

CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 1, 2010

The Monte Vista City Council met for their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, April 1, 2010, at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers, 4 Chico Camino, Monte Vista, CO.

Call to Order

Mayor Medina called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Councilor Almquist led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Members present were Mayor Jose "Art" Medina, Councilor Lynn Sandusky, Councilor Jay Almquist, Councilor Debbie Garcia and Councilor Rose Wilson. Record to indicate a quorum was present.

Others present were City Manager Don Van Wormer, City Attorney Eugene Farish, Main Street Director John Lyons, Sgt. Ivan Garcia, City Clerk Rhonda Valdez, and guests.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Councilor Wilson made a motion and Councilor Garcia seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. The Consent Agenda consisted of the March 18, 2010 Council Minutes and Expenditures. Motion carried unanimously.

Proclamations, Communications, and Appointments

Councilor Garcia made a motion and Councilor Wilson seconded, to appoint Angela Blankinship to the Planning and Zoning Board and Dennis Blankinship to the Board of Adjustments. Motion carried unanimously.

Licenses/Liquor Renewal

Councilor Garcia made a motion and Councilor Wilson seconded, to approve the Special Events Permit for the Sierra Vista VFW Post on April 23, 2010 at 31 ½ Adams. Motion carried unanimously.

Citizen Comments/ Special Presentations

Charlie Spielman – I read an interesting article in the paper under Letters to the Editor in reference to our police department running a speed trap for the Crane Festival. Councilor Garcia – I highly doubt it that the officer was there for the Crane Festival I have seen them there daily. It's clearly posted at Bill Metz that states 25 MPH. Jose Garcia – I would like a speed limit sign by my home (by the Nazarene Church on Madison); the cars are driving by really fast. Mayor Medina– We will have to address this to the Chief of Police. The City Manager Don Van Wormer will talk to the Chief of Police and get back to Mr. Spielman and Mr. Garcia. At this point, the only thing we know about this incident is what was put in the paper. Mrs. Almquist – On Hwy 160, there are only 2 speed limit signs I understand we have to go

through the state for more signs, but can we get more speed limit signs? We also need one when you leave Safeway (approaching Grand Avenue headed east). Mayor Medina –Did we get an answer from CDOT about 285 north? City Manager – We have sent a letter to CDOT in reference to that particular area and we have not had a response from them. I will follow up on that and get back to you.

Ordinances

Councilor Sandusky made a motion and Councilor Almquist seconded, to approve Ordinance No. 819 An Ordinance Extending A Temporary Moratorium on Medical Marijuana (through and including December 31, 2010). Motion carried unanimously.

Staff Reports

Mayor Medina read a letter from Edward Stern, Deputy Press Secretary (for Congressman John Salazar) in reference to the City of Monte Vista obtaining funding for the Monte Vista Municipal Airport that we can all be proud of. City Manager Van Wormer – John Salazar has not only helped District 3, but all the folks in the Valley, he and his staff have really helped us. We just received notification that we received a \$75,000 grant to for our Airport for the rotating beacon. We (John Lyons & Alisha Reis) will be meeting with Dan Richards out of the Governor’s Energy Office, who is the head consultant of the “Main Street Energy Efficiency” project, to get more information on the exact requirements of the grant; that meeting will be next Wednesday. Friday, I will be meeting in Alamosa with the EDC types. We have a meeting with a president of a company who is looking at opening a new business; it will be a large solar investment. Next Monday, our water engineer will be in town. We will be doing some workarounds they need to take a look at the ground, it will help them ascertain some of the issues we have outstanding on the water. I spent 70% of my time last week dealing with water issues.

Main Street Director John Lyons – The Monte Villa Inn, we have one local group that is working hard to open it themselves. We also have a gentleman out of Kansas who is very serious about the Monte Villa.

Councilor Wilson – Signs, we desperately need signs downtown to tell people where to park downtown. Our signing by the Coop needs to be finished. Councilor Almquist – We have a business downtown and their sign is as dilapidated as can be. City Manager Van Wormer – We will talk after the meeting; this may fall under code enforcement. Councilor Garcia – How is the downtown parking going? John – I have made my rounds and it looks like it’s going good so far. Councilor Almquist – We have a lot of sand on the streets from the winter. When will that be cleaned up? City Manager Van Wormer – They are out and working on it, unfortunately our street sweeper is old and it takes several runs through town to get it all; it may take till mid - April. Main Street Director Lyons – We have a facilitator scheduled to come in, in June; she will be able to assess what each business is doing and how we can focus our efforts all towards the same goal. We are also looking at planning enough events to keep us with steady activities throughout the year. At the end of June, we are pushing our first public fundraising event, we will be doing an auction and a catered dinner. We are in the planning stages and I would like to

have this event in the Monte Villa. In the last 3 weeks, I have had 6 new business inquiries; there is interest here. We would like to get our own website up. Councilor Almquist – Mark has already purchased the building across from the Valley Publishing. He told me that he would be starting up next week. Ben a woodworker craftsman, he just leased space and he will be setting up his shop in the next couple of months.

City Attorney Farish – The school / city land swap situation they are trying to acquire Gutierrez Park and in turn give the City a tract by Bill Metz Elementary. A couple of legal issues in my preliminary analysis is that 1) The patent states that should this land be used for anything other than a park purpose, then it would revert back to the State of Colorado. I have contacted someone at the state level and they are working it at that end, 2) there is a State Statute that states that any land that the City owns and we sell it we will have to go to an election. We have a City Ordinance that does not have that issue, but it has an appraisal issue and we cannot dispose of any land under the appraised value. We are looking at: what if our property is appraised for more than their property. We are not selling, we are trading to a state-owned facility (the school). It looks like we may have to go to special election. We would have to talk with the school in reference to an IGA; we are looking at 3 to 3½ months before the transfer of property can take place. It's a time issue for the school. City Manager – We will have to hear back from the school and see if they want to go to election. Then, we will bring it to Council. If we can work through all the issues, it will be a win-win situation.

Councilor Wilson – We need to move forward on the signing and annexation. I really think we need to do work on annexation.

Councilor Garcia – Last Wednesday, I attended a Neighborhood Watch Meeting that Chief Needham is involved in. They had 2 new neighborhoods sign on; its very encouraging I think he is real involved and enthusiastic.

Sgt. Ivan Garcia – Chief Needham is unable to attend; he is at training. I do have our monthly report and if you have any questions, please ask.

Executive Session

Councilor Wilson made a motion and Councilor Almquist seconded, to go into executive session for a conference with the City Attorney for the purpose of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(b); for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, developing strategy for negotiations, and/or instructing negotiators, under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(e); and to discuss the purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of real, personal, or other property interested under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(a). Motion carried unanimously.

Donald Goad approached Council with his concerns about the north end of Marsh Park. We have kids trying to shoot basketball and they are getting hurt. The cement is broken and they have railroad tracks in that area and it's dangerous. Councilor Garcia – The Church of the

Nazarene has permission to work on a skate park there. Mayor Medina – We will have the City Manager look into it.

Upon adjournment from Executive Session

Councilor Wilson made a motion and Councilor Almquist seconded, to return to regular session. Motion carried unanimously.

Recessed / Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned.

Jose "Art" Medina, Mayor

Rhonda Valdez, City Clerk