

Ivy Avalos
Mayor

Ruben Reyes
At Large/Mayor Pro Tem

Cesar Nevarez
District 1



Alejandro Garcia
District 2

Rudy Cruz, Jr.
District 3

Yvonne Colon-Villalobos
District 4

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 17, 2022 @ 6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ivy Avalos
Ruben Reyes
Cesar Nevarez
Alejandro Garcia
Rudy Cruz, Jr.

STAFF PRESENT:

Adriana Rodarte, City Manager
Olivia Navarro, City Clerk
Carlos Gallinar, City Planner
Jim Martinez, City Attorney

Estevan Gonzales, IT Director
Chief David Burton
Rosie Escobar, Executive Assistant
Carol Candelaria, HR Director
Victor Reta, Community Ctrs. Director
Officer Arellano
Charles Casiano, Finance Director
Louie Chavez PPW Director
Julie Franco, City Auditor

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at: 6:03 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence

Grey Wolf Warrior Society Color Guard made entrance.

Pledge of Allegiance led by students of Escontrias Elementary School.

3. Establishment of Quorum

Quorum was established with all council members present.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No speakers for Public Comment.

PRESENTATION

5. PRESENTATION ON NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT PLANNING 457 DEFERRED COMPENSATION AND TEXAS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM (TMRS). ADRIANA RODARTE

Presentation by Sarita Null from Nationwide Retirement Plan 457B and Anthony Mill and Michelle Kranes from TMRS.

6. PRESENTATION BY CITY MANAGER, REGARDING JANUARY 2022 MONTHLY REPORT. ADRIANA RODARTE

Presentation made by Adriana Rodarte.

A motion was made by Ruben Reyes seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *move up items twenty-three (23), twenty-nine (29), thirty (30) and thirty-one (31)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

23. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE TO HOST THE BINATIONAL HISTORY CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 9TH THROUGH THE 11TH, 2022. MAYOR IVY AVALOS

A motion was made by Rudy Cruz, Jr. seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item number twenty-three (23)*. Motion passed.

Mr. Borrego spoke on this item.

Ruben Reyes stepped out of meeting at 7:02 pm

Ruben Reyes returned to meeting at 7:04 pm

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

29. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF JOSE MARRUFO TO THE BUILDING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION PLACE 1. CESAR NEVAREZ

A motion was made by Cesar Nevarez seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *approve item number twenty-nine (29)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

30. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF JESSE MONTELONGO TO THE HISTORICAL LANDMARK COMMISSION PLACE 1. CESAR NEVAREZ

A motion was made by Cesar Nevarez seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *approve item number thirty (30)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

31. SWEARING IN OF NEWLY APPOINTED COMMISSIONERS.

Mayor Ivy Avalos swore in Jose Marrufo and Jesse Montelongo.

CONSENT AGENDA

PUBLIC COMMENTS ARE NOT TAKEN DURING THE INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES. PUBLIC COMMENTS WILL BE ALLOWED AT THE SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARING-ORDINANCE 320

8. EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS. OLIVIA NAVARRO

9. APPROVAL OF REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 3, 2022. OLIVIA NAVARRO

10. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE TO ALLOW THE REZONING OF LOTS 1 AND 2, STOCKYARD SUBDIVISION FROM C-2 AND M-2 TO IC-MUD AND VARIANCE REQUEST TO REDUCE THE FRONT SETBACK AND REDUCE THE PARKING REQUIREMENTS. CARLOS GALLINAR

11. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE TO ALLOW THE REZONING OF TRACT 9A, BLOCK 14, SOCORRO GRANT, FROM R-1 TO R-2 AND VARIANCE REQUESTS TO REDUCE THE FRONT SETBACK AND REDUCE THE PARKING REQUIREMENTS. CARLOS GALLINAR

A motion was made by Ruben Reyes seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *approve the Consent Agenda*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

REGULAR AGENDA

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

12. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE UPDATED TUITION REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM. CAROL CANDELARIA

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve item number twelve (12)*.

An amended motion was made by Alejandro Garcia to *approve with stipulations adding to Section II Limitations item D good standing and Section III Request and approval Procedure D. 7 days to appeal rather than 3*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE AMENDMENT OF THE EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK ADDING G.09 AND G.10. CAROL CANDELARIA

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item thirteen (13)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

**14. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL OF FINAL PLAT FOR
ESTANCIAS DEL PARRAL. CARLOS GALLINAR**

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

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

**15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE A SUBDIVISION REPLAT FOR
BAUMAN ESTATES UNIT 2, REPLAT K. CARLOS GALLINAR**

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia to *approve item number fifteen (15)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

**16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL OF FINAL PLAT FOR
HACIENDAS DE SOCORRO. CARLOS GALLINAR**

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

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, and Rudy Cruz, Jr.

