

*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 DECEMBER 12, 2013

### 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  
Sam Leony, Planning and Zoning Director  
James Martinez, City Attorney

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Mayor Jesus Ruiz

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

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by Willie Norfleet, Jr.

### 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

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

### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Luis Sigala, Sergio Jaime, Joe DeTuro, Lorenza Fraire, Ralph Duran and Maria Guerrero spoke during Public Comment.

Mayor acknowledged the presence of County Commissioner Vince Perez

**PRESENTATION**

5. **PRESENTATION BY EL PASO COUNTY JUDGE VERONICA ESCOBAR AND EL PASO FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF CALDERWOOD REGARDING EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND MANAGEMENT.**

**MAYOR JESUS RUIZ**

Presentation made by County Commissioner Vince Perez and Chief Calderwood.

6. **PRESENTATION BY SAM LEONY REGARDING EMERGENCY FLOOD PREPAREDNESS.**

**SAM LEONY**

Presentation made by Sam Leony.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

7. **APPROVAL OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 14, 2013 AND REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 21, 2013.**
- SANDRA HERNANDEZ**
8. **APPROVAL OF TRAVEL FOR POLICE DISPATCHERS, ANABEL DAVILA AND TRINITY JARA, TO ATTEND COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING OFFICER SEMINAR IN HOUSTON, TEXAS FROM APRIL 15 THROUGH 17, 2014.**
- LT. MONTOYA**
9. **APPROVAL OF TRAVEL FOR MAYOR JESUS RUIZ AND AT-LARGE CITY REPRESENTATIVE TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS 82<sup>ND</sup> WINTER MEETING IN WASHINGTON, D.C. FROM JANUARY 22 THROUGH 24, 2014.**
- JESUS RUIZ**
10. **APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT OF ALEX MIRANDA TO THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION FOR PLACE 2.**
- GLORIA M. RODRIGUEZ**
11. **APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS PAID DURING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2013.**
- KARINA HAGELSIEB**
12. **APPROVAL TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$88,768.83 TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY UNDER THE LOCAL BORDER SECURITY PROGRAM FY 2014.**
- ANIBAL OLAGUE**
13. **EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS.**
- SANDRA HERNANDEZ**

Motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Joseph E. Bowling to *approve the Consent Agenda*. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**14. SWEARING IN OF COMMISSIONER.**

**GLORIA M. RODRIGUEZ**

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *delete item number fifteen (15)*. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**15. PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE 320, AMENDMENT NO. 2, 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, AND ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES AND RULES FOR CONDUCT OF THE SOCORRO CITY COUNCIL AND ALL OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 304 AMENDMENT NO. 1 AND ORDINANCE 280 AMENDMENT NO. 1.**

**MAYOR JESUS RUIZ**

*Public Hearing Opened at 7:01 p.m.  
Lorenza Fraire spoke during Public Hearing  
Public Hearing Closed at 7:06 p.m.*

**16. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 320, AMENDMENT NO. 2, 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, AND ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES AND RULES FOR CONDUCT OF THE SOCORRO CITY COUNCIL AND ALL OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AND REPEALING ORDINANCE NO. 304 AMENDMENT NO. 1 AND ORDINANCE 280 AMENDMENT NO. 1.**

**MAYOR JESUS RUIZ**

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Joseph E. Bowling to *approve item number sixteen (16)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E, Bowling, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.

Nays: Sergio Cox

Absent: None

**17. PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE 322, AMENDMENT NO. 1 OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS ADOPTING AN AMENDED BUDGET FY 2013-2014.**  
**KARINA HAGELSIEB**

**Public Hearing Opened at 7:19 p.m.**

**No speakers**

**Public Hearing closed at 7:19 p.m.**

**18. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 322, AMENDMENT NO. 1 OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS ADOPTING AN AMENDED BUDGET FY 2013-2014.**  
**KARINA HAGELSIEB**

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Joseph E. Bowling to *approve item number eighteen (18)*. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**19. PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE 324, AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING TRANSPORTATION REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER ONE FOR THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS; DESCRIBING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE ZONE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE FOR THE ZONE; NAMING THE ZONE "TRANSPORTATION REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER ONE, CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS"; ESTABLISHING A TAX INCREMENT FUND FOR THE ZONE; AND CONTAINING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATED THERETO.**

**MAYOR JESUS RUIZ**

*Public Hearing Opened at 7:20*

*Public Hearing Closed at 7:20*

*Public Hearing Re-opened at 7:20*

*Lorenza Fraire spoke during Public Hearing*

*Public Hearing closed at 7:23 p.m.*

**20. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 324, AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING TRANSPORTATION REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER ONE FOR THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS; DESCRIBING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE ZONE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND A TERMINATION DATE FOR THE ZONE; NAMING THE ZONE "TRANSPORTATION REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER ONE, CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS"; ESTABLISHING A TAX INCREMENT FUND FOR THE ZONE; AND CONTAINING OTHER PROVISIONS RELATED THERETO.**  
**MAYOR JESUS RUIZ**

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *approve item number twenty (20)*. Motion carried unanimously

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**21. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON STATUS OF (M1) PROPERTY/BUSINESS PREVIOUSLY KNOWN AS SIERRA METALS LOCATED AT 266 HORIZON BOULEVARD. *SERGIO COX***

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *delete item number twenty-one (21)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**22. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS. *RENE RODRIGUEZ***

A motion was made by Gloria to approve, no second

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to amend the motion to direct staff to research bids, Gloria M. Rodriguez accepts the amendments and accepts the motion. Motion passed.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**23. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON UTILIZING AN EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NOTIFICATION SYSTEM. *RENE RODRIGUEZ***

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *direct staff to obtain bids to upgrade the telephone system for the city*. Motion passed.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**24. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON IMPLEMENTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE DRIVEWAY PROGRAM. RENE RODRIGUEZ**

*Joe DeTuro spoke on this item.*

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *delete item number twenty-four (24)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**25. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON IMPLEMENTING RAILROAD QUIET ZONES. GLORIA M. RODRIGUEZ**

A motion was made by Sergio Cox to *delete*.

