

Jesus Ruiz
Mayor
Rene Rodriguez
At Large
Maria Reyes
District 1 / Mayor Pro-Tem



Gloria M. Rodriguez
District 2
Mary B. Garcia
District 3
Joseph E. Bowling
District 4
Willie Norfleet, Jr.
City Manager

**CITY OF SOCORRO
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 20, 2013**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jesus Ruiz
Rene Rodriguez
Mary B. Garcia
Gloria M. Rodriguez
Maria Reyes
Joseph E. Bowling

STAFF PRESENT:

Jerry Wallace, City Attorney
Sandra Hernandez, City Clerk
Sam Leony, Planning & Zoning Director
Willie Norfleet, Jr. City Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE

Pledge of allegiance was recited by Sergio Cox.

3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

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

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Sergio Cox, Ralph Duran, Jesus Burciaga, Sergio Jaime and Daniel Frescas addressed city council.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

5. **PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE 318, AN ORDINANCE DECLARING FIREWORKS A PUBLIC NUISANCE AND PROHIBITING THE POSSESSION, MANUFACTURE, STORAGE, SALE OR USE OF FIREWORKS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO TEXAS, PROVIDING FOR EXCEPTIONS, PERMITS, PENALTIES, A SEVERANCE CLAUSE, ABOLISHING ORDINANCE 246 AS AMENDED AND FOR OTHER MATTERS GERMAINE THERETO.** **JESUS RUIZ**

Public hearing opened at 6:17 p.m.

Sergio Cox, Igor Flores, Fernando Viramontes, Suky Ramos, Sergio Jaime, Joshua Carlson, and Jackie Ramirez spoke in regards to Ordinance 318.

Public hearing closed at 6:36 p.m.

6. **PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE 317, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR NAMING PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PARKS, NAMING PUBLIC ROADWAYS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES IN THE CITY OF SOCORRO TEXAS, AND FOR OTHER MATTERS GERMAINE THERETO.** **RENE RODRIGUEZ**

Public hearing opened and closed at 6:36 p.m. There were no speakers.

7. **PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE 280, AMENDMENT NO. 1, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES AND RULES FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS AND AGENDAS AS PROVIDED BY SECTION 3.08 OF THE SOCORRO CITY CHARTER.** **GLORIA M. RODRIGUEZ**

Public hearing opened at 6:37 p.m.

Ralph Duran, Sergio Cox, Daniel Frescas and Suky Ramos spoke in regards to Ordinance 280, Amendment No. 1.

Public hearing closed at 6:54 p.m.

8. **PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE 306, AMENDMENT NO. 2, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS ADOPTING AN AMENDED BUDGET FOR FY 2013 ADOPTED BUDGET.** **WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.**

Public hearing opened at 6:54 p.m.

Ralph Duran and Sergio Cox spoke in regards to Ordinance 306, Amendment No. 2.

Public hearing closed at 6:58 p.m.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

All matters listed under the Consent Agenda, including those on the Addendum to the Agenda, will be considered by the City Council to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless City Council members remove specific items from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda for discussion prior to the time the City Council members vote on the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda. Removal of Planning and Zoning Commission recommendation of a requested zone change from the Consent Agenda requires a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the City Council.

Items removed from the Consent Agenda to the Regular Agenda will be considered by the City Council after acting on the Consent Agenda.

Any matters listed on the Consent Agenda and the Regular Agenda may be discussed in executive session at the option of the City of Socorro City Council following verbal announcement, if an appropriate exception to the open meeting requirement of the Texas Open Meetings Act is applicable.

