

Trini López
Mayor
Guillermo Madrid, Jr.
At Large

Maria Reyes
District 1



Gloria M. Rodríguez
District 2

Mary B. García
District 3/Mayor Pro-Tem

Jesús Gandara Jr.
District 4

Willie Norfleet, Jr.
City Manager

**CITY OF SOCORRO
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 4, 2012**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Trini Lopez
Guillermo Madrid, Jr.
Mary B. Garcia
Maria Reyes
Jesús Gandara Jr.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Gloria M. Rodriguez

STAFF PRESENT:

Willie Norfleet, Jr., City Manager
Jerry Wallace, City Attorney
Sandra Hernandez, City Clerk
Sam Leony, Planning & Zoning Director

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

3. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

A roll call was held and a quorum was established with four members present.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Crystal Vasquez, Juan Castaneda, and Joe De Turo addressed the council.

PRESENTATION

- 5. PRESENTATION BY CITY OF EL PASO ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES VECTOR CONTROL.** ***WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.***

Danny Soto, Code Compliance Inspector from the City of El Paso Environmental Services Department, gave a brief presentation of the vector control program and activity in Socorro.

- 14. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPOINTMENT FOR MUNICIPAL PARK COMMISSION ADVISORY BOARD.** ***MARY B. GARCIA***

A motion was made by Mary B. Garcia, seconded by Jesus Gandara Jr. to *delete item #14 and to move items #15-19 after the Consent Agenda.* Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 6. APPROVAL OF REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 2, 2012, AUGUST 16, 2012, SEPTEMBER 4, 2102, SEPTEMBER 11, 2012, AND SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 28, 2012 AND SEPTEMBER 14, 2012.** ***WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.***
- 7. APPROVAL TO WAIVE FEES FOR A CHURCH BAZAAR AT SANTUARIO PENTECOSTES CHURCH LOCATED AT 396 PASSMORE ON NOVEMBER 4, 2012.** ***WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.***

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Jesus Gandara Jr. to *approve the Consent Agenda.* Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

REGULAR AGENDA

- 15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPOINT DANNY GOMEZ TO THE MUNICIPAL PARK COMMISSION.** ***MARY B. GARCIA***
- 16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPOINT MR. JUAN CASTANEDA TO THE MUSEUM COMMISSION.** ***MARY B. GARCIA***

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr., seconded by Mary B. Garcia to *approve items #15 and #16.* Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, and Jesus Gandara Jr. voting aye and Maria Reyes abstained. Motion passed 3-0.

17. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO RE-APPOINT RAFAEL JAUREGUI TO THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS. MARY B. GARCIA

18. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF JORGE PEREZ TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION. MARY B. GARCIA

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr., seconded by Mary B. Garcia to *approve items #17 and #18*. Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, and Jesus Gandara Jr. voting aye and Maria Reyes abstained. Motion passed 3-0.

19. SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED COMMISSIONERS. MARY B. GARCIA

During this time, Danny Gomez, Juan Castaenda, Rafael Jauregui, and Jorge Perez were sworn in to their respective boards/commissions by Mary B. Garcia.

8. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO A NEW RETAIL ELECTRIC RATE PROPOSED BY EL PASO ELECTRIC COMPANY FOR LARGE POWER CUSTOMERS WITHIN THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS AND APPROVING THE PROPOSED NEW RATE SCHEDULE NO. 25A. WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr., seconded by Mary B. Garcia to *approve item #8*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

9. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO ACCEPT GRANT AWARD FROM THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, SECTION 5310, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$58,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A TYPE TWO BUS WHICH WILL SERVICE THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED. FUNDS WILL DEFRAY UP TO 80 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL COST OF A BUS. THE CITY OF SOCORRO WILL PROVIDE ALL VEHICLE MAINTENANCE. WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr., seconded by Guillermo Madrid Jr. to *approve item #9*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr., seconded by Mary B. Garcia to *move item #10 after #24*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

11. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, TEXAS TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM GRANT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$80,000 TO PROVIDE SAFETY AND EDUCATION ACTIVITIES FOR PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLISTS. THE CITY OF SOCORRO WILL COMMIT THE AMOUNT OF \$16,000.

WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr., seconded by Mary B. Garcia to *approve item #11*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

12. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE RENAMING OF PARK LOCATED AT 339 MOON ROAD AS "911 MEMORIAL PARK."

GLORIA M. RODRIGUEZ

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr., seconded by Guillermo Madrid Jr. to *approve item #12*. Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., Mary B. Garcia, and Jesus Gandara Jr. voting aye and Maria Reyes voting nay. Motion passed 3-1.

13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL OF CITY OF SOCORRO FALL ART FESTIVAL FOR NOVEMBER 4, 2012 AND DESIGNATE DISTRICT 2 CITY REPRESENTATIVE AS CITY COUNCIL LIAISON FOR THE EVENT.

GLORIA M. RODRIGUEZ

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr., seconded by Guillermo Madrid Jr. to *approve item #13*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

20. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE APPROVAL OF FUNDS FOR THE 2012 HOLIDAY TREE PURCHASE TO INCLUDE FUEL AND LUNCH. EXPENSE SHOULD NOT EXCEED \$600.00

GUILLERMO MADRID, JR.

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr., seconded by Mary B. Garcia to *approve item #20 and set the limit at \$1,000*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

21. EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS. WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr., seconded by Mary B. Garcia to *approve item #21*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr., seconded by Mary B. Garcia to *move into Executive Session at 6:53 p.m.* Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 4-0.

THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:53 P.M.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED BACK IN SESSION AT 8:14 P.M.

OPEN SESSION

Mayor Trini Lopez departed the building during Executive Session and did not return into open session to discuss item #10.

24. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON ADVICE RECEIVED FROM CITY ATTORNEY IN CLOSED SESSION, APPROVE REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION, AUTHORIZE EMPLOYMENT OF EXPERT WITNESSES AND CONSULTANTS, AND EMPLOYMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL WITH RESPECT TO PENDING MATTERS. *WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.*

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr., seconded by Guillermo Madrid Jr. to authorize the city attorney to employ defensive counsel to advise former City Manager Manny Soto in connection with his official duties for certain provisions of employment contract. The City of Socorro authorizes a reasonable compensation as said defense counsel negotiation recommended by the City Attorney confirmed in writing to the City Manager and City Clerk. Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., and Jesus Gandara Jr. voting aye and Maria Reyes voting nay. Motion passed 2-1.

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr., seconded by Guillermo Madrid Jr. to authorize City Attorney to engage and employ special legal counsel to consult with Socorro employee Armando Mapula said special legal counsel is to provide legal advice regarding official actions and allegations related to the administration of the Socorro Public Works Department and other actions while on official business or engaged in official actions for the City of Socorro, and to authorize payment of reasonable fees and expenses in connection therewith as negotiated by the City Attorney. In support of this action, I further move that the City Council specifically find that: 1. Expenditures for legal representation as authorized herein in the City's best interest; 2. These incidents for which representation is authorized herein arose out of actions that were undertaken in good faith and scope of performance of official duties and in the course and scope of the individual's duties to the City of Socorro. Motion carried with Guillermo Madrid, Jr., and Jesus Gandara Jr. voting aye and Maria Reyes voting nay. Motion passed 2-1.

10. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF SOCORRO TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$170,000 TO RECONSTRUCT LA POBLANA STREET AND COMMIT A CASH CONTRIBUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,500 AS MATCH FOR THE PROJECT. *WILLIE NORFLEET, JR.*

A motion was made by Jesus Gandara, Jr., seconded by Guillermo Madrid Jr. to *approve item #10*. Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 3-0.

25. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Maria Reyes, seconded by Jesus Gandara, Jr. to *adjourn at 8:14 p.m.* Motion carried unanimously. Motion passed 3-0.



Mary B. Garcia, Mayor Pro-Tem



Sandra Hernandez, City Clerk

10-18-2012

Date when minutes were approved