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *delete item number twenty-five (25) and come back with a report on what would entail quiet zones*. Motion passed.

Sergio Cox withdrew his motion.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**26. DISCUSSION AND ACTION OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS APPLICATION FORM. VICTOR PEREZ**

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

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**27. 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.**

Bruce Parson, Public Health Assistant Director with the City of El Paso spoke on this item.

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *table for the January 16, 2014, meeting*. Motion passed.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**28. APPROVAL ON AMENDING THE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR 2014, 2015, AND 2016. *ADRIANA RODARTE***

A motion was made by Sergio Cox, 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.

Nays: None

Absent: None

**29. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING AN INTERNSHIP PROGRAM FOR PAID AND NON-PAID POSITIONS FOR THE CITY OF SOCORRO. *ADRIANA RODARTE***

Motion made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *approve item number twenty-nine (29)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**30. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE 325, AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING OF TRACTS 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, 2A, 2C, AND 2E, BLOCK 10, AND TRACTS 5A, 5B, 6A, AND 7B1, BLOCK 11, SOCORRO GRANT, FROM A-1 (AGRICULTURAL) TO A COMBINATION OF R-2 (MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) AND C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL). *SAM LEONY***

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item number thirty (30)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**31. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE 326, AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING OF LOT 5, BLOCK 2, MONTEROSALES SUBDIVISION, FROM R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY) TO R-2 (MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) AT 10425 MONTEVIDEO. *SAM LEONY***

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *accept the recommendation by the Planning and Zoning Commission to deny the rezoning and to deny the Introduction, First Reading and Calling for a Public Hearing.* Motion passed.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**32. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE TARIFF CONTROL NO. 4208, A PETITION OF THE EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY TO AMEND RATE SCHEDULE NO. 08 GOVERNMENTAL STREET LIGHTING AND SIGNAL SERVICE RATE. *SAM LEONY***

Mary Beth Stevens of the El Paso Electric Company spoke on this item.

Gloria M. Rodriguez stepped out of the meeting at 9:13 p.m.

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *approve item number thirty-two (32).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E, Bowling, and Sergio Cox,

Nays: None

Absent: Gloria M. Rodriguez

**33. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON WAIVING BUILDING PERMIT FEES FOR PROPERTIES AFFECTED BY THE SEPTEMBER 2013 FLOODS. *SAM LEONY***

Gloria M. Rodriguez returned to the meeting at 9:18 p.m.

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item number thirty-three (33).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E, Bowling, and Sergio Cox

Nays: None

Abstain: Gloria M. Rodriguez

**34. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING LIST OF ROAD IMPROVEMENTS. SAM LEONY**

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve*.

Gloria M. Rodriguez and Rene Rodriguez withdrew their motion.

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *table for the Regular Meeting of January 16, 2014*. Motion passed

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**35. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING ROAD MACHINERY FOR PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT. SAM LEONY**

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *allow Mr. Leony to obtain information for curb and gutter and striping machine*. Motion passed.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**36. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE PROPOSED CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR MECHANIC SHOP ACTIVITIES AT TRACT 4-C-1, BLOCK 3, SOCORRO, GRANT, CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS LOCATED AT 980 HORIZON BOULEVARD, REQUESTED BY FRAUSTO ARMDNARIZ. SAM LEONY**

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item number thirty-six (36)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

Gloria M. Rodriguez asked for reconsideration of item number thirty-three (33).

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *reconsider item number thirty-three (33)*.

**33. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON WAIVING BUILDING PERMIT FEES FOR PROPERTIES AFFECTED BY THE SEPTEMBER 2013 FLOODS.**

**SAM LEONY**

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item number thirty-three (33)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *move into Executive Session at this time*. Motion passed.

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

Nays: None

Absent: None

**37. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE AND CLAIM ASSERTED BY ALEJANDRO VIDALES, JR.**

**JAMES A. MARTINEZ**

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Sergio Cox to *grant the City Attorney settlement authority as recommended by the Mayor*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Joseph E, Bowling, and Sergio Cox,

Nays: None

Abstain: Gloria M. Rodriguez

**38. 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 SOCIAL COUNSEL WITH RESPECT TO PENDING LEGAL MATTERS.**

**WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.**

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

**WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.**

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

A motion was made by Sergio Cox seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *delete items number thirty-eight thru forty (38 thru 40)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays: None

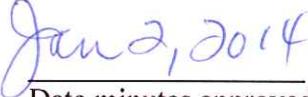
Absent: None

**41. ADJOURN**

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *adjourn at 10:12 p.m.* Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jesus Ruiz, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Minutes prepared by  
Olivia Navarro  
Assistant City Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date minutes approved