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

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 16, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Jesus Ruiz
Victor Perez
Rene Rodriguez
Sergio Cox
Gloria Rodriguez

MEMBERS ABSENT:
Joseph E. Bowling

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 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 five members present.

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *move up item number five (5).*

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *move up items five (5), six (6) and seven (7).* Motion passed.

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

5. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON THE SPIRIT OF SOCORRO AWARD.
MAYOR JESUS RUIZ

A motion was made by Sergio Cox seconded by Victor Perez to *approve the Spirit of Socorro Award.* Motion passed.

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

PRESENTATION

6. *RECOGNITION* OF *SAUL URIBE* FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY. ***MAYOR JESUS RUIZ***

Mayor Jesus Ruiz presented a plaque to Saul Uribe for his service to the community.

Saul Uribe spoke on this item

7. *RECOGNITION* OF *SUKY RAMOS* FOR HER SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY. ***SERGIO COX***

Mayor Jesus Ruiz presented Suky Ramos

Suky Ramos spoke on this item.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Joe DeTuro, Maria Bibiana Gutierrez, Maria Guadalupe Morales, Guadalupe Velazquez, Marisol Velazquez, Christy Velazquez, Luis Sigala, Raul Vaquera. Ralph Duran and Sergio Jaime spoke during Public Comment. Suky Ramos was signed up to speak but declined to do so.

8. *PRESENTATION* BY SUKY RAMOS AND CATHE APODACA REGARDING THE CHILI WAR FESTIVAL. ***RENE RODRIGUEZ***

Presentation made by Cathe Apodaca of El Paso Mission Trail Association.

9. *PRESENTATION* BY PLANNING AND ZONING DIRECTOR REGARDING EMERGENCY FLOOD PREPAREDNESS. ***SAM LEONY***

Presentation made by Sam Leony.

CONSENT AGENDA

10. *APPROVAL* OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 2, 2014. ***SANDRA HERNANDEZ***

11. *APPROVAL* OF TRAVEL FOR CITY MANAGER TO ATTEND THE TEXAS CITY MANAGEMENT CLINIC FEBRUARY 27-28, 2014 IN SALADO, TEXAS. ***WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.***

12. *APPROVAL* OF TRAVEL FOR MAYOR JESUS RUIZ, AT-LARGE CITY REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 3 CITY REPRESENTATIVE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, AND CITY MANAGER TO ATTEND THE ELECTED OFFICIALS' CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 7-9, 2014 IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS. ***MAYOR JESUS RUIZ***

13. *APPROVAL* OF APPOINTMENT OF *MARTY LOYA* TO THE *HISTORICAL LANDMARK COMMISSION FOR PLACE 1.* ***SERGIO COX***

15. *APPROVAL* OF RE-APPOINTMENT OF *JOE DETURO* TO THE *PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR PLACE 1.* ***SERGIO COX***

16. *APPROVAL* OF RE-APPOINTMENT OF *JOE DETURO* TO THE *CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION FOR PLACE 1.* ***SERGIO COX***

17. *APPROVAL* OF RE-APPOINTMENT OF *MARY PEREZ* TO THE *MUSEUM COMMISSION FOR PLACE 2.* ***GLORIA M. RODRIGUEZ***

18. *APPROVAL* OF RE-APPOINTMENT OF *MARY PEREZ* TO THE *HISTORICAL LANDMARK COMMISSION FOR PLACE 2.* ***GLORIA M. RODRIGUEZ***

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

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *approve the Consent Agenda with correction to item number twelve (12) from Representative District 3 to Representative District 1 and item number fourteen (14) to be move from the Consent Agenda into the Regular Agenda.*

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

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

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez *to table for the next Regular Council meeting of February 6, 2014.*

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

REGULAR AGENDA

20. *SWEARING IN OF COMMISSIONERS.* ***MAYOR JESUS RUIZ***

Mayor Jesus Ruiz swore in Joe De Turo to the Planning and Zoning and Civil Service Commissions.

PLANNING AND ZONING

21. *INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING* OF ORDINANCE 327, AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING OF LOT 1, BLOCK 4, SAN YSIDRO SUBDIVISION (11300 DE LUCIO ROAD) FROM R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO R-2 (MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL). THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL WITH CONTINGENCIES. ***SAM LEONY***

A motion was made by Sergio Cox seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *approve item number twenty-one (21) with the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendations see Exhibit "A."* Motion passed.

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

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *reconsider the swearing in of Marty Loya for item Number thirteen (13).* Motion passed.

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

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *reconsider the swearing in of Marty Loya for items thirteen (13) and twenty (20).* Motion passed.

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

20. SWEARING IN OF COMMISSIONERS. ***MAYOR JESUS RUIZ***

During this time Mayor Jesus Ruiz swore in Marty Loya to the Historical Landmark Commission Place 1.

