

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING
ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO
FEBRUARY 10, 2026**

The City Council of the City of Artesia, New Mexico met in the City Council Chambers at City Hall on Tuesday, February 10, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in regular session with Mayor Pro tem Jeff Youtsey presiding, and the following present to wit:

Ignacio Mariscal	George Mullen
Jarod Moreau	Wade Nelson
Raul Rodriguez	Dickie Townley

Also present:

Summer Valverde, City Clerk/Treasurer
Cas Tabor, City Attorney
Hayley Klein, City Administrator

Absent:

Mayor Jon Henry
Michael Bunt

A quorum was determined to be present. The invocation was given by Council Rodriguez, and all joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

New Requests for City Facilities:

None.

City Departments and Employees

None.

Special Reports

None.

Period for Hearing Visitors

Linda Stevens and Kirsten Mauritsen greeted and thanked council for the opportunity to have another community mural painted, noting they hope for strong community involvement. They stated the wall is over 1000 ft. in length, but the design has not yet been developed.

Jessica Bollema and Kamili Burnett greeted Council, presented them with beans and pecans, and discussed their visit to Santa Fe representing Artesia's local businesses. They invited Council to the Chamber banquet later this month.

Consent Agenda

Councilor Rodriguez moved to approve the consent agenda as written. Seconded by Councilor Moreau, and upon vote, the motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

February 10, 2026

*January 27, 2026

1. Approval of Minutes
2. Consideration of Bids:

3. Contracts, Leases and Agreements:**4. Appointments:****5. Personnel Resignations, Hirings, Promotions, and Transfers:**

Upon recommendation of the Mayor, subject to successful completion of required reemployment testing, permission to:

A. *Hire:

Name	Department	Position	Rate of Pay
1. Kevin Evans	Waste Water	WW Operator II	\$4,232.80 per/mo CA19

B. Ratification:**C. Promotion:**

1. Brett Golleher	Fire	Firefighter/Paramedic	\$5,701.84 per/mo CF2B
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D. Demotion:**E. Transfer:****F. Resignation:**

1. Accept the resignation of Isidro Hernandez Police Officer Un-certified effective February 02, 2026.

6. Dates of Hearing:**7. *Travel and Training:**

A. Fire – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the NM IAAI Conference in Albuquerque, NM.

8. Routine Requests for City Facilities:**9. Routine Resolutions (to be assigned a number by staff):****10. Budgeted Items:****11. Quarterly Journal Entries:****12. Non-budgeted Items:****13. *Payment of Bills****Public Hearings**

None.

Comments from Public Officials and Contracted Services

None.

Committee Reports

Budget and Finance – Councilor Moreau stated a meeting is scheduled for February 17th.

Personnel – Councilor Mullen commented discussion was over the items identified on the consent agenda.

Police and Fire – None.

Safety – Mayor Pro tem Youtsey gave safety stats, noting many incidents were snow related.

Recreation – Councilor Rodriguez commented a meeting is scheduled for February 23rd, at 6:30 p.m. at the Artesia Recreation Center. He also noted that basketball and baseball has begun.

Infrastructure / Planning (*Streets, Garage, Cemetery, Parks, Water, Wastewater, Solid Waste, Facility Maintenance, Project Management, Code Enforcement, Permits and Inspections*) – None.

Government – There is a scheduled meeting set for February 18th at 4:30 p.m.

Personnel**A. *Stats**

City Administrator Hayley Klein presented stats regarding the total number of employees and noted that it will be updated quarterly.

Public Safety

Police Chief Kirk Roberts greeted Mayor Pro Tem and Council and presented stats from the Animal Shelter, crime report, and IT updates. Chief Roberts stood for questions. Mayor pro tem Youtsey commended the Animal Shelter stats, stating these numbers should be the goal.

Fire Chief Kevin Hope greeted Mayor Pro Tem and Council and presented stats.

Infrastructure

Infrastructure Director Byron Landfair greeted Mayor Pro Tem and Council and presented project reports. Councilor Moreau asked about the status of the movie theatre. Director Landfair stated it is undergoing asbestos removal.

City Attorney

None.

City Clerk

City Clerk Summer Valverde greeted Mayor Pro Tem and Council and presented the financial reports.

City Clerk Valverde then presented Resolution 1937. Councilor Rodriguez moved to approve. Seconded by Councilor Moreau, and upon vote, the motion passed.

RESOLUTION 1937

City Clerk Valverde next presented Resolution 1938, providing detail for each line item. Discussion took place regarding the removal of the IT expenses line item. Councilor Rodriguez moved to approve, seconded by Councilor Mullen, and upon vote, the motion passed.

RESOLUTION 1938

City Clerk also gave an update on the budget process and stated she will meet with each department to review their budgets using Incode 10.

City Administrator

City Administrator Hayley Klein recognized the employees who worked hard during the snowstorm. Mrs. Klein shared updates on the 2025 Roswell Air Races.

Mayor

Mayor Pro tem Youtsey sought a motion in accordance with the State of New Mexico Open Meetings Act, Section 10-15-1-(H)(7)(8), to enter executive session. Councilor Rodriguez moved to go into executive session. Seconded by Councilor Moreau, and upon roll call with the following votes recorded:

Aye: Nelson, Townley, Mullen, Moreau, Rodriguez, and Mariscal

Nay: None.

The motion passed.

Council recessed to executive session at 6:09 P.M.

Council reconvened at 6:42 p.m.

Councilor Rodriguez moved to reconvene from executive session, stating that pending and threatening litigation was discussed, and the purchase or sale of real property was discussed with no action taken. Seconded by Councilor Mariscal, and upon roll call, with the following votes recorded:

Aye: Mariscal, Rodriguez, Moreau, Mullen, Townley, and Nelson

Nay: None.

The motion passed.

New or other business from Councilors

Councilor Townley recognized the city employees who stepped up and did an excellent job during the snowstorm.

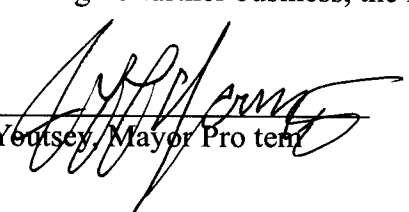
Councilor Moreau expressed gratitude for a community that strongly supports youth.

Councilor Rodriguez thanked city employees, and those who participated with the baby box.

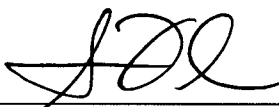
Mayor Pro Tem Youtsey encouraged everyone to think of and pray for the legislators in Santa Fe.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 P.M. on February 10, 2026.


Jeff Youtsey, Mayor Pro tem

ATTEST:


Summer Valverde, City Clerk/Treasurer