CONSENT AGENDA

9. **APPROVAL OF SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 31, 2013 AND REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 6, 2013.**
SANDRA HERNANDEZ
10. **APPROVAL OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT TO ATTEND THE TEXAS EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS SYMPOSIUM 2013 CONFERENCE IN SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS JULY 17, 2013 TO JULY 19, 2013.**
JOE ROCHA
11. **APPROVAL OF PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE TRANSFER OF .2777 ACRES OF LAND FROM THE EL PASO COUNTY TO THE CITY OF SOCORRO.**
SAM LEONY
12. **PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PROPOSED REZONING OF LOT 1 AND 2, NORTH LOOP ACRES SUBDIVISION (605 STEDHAM CIRCLE) FROM R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL).**
SAM LEONY
13. **PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PROPOSED REZONING OF LOT 1, BLOCK 1, VILLA MORENA SUBDIVISION (180 S. HORIZON) FROM R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO C-1 (LIGHT COMMERCIAL).**
SAM LEONY
14. **PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE PROPOSED REZONING OF LOT 10, BLOCK 1, EL CAMPESTRE SUBDIVISION (11510 LA FOGATA ROAD) FROM R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO C-1 (LIGHT COMMERCIAL).**
SAM LEONY
15. **APPROVAL OF HISTORICAL LANDMARK COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION ON PROPOSED CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS FOR A FENCING MADE OUT OF A COMBINATION OF CINDERBLOCK AND DECORATIVE IRON**

**WORK FOR LOT 29, BLOCK 10, FRIEDMAN ESTATES (11557 SOCORRO ROAD).
HISTORICAL LANDMARK COMMISSION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.**

SAM LEONY

**16. APPROVAL OF HISTORICAL LANDMARK COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION
ON PROPOSED CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS FOR A COMMERCIAL
TENT STRUCTURE LOCATED AT TRACT 7-A, BLOCK 21, SOCORRO GRANT.
HISTORICAL LANDMARK COMMISSION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.**

SAM LEONY

17. EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS.

WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *remove items 10 and 11 from the consent agenda to be considered on the regular agenda and to approve all remaining items on the consent agenda.* Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 5-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

**10. APPROVAL OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT TO ATTEND THE TEXAS
EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS SYMPOSIUM 2013 CONFERENCE IN SAN
ANTONIO, TEXAS JULY 17, 2013 TO JULY 19, 2013.**

JOE ROCHA

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Joseph E. Bowling to *deny item 10.* Motion carried with Rene Rodriguez, Maria Reyes and Joseph E. Bowling voting aye and Mary B. Garcia and Gloria M. Rodriguez voting nay. Motion passed 3-2.

**11. APPROVAL OF PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT'S RECOMMENDATION
TO APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE TRANSFER OF .2777 ACRES OF LAND FROM
THE EL PASO COUNTY TO THE CITY OF SOCORRO.**

SAM LEONY

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez, seconded by Mary B. Garcia to *approve item 11.* Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 5-0.

**18. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 318, AN ORDINANCE
DECLARING FIREWORKS A PUBLIC NUISANCE AND PROHIBITING THE
POSSESSION, MANUFACTURE, STORAGE, SALE OR USE OF FIREWORKS
WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO TEXAS, PROVIDING
FOR EXCEPTIONS, PERMITS, PENALTIES, A SEVERANCE CLAUSE,
ABOLISHING ORDINANCE 246 AS AMENDED AND FOR OTHER MATTERS
GERMAINE THERETO.**

JESUS RUIZ

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve and to adopt Ordinance 318 with the addition of the clarifying penalty language recommended by City Attorney.* Motion carried with Rene Rodriguez, Maria Reyes and Joseph E. Bowling voting aye and Mary B. Garcia and Gloria M. Rodriguez voting nay. Motion passed 3-2.

Mary B. Garcia left City Council meeting at 7:22 p.m.

- 19. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 317, AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR NAMING PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PARKS, NAMING PUBLIC ROADWAYS AND OTHER PUBLIC PLACES IN THE CITY OF SOCORRO TEXAS, AND FOR OTHER MATTERS GERMAINE THERETO.** **RENE RODRIGUEZ**

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Joseph E. Bowling to *approve item 19*. Motion carried with Rene Rodriguez, Maria Reyes and Joseph E. Bowling voting aye and Gloria M. Rodriguez voting nay. Motion passed 3-1.