22. *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 Rene Rodriguez seconded by Sergio Cox to *adopt the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommendation and deny the rezoning application.*

Carlos Cisneros spoke on this item.

Rene Rodriguez withdrew his motion.

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *table for the Regular Council Meeting of February 6, 2014.* Motion passed.

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

Rene Rodriguez stepped out of the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

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

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

Raul Vaquera spoke on this item.

Rene returned to the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *table for the Regular Council meeting of February 6, 2014.* Motion passed.

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

23. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS TO RE-PAINT A COMMERCIAL BUILDING AT 10500 SOCORRO ROAD. HISTORICAL LANDMARK COMMISSION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.
SAM LEONY

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item number twenty-three (23).* Motion passed.

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

24. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS FOR PROPOSED INTERIOR PAINT PROJECT AT CITY HALL CHAMBERS OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO. HISTORICAL LANDMARK COMMISSION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL. ***SAM LEONY***

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *approve item number twenty-four (24).* Motion passed.

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

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez, to *move up item number thirty-three (33) to be next on the agenda.* Motion passed.

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

33. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* TO APPROVE INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SOCORRO AND CITY OF EL PASO'S DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES. ***WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.***

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *approve item number thirteen (13).* Motion passed.

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

FINANCE

25. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON PAYMENT APPROVAL FOR VARIOUS INVOICES TOTALING $29,980.04 TO TERRA DESIGN, INC FOR THE COMPLETION OF BULLDOG CHAMPIONSHIP PARK.
KARINA HAGELSIEB

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

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

HUMAN RESOURCES

26. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON AMENDING JOB DESCRIPTION AND SALARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR. ***ADRIANA RODARTE***

Adriana Rodarte spoke on this item.

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

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

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

27. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* TO CONTRIBUTE FUNDS TO THE LOWER VALLEY SCHOOL NURSES ASSOCIATION TO SUPPORT THE 32ND ANNUAL LOWER VALLEY HEALTH FAIR FOR SOCORRO RESIDENTS.
MAYOR JESUS RUIZ

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item number twenty-seven (27), with a donation of $1,500.00 to the Lower Valley School Nurses Association.* Motion passed.

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

28. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON RECRUITING A POLICE CHIEF.
MAYOR JESUS RUIZ

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Sergio Cox to *approve the search for the Police Chief and interview panel to be made up Human Resources Director, City Manager and Chief Financial Officer.* Motion passed.

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

29. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON APPROVING POLICY FOR STAFF CONTACTING CITY ATTORNEY. ***MAYOR JESUS RUIZ***

A motion was made by Sergio Cox seconded by Victor Perez to *remove the request made by city council and approved by Mayor Ruiz and allow city council as it stands and utilize current protocol used now which allows city council to contact the attorneys also include city staff to include HR, City Clerk and Department Heads and do as Victor Perez said and inform the city manager for approval and also, Chief of Police and or its designated appointees and or department heads to contact the attorneys for emergencies.* Motion passed.

Ralph Duran spoke on this item.

Sergio Cox amended his motion *to remove Mayor Pro-Tem and At Large Representative and use the commission secretaries to act as liaisons.*

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

30. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON PUBLIC RELATIONS POSITION.
GLORIA M. RODRIGUEZ

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item number thirteen with the title of Public Relations Coordinator to be part time independent contractual on call basis with an hourly salary between $20,000.00 and $30,000.00.* Motion passed.

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

CITY MANAGER

31. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 471 AUTHORIZING PUBLICATION OF NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ISSUE CERTIFICATES OF OBLIGATION. ***WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.***

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *approve Resolution 471.* Motion passed.

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

32. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 472 EXPRESSING OFFICIAL INTENT TO REIMBURSE COSTS OF PROJECTS.
WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *approve Resolution 472.* Motion passed.

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

CITY ATTORNEY

34. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* REGARDING METHOD TO CREATE RECORD OF EXECUTIVE SESSION PORTIONS OF SOCORRO CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS. ***JAMES A. MARTINEZ***

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *approve the recording of the executive session meeting into audio cassettes.*

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

35. *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.

36. *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.

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

WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *delete items thirty-five (35), thirty-six (36) and thirty-seven (37).* Motion passed.

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

38. *ADJOURN*

A motion was made by Sergio Cox seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *adjourn at 8:55 p.m.* Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed.

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

Jesus Ruiz, Mayor

Minutes prepared by
Olivia Navarro
Assistant City Clerk

2-13-14
Date minutes approved

Exhibit "A"

RECOMMENDATION:

The Planning and Zoning Commission recommends APPROVAL, contingent to:

1) Separate all utilities for each dwelling,

2) Obtain an Official Address Notification Letter to identify the two dwellings,

3) Not to build more dwellings inside the property, only the proposed duplex.