

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
MAY 5, 2022 @ 6:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ivy Avalos
Ruben Reyes
Cesar Nevarez
Alejandro Garcia
Rudy Cruz, Jr.
Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

STAFF PRESENT:

Adriana Rodarte, City Manager
Olivia Navarro, City Clerk
Jim Martinez, City Attorney
Carlos Gallinar, P & Z Director

Estevan Gonzales, IT Director
Diana Rodriguez, Recreation Leader
Chief David Burton
Carol Candelaria, HR Director
Alejandra Valadez, Grants Department
Charles Casiano, Finance Director
Julie Franco, City Auditor

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at: 6:01 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance led by Danika Luevano and Haleigh Clark from Socorro High School.

3. RECOGNITION TO SOCORRO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.

RUDY CRUZ, JR.

Danika Luevano and Haleigh Clark were presented with certificates.

4. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Quorum was established with all council members present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

5. PUBLIC COMENT

No speakers for Public Comment.

PRESENTATION

6. PRESENTATION BY MARISA QUINTANILLA FROM THE RIO GRANDE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS REGARDING EL PASO DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER. MAYOR IVY AVALOS

Virtual presentation made by Marisa Quintanilla.

7. PRESENTATION BY REVIVE A LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDER IN THE EMS INDUSTRY. RUDY CRUZ, JR.

Presentation made by Carlos Alarcon and Michael Sarabia of Revive.

8. PRESENTATION FROM ROBERT CAMPION PRESIDENT OF ELITE MEDICAL TRANSPORT REGARDING AMBULANCE SERVICES QUARTERLY REPORT. ADRIANA RODARTE

Robert Campion made presentation.

9. PRESENTATION BY EL PASO MARATHON IN APPRECIATION TO THE CITY OF SOCORRO FOR THEIR SPONSORSHIP, PARTICIPATION AND EVENT. VICTOR RETA

This item was postponed regular council meeting.

10. PRESENTATION OF MONTHLY MPO UPDATE TO COUNCIL AND SOCORRO RESIDENTS. RUDY CRUZ, JR.

Presentation made by Rudy Cruz, Jr.

Alejandro Garcia made a motion to *move up items thirty-one (31), thirty-two (32) and thirty-three (33)*.

An amended motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *move up items thirty (30), thirty-one (31), thirty-two (32) and thirty-three (33)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

30. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO REVIEW AND ASSESS THE REQUEST OF A REAR ROCK WALL FROM RESIDENTS OF EASTLAKE VALLEY AT 850 NUEVO HUECO TANKS. *ADRIANA RODARTE*

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve for discussion*.

Angelina Ramos spoke on this item.

A motion was made by Rudy Cruz, Jr. seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *suspend the rule and allow Mr. Hector Ramos to speak*.

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

Nays:

Absent:

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

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

Nays:

Absent:

31. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 698 DECLARING THE MONTH OF MAY TO BE INTERNAL AUDIT AWARENESS MONTH. *JULIE FRANCO*

A motion was made by Cesar Nevarez seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *approve item number thirty-one (31)*. Motion passed.

Mayor Avalos read the Resolution.

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

Nays:

Absent:

Yvonne Colon-Villalobos stepped out of the meeting at 7:14 pm

32. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPOINT HECTOR RAMOS TO THE ETHICS COMMISSION PLACE 6. MAYOR IVY AVALOS

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

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

Nays:

Absent: Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Yvonne Colon-Villalobos returned to the meeting at 7:17 pm

33. SWEARING IN OF NEWLY APPOINTED COMMISSIONER.

During this time Mayor Avalos swore in Hector Ramos to the Ethics Commission

CONSENT AGENDA

11. EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS. OLIVIA NAVARRO

12. APPROVAL OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2022. OLIVIA NAVARRO

13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING MARCH 2022 UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT. CHARLES CASIANO

14. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING MARCH 2022 CASH RECEIPTS REPORT. CHARLES CASIANO

15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING MARCH 2022 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REPORT. CHARLES CASIANO

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:

Absent:

REGULAR AGENDA
PUBLIC HEARING/ORDINANCE

16. PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE TO ALLOW REZONING OF 1120 ROBIN ROAD, BEING TRACT 1-A-12, LEIGH CLARK SURVEY 293, ABST 6257, CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS FROM UNCLASSIFIED TO C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW FOR A TRUCKING COMPANY. CARLOS GALLINAR

Public Hearing opened at 7:19 pm
No speakers for Public Hearing
Public Hearing closed at 7:20 pm

17. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE TO ALLOW REZONING OF 1120 ROBIN ROAD, BEING TRACT 1-A-12, LEIGH CLARK SURVEY 293, ABST 6257, CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS FROM UNCLASSIFIED TO C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW FOR A TRUCKING COMPANY.

