

Elia Garcia
Mayor

Rene Rodriguez
At Large

Cesar Nevarez
District 1



Ralph Duran
District 2

Victor Perez
District 3
Mayor Pro Tem

Yvonne Colon-Villalobos
District 4

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 3, 2019 @ 6:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Elia Garcia
Cesar Nevarez
Ralph Duran
Victor Perez
Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Rene Rodriguez

STAFF PRESENT:

Adriana Rodarte, City Manager
Olivia Navarro, City Clerk
Jim Martinez, City Attorney
Charles Casiano, Finance Director

Victor Reta, Recreation Centers Director
Alejandra Valadez, Grants Coordinator
Officer Aguilar
Rosio Marin, HR Director
Mayela Granados, Executive Assistant
Michael Medina, City Planner
Isela Gonzalez, Court Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at: 6:03 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rosio Marin

3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

A quorum was established with five members present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Damian Mureira, Miriam Cruz and Salvador Chagolla spoke during Public Comment.

Rene Rodriguez arrived to the meeting at 6:07 pm.

A motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Victor Perez to *move up items fifteen (15), sixteen (16), twenty (20), twenty-one (21) and twenty-three (23)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

**15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF
MICHAEL A. CHAVEZ TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
PLACE 6. *MAYOR ELIA GARCIA***

A motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Victor Perez to *approve item fifteen (15)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

**16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPOINT ERNEST GOMEZ TO THE
PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION PLACE 7. *MAYOR ELIA GARCIA***

A motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item number sixteen (16)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

**20. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPOINT DIANA NUNEZ TO THE
ETHICS COMMISSION PLACE 1. *CESAR NEVAREZ***

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item number twenty (20)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

21. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPOINT ENRIQUE CISNEROS TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION PLACE 2. *RALPH DURAN*

A motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item twenty-one (21)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos
Nays:
Abstain:

23. SWEARING IN OF NEWLY APPOINTED COMMISSIONERS.

During this time Mayor Elia Garcia swore in Enrique Cisneros, Ernest Gomez and Diana Nuñez.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS. *OLIVIA NAVARRO*

6. APPROVAL OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 6, 2018. *OLIVIA NAVARRO*

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

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos
Nays:
Abstain:

PUBLIC HEARINGS / ORDINANCES

7. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE REQUESTED BY THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO REDUCE THE SPEED LIMIT ON FM-76 (NORTH LOOP) FROM 55 MPH TO 45 MPH AND FROM 35 MPH TO 30 MPH ON SCHOOL ZONES IN NORTH LOOP. *MICHAEL MEDINA*

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Ralph Duran to *approve item number seven (7)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos
Nays:
Abstain:

- 8. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 429 AND MUNICODE ARTICLE III IN CONNECTION WITH THE CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES NECESSARY TO SECURE BUILDING PERMITS FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION AND IMPROVEMENTS AND REPAIR OF EXISTING STRUCTURES WITHIN THE CITY. *MICHAEL MEDINA***

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item number eight (8)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos
Nays:
Abstain:

REGULAR AGENDA

GRANTS DEPARTMENT

- 9. RESOLUTION 558 AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SOCORRO TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN FY 19 ENHANCED TRAINING AND SERVICES TO END ABUSE IN LATER LIFE PROGRAM, AND DESIGNATING MAYOR AS THE GRANTEE'S AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL WITH THE POWER TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) AND LETTER OF COMMITMENT (LOC) TO RECEIVE TRAINING AND PROVIDE TRAINING IN RECOGNIZING AND ADDRESSING INSTANCES OF ELDER ABUSE. THERE IS NO MATCH REQUIREMENT FOR THIS GRANT. *ALEJANDRA VALADEZ***

A motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item number nine (9)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos
Nays:
Abstain:

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

- 10. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT THE CITY MANAGER OR HER APPOINTEE TO WAIVE EVENT PERMIT FEE(S) FOR GOVERNMENTAL, NON-PROFIT, RELIGIOUS, AND ACADEMIC COMMUNITY EVENTS OR PARADES OCCURRING WITHIN THE CITY. *MICHAEL MEDINA***

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Ralph Duran to *approve item number ten (10)*. Motion passed.

An amended motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *amend the motion and omit the word religious and replace with "where the activity serves public interest."* Motion passed.

