

Elia Garcia
Mayor
Rene Rodriguez
At Large
Cesar Nevarez
District 1/Mayor Pro Tem



Ralph Duran
District 2
Victor Perez
District 3
Yvonne Colon-Villalobos
District 4

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 2, 2020 @ 6:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rene Rodriguez
Cesar Nevarez
Ralph Duran
Victor Perez

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mayor Elia Garcia (*arrived to the meeting at 6:11 pm*)
Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

STAFF PRESENT:

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

Julie Franco, City Auditor
Alejandra Valadez, Grants Coordinator
Estevan Gonzales, IT Director
Mayela Granados, Executive Assistant
Lt. E. Smith
Victor Reta, Recreations Department Director

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at: 6:07 p.m. by Mayor ProTem Cesar Nevarez.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Charles Casiano.

3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

A quorum was established with four members present.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Alejandro Garcia spoke during Public Comment.

Mayor Elia Garcia, arrived to the meeting to the meeting at 6:11 pm

Sal Chagolla, Miriam Cruz, Margarita Perez, Patricia Espinoza, Guillermo Gandara, Sr. for Ruben Chavez and Ralph Duran spoke during Public Comment.

PRESENTATION

5. ***PRESENTATION BY CITY MANAGER, REGARDING NOVEMBER 2019 MONTHLY REPORT.*** ***ADRIANA RODARTE***

Presentation made by Adriana Rodarte, City Manager.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. ***EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS.*** ***OLIVIA NAVARRO***
7. ***APPROVAL OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF DECEMBER 12, 2019.*** ***OLIVIA NAVARRO***
8. ***DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING NOVEMBER 2019 UNNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT.*** ***CHARLES CASIANO***
9. ***DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING NOVEMBER 2019 CASH RECEIPTS REPORT.*** ***CHARLES CASIANO***
10. ***DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING NOVEMBER 2019 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REPORT 2019.***
11. ***INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING TO AMEND ORDINANCE 466 FOR THE MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4) PROGRAM OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO TO AUTHORIZE QUALIFIED THIRD-PARTY SERVICE PROVIDERS TO PERFORM MS4 INSPECTIONS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY, AND TO CLARIFY THE PROCESS FOR AN APPEAL TO A NOTICE OF VIOLATION.*** ***ALEJANDRA VALADEZ***

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

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran and Victor Perez

Nays:

Absent: Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

REGULAR AGENDA

GRANTS DEPARTMENT

- 12. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS COUNTS POOLED FUND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE CENSUS 2020 OUTREACH CAMPAIGN. THERE IS NO MATCH REQUIREMENT FOR THIS GRANT.**

ALEJANDRA VALADEZ

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

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran and Victor Perez

Nays:

Absent: Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

- 13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 590 AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO SIGN GRANT APPLICATIONS AND ACCEPTANCES ON BEHALF OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL FOR THE CITY IN THE INTEREST OF EFFICIENCY IN THE GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS.**

ALEJANDRA VALADEZ

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

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran and Victor Perez

Nays:

Absent: Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

CITY MANAGER

- 14. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 591 FOR MAYOR ELIA GARCIA AND CITY REPRESENTATIVE RALPH DURAN ARE PROHIBITED FROM HAVING DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH ANY CITY EMPLOYEES OTHER THAN THE CITY MANAGER FOR ANY PURPOSE WHATSOEVER.**

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item number fourteen (14)*. Motion passed.

Alejandro Garcia, Sal Chagolla, Miriam Cruz, and Ralph Duran spoke on this item.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, and Victor Perez

Nays: Ralph Duran

Absent: Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 592 FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF WALTER MILLER TO SERVE AS OUR APPOINTEE TO THE EL PASO CENTRAL APPRAISAL DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE 2020/2021 TERM. *RENE RODRIGUEZ*

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item fifteen (15)*. Motion passed.

Miriam Cruz spoke on this item.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran and Victor Perez

Nays:

Absent: Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING ELECTED OFFICIAL COMMUNICATING DIRECTLY WITH CITY EMPLOYEES. *RENE RODRIGUEZ*

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *postpone for next Regular Council Meeting*. Motion passed.

Sal Chagolla and Miriam Cruz spoke on this item.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran and Victor Perez

Nays:

Absent: Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

17. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING USE OF ELECTRONIC TRAFFIC SIGNS IN CONNECTION WITH ELECTIONS AND POLLING PLACES. *RENE RODRIGUEZ*

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *approve*.

Cesar Nevarez stepped out of the meeting at 7:10 pm

Cesar Nevarez stepped back into the meeting at 7:12 pm

An amended motion was made by Rene Rodriguez *to direct staff to create an ordinance prohibiting the use of electronic traffic signs to candidates during election time and to fine them \$500.00 and expensed incurred for the removal of such signs that are on public right of way*.

An amended motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *direct staff to review ordinance and bring back a proposal*.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran and Victor Perez

Nays:

Absent: Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

WORKSHOP

18. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON CHARTER AMENDMENTS ARTICLES I AND II SECTION 1.01 THROUGH SECTION 2.06. ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *postpone this item for next Regular Meeting.*

Miriam Cruz spoke on this item

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran and Victor Perez

Nays:

Absent: Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

19. 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

20. 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

21. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION AND RECEIVE STATUS REPORT REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION.

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *delete items nineteen (19), twenty (20) and twenty-one (21).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran and Victor Perez

Nays:

Absent: Yvonne Colon-Villalobos


22. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *adjourn at 7:37 p.m.*


Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran and Victor Perez

Nays:

Absent: Yvonne Colon-Villalobos



Elia Garcia, Mayor



Olivia Navarro, City Clerk



Jan 16, 2020
Date minutes were approved