

**MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING
ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO
JANUARY 13, 2026**

The City Council of the City of Artesia, New Mexico met in the City Council Chambers at City Hall on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. in regular session with Mayor Jonathan Henry presiding, and the following present to wit:

Jeff Youtsey	Wade Nelson
Jarod Moreau	Raul Rodriguez
Ignacio Mariscal	Richard Townley

Also present:

Summer Valverde, City Clerk/Treasurer
Fatima Salinas, Deputy City Clerk
Cas Tabor, City Attorney

Absent:

George Mullen
Michael Bunt

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

New Requests for City Facilities:

None.

City Departments and Employees

Police Chief Kirk Roberts introduced and recognized Jenna Gonzales and Cheramie Robinson for outstanding service.

Special Reports

None.

Period for Hearing Visitors

None.

Consent Agenda

Councilor Rodriguez moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Councilor Moreau, and upon vote, the motion passed.

**CONSENT AGENDA
January 13, 2026**

1. **Approval of Minutes**
 - *December 9, 2025
 - *December 15, 2025, Special Meeting
 - *December 29, 2025, Special Meeting
2. **Consideration of Bids:**
3. **Contracts, Leases and Agreements:**
 - A. *Approval of agreements between the State of New Mexico, Aging and Long-Term Services Department, and the City of Artesia.
 - B. *Approval of agreement with Electronic Output Solutions on outsourcing printing of utility bills.

4. Appointments:**5. Personnel Resignations, Hirings, Promotions, and Transfers:**

Upon recommendation of the Mayor, subject to successful completion of required pre-employment testing, permission to:

A. *Hire:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Rate of Pay</u>
1. <u>Steven Gonzalez</u>	Police	Police Officer Certified	\$4,758 p/m CAP7
2. <u>Katrina Beverage</u>	Police	Clerk	\$3,282.93 p/m CA15

B. Ratification of Hire:

3. <u>Ethan Walters</u>	Streets/Park	Equipment Operator	\$2,920.67 p/m CA13
4. <u>Eric Mesquita</u>	Wastewater	Operator Assistant	\$2,920.67 p/m CA13

C. Ratification of Promotion:

5. <u>Joshua Tubbs</u>	Fire	Lieutenant	\$5,764.63 p/m CAF3B
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D. Promotion:

6. <u>Cheramie Robinson</u>	Police	Animal Control Officer II	\$3,622.67 p/m CAP2
7. <u>David M Bailey</u>	Police	Community Service Officer II	\$3,622.67 p/m CAP2

E. Demotion:**F. Transfer:****G. Resignation:****6. Dates of Hearing:****7. *Travel and Training:**

- A. Police – Permission for one employee to attend the AR15/16 Armorer Course in Kaufman, TX.
- B. Police – Permission for three (3) employees to attend the NASRO Conference in Reno, NV.
- C. Police – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the FBI – LEEDA Advanced Supervisor Liability online.
- D. Police – Permission for two (2) employees to attend the Simunition Safety Certification Course in Florence, AZ.
- E. Police – Permission for seven (7) employees to attend the Bloodstain Pattern Analysis in Artesia, NM.
- F. Police – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Domestic Violence and Homicide Investigations in Rio Rancho, NM.
- G. Finance – Permission for two (2) employees to attend the 2026 IIMC Annual Conference in Reno, NV
- H. Fire – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Fire Officer III- TEEX in Round Rock, TX.
- I. Fire – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Fire Apparatus Driver Operator in Socorro, NM.
- J. Fire – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the NM IAAI Annual Conference in Albuquerque, NM.
- K. Fire – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Fire Apparatus Driver Operator in Hobbs, NM.
- L. Planning – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the
- M. Infrastructure – Permission for one (1) employee to attend the Transfer Station Facility Operator Cert Course in Santa Fe, 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 – including consideration of final passage of any ordinance as to which proper notice has been published.

Mayor Henry

Mayor Henry sought a motion to go into public hearing. Councilor Rodriguez so moved. Second by Councilor Mariscal. Upon roll call, with the following votes recorded:

Aye: Nelson, Townley, Youtsey, Moreau, Rodriguez, Mariscal

Nay: None.

