Jesús Ruiz
Mayor

Rene Rodríguez
Representative At-Large

Sergio Cox
Representative District 1

Gloria M. Rodríguez
Representative District 2

Victor Pérez
Representative District 3
Mayor Pro Tem

Joseph E. Bowling
Representative District 4

Willie Norfleet, Jr.
City Manager

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 13, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Jesus Ruiz
Victor Perez
Rene Rodriguez
Joseph E. Bowling
Sergio Cox
Gloria Rodriguez

STAFF PRESENT:
Willie Norfleet, Jr., City Manager
Sandra Hernandez, City Clerk
Olivia Navarro, Assistant City Clerk
Sam Leony, Planning and Zoning Director
James Martinez, City Attorney

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Jesus Ruiz

2. PLEGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Ralph Duran

3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

A roll call was held and a quorum was established with all members present.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Martin Renteria, Carlos Cisneros, Luis Sigala, Sergio Jaime, Joe DeTuro, Lorenza Fraire, and Ralph Duran spoke during Public Comment.

PRESENTATION

5. ***PRESENTATION* BY SAM LEONY REGARDING PROJECTION OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.** ***SAM LEONY***

Presentation made by Sam Leony.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. ***APPROVAL* OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 16, 2014 AND SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 16, 2014.** ***SANDRA HERNANDEZ***

7. ***APPROVAL* OF TRAVEL FOR CITY CLERK, ASSISTANT CITY CLERK AND HUMAN RESOURCE DIRECTOR TO ATTEND THE RECORDS MANAGEMENT / HR PRACTICES SEMINAR APRIL 10-11, 2014 IN MCALLEN, TEXAS.** ***SANDRA HERNANDEZ***

8. ***APPROVAL* OF APPOINTMENT OF *RALPH DURAN* TO THE *BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT FOR PLACE 1.*** ***SERGIO COX***

9. ***APPROVAL* OF RE-APPOINTMENT OF *PAUL GUERRA* TO THE *PARKS COMMISSION FOR PLACE 2.*** ***GLORIA M. RODRIGUEZ***

10. ***EXCUSE* ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS.** ***SANDRA HERNANDEZ***

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *approve the Consent Agenda.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

REGULAR AGENDA

11. ***SWEARING IN OF COMMISSIONERS.*** ***JESUS RUIZ***

During this time Mayor Jesus Ruiz swore in Ralph Duran to the Board of Adjustments.

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *move up item number twenty-five (25) to be next on the agenda.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

25. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON LOWER VALLEY WATER DISTRICT PROVIDING GARBAGE SERVICES. *WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.*

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item number twenty-five (25).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

A motion was made by Sergio Cox seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *move up items twenty (20) and thirty-three (33).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

20. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON APPROVING RATIFICATION ON AN INVOICE CONDUCTED AFTER THE FACT FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE WATER PUMP AT MOON CITY PARK IN THE AMOUNT OF $1952.24 FROM VENDOR ANTHONY PUMP. *JESSICA DIAZ*

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez second by Sergio Cox to *approve item number twenty (20).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

33. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON CITY OF SOCORRO FORMING A YOUTH BASEBALL LEAGUE FOR THE SPRING/SUMMER 2014 FOR AGES 4 THROUGH 12 AS FOLLOWS: T-BALL FOR AGES 4, 5, AND 6; COACH PITCH FOR AGES 7 THROUGH 9; AND PLAYER PITCH FOR AGES 10 THROUGH 12. PRESENTATION BY JESSICA DIAZ. *SERGIO COX*

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Sergio Cox to *approve item number thirty-three with the stipulation that council receives an update on the expenses.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

PLANNING AND ZONING

12. ***DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR DAA FARMS SUBDIVISION BEING ALL OF TRACT 4C4 AND A PORTION OF TRACT 4C3, BLOCK 39, SAN ELIZARIO GRANT.** ***SAM LEONY***

Lorenza Fraire spoke on this item.

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *approve item number twelve (12).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

13. ***INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING* OF ORDINANCE 328, AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING OF TRACT 1B, BLOCK 28, SOCORRO GRANT, FROM A-1 (AGRICULTURAL) TO R-2 (MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL). THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.** ***SAM LEONY***

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *approve the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation for item number thirteen (13).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

14. ***INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING* OF ORDINANCE 329, AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING OF LOT 46, BLOCK 9, FRIEDMAN ESTATES (11463 SOCORRO ROAD) FROM R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO C-1 (LIGHT COMMERCIAL). THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.** ***SAM LEONY***

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *approve the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation for item number fourteen (14).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

15. ***INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING* OF AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING OF TRACT 4-K-6, BLOCK 3, SOCORRO GRANT (10883 THUNDER ROAD) FROM R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) WITH A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR MECHANIC SHOP. THE PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDS DENIAL.**

SAM LEONY

A motion was made by Sergio Cox to *accept the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Department to deny.* Motion died no second.

