

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 16, 2020 @ 6:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Elia Garcia
Rene Rodriguez
Cesar Nevarez
Ralph Duran
Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Victor Perez

STAFF PRESENT:

Adriana Rodarte, City Manager
Olivia Navarro, City Clerk
Merwan Bhatti, City Attorney (*left the meeting at 6:53 pm*)
David Mirazo, City Attorney (*Arrived to the meeting at 6:53 pm*)
Michael Medina, City Planner

Charles Casiano, Finance Director
Chief David Burton
Lt. C. Rey
Alex Alvarez, PPW Supervisor
Victor Reta, Recreation Centers Director
Mayela Granados, Executive Assistant
Estevan Gonzales, IT Director
Alejandra Valadez, Grants Coordinator
Julie Franco, City Auditor

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at: 6:01 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Adriana Rodarte.

3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

A quorum was established with five members present.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ruben Chavez, Guillermo Gandara, Sr. for Margarito Gutierrez, Maria J. Rios, Lorena Rodriguez, Guillermo Gandara, Sr. and Tom Heck spoke during Public Comment.

PRESENTATION

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

Presentation made by City Manager Adriana Rodarte.

Yvonne Colon-Villalobos stepped out of the meeting at 6:17 pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS. *OLIVIA NAVARRO*

7. APPROVAL OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 2, 2020. *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 and Ralph Duran

Nays:

Absent: Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

REGULAR AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARINGS/ORFINANCES

8. PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 466 SECTIONS II, DEFINITIONS, SECTION X AUTHORITY TO ENTER AND INSPECTION, AND SECTION XII. ENFORCEMENT APPEAL OF NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS FOR THE MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4) PROGRAM OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO.

ALEJANDRA VALADEZ

Public Hearing opened at 6:22 pm.
Miriam Cruz spoke during public hearing.
Public Hearing closed at 6:22 pm.

9. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 466 SECTIONS II, DEFINITIONS, SECTION X AUTHORITY TO ENTER AND INSPECTION, AND SECTION XII. ENFORCEMENT APPEAL OF NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS FOR THE MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4) PROGRAM OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO.
ALEJANDRA VALADEZ

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

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez and Ralph Duran

Nays:

Absent: Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

HUMAN RESOURCES

10. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE JOB DESCRIPTION FOR COMMUNITY RESOURCES OFFICER 100% GRANT-FUNDED POSITION WITH AN ANTICIPATED GRANT END DATE OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2020.
MAYELA GRANADOS

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item number ten (10)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Rene Rodriguez, Cesar Nevarez and Ralph Duran

Nays:

Absent: Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

GRANTS DEPARTMENT

11. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION 593 AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR (OOG), CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION (CJD) FY 2021 GENERAL VICTIM ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM FOR YEAR 2 OF A CRIME VICTIM ADVOCATE PERSONNEL FOR THE SOCORRO POLICE DEPARTMENT. THE CITY'S 20% MATCH CONTRIBUTION IS \$9,990.
ALEJANDRA VALADEZ

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

Yvonne Colon-Villalobos returned to the meeting at 6:26 pm.

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

Nays:

Absent: Victor Perez

12. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION 594 AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR (OOG), CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION (CJD) RIFLE-RESISTANT BODY ARMOR GRANT FOR THE SOCORRO POLICE DEPARTMENT. THERE IS NO MATCH REQUIREMENT FOR THIS GRANT.
ALEJANDRA VALADEZ

A motion was made by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *approve item twelve (12)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Victor Perez

13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE CITY OF SOCORRO TO ENTER INTO A TEXAS STATEWIDE INTEROPERABILITY CHANNEL PLAN MOU WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY.
ALEJANDRA VALADEZ

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

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

Nays:

Absent: Victor Perez

CITY AUDITOR

14. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE AMENDMENT TO POLICY 66 “POLICY AND PROCEDURE: FUEL ACCOUNTABILITY”
JULIE FRANCO

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item number fourteen (14)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Victor Perez

15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE AMENDMENT TO THE FIXED ASSETS MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES MANUAL.
JULIE FRANCO

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item number fifteen (15)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Victor Perez

CITY MANAGER

- 16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO CLARIFY 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 postpone for next Regular Meeting.* Motion passed.

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

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

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

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Cesar Nevarez *to postpone for next Regular meeting.* Motion passed.

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

- 18. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT STAFF TO AMEND MEDIA POLICY.** **RENE RODRIGUEZ**

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos *to direct staff to go over the media policy for possible changes.* Motion passed.

Miriam Cruz spoke on this item.

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

- 19. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON STATUS ON MAYOR ELIA GARCIA \$400.00 FINE.** **RENE RODRIGUEZ**

A motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos *to postpone for next Regular Meeting to allow the attorney to provide adequate description and definition of policies violated.* Motion passed.

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

20. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT STAFF AND CITY ATTORNEY TO REVIEW AND AMEND ORDINANCE 481 PROHIBITION IF LARGE COMMERCIAL VEHICLES PARKING AND STORAGE IN A RESIDENTIAL AND AGRICULTURAL ZONING DISTRICT.

CESAR NEVAREZ

Jim Martinez arrived to the meeting at 6:53 pm.

A motion was made by Cesar Nevarez seconded by Ralph Duran to *direct staff to review Ordinance 481 and conduct public meetings*. Motion passed.

Bernardo Reyes, Miriam Cruz, Ruben Lara, Javier Muñoz, and Nora Muñoz spoke on this item.

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

21. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT STAFF AND CITY ATTORNEY TO REVIEW AND AMEND ORDINANCE THAT DETERMINES THE SETBACKS OF MAJOR ARTERIALS. YVONNE COLON-VILLALOBOS

A motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *direct staff to provide recommendation and bring back to council*. Motion passed.

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

22. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT STAFF TO CREATE A JOB DESCRIPTION TO HIRE AN IN-HOUSE ATTORNEY FOR THE DAY TO DAY OPERATION. YVONNE COLON-VILLALOBOS

A motion was made by Ralph Duran to *postpone for next Regular Meeting*. Motion dies no second.

A motion was made by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *move into Executive Session to consult with attorney and personnel matter*. Motion passed.

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

THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:38 PM.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED IN OPEN SESSION AT 7:42 PM

A motion was made by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *move into Executive Session at this time to deliberate a personnel matter.*

Yvonne Colon-Villalobos withdrew her motion.

22. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT STAFF TO CREATE A JOB DESCRIPTION TO HIRE AN IN-HOUSE ATTORNEY FOR THE DAY TO DAY OPERATION. YVONNE COLON-VILLALOBOS

A motion was made by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *direct staff to create a job description and bring back to council.* Motion passed.

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

Mayor Garcia broke the tie by voting aye.

WORKSHOP

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

A motion was made buy Rene Rodriguez seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve the changes.* Motion passed.

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

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 Ralph Duran seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *delete items twenty-four (24), twenty-five (25) and twenty-six (26)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Victor Perez

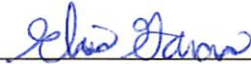
42. ADJOURN

A motion was made by ralph Duran seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *adjourn at 8:33 pm*.


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

Nays:

Absent: Victor Perez



Elia Garcia, Mayor



Olivia Navarro, City Clerk



February 6, 2020

Date minutes were approved