

*Jesús Ruiz*  
Mayor

*Rene Rodríguez*  
Representative At-Large

*Maria Reyes*  
Representative District 1/  
Mayor Pro-Tem



*Gloria M. Rodríguez*  
Representative District 2

*Mary B. García*  
Representative District 3

*Joseph E. Bowling*  
Representative District 4

*Willie Norfleet, Jr.*  
City Manager

## REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 3, 2013

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jesus Ruiz  
Rene Rodríguez  
Maria Reyes  
Joseph E. Bowling  
Gloria Rodríguez

### MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mary B. Garcia (*Arrived to the meeting at 6:17 p.m.*)

### STAFF PRESENT:

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

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Mayor Jesus Ruiz

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ralph Duran

### 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

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

### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mario Balderrama, Bertie Ghans, Tommy Faulkner, Suky Ramos, Ralph Duran, Armando Baca, and David Ochoa spoke during Public Comment.

Mary B. Garcia arrived to the meeting at 6:17 p.m.

**PRESENTATION:**

5. **RECOGNITION OF SOCORRO HIGH SCHOOL FOR PROVIDING SERVICES DURING THE FLOOD.** **JESUS RUIZ**

Mayor Ruiz and City Council presented a plaque to Mr. Serrano and Chief Reyes of Socorro High School.

6. **PRESENTATION BY EL PASO COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR – COLLECTOR REGARDING COUNTY SCOFFLAW.** **JESUS RUIZ**

Presentation made by Frank Ortiz, Chief Deputy and Sergio Baca, Enforcement Director.

7. **PRESENTATION BY GABRIEL PADILLA, PRESIDENT OF MOBILE FOOD VENDORS ASSOCIATION, REGARDING A BENEFIT EVENT FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE SOCORRO FLOODING.** **JESUS RUIZ**

Presentation made by Gabriel Padilla.

8. **PRESENTATION BY PLANNING AND ZONING DIRECTOR REGARDING 2013 FLOOD.** **SAM LEONY**

Presentation made by Sam Leony see Exhibit "A".

**CONSENT AGENDA**

9. **APPROVAL OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 12 AND REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2013.** **SANDRA HERNANDEZ**

10. **APPROVAL OF HISTORICAL LANDMARK COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS ON NEW COMMERCIAL SHOPPING CENTER AT LOT 15, BLOCK 1, WILLARD MEEK SUBDIVISION (11801 SOCORRO RD.) HISTORICAL LANDMARK COMMISSION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.**

**SAM LEONY**

11. **APPROVAL OF HISTORICAL LANDMARK COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION OF CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS ON EXTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR SUBWAY RESTAURANT (11400 SOCORRO RD.) HISTORICAL LANDMARK COMMISSION RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.**

**SAM LEONY**

12. **APPROVAL OF APPOINTING PATRICK CARRILLO TO THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT PLACE 6.** **JESUS RUIZ**

**13. APPROVAL OF APPOINTING JESUS REYES TO THE PARKS COMMISSION PLACE 6. JESUS RUIZ**

**14. APPROVAL OF APPOINTING ELIA GARCIA TO THE ETHICS COMMISSION PLACE 6. JESUS RUIZ**

**15. EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS. WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.**

A motion was made by Maria Reyes seconds by Rene Rodriguez to *approve the Consent Agenda*. Motion carried unanimously. *Motion passed.*

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**16. SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS. WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.**

During this time Mayor Ruiz swore *in Elia Garcia* to the *Ethics Commission* Place 6.

**17. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE AN INTER-LOCAL AGREEMENT WITH EL PASO COUNTY TAX ASSESSOR – COLLECTOR REGARDING COUNTY SCOFFLAW. JESUS RUIZ**

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Maria Reyes to *delete item number seventeen (17)*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed.

**18. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 466, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TAX RESALE. JESUS RUIZ**

A motion was made by Maria Reyes seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item number eighteen (18)*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed.

