

*Jesus Ruiz*  
Mayor

*Rene Rodriguez*  
At Large

*Sergio Cox*  
District 1



*Gloria M. Rodriguez*  
District 2

*Victor Perez*  
District 3 / Mayor-Pro Tem

*Joseph E. Bowling*  
District 4

*Willie Norfleet, Jr.*  
City Manager

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2015 @ 6:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Jesus Ruiz  
Victor Perez  
Sergio Cox  
Gloria M. Rodriguez

**STAFF ABSENT:**

Rene Rodriguez (*Arrived to the meeting at 6:11 p.m.*)  
Anthony Gandara (*Arrived to the meeting at 6:45 p.m.*)

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Adriana Rodarte, Interim City Manager  
Olivia Navarro, Assistant City Clerk  
David Mirazo, City Attorney  
Jim Martinez (*Arrived to the meeting at 6:46 p.m.*)

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Victor Reta, Recreation Centers Supervisor  
Jesse Scott, Interim CFO  
Lt. Eddie Smith  
Carlos Maldonado, Chief of Police  
Omar Guevara, IT  
Doug Lobdell, Parks and Public Works Supervisor

**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 led by the Girls Scouts of Socorro

**3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

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

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Suky Ramos was signed up to speak for Public Comment but declined, and Ruth Rascon, Sergio Jaime.

Rene Rodriguez arrived to the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**5. PRESENTATION ON CITY SOURCED APPLICATION.                   MAYOR JESUS RUIZ**

Presentation by Erick Sickinger, Regional Sales Manager

**6. PRESENTATION ON OPENGOV APPLICATION.                   MAYOR JESUS RUIZ**

Presentation made by Art Fierro and Brad Snyder.

Anthony Gandara arrived to the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Jim Martinez arrived to the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

David Mirazo left the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

**7. PRESENTATION ON READYONE INDUSTRIES SECURE DOCUMENT SERVICES.                   ADRIANA RODARTE**

Presentation made by George Barnett from ReadyOne Industries.

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *move up items number nine (9), ten (10) and eleven (11) to be next on the agenda.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Anthony Gandara, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M.

Rodriguez

Nays:

Abstain:

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**9. SECOND PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX RATE OF 0.727555 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016.                   ADRIANA RODARTE**

*Public Hearing opened at 7:24 p.m.*

Albert Ortiz, Sandra Saucedo, Patricia Gardea, Suky Ramos and Ralph Duran spoke during Public Hearing.

*Public Hearing closed at 7:34 p.m.*

**10. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING TAX RATE CALCULATIONS, REVENUES AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016.**

**ADRIANA RODARTE**

Presentation made by Adriana Rodarte.

**11. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.**

**ADRIANA RODARTE**

*Public Hearing opened at 8:13 p.m.*

No speakers for Public Hearing

*Public Hearing closed at 8:13 p.m.*

**8. PRESENTATION ON CITY MANAGERS RECRUITMENT STATUS FROM THE WATERS & COMPANY EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT.**

**ADRIANA RODARTE**

Presentation made by Adriana Rodarte.

**ORDINANCES**

**12. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF PROPERTY TAXES WITHIN THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE EL PASO CITY TAX OFFICE TO PERFORM THE ACTUAL ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF SAID PROPERTY TAXES ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 2015 AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2016.**

**ADRIANA RODARTE**

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *approve item number twelve (12)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Anthony Gandara, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.

Nays:

Abstain:

**13. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2015 AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2016 FOR THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS.**

**ADRIANA RODARTE**

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

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Anthony Gandara, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.

Nays:

Abstain:

#### CONSENT AGENDA

**14. EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS.**

***OLIVIA NAVARRO***

**15. APPROVAL OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 13, 2015.**

***OLIVIA NAVARRO***

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Gloria M. Rodriguez to *approve the Consent Agenda*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Anthony Gandara, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.

Nays:

Abstain:

#### PLANNING AND ZONING

**16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE PROPOSED CHANGE ORDER NO. 4 IN THE INCREASED AMOUNT OF \$16,200.00.**

***SAM LEONY***

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Anthony Gandara to *delete item number sixteen (16)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Anthony Gandara, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.

Nays:

Abstain:

**17. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE PROPOSED RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION OF PORTION OF TRACTS 4-A AND 4-E, BLOCK 3, SOCORRO GRANT.**

***SAM LEONY***

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Sergio Cox to *approve item number seventeen (17)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Anthony Gandara, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.