CARLOS GALLINAR

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item number seventeen (17)*. Motion passed.

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

18. PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S MASTER PLAN AND REZONING OF 10330 SOCORRO RD., BEING LOT 1-A, BLOCK 1, TRUJILLO UNIT 2, REPLAT A, CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS FROM A-1 (AGRICULTURAL) TO R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL).

CARLOS GALLINAR

Public Hearing opened at 7:24 pm
No speakers for Public Hearing
Public Hearing closed at 7:24 pm

19. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S MASTER PLAN AND REZONING OF 10330 SOCORRO RD., BEING LOT 1-A, BLOCK 1, TRUJILLO UNIT 2, REPLAT A, CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS FROM A-1 (AGRICULTURAL) TO R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL).

CARLOS GALLINAR

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item number nineteen (19)*. Motion passed.

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

20. PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 32 PARKS AND RECREATION, ARTICLE IV. PARK USE PERMITS, ADDING A NEW SECTION, SECTION 32-138 FEES, OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO MUNICIPAL CODE. CARLOS GALLINAR

Public Hearing opened at 7:30 pm
No speakers for Public Hearing
Public Hearing closed at 7:30 pm

21. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 32 PARKS AND RECREATION, ARTICLE IV. PARK USE PERMITS, ADDING A NEW SECTION, SECTION 32-138 FEES, OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO MUNICIPAL CODE. CARLOS GALLINAR

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item number twenty-one (21)*.

An amended motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve with some changes to the fees; Under Special Events add a line item: Non-Profit – Estimated attendance of 751 or more 200.00; and under Sports/Registration Fees (Per Player) under Youth Kickball (18under) add (per team) and Adult Kickball (18+) add (per team)*. Motion passed.

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

22. PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 46 ZONING, ARTICLE V. SUPPLEMENTAL USE REGULATIONS, SECTION 46-637. WALL AND FENCING REQUIREMENTS OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO MUNICIPAL CODE. CARLOS GALLINAR

Public Hearing opened at 7:49 pm
Hector Ramos spoke during Public Hearing
Public Hearing closed at 7:51 pm

23. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 46 ZONING, ARTICLE V. SUPPLEMENTAL USE REGULATIONS, SECTION 46-637. WALL AND FENCING REQUIREMENTS OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO MUNICIPAL CODE. CARLOS GALLINAR

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item number twenty-three (23)*. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *strike out 3' ornamental over the 3 feet rockwall.* Motion dies no second.

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

Nays: Ruben Reyes and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Absent:

GRANTS DEPARTMENT

24. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN THE CITY OF SOCORRO AND PROJECT VIDA TO FOSTER SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMS AND SUPPORT IN SOCORRO, TEXAS. *ALEJANDRA VALADEZ*

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item number twenty-four (24).* Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

25. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 695 OF SUPPORT FOR THE EL PASO COUNTY WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1 (EPCWID1) GRANT APPLICATION TO THE U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION WATER AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANTS PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023. *ALEJANDRA VALADEZ*

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:

Absent:

26. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 696 OF SUPPORT FOR THE EL PASO COUNTY WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 1 (EPCWID1) GRANT APPLICATION TO THE EL PASO COUNTY AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY. *ALEJANDRA VALADEZ*

A motion was made by Cesar Nevarez seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *approve item number twenty-six (26).* Motion passed.

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

RECREATION CENTERS DEPARTMENT

27. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL REGARDING 2022 INDEPENDENCE DAY EXTRAVAGANZA (INDX) FOR SATURDAY JULY 2, 2022 TO BE HELD AT COUGAR PARK 10664 SOCORRO RD FROM 5:00 TO 10:00 PM. VICTOR RETA

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

An amended motion was made by Cesar Nevarez to *approve the city manager to execute the contract with Precision Fireworks in the amount of \$25,000.00 and approve the event permit*. Motion passed.

