 and ask the staff to assure that it is published in summary form.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 7 – Councilor Derkacs, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann, Councilor Lepsch, Councilor Reagor, and Councilor Ryti

RECESS

Councilor Derkacs called for a recess at 8:14 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:28 p.m.

11. BUSINESS

A. Strategic Planning and Performance Dashboard Update

Ms. Anne Laurent, County Manager, presented.
Ms. Julie Williams-Hill, County Public Relations Manager, spoke.

No action taken.

B. Consideration of Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Board/Task Force

Councilor Cull presented.

Public comment:
None.

Councilor Lepsch left the meeting during the discussion of this item, at 10:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilor Cull, seconded by Councilor Ryti, that Council create a new citizen Task Force to lead a conversation and make recommendations to Council about inequities and inclusion challenges and opportunities within the community. She further moved that Council direct the County Manager to return to Council with a draft Charter to establish the task force.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 5 – Councilor Derkacs, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann, and Councilor Ryti

No: 1 – Councilor Reagor

Absent 1 – Councilor Lepsch

Consent Item 9.B

Approval of County Council Minutes for the April 29, 2024, Special Session, the May 7, 2024, Regular Session, the May 21, 2024, Work Session, and the May 28th Regular Session.

A motion was made by Councilor Cull, seconded by Councilor Havemann, that Council approve the County Council Minutes for the April 29, 2024, Special Session, the May 7, 2024, Regular Session, the May 21, 2024, Work session and the May 28, 2024, Regular Session as amended.

Yes: 6 – Councilor Derkacs, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Havemann, Councilor Reagor, and Councilor Ryti

Absent: 1 – Councilor Lepsch

12. COUNCIL BUSINESS**A. General Council Business**

- 1) Consideration and Possible Approval of Council's Review Committee Report and Recommendations on Boards and Commissions Work Plans for Calendar Year 2024

Chair Derkacs presented.
Councilor Ryti spoke.

Public comment:
None.

A motion was made by Councilor Havemann, seconded by Councilor Cull, that Council thank all Board & Commission members for their dedication to public service and approve the 2024 Work Plans as submitted or amended from the following boards: Arts in Public Places Board, Transportation Board, Lodgers Tax Advisory Board, Planning and Zoning Commission, Personnel Board, Parks and Recreation Board, Library Board, LAC Health Council, Historic Preservation Advisory Board, and Environmental Sustainability Board; with the understanding that this approval does not represent formal Council budget approval of all projects, proposals, or potential recommendations listed in the Work Plans.

She further moved that Council approve the continuation of B&C annual presentations to Council using the Calendar Year format and direct County Manager to notify the Board and Commission Chairpersons of this requirement and the approval of the 2024 Work Plans.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Yes: 6 – Councilor Derkacs, Councilor Cull, Councilor Hand, Councilor Lepsch, Councilor Reagor and Councilor Rytí

Absent 1 – Councilor Lepsch

B. Appointments

None.

C. Boards and Commission Vacancy Report

- 1) Board and Commission Vacancy Report

Chair Derkacs stated the Board and Commission Vacancy Report is included with the agenda.

D. Board, Commission, and Working Group Reports

Councilor Hand and Councilor Havemann said they will report at the next council meeting.

E. County Manager's Report

None.

F. Council Chair Report

None.

G. Approval of Councilor Expenses

None.

H. Preview of Upcoming Agenda Items

- 1) Tickler Report of Upcoming Agenda Items

Chair Derkacs noted that a presentation on the Affordable Housing, and an update on the Los Alamos Resiliency Energy and Sustainability Working Group recommendations are scheduled for June 25, 2024.


13. COUNCILOR COMMENTS

Councilor Ryti commented on the National Association of Counties resolution supporting appointments to the Defense Nuclear Facility Safety Board, which will also be supported by the Energy Communities Alliance.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:27 p.m.

INCORPORATED COUNTY OF LOS ALAMOS



Denise Derkacs, Council Chair

Attest:



Naomi D. Maestas, County Clerk



Meeting Transcribed by: Marie Pruitt, Deputy Clerk



LOS ALAMOS COUNTY, NM
NAOMI D. MAESTAS COUNTY CLERK
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Casey Salazar