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez to *suspend the rule.* Mr. Rodriguez rescinds his motion.

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *delete item number fifteen (15).* Motion failed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez and Gloria Rodriguez
Nays: Victor Perez, Joseph E. Bowling, and Sergio Cox.
Abstain:

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *suspend the rule and allow the owner, Mr. Cisneros to speak.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

Carlos Cisneros spoke on this item.

Joe DeTuro and Lorenza Fraire spoke on this item.

A motion was made by Sergio Cox seconded by Victor Perez to *accept the recommendation made by the Planning and Zoning Commission.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, and Sergio Cox
Nays: Gloria M. Rodriguez
Abstain: Joseph E. Bowling

16. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON RENAMING HORIZON BOULEVARD TO BUFORD ROAD. ***SAM LEONY***

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve the renaming of Horizon Boulevard to Buford Road.*

Victor Perez rescinded his motion

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *delete item number sixteen (16).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

FINANCE

17. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON APPROVING THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JANUARY 31, 2014. ***KARINA HAGELSIEB***

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez *to approve item number seventeen (17).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

18. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON APPROVING THE EXTENDED HOURS OF OPERATION FOR THE MUNICIPAL COURT FROM 7:00 A.M. TO 6:00 PM. ***KARINA HAGELSIEB***

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *approve item number eighteen (18).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

A motion was made by Sergio Cox seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *allow for a ten minute (10) recess*

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO A TEN MINUTE RECESS AT 8:37 P.M.

THE CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED BACK IN OPEN SESSION AT 8:51 P.M.

HUMAN RESOURCE

19. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON APPROVING A HIRING PROCESS FOR CHIEF OF POLICE. ***ADRIANA RODARTE***

Ralph Duran spoke on this item.

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *accept the Human Resources Department's recommendation and continue with the Waters Consulting Firm.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay: Sergio Cox
Abstain:

RECREATIONAL CENTER

21. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON APPROVING RATIFICATION ON AN INVOICE CONDUCTED AFTER THE FACT FOR A BACKFLOW INSTALLATION AT RIO VISTA COMMUNITY CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,600.00 FROM VENDOR HOSCAN PLUMBING. ***VICTOR RETA***

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *approve item number twenty-one (21).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

22. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON REDIRECTING FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR MUSIC AT THE VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE AT RIO VISTA COMMUNITY CENTER (RVCC) TO A SEMINAR LUNCHEON FOR THE SENIOR CITIZENS ON FEBRUARY 13, 2014. ***VICTOR RETA***

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *approve item number twenty-two (22).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

CITY MANAGER

23. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON PAYING RALPH DURAN FOR MATERIALS TAKEN BY THE CITY OF SOCORRO.
WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *move item number twenty-three (23) to Executive Session.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

24. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON PURCHASING LAND LOCATED ON THUNDER ROAD AND RIO VISTA ROAD. ***WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.***

Joe DeTuro spoke on this item.

A motion was made by Sergio Cox seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *approve the City Manager's recommendation to obtain an appraisal.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

26. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON ADOPTING THE COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN. ***MAYOR JESUS RUIZ***

Joe DeTuro signed up to speak on this item, but was not present and Lorenza Fraire spoke on this item.

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *approve item number twenty-six (26).* Motion denied.

Ayes: Victor Perez, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay: Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox
Abstain:

27. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON CREATING A POLICY TO PREVENT MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT FOR CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS.
MAYOR JESUS RUIZ

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *delete Mayor and Council from Section V Subsection A of Policy 37 Amendment No. 3.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay: Sergio Cox
Abstain: Joseph E. Bowling

28. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON LIGHTING THE AMPHITHEATER AT BULLDOG CHAMPIONSHIP PARK. ***GLORIA M. RODRIGUEZ***

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item number twenty-eight (28).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *move into Executive Session for item number twenty-three (23) at this time.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:06 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED BACK IN SESSION AT 10:19 P.M.

23. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON PAYING RALPH DURAN FOR MATERIALS TAKEN BY THE CITY OF SOCORRO.
WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.

A motion was made by Sergio Cox seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *table item twenty-three (23) for the meeting of March 6, 2014 based on the attorney's recommendation and have Mr. Duran present any other documentation in his possession.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

29. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON FEASIBILITY STUDY ON A POLICE SUBSTATION AT SOCORRO ROAD. ***GLORIA M. RODRIGUEZ***

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *approve item number twenty-nine (29).*

Rene Rodriguez rescinded his motion.