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

28. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF A MUNICIPAL VEHICLE FOR CITY BUSINESS FOR THE USE OF CITY COUNCIL. VICTOR RETA

A motion was made by Ruben Reyes seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item number twenty-eight (28)*.

An amended motion was made by Ruben Reyes seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *wait for the purchase of the vehicle for next budget*. Motion passed.

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

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

29. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 697 APPROVING A VARIANCE REQUEST FOR FRONT SETBACK REDUCTION FOR THE PROPERTY AT 1 HORIZON SHOPPING CENTER PT OF 2 & 3 BEG 34.33' SE AND 52.18' SW OF NEC OF 2(159.96' ON NELY-226.74' ON SELY-159.96' ON SWLY-226.62 ON NWLY) AT 10600 NORTH LOOP RD, SOCORRO, TEXAS. CARLOS GALLINAR

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

Hector Ramos spoke on this item.

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

Nays:

Absent:

- 34. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT CITY MANAGER AND OR DESIGNATE STAFF TO RESEARCH GRANTS OR ALLOCATE MONEY TO BUILD A NEW CITY PARK OR DESIGNATE AN EXISTING CITY PARK, TO RENAME IT AS VETERANS PARK. TO INCLUDE SHADED PLAYGROUND, TRACK TO WALK AROUND THE PARK AND IF POSSIBLE, AN ACTIVITIES BUILDING AND OR CANOPY WHERE NOT ONLY OUR VETERANS, BUT ALSO VISITORS COULD ENJOY AND USE FOR ACTIVITIES THAT WILL BENEFIT OUR CITY. RUBEN REYES**

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *direct staff to find suitable location for veteran's park*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

- 35. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING ACCEPTANCE OF THE MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT SPONSORSHIP BY SPEAKING ROCK ENTERTAINMENT AND PLANNING FOR MUSIC UNDER THE STARS EVENT. RUDY CRUZ, JR.**

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item number thirty-five (35)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Abstain: Rudy Cruz, Jr.

- 36. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO ACCEPT SPONSORSHIP FOR CITY OF SOCORRO PARK IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$25,000.00 BY TPA GROUP. RUDY CRUZ, JR.**

A motion was made by Cesar Nevarez seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *approve item number thirty-six (36)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

37. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO ALLOW DISTRICT 4 YVONNE COLON-VILLALOBOS TO CLARIFY PERSONAL EVENTS MENTIONED DURING REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING. YVONNE COLON-VILLALOBOS

A motion was made by Cesar Nevarez seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *delete item thirty-seven (37)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

38. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT CITY MANAGER AND OR HER DESIGNATE STAFF TO RESEARCH AN ORGANIZATION AND OR PROGRAM THAT WOULD HOST A CAR SEAT CLINIC EVENT IN THE CITY OF SOCORRO. YVONNE COLON-VILLALOBOS

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item number thirty-eight (38)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

39. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT CITY MANAGER AND OR HER DESIGNATE STAFF TO OBTAIN AN UPDATED ACTUARIAL STUDY COST ANALYSIS REPORT THAT INCLUDES ALL CITY EMPLOYEE'S PARTICIPATION IN A (TRMS) TEXAS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT PLAN. YVONNE COLON-VILLALOBOS

A motion was made by Rudy Cruz seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *deny item number thirty-nine (39)*. Motion passed.

Alejandro Garcia stepped out of the meeting at 8:46 pm

Alejandro Garcia returned to the meeting at 8:46 pm

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

Nays: Ruben Reyes

Absent:

40. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO REAPPOINT YVONNE COLON VILLALOBOS TO THE 88TH LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE.

YVONNE COLON-VILLALOBOS

A motion was made by Rudy Cruz, Jr. seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *postpone indefinitely item number forty (40)*.

An amended motion was made by Rudy Cruz, Jr. seconded Cesar Nevarez to *postpone for first meeting of December*. Motion passed.

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

Nays: Ruben Reyes and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Absent:

41. 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*

42. 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

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

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *delete items forty-one (41), forty-two (42), and forty-three (43)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

44. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *adjourn at 9:19 pm*. Motion passed.

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


Nays:

Absent:



Ivy Avalos, Mayor





Olivia Navarro, City Clerk

May 19, 2022
Date minutes were approved