Nays:

Abstain: Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

**17. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE SUBDIVISION REPLAT AND
VARIANCE REQUEST FOR RALLY PLACE UNIT 2. CARLOS GALLINAR**

A motion was made by Rudy Cruz, Jr., seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item number seventeen (17)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

18. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON A REQUEST BY TROPICANA HOMES TO PROVIDE RESOLUTIONS OF SUPPORT FOR THREE LOW INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT PROJECTS, RESOLUTION 670 NEVAREZ PALMS II, RESOLUTION 671 FIESTA PALMS AND RESOLUTION 672 JAIME O. PEREZ MEMORIAL APARTMENTS II. CARLOS GALLINAR

A motion was made by Rudy Cruz, Jr. seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item number eighteen*. Motion passed.

Randy Bowling spoke on this item.

A motion was made by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *suspend the rule and allow Mr. Bowling to continue speaking*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

CITY MANAGER

19. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE ANY COUNCIL MEMBER, CITY MANAGER AND DESIGNATED STAFF TO ATTEND THE TML LEADERSHIP ACADEMY COURSE 1 AND 2 IN ROUND ROCK, TEXAS APRIL 6-8TH AND MAY 11-13TH 2022. ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Rudy Cruz, Jr. seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *allow Mayor Ivy Avalos and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to attend*.

Ruben Reyes stepped out of the meeting at 8:02 pm.

Ruben Reyes returned to meeting at 8:04 pm.

An amended motion was made by Rudy Cruz, Jr. seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve the attendance of Mayor Ivy Avalos, Yvonne Colon-Villalobos, District 4 Representative and AtLarge Representative Ruben Reyes*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

20. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO ISSUE A REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS OR OTHER INSTRUMENT TO SOLICIT PROPOSALS FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES.

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item number twenty (20)*. Motion passed.

Michel Maksoud, President and CEO of Dannebaum Engineering Services spoke on this item.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

21. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE TRAVEL, MILEAGE AND RELATED EXPENSE POLICY AMENDMENT NO. 7. JULIE FRANCO

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

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

22. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 673 AUTHORIZING THE DESIGNATION OF SIGNATORIES FOR FINANCIALS LISTED IN RESOLUTION. JULIE FRANCO

A motion was made by Ruben Reyes seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item number twenty-two*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

24. PUBLIC HEARING ON WRITTEN CHARGE TO REMOVE HUGO GOMEZ AS A MEMBER OF THE BUILDING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION PLACE 6 OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS. MAYOR IVY AVALOS

Public Hearing opened at 8:22 pm

Angelina M. Ramos spoke during Public Hearing

Public Hearing closed at 8:24 pm.

25. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL TO REMOVE HUGO GOMEZ AS A MEMBER OF THE BUILDING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION PLACE 6. MAYOR IVY AVALOS

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item number twenty-five (25)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

A motion was made by Rudy Cruz, Jr. seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *suspend the rule and allow speakers to speak*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

During this time Angelina M. Ramos and Jack and Irene Martin spoke.

26. PUBLIC HEARING ON WRITTEN CHARGE TO REMOVE GERARDO GONZALEZ AS A MEMBER OF THE BUILDING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION PLACE 7 OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS. MAYOR IVY AVALOS

Public Hearing opened at 8:29 pm

Public Hearing closed at 8:30 pm

27. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL TO REMOVE GERARDO GONZALEZ FROM THE BUILDING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION PLACE 7 OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS. MAYOR IVY AVALOS

A motion was made by Cesar Nevarez seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *approve item number twenty-seven (27)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

28. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF FORMER MAYOR JESUS RUIZ TO THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS PLACE 7. MAYOR IVY AVALOS

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item number twenty-eight (28)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

32. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE TXHAF PROGRAM IS ADMINISTERED BY THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS. FUNDS FOR THE PROGRAM COME FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY, ESTABLISHED UNDER THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021.* RUDY CRUZ, JR.

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item number thirty-two (32)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *move into Executive Session at this time*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:40

EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED INTO OPEN SESSION AT 8:54 PM

33. *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

34. 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

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

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *delete items thirty-three (33), thirty-four (34) and thirty-five (35).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

36. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE AMENDED CONTRACT FOR CHIEF OF POLICE [551.071 AND 551.074].

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *approve item thirty-six (36) as written with an effective date of January 20, 2022.*

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:

37. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *adjourn at 8:56 pm.*

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Rudy Cruz, Jr. and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos.

Nays:

Abstain:


Ivy Avalos, Mayor


Olivia Navarro, City Clerk



March 3, 2022

Date minutes were approved