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez Victor Perez to *delete item number twenty-nine (29).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

30. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON WAIVING ALL PERMIT FEES FOR ANY IMPROVEMENTS, REMODELING, RESTORATION AND NEW CONSTRUCTION ON THE PROPERTY AND STRUCTURES BELONGING TO THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF EL PASO WHERE THE CURRENT SOCORRO MISSION IS LOCATED. THE DURATION OF THE PERMIT FEE WAIVERS WILL RUN CONCURRENT WITH THE TERM OF THE CURRENT CITY OF SOCORRO DISTRICT 3 REPRESENTATIVE.
VICTOR PEREZ

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to approve *and establish a policy that similar fees will be waived for any state historical site within the city limits of the City of Socorro.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay:
Abstain:

31. ***DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON RECONSIDERATION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF MEDIA PROCEDURES AND MEETING PROCEDURES, AS WELL AS TIER PROTOCOL WHEN MEETING WITH OTHER ENTITIES IN REGARDS TO RESTRICTIONS ON COUNCIL MEMBERS.** ***JOSEPH E. BOWLING***

A motion was made Rene Rodriguez seconded by Joseph E, Bowling to *amend the Media/Meeting Policy to read "May speak to media if contacted to you by them, no need to contact the Mayor" and the meeting tiers to remain the same.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay: Sergio Cox
Abstain:

32. ***DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON RECONSIDERATION OF ORDINANCE 320, AMENDMENT NO. 1 IN REGARDS TO PROCEDURES AND RULES FOR PLACEMENT OF AGENDA ITEMS, SPECIFICALLY SECTION II-H WHICH GIVES THE MAYOR FINAL AUTHORITY TO DISALLOW AN ITEM TO BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA.** ***JOSEPH E. BOWLING***

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve the reconsideration and direct the appropriate staff to draft the ordinance require two (2) signature for Section II, Subsection H (b) and to require a summary sheet and items will be place on the agenda in the order of Mayor, At-Large, District 1, District 2, District 3 and District 4.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay: Sergio Cox
Abstain:

34. ***DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON NEW INSTALLATION OF CHAIN LINK BACKSTOPS, DUGOUTS AND FENCING FOR TWO BASEBALL FIELDS AT COUGAR PARK ON SOCORRO ROAD. REQUESTING THE SAME FOR T-BALL FIELD FENCING FOR YOUTH BOYS AND GIRLS AGES 4 THROUGH 6 TO BE LOCATED AT FORMOON CITY PARK.** ***SERGIO COX***

A motion was made by Joseph E. Bowling seconded by Sergio Cox to *approve item number thirty-four (34).*

Motion was rescinded.

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *table item number thirty-four (34) for a cost analysis for the meeting of March 6, 2014.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay: Sergio Cox
Abstain:

35. ***DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON HAVING CITY COUNCIL REGAIN AUTHORITY OF HANDLING ANY AND ALL REQUEST FOR STREET LIGHTS. COUNCIL MEMBERS TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SITE FEASIBILITY AND PROPER PAPERWORK PROCESS.**

SERGIO COX

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by seconded by Joseph E. Bowling to *delete item number thirty-five (35).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay: Sergio Cox
Abstain:

36. ***DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON ADVICE RECEIVED FROM CITY ATTORNEY IN CLOSED SESSION, AND ACTION TO APPROVE REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION; AUTHORIZE FILING OR SETTLEMENT OF LEGAL ACTION; AUTHORIZE EMPLOYMENT OF EXPERT WITNESSES AND CONSULTANTS, AND EMPLOYMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL WITH RESPECT TO PENDING LEGAL MATTERS.**

WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.

37. ***DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON QUALIFICATIONS OF INDIVIDUALS FOR EMPLOYMENT AND FOR APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS & COMMISSIONS, JOB PERFORMANCE OF EMPLOYEES, REAL ESTATE ACQUISITION AND RECEIVE LEGAL ADVICE FROM CITY ATTORNEY REGARDING LEGAL ISSUES AFFECTING THESE MATTERS.**

WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.

38. ***DISCUSSION AND ACTION* REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION AND RECEIVE STATUS REPORT REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION.**

WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez *to delete items thirty-six (36), thirty-seven (37), and thirty-eight (38).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay: Sergio Cox
Abstain:

39. *ADJOURN*

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *adjourn at 11:42 p.m.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E. Bowling, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.
Nay: Sergio Cox
Abstain:

Jesus Ruiz, Mayor

Minutes prepared by
Olivia Navarro
Assistant City Clerk

March 20, 2014
Date minutes approved