

Ivy Avalos
Mayor

Ruben Reyes
At Large

Cesar Nevarez
District 1



Alejandro Garcia
District 2 / Mayor Pro Tem

Rudy Cruz, Jr.
District 3

Yvonne Colon-Villalobos
District 4

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 7, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ivy Avalos
Ruben Reyes
Cesar Nevarez
Alejandro Garcia
Rudy Cruz, Jr.
Yvonne Colon-Villalobos (*joined virtually*)

STAFF PRESENT:

Adriana Rodarte, City Manager
Olivia Navarro, City Clerk
Lorraine Quimiro, City Planner
Jim Martinez, City Attorney

Estevan Gonzales, IT Director
Victor Reta, Recreation Centers Director
Charles Casiano, Finance Director
Alejandra Valadez, City Development Coordinator
Chief Robert C. Rojas

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence led by Hueco Elementary School and City of Socorro Intern Jose Alcala.

Allie Aranda, Dave Aranda, Nathan Aranda, Zoe Barrera, Danna Bermudez, Joaquin Duarte, Hailey Escobar, Gael Gallardo, Adilene Garcia, Victor Gonzalez, Christopher Granillo, Anthony Lopez, Milan Molinar, Andrew Morales, Isaac Moreno, Zachary Obptande, Aaron Sosa, Diego Sosa and Intern Jose Alcala.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Adriana Rodarte.

3. Establishment of Quorum

Quorum was established with all council members present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

4. PUBLIC COMENT

Ricardo Nava was signed up to but did not respond.

Margie Perez spoke during Public Comment.

PRESENTATION

**5. *MOMENT OF SILENCE* AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 776 TO
HONOR THE LIFE OF SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR, FIRST WOMAN ON
SUPREME COURT. *MAYOR IVY AVALOS***

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item five (5)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

**6. *PRESENTATION OF APPRECIATION TO 2023 WINTERFEST EVENT
PARTNERS. VICTOR RETA***

Telemundo, Anthony Christmas, General Sales Manager at Bravo Cadillac and Socorro High School Culinary Program were recognized.

Cesar Nevarez stepped out of the meeting at 6:24 pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

7. *EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS. OLIVIA NAVARRO*

**8. *APPROVAL OF REGULAR COUNCIL MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 16, 2023.
OLIVIA NAVARRO***

9. *APPROVAL OF OCTOBER'S MONTHLY REPORT. ADRIANA RODARTE*

**10. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING OCTOBER 2023 UNAUDITED
FINANCIAL REPORT. CHARLES CASIANO***

**11. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING OCTOBER 2023 CASH
RECEIPTS REPORT. CHARLES CASIANO***

**12. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING OCTOBER 2023 ACCOUNTS
PAYABLE REPORT. CHARLES CASIANO**

**13. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC
HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE FOR REQUEST OF THE PROPOSED
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW A COMMUNICATIONS
TOWER IN AN SU-1 (SPECIAL USE) ZONING DISTRICT AT 11400
SOCORRO RD., BEING LOT 1, BLOCK 1, A REPLAT OF TRACT 19-E,
BLOCK 27, SOCORRO GRANT, SOCORRO, TX. LORRINE QUIMIRO**

**14. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC
HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY AND
FINAL PLAT FOR ROCHA SUBDIVISION BEING ALL OF TRACTS 12B,
12C AND A PORTION OF TRACTS 13B AND 13E, BLOCK 7, SOCORRO
GRANT, SOCORRO, TEXAS. LORRINE QUIMIRO**

**15. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC
HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY PLAT
FOR HORIZONE SUBDIVISION BEING A PORTION OF TRACT 24E,
BLOCK 9, SOCORRO GRANT, SOCORRO, TEXAS. LORRINE QUIMIRO**

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve the
Consent Agenda*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

**REGULAR AGENDA
PUBLIC HEARING/ORDINANCE**

**16. PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE TO ALLOW FOR THE
PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S MASTER
PLAN AND REZONING OF LOT 1, BLOCK 1, BAUMAN ESTATES
LOCATED AT 597 BARNHART DRIVE, SOCORRO, TEXAS FROM R-1
(SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO R-2 (MEDIUM DENSITY
RESIDENTIAL) TO ALLOW A DUPLEX. LORRINE QUIMIRO**

Public Hearing opened at 6:26 pm
No Speakers for Public Hearing
Public Hearing closed at 6:27 pm

17. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE TO ALLOW FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S MASTER PLAN AND REZONING OF LOT 1, BLOCK 1, BAUMAN ESTATES LOCATED AT 597 BARNHART DRIVE, SOCORRO, TEXAS FROM R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO R-2 (MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) TO ALLOW A DUPLEX. *LORRINE QUIMIRO*

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve item seventeen (17)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

GRANTS DEPARTMENT

18. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE UPDATES TO FOREIGN TRADE ZONE (FTZ) NO. 302 ZONE SCHEDULE. *ALEJANDRA VALADEZ*

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve item eighteen (18)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

POLICE DEPARTMENT

19. DISCUSSION AND ACTION AND RATIFICATION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE THIRTY-FIVE (35) RIFLE RESISTANT BODY ARMOR KITS WITH LEVEL III PLATES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$33,580.00 OBTAINED FROM A GRANT THROUGH THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE DEPARTMENT WITH NO MATCH. *CHIEF ROBERT C. ROJAS*

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve item number nineteen (19)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

20. DISCUSSION AND ACTION AND RATIFICATION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE THIRTY (30) HAND-HELD PORTABLE HARRIS POLICE RADIOS OBTAINED THROUGH A GRANT FROM THE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$131,605.42 WITH NO MATCH.
CHIEF ROBERT C. ROJAS

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve item number twenty (20)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

21. DISCUSSION AND ACTION AND RATIFICATION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE EIGHT (8) 2023 FORD INTERCEPTORS FROM DON CHALMERS FORD WITH ALL NECESSARY RADIO, LIGHTS AND SIRENS NEEDED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$544,781.37.
CHIEF ROBERT C. ROJAS

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

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

22. DISCUSSION AND ACTION APPROVING THE AMENDED 506A OVERTIME UNIFORMED EMPLOYEE POLICY.
CHIEF ROBERT C. ROJAS

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve item number twenty-two (22)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

23. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO ADOPT AMENDED FIREWORKS SALES APPLICATION FOR THE PROCESSING OF FIREWORK SALES PERMITS.
LORRINE QUIMIRO

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

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

CITY MANAGER

24. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE ENGAGEMENT OF SBNG CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS TO PERFORM AUDIT AND RELATED SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022 – 2023 AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER OR HER DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR SAME. *ADRIANA RODARTE*

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve item twenty-four (24)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

25. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPOINTING A NEW MAYOR PRO TEM PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.03 OF THE SOCORRO CITY CHARTER. *ADRIANA RODARTE*

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve item twenty-five (25)*.

An amended motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *appoint Rudy Cruz, Jr. as new Mayor ProTem*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

26. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPOINT CHIEF OF POLICE, ROBERT C. ROJAS TO THE 911 DISTRICT BOARD. *ADRIANA RODARTE*

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

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

27. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO CANCEL REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING FOR JANUARY 18, 2024, AND RESCHEDULE FOR A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING ON JANUARY 25, 2024.
ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve item twenty-seven (27)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

28. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE PARTNERSHIP WITH 2ND CHANCE 4 KIDS, INC. FOR THE EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA EVENT.
RUDY CRUZ, JR.

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

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

29. DISCUSSION AND ACTION AND RATIFICATION ON APPROVAL OF THE NALEO ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEE OF \$100 PER MEMBER. DURING THE NOVEMBER 16-17, 2023, TRIP TO NEWPORT BEACH. CA. NALEO PROVIDE FREE OF CHARGE, TRAVEL AND LODGING FOR ALL MEMBERS. HOWEVER, IT DID NOT INCLUDE THE MEMBERSHIP FEE. ATTENDEES WERE MAYOR IVY AVALOS AND DISTRICT 4 YVONNE COLON-VILLALOBOS.
YVONNE COLON-VILLALOBOS

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

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *move into Executive Session*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:54 PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION

THE CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION AT 7:15 PM

30. 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

31. 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

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

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *delete items thirty (30), thirty-one (31) and thirty-two (32)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

33. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING PETITION TO RELEASE REAL PROPERTY FROM THE EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS [551.071 AND 551.072]. JAMES A. MARTINEZ

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes *to propose not to take action and delete*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

Cesar Nevarez returned to the meeting at 7:16 pm.

34. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING RESULTS OF RESEARCH INTO PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR CITY OF SOCORRO TO ACQUIRE CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY [551.071 AND 551.072].

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes *to delete item thirty-four (34)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

35. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes *to adjourn at 7:17 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



January 4, 2024
Date minutes were approved