

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
JANUARY 7, 2021 @ 6:00 P.M.
VIRTUAL MEETING**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

STAFF ABSENT:

Victor Perez (*joined meeting at 6:28 pm*)

STAFF PRESENT:

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

Diana Rodriguez, Recreation Leader
Mayela Granados, Executive Assistant
Estevan Gonzalez, IT Director
Victor Reta, Recreation Department Director

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at: 6:17pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance led by Adriana Rodarte

3. Establishment of Quorum

Quorum was established with five members present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

4. Public Comment

Margarita Perez, Alejandro Garcia, Pablo Barrera, Angelica Ramirez, Sal Chagoya, Gina Cordero and Miriam Cruz spoke during Public Comment.

Victor Perez joined the meeting at 6:28 pm.

A motion was made by Ruben Reyes seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *move item Number 5 from the Addendum Agenda to the Presentation Section of the Regular Agenda.*

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

PRESENTATION

5. PRESENTATION ON THE CITY OF SOCORRO COMMUNITY INITIATIVE'S (CSCI) YEAR 1 ANNUAL REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL.

ALEJANDRA VALADEZ

Presentation made by Alejandra Valadez and Claudia Garcia, Chairperson of Socorro Community Initiative.

ADDENDUM TO THE AGENDA

5. PRESENTATION FROM DANNENBAUM ENGINEERING RICHARD ZAMORA AND JOSE REYES REGARDING CITY PROJECTS.

ADRIANA RODARTE

Presentation made by Richard Zamora and Jose Reyes (See Exhibit "A").

Miriam Cruz spoke on this item.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS.

OLIVIA NAVARRO

7. APPROVAL OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 16, REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES NOVEMBER 19, REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES DECEMBER 3, SPECIAL DECEMBER 8 AND DECEMBER 17, 2020.

OLIVIA NAVARRO

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

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

Nays:

Abstain

REGULAR AGENDA

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Ralph Duran to *move up item eleven (11)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Abstain

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

11. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO AWARD SOCORRO SIDEWALK PROJECT PHASE 1 BID 20-04 TO THE LOW BIDDER JAR CONCRETE.

MICHAEL MEDINA

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Ralph Duran to *approve for discussion*.

An amended motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Ralph Duran to *award the BID as recommended by staff*.

Miriam Cruz and Rene Rodriguez spoke on this item.

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

Nays:

Abstain

GRANTS DEPARTMENT

8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE AN AGREEMENT OF COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS, AND THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO. *ALEJANDRA VALADEZ*

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Ralph Duran to *approve item number eight (8)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Abstain

9. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO AWARD THE SPARKS ARROYO DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS PHASE II (BID 20-03) CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR TXCDBG CONTRACT 7218460 TO CMD ENDEAVORS, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$136,970.00.** *ALEJANDRA VALADEZ*

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Ralph Duran to *approve staff's recommendation.* Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Abstain

10. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE THIRD AMENDMENT TO THE CARES ACT FUNDING INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SOCORRO AND EL PASO COUNTY AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER OR DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE AGREEMENT.** *ALEJANDRA VALADEZ*

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Ralph Duran to *approve item (10) ten.* Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Abstain

CITY MANAGER

12. **DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 631 TO APPOINT MAYOR, IVY AVALOS OR ANY COUNCIL MEMBER TO BE A BOARD MEMBER TO THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD OF EL PASO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION.** *ADRIANA RODARTE*

A motion was made by Ruben Reyes seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve for discussion.*

An amended motion was made by Ruben Reyes seconded by Ralph Duran to *appoint Ivy Avalos to the Transportation Policy Board of El Paso Metropolitan Planning Organization.* Motion passed.

Rene Rodriguez spoke on this item.

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

Nays:

Abstain

13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPOINT MAYOR, IVY AVALOS OR ANY COUNCIL MEMBER TO BE A COMMITTEE MEMBER TO THE TRANSPORTATION PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE WITH EL PASO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION. ADRIANA RODARTE

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

Sal Chagoya was signed up to speak but has left the meeting.

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

Nays:

Abstain

14. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPOINT ONE ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS TO BECOME INVESTMENT OFFICERS TO THE SOCORRO PUBLIC FINANCE OR INVESTMENT BOARD PER ORDINANCE 250 AMENDMENT 1 AND ORDINANCE 321. ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos seconded by Victor Perez to *appoint Ruben Reyes to the Public Finance or Investment Board*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Abstain

15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON CITY MANAGER'S CONTRACT. ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Yvonne Colon Villalobos to *approve*.

Alejandro Garcia, Pablo Barrera, Angelica Ramirez, Rene Rodriguez, Elia Garcia and Gina Cordero spoke on this item.

Sal Chagoya was signed up to speak on this item, but has left the meeting.

An amended motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Ralph Duran to *approve the city manager's contract not to exceed 48 months*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Abstain

16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO RENEW DISTRICT OFFICE SPACE AGREEMENT FOR TONY GONZALES CONGRESSMAN DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE.
ADRIANA RODARTE

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

Pablo Barrera and Rene Rodriguez spoke on this item.

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

Nays:

Abstain

17. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO AWARD RFP 20-05 STATE LEGISLATIVE LOBBYING SERVICES TO FORMA GROUP, LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$54,000.00 TO PROVIDE A VALUED APPROACH TO REPRESENTATION DURING THE 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION AND AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER OR HER DESIGNEE TO SIGN CONTRACT.

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Ralph Duran to *approve item number seventeen (17)*. Motion passed.

Marisa Marquez from the Forma Group, LLC spoke on this item.

Miriam Cruz was signed up to speak but left the meeting

Rene Rodriguez spoke on this item.

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

Nays:

Abstain

18. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT STAFF TO PREPARE COVID-19 VACCINATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE PLAN.

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Ralph Duran to *allow staff to pursue logistics with the Tigua's or other appropriate entities and pursue the CARES funding act*.

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

Nays:

Abstain

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*

A motion was made by Ruben Reyes seconded by Victor Perez to *delete items nineteen (19) and twenty (20)*. Motion passed.

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*.

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

THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:07

EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION AT 9:21 PM

21. *RALPH DURAN V. CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS, AND INTERNATIONAL EAGLE ENGERPRISES, INC., DBA EAGLE CONSTRUCTION AND/OR EAGLE TRANSPORATION IN THE 120TH DISTRICT COURT OF EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS, CAUSE NO. 2020-DCV3246 {551.071}*. *JAMES A. MARTINEZ*

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *grant the city attorney the authority he is requesting*. Motion passed.

Alejandro Garcia was signed up to speak on this item but has left the meeting.

Rene Rodriguez spoke on this item.

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

Nays:

Abstain: Ralph Duran

22. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Victor Perez seconded by Ruben Reyes to *adjourn at 9:25 pm*


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

Nays:

Abstain



Ivy Avalos, Mayor



Olivia Navarro, City Clerk



1-22-21
Date minutes were approved