The motion passed.

- A. *Consideration and approval of Case No. 24-04, Preliminary Park Place Subdivision Unit 1, located South of 2519 W Hermosa Ave, Artesia, NM. Legal: Tract 1 of Lewis/Champion, ABO Baptist Church, Bristow Boundary Adjustment Survey Containing 47.651 acres as filed in Cabinet 6 Slide 120-1 of the Eddy County Clerk's Records, and a portion of the SE/4 NW/4 of Section 19-T17S-R26E, N.M.P.M County of Eddy, State of NM. Owners: Fairacres, LLC
Infrastructure Director Byron Landfair presented Case No. 24-04.
 - a. Staff comments – None.
 - b. Public comments – None.
 - c. City Attorney comments/questions. – None.
 - d. Council comments/questions – None.
 - e. Entertain a motion and second from Council – Councilor Rodriguez moved to approve. Second by Councilor Moreau. Upon roll call, with the following votes recorded:
Aye: Mariscal, Rodriguez, Moreau, Youtsey, Townley, Nelson
Nay:
Then motion passed.
 - f. Council action
 - i. **Approve/Disapprove** Case No. 24-04.
- B. *Consideration and approval of Ordinance 1147 for Case No. 25-10 Final Plat for Armory Heights Subdivision, a 59-lot Subdivision located on 4.490 vacant acres; Location: 400 Block of Centre Avenue, Artesia, NM, Eddy County. Legal: Subd: ROSELAWN Lot: 2 Block: 4 LESS S 25', LESS W 40' & LESS E 40' Quarter: SE S: 17 T: 17S R: 26E. Owners: JHTC Investments LLC.
Infrastructure Director Byron Landfair presented Ordinance 1147, Case No. 25-10.
 - a. Staff comments – None.
 - b. Public comments – None.
 - c. City Attorney comments/questions – None.
 - d. Council comments/questions – None.
 - e. Entertain a motion and second from Council – Councilor Rodriguez asked for a time frame. Mr. Landfair state sometime in February.
 - f. Council action – Councilor Rodriguez moved to approve Ordinance 1147, Case No. 25-10. Second by Councilor Mariscal. Upon roll call, with the following votes recorded:
Aye: Youtsey, Townley, Nelson, Mariscal, Rodriguez, Moreau
Nay: None.

The motion passed

- i. **Approve/Disapprove Ordinance 1147 , Case No. 25-10.**

ORDINANCE 1147

- C. *Consideration and approval of Ordinance 1148 for a Project Participation Agreement between the City of Artesia and Specialty Products USA, LLC. City Administrator Hailey Klein presented Ordinance 1148 and explained the GAEDC.
 - a. Staff comments – None.
 - b. Public comments – None.
 - c. City Attorney comments/questions -
 - d. Council comments/questions – Mayor Pro tem Youtsey asked Mrs. Klein to give an explanation of GAEDC. Mrs. Klein gave explanation.
 - e. Entertain a motion and second from Council - Councilor Rodriguez moved to approve Ordinance 1148. Second by Councilor Mariscal. Upon roll call, with the following votes recorded:
Aye: Moreau, Rodriguez, Mariscal, Youtsey, Townley, Nelson
Nay: None.
The motion passed
 - f. Council action
 - i. **Approve/Disapprove Ordinance 1148.**

ORDINANCE 1148

Adjourn Public Hearings – Mayor Henry

Councilor Rodriguez moved to adjourn public hearing and return to regular session. Second by Councilor Mariscal. Upon roll call, with the following votes recorded:

Aye: Nelson, Youtsey, Townley, Moreau, Rodriguez, Mariscal

Nay: None.

The motion passed.

Comments from Public Officials and Contracted Services

Jessica Bollema, Artesia Chamber Director gave updates to mayor and council. Ms. Bollema also invited the community to the Mayoral Town Hall on February 19, 2026.

Committee Reports

Budget and Finance – Councilor Moreau reported they met on January 7 and review financial reports and budget items.

Personnel – Councilor Rodriguez stated they met on January 8 and discussed personnel items.

Police and Fire – None.

Safety – Mayor Pro tem Youtsey presented the incident report.

