

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
JUNE 2, 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
Carlos Gallinar, PZ Director
Merwan Bhatti, City Attorney (*joined virtually*)

Estevan Gonzales, IT Director
Diana Rodriguez, Recreation Leader
Chief David Burton
Victor Reta, Rec Ctrs. Director
Rosie Escobar, Executive Assistant
Carol Candelaria, HR Director
Louie Chavez, PPW Director
Charles Casiano, Finance Director
Julie Franco, City Auditor
Officer Monarrez

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at: 6:04 pm.

2. NATIONAL ANTHEM AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

National Anthem was sung by Jocelyn Betancourt of the Socorro High School Mariachi Los Gavilanes and pledge of Allegiance led by Escrontrias Kindergarten and Socorro High School Graduating Students.

3. MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR VICTIMS OF MASS SHOOTING IN UVALDE, TEXAS.

ALEJANDRO GARCIA

Moment of Silence.

4. RECOGNITION TO ESCONTRIAS KINDERGARTEN AND SOCORRO HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATING STUDENTS. RUDY CRUZ, JR.

Meredith Guerrero, Elizandro Figueroa and Dario Bustamante from Escontrias Elementary School and Mercedes Vega, Ivan Zarate and David Myers from Socorro High School were recognized for reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. RECOGNITION TO THE SOCORRO HIGH SCHOOL MARIACHI LOS GAVILANES FOR WINNING UIL STATE MARIACHI FESTIVAL FOR THE 2ND YEAR IN A ROW. RUDY CRUZ, JR.

Mariachi Los Gavilanes from Socorro High School were recognized.

6. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

A quorum was established with all council members present.

During this time State Representative Art Fierro and Paul Guerra, Board Member of the Socorro Independent School District were acknowledged.

PUBLIC COMMENT

7. PUBLIC COMENT

Hector Ramos and Paul Guerra spoke during Public Comment.

A motion was made by Cesar Nevarez seconded by Alejandro Garcia *to move up items twenty (20), twenty-two (22), twenty-three (23), twenty-four (24) and twenty-seven (27).* Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

20. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING REDISTRICTING ON PROPOSED DRAFT CHANGES MAP.

ADRIANA RODARTE

Presentation made by Rezzin Pullum.

No action on this item.

22. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF GABRIEL PADILLA TO THE BUILDING AND STANDARDS COMMISSION PLACE 6. MAYOR IVY AVALOS

A motion was made by Cesar Nevarez seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item twenty-two (22)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

23. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF OMAR MARTINEZ TO THE ETHICS COMMISSION PLACE 1.

CESAR NEVAREZ

A motion was made by Cesar Nevarez seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item twenty-three (23)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

24. SWEARING IN OF NEWLY APPOINTED COMMISSIONERS.

During this time Mayor Avalos swore in Omar Martinez to the Ethics Commission.

27. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 700 RECOGNIZING SERENITY RANCH EQUINE & THERAPEUTIC SERVICE FOR THEIR EXCELLENCE ON SERVING OUR COMMUNITY.

RUDY CRUZ, JR.

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:

Absent:

PRESENTATIONS

8. PRESENTATION FROM GERALD GRIJALVA GENERAL MANAGER OF LOWER VALLEY WATER DISTRICT REGARDING PROJECT UPDATES.

RUDY CRUZ, JR.

Presentation made by Gerald Grijalva.

9. PRESENTATION OF MONTHLY MPO UPDATES TO COUNCIL AND SOCORRO RESIDENTS.

RUDY CRUZ, JR.

Monthly presentation made by Rudy Cruz, Jr.

17. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE TO MODIFY AND REDUCE THE SPEED LIMITS FOR ZONES 2 THROUGH 4 OF FM 258 (SOCORRO ROAD) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION. CARLOS GALLINAR

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Rudy Cruz, Jr. 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 OF ORDINANCE 515 AMENDMENT 2 AMENDMENT TO DECREASE EXPENDITURES BY \$31,809.99 FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022.

ADRIANA RODARTE

Public Hearing opened at 8:00

Ruben Reyes stepped out of the meeting at 8:00 pm

No speakers for Public Hearing

Public Hearing closed at 8:01 pm

19. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 515 AMENDMENT 2 AMENDMENT TO DECREASE EXPENDITURES BY \$31,809.99 FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022. ADRIANA RODARTE

ADRIANA RODARTE

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

Ruben Reyes stepped back into the meeting at 8:01 pm

21. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE NAME CHANGE FROM H.O. CONSTRUCTION TO HZ CONSTRUCTION FOR CREATING A CONCRETE FOUNDATION AND ERECT A PREFABRICATED BUILDING FOR MECHANIC SHOP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$49,700.00.

ADRIANA RODARTE

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

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

Nays:

Absent

25. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT PLANNING STAFF TO AMEND ZONING ORDINANCE TO INCLUDE A MIXED-USED ZONING DISTRICT THAT WOULD ALLOW RESIDENTIAL AND NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL USES IN THE SAME LOT. RUDY CRUZ, JR.

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item 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 699 FOR REVIVE MEDICAL, PLLC AS ANOTHER LICENSED EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDER OPERATING IN THE CITY OF SOCORRO. RUDY CRUZ, JR.

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

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

Nays:

Absent

28. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT CITY MANAGER AND OR HER DESIGNATE STAFF TO EXPLORE OTHER CITIES ORDINANCES WHO HAVE RECENTLY UPDATED/CHANGED THEIR MUNICODE REGARDING MOBILE FOOD VENDORS. YVONNE COLON-VILLALOBOS

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

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

Nays:

Absent

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *move into executive session at this time*.

THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:21 PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION AT 8:40 PM

29. 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

30. 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

31. 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 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:

Absent

32. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS V. GUILLERMO GANDARA AND CLAUDIA GANDARA, CAUSE NO. 2019DCV4829 IN THE 34TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS [551.071].

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve the settlement agreement between the City of Socorro and Guillermo Gandara and Claudia Gandara*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent

33. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *adjourn at 8:42 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



June 14, 2022

Date minutes were approved