

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
NOVEMBER 19, 2020 @ 6:00 P.M.
VIRTUAL MEETING**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Victor Perez (*joined the meeting at 6:18 pm*)

STAFF PRESENT:

Adriana Rodarte, City Manager
Olivia Navarro, City Clerk
Jim Martinez (*joined virtually*)

Alicia Aguilar, Recreation Leader
Diana Rodriguez, Recreation Leader

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at: 6:12 pm. by Cesar Nevarez

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Adriana Rodarte

3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Quorum was established with five members present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Miriam Cruz and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos spoke during Public Comment.

Victor Perez joined the meeting at 6:18 pm.

IN MEMORIAM

5. **MEMORIAL FOR THE PASSING OF CITY COMMISSIONER RUDY CRUZ SR.** **ADRIANA RODARTE**

CONSENT AGENDA

6. **EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS.** **OLIVIA NAVARRO**
7. **APPROVAL OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF OCTOBER 15, AND SPECIAL COUNCIL MINUTES OCTOBER 19, 2020, REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES NOVEMBER 5, 2020 AND SPECIAL COUNCIL MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 12, 2020.** **OLIVIA NAVARRO**
8. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE SEPTEMBER 2020 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REPORT.** **CHARLES CASIANO**
9. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE SEPTEMBER 2020 CASH RECEIPTS REPORT.** **CHARLES CASIANO**
10. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE SEPTEMBER 2020 UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT.** **CHARLES CASIANO**
11. **INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 46 (ZONING), SECTIONS 46-239 (ACCESSORY STRUCTURES), 46-263 (ACCESSORY STRUCTURES), 46-329 (ACCESSORY STRUCTURES), 46-352 (ACCESSORY STRUCTURES), AND 46-623 (ACCESSORY BUILDING) TO REDUCE REAR SETBACK REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCESSORY STRUCTURES.** **JOB TERRAZAS**

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

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

Nays:

Absent:

REGULAR AGENDA

GRANTS DEPARTMENT

- 12. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION'S FY 2021 CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAM TO OFFSET THE COSTS OF AN INTERACTIVE WEBSITE AND VIRTUAL MAP/TOUR OF THE RIO VISTA FARM HISTORIC DISTRICT TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE COMPLEX HISTORY OF THE SITE AND INCREASE ACCESSIBILITY TO THE SITE. THERE IS A MATCH REQUIREMENT OF 1:1. ALEJANDRA VALADEZ**

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

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

Nays:

Absent:

- 13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE CARES ACT FUNDING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SOCORRO AND EL PASO COUNTY. ALEJANDRA VALADEZ**

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

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

Nays:

Absent:

- 14. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE USE OF \$350,000 OF CARES ACT FUNDING FOR THE SOCORRO SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF PROGRAM AND APPROVE A SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENT WITH LIFTFUND INC. TO ADMINISTER THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES IN SOCORRO, TEXAS THAT HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY THE COVID-19 SHUT DOWNS. ALEJANDRA VALADEZ**

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

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

Nays:

Absent:

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE FINAL PLAT APPROVAL FOR SENDERO FLORES VILLAGE BEING ALL OF TRACTS 4B, 4C, SOCORRO GRANT, BLOCK 25 FOR A NEW DEVELOPMENT. *JOB TERRAZAS*

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Ralph Duran to *approve item number fifteen (15)*.

Jim Martinez recommended to move this item into Executive Session.

Rene Rodriguez rescinded his motion.

16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE A NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PILOT PROGRAM. *MICHAEL MEDINA*

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item number sixteen (16)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

CITY MANAGER

17. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON CALLING A REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING FOR DECEMBER PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.07 OF THE SOCORRO CITY CHARTER. *ADRIANA RODARTE*

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to call for the Regular December Meeting on December 3, 2020. *Motion passed*.

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

Nays:

Absent:

18. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPOINTING A NEW MAYOR PRO TEM PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.03 OF THE SOCORRO CITY CHARTER. *ADRIANA RODARTE*

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *appoint Cesar Nevarez as the new Mayor ProTem*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

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 *move into Executive Session*. Motion passed.

An amended motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Victor Perez to *move item number fifteen (15) into Executive Session to consult with council*.

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

Nays:

Absent:

THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:52

EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED N OPEN SESSION AT 7:45

15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE FINAL PLAT APPROVAL FOR SENDERO FLORES VILLAGE BEING ALL OF TRACTS 4B, 4C, SOCORRO GRANT, BLOCK 25 FOR A NEW DEVELOPMENT. JOB TERRAZAS

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *deny item number fifteen (15) for non-compliance*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

22. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING PERSONNEL MATTERS INVOLVING MUNICIPAL COURTS UNDER 551.071 AND 551.074.

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *adopt the report of the investigation regarding Mayor Garcia and her involvement in municipal court and in consequence suggest to be censured and place in her file*.

Victor Perez withdrew his motion.

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Rene Rodriguez to *direct staff to redact report and bring back at next meeting of December 3, 2020 and report to be made public*.

An amended motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Ralph Duran to *direct staff to redact report and bring back and next meeting of December 3, 2020 and report be made public and instruct staff to provide Mayor Garcia with a copy*.

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

Nays:

Absent:

23. RALPH DURAN V. CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS, AND INTERNATIONAL EAGLE ENTERPRISES, INC. D/B/A EAGLE CONSTRUCTION AND/OR EAGLE TRANSPORTATION, IN THE 120TH DISTRICT COURT OF EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS, CAUSE NO. 2020-DCV3246 [551.071].

JAMES A. MARTINEZ

A motion was made by Rene Rodriguez seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve city attorney's request*. Motion passed.

Ralph Duran spoke on this item

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

Nays:

Abstain: Ralph Duran

24. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Victor Perez to *adjourn at 7:49 pm.*

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

Nays:

Absent:



Cesar Nevarez, Mayor ProTem



Olivia Navarro, City Clerk



January 7, 2021

Date minutes were approved

