

Ivy Avalos
Mayor

Ruben Reyes
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
FEBRUARY 18, 2021 @ 6:00 P.M.
VIRTUAL MEETING**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ivy Avalos
Ruben Reyes
Cesar Nevarez
Ralph Duran
Victor Perez
Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

STAFF PRESENT:

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

Estevan Gonzales, IT Director
Diana Rodriguez, Recreation Leader
Victor Reta, Recreation Centers Director
Chief David Burton

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at: 6:10 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance led by Adriana Rodarte.

3. Establishment of Quorum

Quorum was established with all council members present.

A motion was made by Ruben Reyes *to move up item number five to be next on the agenda.*

An amended motion was made by Ruben Reyes seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *move up items five (5) and twenty-two (22) to be next on the agenda.*

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

PRESENTATION

5. PRESENTATION AND UPDATE FROM THE EL PASO HEALTH DEPARTMENT REGARDING CORONAVIRUS COVID-19. RUBEN REYES

Presentation made by Chief Jorge Rodriguez, El Paso City-County Office of Emergency Management Director.

22. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO ADD A NEW LOCATION FOR ELITE AMBULANCE SERVICE TO THE WEST SIDE OF CITY LIMITS PREFERABLY IN THE POLICE HEADQUARTERS OR CHAYO APODACA CENTER ON MOON ROAD. RALPH DURAN

A motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Victor Perez to *approve item number twenty-two (22)*

An amended motion was made by Ralph Duran to *instruct staff to bring a pricing plan to move one (1) ambulance to either Police Headquarter of Chayo Apodaca Community Center.*

An amended motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Ruben Reyes to *instruct staff to bring pricing and an appropriate location to move one (1) ambulance to the west side of the city.*

A motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Victor Perez *for staff to make a recommendation for best location.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chief David Burton, Victor Reta, Estevan Gonzales, Isela Gonzalez, Cynthia Candelaria, Michelle Gomez, Olivia Navarro, Charles Casiano, Julie Franco, Sal Chagoya, Miriam Cruz, and Rene Rodriguez spoke during Public Comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. **EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS.** **OLIVIA NAVARRO**
7. **APPROVAL OF REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 4, 2021.**
OLIVIA NAVARRO
8. **INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED REZONING OF LEIGH CLARK SURVEY 298 ABST 6262 28 & 29 & E 1/3 OF 30, LOCATED AT 12450 GATEWAY EAST FROM UNCLASSIFIED TO C-2, GENERAL COMMERCIAL FOR A TRUCK TERMINAL.** **JOB TERRAZAS**

A motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve Consent Agenda*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

REGULAR AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARING/ORDINANCES

9. **PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF SOCORRO MASTER PLAN AND REZONING OF TRACTS 2D, 1D, 2C1, 1D3, 1C1, 4A2B, 4C, 4B1, 4B2, 1C, 1H, 1B, 1B1, 6C, 6B & 6A, BLOCK 6, SOCORRO GRANT, FROM A-1/C-2 TO R-2/C-2 FOR A NEW DEVELOPMENT.** **JOB TERRAZAS**
10. **SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF SOCORRO MASTER PLAN AND REZONING OF TRACTS 2D, 1D, 2C1, 1D3, 1C1, 4A2B, 4C, 4B1, 4B2, 1C, 1H, 1B, 1B1, 6C, 6B & 6A, BLOCK 6, SOCORRO GRANT, FROM A-1/C-2 TO R-2/C-2 FOR A NEW DEVELOPMENT.** **JOB TERRAZAS**

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Ralph Duran to *delete items nine (9) and ten (10)*.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

GRANTS DEPARTMENT

- 11. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 634 AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR'S (OOG) CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION (CJD) FY 2022 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 Victor Perez seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item number eleven (11)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

- 12. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 635 AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE FY 2021 STATE HOMELAND SECURITY PROGRAM (SHSP)- LETPA GRANT FOR THE SOCORRO POLICE DEPARTMENT. THERE IS NO MATCH REQUIREMENT FOR THIS GRANT. ALEJANDRA VALADEZ**

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

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

- 13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 636 AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE FY 2022 CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM FOR THE SOCORRO POLICE DEPARTMENT. THERE IS NO MATCH REQUIREMENT FOR THIS GRANT. ALEJANDRA VALADEZ**

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item number thirteen (13)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

14. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE USE OF CARES ACT FUNDING FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF A GRANTS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND ENTER INTO A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH ECIVIS.