Recreation – Councilor Rodriguez reported basketball is underway; Coaches meeting for Little League is January 15th and the season begins March 7.

Infrastructure / Planning (Streets, Garage, Cemetery, Parks, Water, Wastewater, Solid Waste, Facility Maintenance, Project Management, Code Enforcement, Permits and Inspections) – Mayor Pro tem Youtsey stated they will meet Thursday.

Government – Mayor Pro tem Youtsey reported they met last week and reviewed department updates.

Personnel

Infrastructure Director Byron Landfair presented Resolution 1934 to Amend the Classification Plan to add additional Facilities Maintenance and Garage Mechanic positions. Councilor Rodriguez moved to approve Resolution 1934. Second by Councilor Mariscal. Upon vote, the motion passed with Mayor Pro tem Youtsey voting against.

RESOLUTION 1934

Public Safety

Police

Police Chief Kirk Roberts greeted mayor and council. Chief Roberts introduced new hires Steven Gonzalez and Katrina Beverage and presented monthly and end of year stats.

Fire

Fire Chief Kevin Hope greeted mayor and council and reported on staffing and stats.

Infrastructure

Community Development:

Infrastructure Director Byron Landfair greeted mayor and council and noted stats were in the packet. No questions were asked.

Infrastructure:

Mr. Landfair provided project updates within the city.

City Attorney

None.

City Clerk

City Clerk Summer Valverde greeted mayor and council. City Clerk Valverde provided an updated on the 2026 Municipal Officers Election that began January 13th with the filing of Candidacy and January 20th (today) filing of Write-In Candidate; and Early Voting will begin February 3rd through February 28th. Election day is March 3rd.

City Clerk/Treasurer Summer Valverde presented the financial reports.

City Clerk Valverde then presented the 2026 Open Meetings Act Resolution 1935 and Rescinding 1893 and the few changes that were made such as section B adding City Administrator section and Letter G, adding an allowance for remote participation for special and emergency meetings but will not be allowed on regular meetings.

Councilor Rodriguez moved to approve Resolution 1935. Second by Councilor Moreau. Upon vote, the motion passed.

RESOLUTION 1935

City Clerk Valverde then presented Resolution 1936 Budget Adjustment to FY25-26 Budget. Councilor Rodriguez moved to approve. Second by Councilor Mariscal. Upon vote, the motion passed.

RESOLUTION 1936

Mayor

Mayor Henry turned floor to City Administrator Hailey Klein to speak on the Public Regulatory Commission (PRC).

Mayor Henry sought a motion to enter executive session per the State of New Mexico Open Meetings Act Section 10-15-1(H)(7). Councilor Rodriguez moved to enter executive session to discuss Pending Litigation Matters. Second by Councilor Mariscal. Upon roll call, with the following votes recorded:

Aye: Nelson, Townley, Youtsey, Moreau, Rodriguez, Mariscal

Nay: None.

The motion passed.

Council recessed to executive session at 6:03 p.m.

Council reconvened at 6:16 p.m.

Councilor Rodriguez moved to reconvene, stating pending litigation was discussed and no action. Second by Councilor Mariscal. Upon roll call, with the following votes recorded:

Aye: Mariscal, Rodriguez, Moreau, Youtsey, Townley, Nelson

Nay: None.

The motion passed

New or other business from Councilors

Mayor Pro tem Youtsey wished all candidates luck.

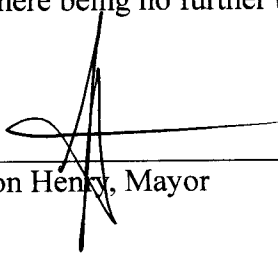
Councilor Rodriguez also wished candidates luck and thanked the council for funding the Mural.

Councilor Moreau praised the departments for their outstanding work.

Mayor Henry announced Mayor Pro tem will conduct the meeting for the next 30 days while he is in Santa Fe. He also extended well wishes to all candidates.

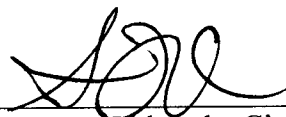
Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 P.M. on January 13, 2026.



Jon Henry, Mayor

ATTEST:



Summer Valverde, City Clerk/Treasurer