Miriam Cruz spoke on this item.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

11. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT THE CITY MANAGER OR HER APPOINTEE TO ASSESS URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING ACTIVITIES, PLANS, REPORTS, AND DOCUMENTS THAT INCLUDE, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, LAND USE, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNITY DESIGN, HOUSING, PARK AND OPEN SPACE PLANNING WITHIN THE CITY. *MICHAEL MEDINA*

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Ralph Duran to *approve item number eleven (11)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

12. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL REQUEST TO WAIVE THE EVENT PERMIT FEE FOR THE ANNUAL BAZAAR OF SAN FELIPE DE JESUS CATHOLIC CHURCH. *MICHAEL MEDINA*

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

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

CITY MANAGER

13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE MAYOR ELIA GARCIA TO ATTEND THE NALEO TEXAS STATEWIDE POLICY INSTITUTE ON HIGHER EDUCATION WHICH WILL BE HELD JANUARY 14-15, 2019 AT THE GRAND HYATT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS. *ADRIANA RODARTE*

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

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos
Nays:
Abstain:

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

14. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT STAFF ON A FEASIBILITY STUDY TO UNDERSTAND THE FINANCIAL IMPACT AND RESPONSIBILITY TO THE CITY TO IMPLEMENT QUIET ZONES.

MAYOR ELIA GARCIA AND YVONNE COLON-VILLALOBOS

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item number fourteen (14) with the possibility to include a walkway.*

Damian Mureira spoke on this item.

A motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *allow Mr. Mureira more time to speak.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos
Nays:
Abstain:

An amended motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *obtain a feasibility study and bring the cost to council.* Motion passed.

Miriam Cruz spoke on this item.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos
Nays:
Abstain:

17. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE REPRESENTATIVE AT-LARGE, RENE RODRIGUEZ AND ANY OTHER COUNCIL MEMBER TO ATTEND TML REGIONAL IV MEETING IN VINTON, TEXAS ON JANUARY 18, 2019.

RENE RODRIGUEZ

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item number seventeen (17).*

Victor Perez rescinded his motion.

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *move item seventeen (17) after item twenty-two (22).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

18. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO FIND AND APPROVE A LOCATION FOR THE VETERANS PARK. **RENE RODRIGUEZ**

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez *direct staff to find a location for the Veterans Park.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

19. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE A MORATORIUM FOR STORAGE OF VEHICLES. **RENE RODRIGUEZ**

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *direct staff to propose the amendment of the ordinance to be specific on changes for both parking and moratorium.* Motion passed.

Miriam Cruz spoke on this item.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

22. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO LIMIT THE APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MEMBER THAT ATTEND CONFERENCE TRAININGS TO AVOID A WALKING QUORUM. **RALPH DURAN**

A motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item number twenty-two (22).*

An amended motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *delete item number twenty-two (22).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

17. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE REPRESENTATIVE AT-LARGE, RENE RODRIGUEZ AND ANY OTHER COUNCIL MEMBER TO ATTEND TML REGIONAL IV MEETING IN VINTON, TEXAS ON JANUARY 18, 2019.
RENE RODRIGUEZ

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Ralph Duran to *approve the attendance of Rene Rodriguez AtLarge Representative, Yvonne Colon-Villalobos District 4, Mayor Elia Garcia, Cesar Nevarez District 1, and Ralph Duran District 2.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos
Nays:
Abstain:

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *move into Executive Session at this time.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos
Nays:
Abstain:

THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENES INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:32 PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE CITY COUNCIL RECONVENES BACK IN OPEN SESSION AT 8:19 PM

24. 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

25. 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

26. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION AND RECEIVE STATUS REPORT REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION.
ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *delete items twenty-four (24), twenty-five (25) and twenty-six (26)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

Mayor Elia Garcia recused herself for item number twenty-seven (27) and Victor Perez, Mayor ProTem sat in for Mayor Garcia.

27. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING PERSONNEL MATTERS INVOLVING MUNICIPAL COURT [551.071 AND 551.074].

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *direct the city manager to obtain proposals and bring back to council to engage in the hiring of an investigator to investigate the conduct of Mayor Elia Garcia as discussed in Executive Session*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:


28. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Ralph Duran to *adjourn at 8:24 pm*. Motion passed.


Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:




Elia Garcia, Mayor



Olivia Navarro, City Clerk





Date minutes were approved