

Jesus Ruiz
Mayor

Rene Rodriguez
At Large

Maria Reyes
District 1



Gloria M. Rodríguez
District 2 / Mayor Pro-Tem

Mary B. García
District 3

Joseph E. Bowling
District 4

Willie Norfleet, Jr.
City Manager

**CITY OF SOCORRO
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 23, 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

STAFF ABSENT:

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.

3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- 4. APPROVAL OF 4TH OF JULY EVENT ON JULY 6, 2013, WAIVING EVENT PERMIT, BEVERAGE PERMIT, WITH A BUDGET NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000 AND DESIGNATING REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 3 AS LIAISON.**

MARY B. GARCIA

5. **APPROVAL TO NAME THE PARK AT 301 PLACE RD "CITY OF SOCORRO COMMISSIONERS PARK".** **MARY B. GARCIA**
6. **APPROVAL OF APPOINTING DISTRICT 1 COUNCILWOMAN, MARIA REYES, AS MAYOR PRO-TEM EFFECTIVE MAY 23, 2013 PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.03 (B) & (D) OF THE SOCORRO CITY CHARTER.** **RENE RODRIGUEZ**
7. **EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS.** **WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.**

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Joseph E. Bowling to *approve item 6 and deny items 4, 5, and 7 of the consent agenda.* 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.

REGULAR AGENDA

8. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO MOVE THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF JULY 4, 2013 TO JULY 2, 2013 AT 6:00 P.M.** **GLORIA RODRIGUEZ**

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez, seconded by Maria Reyes to *approve item 8.* Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 5-0.

9. **INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE 316, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS REGULATING STREET AND HOUSE NUMBERS SIGNS FOR THE USE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES.** **GLORIA RODRIGUEZ**

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez, seconded by Mary B. Garcia to *approve with the following changes: change the fine from \$200 to \$50, to implement a 6 month grace period in which the first 3 months will be used to notify the residents and the following three months will be used as a warning period, and to delete the jail term.* Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 5-0.

10. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO MEET WITH EL PASO EMERGENCY SERVICES DISTRICT #2 BOARD MEMBERS IN AN OPEN FORUM TO DISCUSS THE LEVEL OF SERVICE THAT IS BEING PROVIDED TO THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO.** **MARY B. GARCIA**

A motion was made by Mary B. Garcia, seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *move item 10 into executive session.* Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 5-0.

11. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO RECONSIDER TRAVEL FOR FIRE CHIEF LANGBORG TO ATTEND THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION MEETING MAY 29-31, 2013.** **MARIA REYES**

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Joseph E. Bowling to *reconsider item 11.* 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.

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Joseph E. Bowling to *deny item 11*. 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.

12. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING CHECK SIGNATURES.

MARIA REYES

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *table item 12*. 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.

13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION DESIGNATING REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 1, MARIA REYES, AS LIAISON FOR THE DRIVEWAY PROGRAM.

MARIA REYES

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *delete item 13*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 5-0.

14. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO ESTABLISH ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDERS AND ABOLISH ORDINANCE 304, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS ESTABLISHING RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCT OF MEETINGS OF THE SOCORRO CITY COUNCIL AND ALL OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

RENE RODRIGUEZ

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez, seconded by Maria Reyes to *approve item 14*. 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.

15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO CONTRACT WITH AN INDEPENDENT CPA FIRM TO CONDUCT A THOROUGH FINANCIAL AUDIT FROM JANUARY 2010 TO PRESENT.

RENE RODRIGUEZ

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez, seconded by Mary B. Garcia to *deny item 15*. Motion failed with Mary B. Garcia and Gloria M. Rodriguez voting aye and Rene Rodriguez, Maria Reyes, and Joseph E. Bowling voting nay. Motion failed 3-2.

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez, seconded by Maria Reyes to *approve item 15*. 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.

16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE OF REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS/PROPOSALS TO CONTRACT WITH AN INDEPENDENT CPA FIRM TO CONDUCT A THOROUGH FINANCIAL AUDIT FROM JANUARY 2010 TO PRESENT.

RENE RODRIGUEZ

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Joseph E. Bowling to *approve item 16 request for qualifications*. Motion carried with Rene Rodriguez, Mary B. Garcia, Maria Reyes, and Joseph E. Bowling voting aye and Gloria M. Rodriguez voting nay. Motion passed 4-1.

- 17. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO CEASE AND DESIST FROM PAYING LEGAL FEES IMMEDIATELY AND DIRECT WRITTEN NOTICE BE ISSUED IMMEDIATELY TO ATTORNEYS FOR GUILLERMO MADRID, JR., GLORIA RODRIGUEZ, JESUS GANDARA, JR., MARY GARCIA, JOSE ALVAREZ, RICHARD GUTIERREZ, ARMANDO MAPULA, REFUGIO ORTA, BOBBY CORREA, AND MANNY SOTO. *RENE RODRIGUEZ***

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Joseph E. Bowling to *approve item 17*. Motion carried with Rene Rodriguez, Maria Reyes, and Joseph E. Bowling voting aye, Mary B. Garcia voting nay and Gloria M. Rodriguez abstained. Motion passed 3-1.

- 18. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT CITY MANAGER TO PREPARE DOCUMENTS AS REQUIRED BY CITY ORDINANCE TO RENAME THE STREETS IN LAS MARGARITAS SUBDIVISION UNIT 1 AND TO PRESENT SAME TO CITY COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL. *RENE RODRIGUEZ***

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Joseph E. Bowling to *approve item 18*. 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.

- 19. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT CITY MANAGER TO EVALUATE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER POSITION. *RENE RODRIGUEZ***

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Joseph E. Bowling to move item 19 after executive session. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 5-0.

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *move into Executive Session at 6:46 p.m.* Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 5-0.

THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:46 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED BACK IN SESSION AT 7:55 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Open Session:

- 19. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT CITY MANAGER TO EVALUATE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER POSITION. *RENE RODRIGUEZ***

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez, seconded by Maria Reyes to *delete item 19*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 5-0.

- 22. 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.***

A motion was made by Mary B. Garcia, seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *proceed with negotiations with TXDOT regarding obligation of Socorro's cost share related to Old Hueco Tanks Extension Roadway Project and to direct City Attorney to present appropriate resolution regarding same.* Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 5-0.

- 23. 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.***

- 24. 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 Joseph E. Bowling to *delete items 23 and 24.* Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 5-0.

- 25. ADJOURN**

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *adjourn at 7:56 p.m.* Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 5-0.



Jesus Ruiz, Mayor



Sandra Hernandez, City Clerk

6-6-13

Date when minutes were approved