

**Ivy Avalos**  
Mayor

**Ruben Reyes**  
At Large

**Cesar Nevarez**  
District 1/



**Alejandro Garcia**  
District 2

**Rudy Cruz, Jr.**  
District 3 Mayor Pro Tem

**Yvonne Colon-Villalobos**  
District 4

## **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 15, 2024 @ 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  
Victor Perez, Deputy City Manager  
Olivia Navarro, City Clerk  
Lorraine Quimiro, City Planner  
Jim Martinez, City Attorney  
  
Estevan Gonzales, IT Director  
Carol Candelaria, HR Director  
Victor Reta, Recreation Centers Director  
Charles Casiano, Finance Director  
Alejandra Valadez, City Development Director  
Officer Dante Hinojos

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at: 6:11 pm.

### **2. Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence**

Pledge of Allegiance led by Socorro High School Students, Javier Robles and Adrian Martinez, Jr.

### **3. Establishment of Quorum**

Quorum was established with all council members present.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Miriam Cruz spoke during Public Comment.

A motion was made by Rudy Cruz, Jr., seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *move up items eighteen (18) and nineteen (19)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

**18. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE AND SUPPORT TO DEVELOP A SPORTS PARK (DBAT) FACILITY THAT ATTRACTS AND PROMOTES THE BASEBALL/SOFTBALL COMMUNITY IN EL PASO COUNTY BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL ACADEMIES. ALEJANDRO GARCIA**

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

Manny Medina, DBat and Miriam Cruz spoke on this item.

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

Nays:

Absent:

**19. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 787 DECLARING ESCONTRIAS STEAM ACADEMY'S CENTENNIAL LEGACY ANNIVERSARY IN THE YEAR 2024. RUDY CRUZ, JR.**

A motion was made by Cesar Nevarez seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *approve item nineteen (19)*. Motion passed.

The Escontrias family was present to receive the Resolution along with School Principal Mr. Aguirre.

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

Nays:

Absent:

**PRESENTATION**

5. **PROCLAMATION TO RECOGNIZE FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup> AS TEXAS GOVERNMENT COMMUNICATORS DAY.** ***VICTOR RETA***

Proclamation read by Mayor Avalos.

6. **PRESENTATION ON SOCORRO ATHLETIC CLUB, SOCORRO DEVELOPMENTAL LEAGUE.** ***ALEJANDRO GARCIA***

Presentation made.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

7. **EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS.** ***OLIVIA NAVARRO***
8. **APPROVAL OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 25, 2024, AND REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 1, 2024.** ***OLIVIA NAVARRO***

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez 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 HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES**

9. **PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE REQUESTED BY THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO REDUCE THE SPEED LIMIT ON SH20 (ALAMEDA AVENUE) FROM 55 MPH TO 45 MPH WITHIN THE CITY OF SOCORRO LIMITS.** ***LORRINE QUIMIRO***

Public Hearing opened at 6:45

Public Hearing

Public Hearing closed at 6:46 pm

10. **SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE REQUESTED BY TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO REDUCE THE SPEED LIMIT ON SH20 (ALAMEDA AVENUE) FROM 55 MPH TO 45 MPH WITHIN THE CITY OF SOCORRO LIMITS.** ***LORRINE QUIMIRO***

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item number ten (10)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

**11. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING THE JOB DESCRIPTION FOR TRANSIT COORDINATOR.* *CAROL CANDELARIA***

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item number eleven (11)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

**12. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 785 AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SOCORRO TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR'S FY 2023 OPERATION STONEGARDEN (OPSG) TO FUND OVERTIME FOR OFFICERS SUPPORTING THE BORDER INITIATIVE. THERE IS NO MATCH REQUIREMENT FOR THIS GRANT.* *ALEJANDRA VALADEZ***

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item number twelve (12)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

**13. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO RATIFY A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE MISSION TRAIL ALLIANCE'S APPLICATION FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE'S RIVERS, TRAILS, AND CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE (RTCA) PROGRAM.* *ALEJANDRA VALADEZ***

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item number thirteen (13)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

**14. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO RATIFY A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR PROJECT VIDA'S EXPANSION OF THE MICROENTERPRISE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (MTAP) GRANT APPLICATION FOR EL PASO COUNTY AND UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF EL PASO COUNTY, TX.**  
**ALEJANDRA VALADEZ**

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item number fourteen (14)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

**15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER NUMBER 6 FOR THE PASSMORE SHARED USE PATH PROJECT (CSJ: 0924-06-604) UNDER CONTRACT NO. 22-07-01 WITH HUITT-ZOLLARS, INC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,628.00 PENDING CONCURRENCE FROM TXDOT.**  
**ALEJANDRA VALADEZ**

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item fifteen (15)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

**16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 786 AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF THREE (3) GRANT APPLICATIONS TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S (USDOT) FY 2024 REBUILDING AMERICAN INFRASTRUCTURE WITH SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUITY (RAISE) GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS: RIO VISTA ROAD COMPLETE STREETS PROJECT, MOON ROAD COMPLETE STREETS PROJECT, AND 4-D TIGUA SPUR PASO DEL NORTE TRAIL PLANNING AND DESIGN PROJECT. THERE IS NO MATCH REQUIREMENT FOR THESE GRANT APPLICATIONS.**  
**ALEJANDRA VALADEZ**

A motion was made by Cesar Nevarez seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *approve item number sixteen (16)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

**17. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST OF \$5,000.00 FOR THE NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK UNVEILING EVENT TO BE HELD ON MAY 11, 2024. *VICTOR RETA***

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

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

Nays:

Absent:

**20. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO PROVIDE A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE EL PASO CENTER FOR CHILDREN'S FY25 APPLICATION FOR THE FATHERHOOD: EDUCATING FATHERS FOR EMPOWERING CHILDREN TOMORROW (EFFECT) PROGRAM. *RUDY CRUZ, JR.***

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

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

Nays:

Absent:

**21. 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***

**22. 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***

**23. 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-one (21), twenty-two (22) and twenty-three (23)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

## **24. *ADJOURN***

A motion was made Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *adjourn at 7:04 pm.*

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

Nays:

Absent:

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**Ivy Avalos, Mayor**

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Olivia Navarro, City Clerk

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Date minutes were approved