Nays:

Abstain:

**RECREATION CENTERS**

**18. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON WAIVING PERMIT FEES FOR CHILE GROWERS FOR THE CHILI WAR FESTIVAL CITY EVENT. *VICTOR RETA***

A motion was made by Gloria M. Rodriguez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item number eighteen (18)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Anthony Gandara, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.

Nays:

Abstain:

**CITY MANAGER**

**19. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO ANNOUNCE THE DATE ON WHICH CITY COUNCIL WILL TAKE FINAL ACTION ON THE TAX RATE AND ON THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET. *ADRIANA RODARTE***

A motion was made by Sergio Cox seconded by Rene Rodriguez *announcing September 10 the date on which council will take final action on the tax rate*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Anthony Gandara, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.

Nays:

Abstain:

**20. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION ADOPTING /AMENDING A FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 5.08 AND 5.09 OF THE SOCORRO CITY CHARTER. *ADRIANA RODARTE***

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

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Anthony Gandara, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.

Nays:

Abstain:

**21. DISCUSSION AND ACTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF EL PASO AND THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES. *ADRIANA RODARTE***

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

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Anthony Gandara, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.

Nays:

Abstain:

**22. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING A RESOLUTION TO SUSPEND THE RATE INCREASE PROPOSED BY EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY ON OR ABOUT AUGUST 10, 2015, FOR 90 DAYS BEYOND THE PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE. ADRIANA RODARTE**

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

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Anthony Gandara, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.

Nays:

Abstain:

**23. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT WITH REGION 19 FOR DISASTER RECOVERY SERVICES ADRIANA RODARTE**

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

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

**24. DISCUSSION ON CITY SOLUTION FOR SEMI TRACTOR OWNERS. GLORIA M. RODRIGUEZ**

No action on this item.

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

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Anthony Gandara, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.

Nays:

Abstain:

**THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:06 P.M.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**THE CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED BACK IN OPEN SESSION AT 9:26 P.M.**

**28. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING CLAIM SUBMITTED BY  
REFUGIO ORTA [551.071].** *JAMES MARTINEZ*

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Sergio Cox to *authorize the city attorney or city manager to offer to pay the claim and deduct any money due to the city.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Anthony Gandara, Sergio Cox and Gloria M. Rodriguez

Nays: Rene Rodriguez

Abstain:

**29. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING DELGADO ACOSTA SPENCER  
LINEBARGER & PEREZ, LLP (DASLP) CONTRACT FOR FINES AND FEES  
COLLECTION SERVICES AND TO AUTHORIZE THE ACTING CITY  
MANAGER OR HER DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE THE SERVICES  
AGREEMENT AND OTHER DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO ENGAGE  
THE COMPANY.** *ADRIANA RODARTE*

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *delete item number twenty-nine (29).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Anthony Gandara, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.

Nays:

Abstain:

**30. GUILLERMINA ROBERTS, PLAINTIFF V. THE CITY OF SOCORRO,  
TEXAS, DEFENDANT.** *ADRIANA RODARTE*

A motion was made by Sergio Cox seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *grant to attorney representing the City of Socorro in the lawsuit the settlement authority they requested.*

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Anthony Gandara, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.

Nays:

Abstain:

**31. ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY FOR THE OLD HUECO  
TANKS ROAD PROJECT, THE CONSIDERATION TO BE CONVEYED  
FOR IT, TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY ATTORNEY TO ENGAGE  
SURVEYORS AND APPRAISERS AND PROCURE TITLE INSURANCE IN**

**CONNECTION WITH THE ACQUISITION AND TO FINALIZE A CONTRACT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THE PROPERTY AND TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO SIGN SAID AGREEMENT [551.071 AND 551.072].** *JAMES MARTINEZ*

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Sergio Cox to *authorize the 25,000.00 to the city attorney to procure title insurance for the acquisition of this property.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Anthony Gandara, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.

Nays:

Abstain:

**25. 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.** *ADRIANA RODARTE*

**26. 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.**

*ADRIANA RODARTE*

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

*ADRIANA RODARTE*

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Sergio Cox to *delete items twenty-five (25), twenty-six (26) and twenty-eight (28).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Victor Perez, Rene Rodriguez, Anthony Gandara, Sergio Cox, and Gloria M. Rodriguez.

Nays:

Abstain:

**32. ADJOURN**

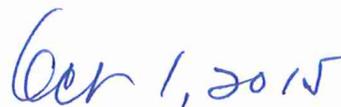
A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *adjourn at 9:30 p.m.* Motion passed.



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**Jesus Ruiz, Mayor**



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Olivia Navarro  
Assistant City Clerk



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Date minutes were approved