- 20. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 280, AMENDMENT NO. 1, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES AND RULES FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS AND AGENDAS AS PROVIDED BY SECTION 3.08 OF THE SOCORRO CITY CHARTER.**

GLORIA M. RODRIGUEZ

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve and adopt Ordinance 280 Amendment No. 1 with the addition of the meeting agenda item posting, severance clause and the additional language prohibiting posting of video of meeting on youtube as submitted by the City Attorney*. Motion carried with Rene Rodriguez, Maria Reyes and Joseph E. Bowling voting aye and Gloria M. Rodriguez voting nay. Motion passed 3-1.

Gloria M. Rodriguez stated that while she approved the majority of the ordinance, she did not approve of the prohibiting posting of video of meeting.

- 21. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 306, AMENDMENT NO. 2, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS ADOPTING AN AMENDED BUDGET FOR FY 2013 ADOPTED BUDGET.**

WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item 21*. Motion carried with Rene Rodriguez, Maria Reyes and Joseph E. Bowling voting aye and Gloria M. Rodriguez voting nay. Motion passed 3-1.

- 22. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON RESOLUTION 462 CONFIRMING AND OBLIGATING FUNDING FOR SOCORRO'S SHARE OF COSTS FOR PHASE I OF OLD HUECO TANKS ROAD EXTENSION.** **WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.**

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez, seconded by Maria Reyes to *delete item 22*. Motion carried with Rene Rodriguez, Maria Reyes and Joseph E. Bowling voting aye and Gloria M. Rodriguez voting nay. Motion passed 3-1.

- 23. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE UNION PACIFIC FOUNDATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000 TO ASSIST LOW INCOME RESIDENTS IN THE CITY OF SOCORRO TO PLACE STREET AND NUMBER SIGNS FOR THE USE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES.** **ANIBAL OLAGUE**

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez, seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item 23*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

- 24. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE HOME DEPOT FOUNDATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,500 TO PURCHASE PAINTING EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FOR THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT.**

ANIBAL OLAGUE

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez, seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *approve item 24*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

- 25. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 461 TO DESIGNATE MAYOR JESUS RUIZ, MAYOR PRO-TEM MARIA REYES, AND CITY MANAGER WILLIE NORFLEET, JR. AS SIGNATORIES FOR TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS HOME RESERVATION SYSTEM CONTRACT # 2010-0092.**

ANIBAL OLAGUE

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez, seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item 25*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

- 26. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON AN ORDER SCHEDULING A UNIFORM ELECTION TO BE HELD IN THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2013, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR DISTRICT, 1, DISTRICT 2, AND DISTRICT 3.**

WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez, seconded by Maria Reyes to *table item 26*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

ADDENDUM TO REGULAR

- 27. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE CHANGE OF STREET NAMES IN LAS MARGARITAS SUBDIVISION, LOCATED WITHIN DISTRICT 4, AND TO DIRECT THE CITY MANAGER TO TAKE ALL APPROPRIATE ACTION TO EFFECTUATE THE CHANGE OF STREET NAMES, ERECT STREET SIGNS, AND TO OFFICIALLY RECORD THE NEW SUBDIVISION PLAT INDICATING THE NEW STREET NAMES IN THE EL PASO COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE.**

SAM LEONY

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item 27*. Motion carried with Rene Rodriguez, Maria Reyes and Joseph E. Bowling voting aye and Gloria M. Rodriguez voting nay. Motion passed 3-1.

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *move into Executive Session at 7:48 p.m.* Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:48 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED BACK IN SESSION AT 8:38 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Open Session:

30. 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.

31. 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.

32. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION AND RECEIVE STATUS REPORT REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION.
WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Gloria Rodriguez to *delete items 30-32*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

26. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON AN ORDER SCHEDULING A UNIFORM ELECTION TO BE HELD IN THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2013, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR DISTRICT, 1, DISTRICT 2, AND DISTRICT 3.
WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *withdraw item 26 from the table*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez, seconded by Gloria Rodriguez to *approve item 26*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

33. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *adjourn at 8:44 p.m.* Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.



Jesus Ruiz, Mayor



Sandra Hernandez, City Clerk

7-2-13

Date when minutes were approved