ALEJANDA VAALADEZ

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

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

CITY MANAGER

15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 637 TO OPPOSE UNFUNDED MANDATES RELATED TO POLICE OPERATIONS.

ADRIANA RODARTE

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

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 638 TO SUPPORT BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE AND ACCESS IN THE CITY OF SOCORRO.

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Ralph Duran to *approve item number sixteen (16)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

17. UPDATE ON COVID-19 VACCINATIONS.

ADRIANA RODARTE

Update by Adriana Rodarte.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

18. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE CITY OF SOCORRO AND EL PASO TRADE AND MANUFACTURING COUNCIL.
MAYOR IVY AVALOS

A motion was made by Ruben Reyes seconded by ralph Duran to *approve item number eighteen (18)*. Motion passed.

Jose Quinonez with El Paso Trade and Manufacturing Council spoke on this item.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

19. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE REPRESENTATIVE AT-LARGE AND ANY OTHER COUNCIL MEMBER KEYS TO THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.
RUBEN REYES

A motion was made by Ruben Reyes seconded by Ralph Duran to *delete item nineteen (19)*. Motion passed.

Sal Chagoya and Rene Rodriguez spoke on this item.

Miriam Cruz was signed up to speak but declined.

A motion was made by Cesar Nevarez seconded by Victor Perez to *suspend the rule and allow a speaker to speak*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

Jesus Ruiz spoke on this item.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

20. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT STAFF TO AMEND ORDINANCE 76 AMENDMENT NO. 3 SECTION 9 SUPPLEMENTARY DISTRICT REGULATIONS/MOTOR VEHICLE PARKING REGULATIONS.

RUBEN REYES

A motion was made by Ruben Reyes seconded by Ralph Duran to *approve item number twenty (20)*.

An amended motion was made by Ruben Reyes seconded by Ralph Duran to *approve and direct staff to update Ordinance 76 and bring back to council the template*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

21. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT STAFF TO CREATE AN OPEN-DOOR POLICY FOR STAFF TO BE ABLE TO HAVE DIRECT ACCESS TO COUNCIL.
RALPH DURAN

A motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item twenty-one (21)*.

An amended motion was made by Ralph Duran to *create a hotline for abuse*.

An amended motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Ruben Reyes to *delete item number twenty-one (21)*. Motion passed.

Chief David Burton, Victor Reta and Estevan Gonzalez were signed up to speak but decline.

Sal Chagoya, Rene Rodriguez and Jesus Ruiz spoke on this item.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

23. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO INSTRUCT CITY MANAGER AND OR HER DESIGNATED ASSISTANT TO CREATE AN ONLINE/EMAIL EMPLOYMENT PICTURE ROSTER (TO INCLUDE ALL BOARD APPOINTED MEMBERS) THAT IS SHARED WITH COUNCIL/BOARD MEMBERS AND THE ENTIRE STAFF, ONLY.

YVONNE COLON-VILLALOBOS

A motion was made by Yvonne colon-Villalobos seconded by Ralph Duran to *delete item number twenty-three (23)*. Motion passed.

Chief David Burton, Victor Reta, Estevan Gonzales, Isela Gonzalez, Cynthia Candelaria and Michelle Gomez were signed up to speak but declined.

Jesus Ruiz spoke on this item.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *move into Executive session at this time*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:22 PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE COUNCIL RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION AT 9:40 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 ralph Duran to *delete items twenty-four (24), twenty-five (25) and twenty-six (26)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

27. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE AUTHORIZATION FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTIES RELATED TO THE NORTH NEVAREZ ROADWAY PROJECT. [551.071 AND 551.072] JAMES A. MARTINEZ

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos *to allow the city attorney to negotiate as discussed in executive session.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

28. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING TEXAS GAS SERVICE COMPANY'S REQUEST FOR A CONSERVATION ADJUSTMENT CLAUSE TARIFF FOR GAS SERVICE WITHIN THE CITY OF SOCORRO SPECIFYING THAT THE RATE CHANGE SHOULD BE EFFECTIVE ON NOVEMBER 25, 2021 [551.071]. JAMES A. MARTINEZ

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos *to deny the application.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

29. UPDATE ON PASSMORE ROAD SHARE USE PATH PROJECT. [551.071 AND 551.072] MICHAEL MEDINA

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Ralph Duran *to delete item number twenty-nine (29).* Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:

30. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Ralph Duran seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos *to adjourn at 9:43 pm.*

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Ralph Duran, Victor Perez and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain:



Ivy Avalos, Mayor



Olivia Navarro, City Clerk



March 4, 2021

Date minutes were approved