**19. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO CONDUCT INVESTIGATION REGARDING JESUS GANDARA, JR., FOR MONIES OWED TO THE CITY OF SOCORRO. RENE RODRIGUEZ**

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *move item number nineteen (19) after Executive Session*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed

**20. RECONSIDERATION AND DISCUSSION AND ACTION OF REZONING OF LOT 2, BLOCK 16 COUNTY GREEN SUBDIVISION (10912 LYDIA DRIVE) FROM R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) FOR MECHANIC SHOP. MARIA REYES**

Tommy Faulkner spoke on this item.

A motion was made by Maria Reyes seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve the reconsideration*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Maria Reyes to *approve item eighteen (18), with the stipulation that the rockwall be erected and the entrance be through North Loop and not Lydia*. Motion carried with Rene Rodriguez, Maria Reyes, and Joseph E. Bowling voting aye, and Mary B. Garcia voting nay, and Gloria M. Rodriguez, abstained. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Maria Reyes to *move into Executive Session*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed.

***THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:14 P.M.***

***EXECUTIVE SESSION***

***THE CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED BACK IN SESSION AT 8:01 P.M.***

**19. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO CONDUCT INVESTIGATION REGARDING JESUS GANDARA, JR., FOR MONIES OWED TO THE CITY OF SOCORRO. *RENE RODRIGUEZ***

Ralph Duran spoke on this item.

A motion was made by Maria Reyes seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *authorize Mayor Ruiz to submit a complaint to Socorro Police Department regarding Jesus Gandara's unauthorized use of city funds and assets*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed.

**23. DISCUSSION OF EMPLOYEE GRIEVANCE SUBMITTED BY LILIANA NATALE. *JAMES MARTINEZ***

A motion was made by Maria Reyes seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *assign the Civil Service Commission to hear the grievance of Liliana Natale and make recommendation to City Council*. Motion carried unanimously.

**24. DISCUSSION OF EMPLOYEE APPEAL AND PETITION SUBMITTED BY JOSE ORTEGA. *JAMES MARTINEZ***

A motion was made by Maria Reyes seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *convey settlement proposal as recommended by City Attorney*. Motion carried unanimously.

**25. DISCUSSION OF EMPLOYEE APPEAL AND PETITION SUBMITTED BY JOSE ALVAREZ. *JAMES MARTINEZ***

A motion was made by Maria Reyes seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *convey settlement proposal as recommended by City Attorney*. Motion carried unanimously.

**26. DISCUSSION OF EMPLOYEE APPEAL AND PETITION SUBMITTED BY BOBBY CORREA. JAMES MARTINEZ**

A motion was made by Maria Reyes seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *convey settlement proposal as recommended by City Attorney*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed.

**27. DISCUSSION OF EMPLOYEE APPEAL AND PETITION SUBMITTED BY REFUGIO ORTA. JAMES MARTINEZ**

A motion was made by Maria Reyes seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *convey settlement proposal as recommended by City Attorney*. Motion carried unanimously.

**28. DISCUSSION OF EMPLOYEE APPEAL AND PETITION SUBMITTED BY ISRAEL DELGADO. JAMES MARTINEZ**

A motion was made by Maria Reyes seconded by Joseph Bowling to *convey settlement proposal as recommended by City Attorney*. Motion carried unanimously.

**29. DISCUSSION OF EMPLOYEE APPEAL AND PETITION SUBMITTED BY JAVIER VARELA. JAMES MARTINEZ**

A motion was made by Maria Reyes seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *convey settlement proposal as recommended by City Attorney*. Motion carried unanimously.

**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.**

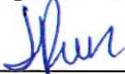
**WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.**

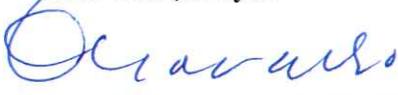
**32. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION AND RECEIVE STATUS REPORT REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION.**

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *delete items thirty (30), thirty-one (31), and thirty-two (32)*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed.

**22. ADJOURN**

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Joseph Bowling to *adjourn* at 8:09 p.m. Motion carried with unanimously. Motion passed.

  
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**Jesus Ruiz, Mayor**

  
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Minutes prepared by  
Olivia Navarro  
Assistant City Clerk

10-17-13  
Date minutes approved