

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 NOVEMBER 2, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Cesar Nevarez

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
Jason Stanzione, Deputy Chief
Lt. Eddie Smith

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at: 6:06 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance led by Ms. Buendia of Socorro High School.

3. Establishment of Quorum

Quorum was established with five council members present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

4. PUBLIC COMENT

Albert Ortiz spoke to during Public Comment.

5. EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS.

OLIVIA NAVARRO

6. APPROVAL OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MINUTES OF OCTOBER 16, 2023.

OLIVIA NAVARRO

**7. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING SEPTEMBER 2023
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT.**

CHARLES CASIANO

**8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING SEPTEMBER 2023 CASH
RECEIPTS REPORT.**

CHARLES CASIANO

**9. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING SEPTEMBER 2023
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REPORT.**

CHARLES CASIANO

10. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER MONTHLY REPORT. ADRIANA RODARTE

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

**11. PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY
AND FINAL PLAT FOR VALLEY QUAIL ESTATES BEING A PORTION
OF TRACT 11A, BLOCK 19, SAN ELIZARIO GRANT, EL PASO COUNTY,
TEXAS.**

LORRINE QUIMIRO

Public Hearing opened at 6:11 pm

No Speakers for Public Hearing

Public Hearing closed at 6:11 pm

**12. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE APPROVING
THE PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PLAT FOR VALLEY QUAIL ESTATES
BEING A PORTION OF TRACT 11A, BLOCK 19, SAN ELIZARIO GRANT,
EL PASO COUNTY, TEXAS.**

LORRINE QUIMIRO

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

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

13. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING THE JOB DESCRIPTION FOR PROGRAM OFFICER COMPLIANCE SPECIALIST. CAROL CANDELARIA*

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item number thirteen (13)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

POLICE DEPARTMENT

14. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO THE SOCORRO POLICE DEPARTMENT: POLICY 4.6 OFF-DUTY EMPLOYMENT. LT. EDDIE SMITH*

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve item fourteen (14)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

15. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE AN EVENT PERMIT FOR A ROSARY TO THE VIRGEN OF GUADALUPE AT 10628 SHADEY VALLEY ON DECEMBER 9, 2023, FROM 8:00 AM TO 8:00 PM. LORRINE QUIMIRO*

A motion was made by Ruben Reyes seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *approve item number fifteen (15)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE EVENT PERMIT AND PAYMENT WAIVER REQUEST FOR HUECO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S VETERANS DAY PARADE ON NOVEMBER 9, 2023. LORRINE QUIMIRO

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

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

CITY MANAGER

17. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE MAYOR AND ANY OTHER COUNCIL MEMBER WHO WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THE 92ND WINTER MEETING / JANUARY 17-19, 2024, WASHINGTON, D.C., FOR THE US CONFERENCE OF MAYOR. ADRIANA RODARTE

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

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

18. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION AND STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION TO HIRE A CHIEF OF POLICE FOR THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS. ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve city staff's recommendation to hire Robert C. Rojas for item number eighteen (18)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

19. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO RENEW AND RATIFY STATE LEGISLATIVE LOBBYING SERVICES TO FORMA GROUP, LLC TO PROVIDE A VALUED APPROACH AND CONTINUED REPRESENTATION FOR THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION AND AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER OR HER DESIGNEE TO SIGN CONTRACT. ADRIANA RODARTE

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

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

20. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON CALLING A REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING FOR DECEMBER PURSUANT TO SECTION 3.07 OF THE SOCORRO CITY CHARTER.* ***ADRIANA RODARTE***

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

An amended motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Rudy Cruz Jr., to *call December 14, 2023 as the Regular City Council Meeting date for December.*

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

An amended motion was made by Rudy Cruz, Jr., seconded by Ruben Reyes to *call December 7, 2023 as the Regular City Council Meeting date for December.* Motion passed.

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

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

21. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE CREATION AND ADOPTION OF THE "SHOPPING DISTRICT" ON NUEVO HUECO ROAD IN SOCORRO, TEXAS. IN ADDITION, ADDING THIS TO THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.* ***RUDY CRUZ, JR.***

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 TO PROHIBIT AND BAN FROM THIS DAY FORWARD NEW HEAD SHOP OR SMOKE SHOP ESTABLISHMENTS. TO INCLUDE ANY RETAIL OUTLET SPECIALIZING IN PARAPHERNALIA USED FOR CONSUMPTION OF CANNABIS AND TOBACCO AND ITEMS RELATED TO CANNABIS CULTURE AND RELATED COUNTERCULTURES. (VAPE SHOPS, SMOKE SHOPS ETC.)* ***RUDY CRUZ, JR.***

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

An amended motion was made by Rudy Cruz, Jr., seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *direct staff to look into stricter restrictions for the establishment of businesses and retail outlet specializing in paraphernalia and consumption of cannabis, tobacco and related items such as vape shops*. Motion passed.

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

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

23. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE FOR MAYOR IVY AVALOS AND COUNCILWOMAN YVONNE COLON-VILLALOBOS TO ATTEND THE NALEO INSTITUTE ON HEALTH: CREATING PATHWAYS TOWARD LATINO WELL BEING EVENT ON NOVEMBER 16 AND 17, 2023 IN NEWPORT BEACH, CA. YVONNE COLON-VILLALOBOS

A motion was made by Rudy Cruz, Jr., seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *approve item number twenty-three (23)*. 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 Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *move into Executive Session at this time*. Motion passed.

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

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:48 PM

EXECUTIVE SESSION

CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION AT 7:29 PM

24. 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

25. 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

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

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *delete items twenty-four (24), twenty-five (25) and 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 AND UPDATE REGARDING PERSONNEL MATTERS AT SOCORRO POLICE DEPARTMENT [551.071 AND 551,074]

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *approve the city manager's recommendation as discussed in closed session.*

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

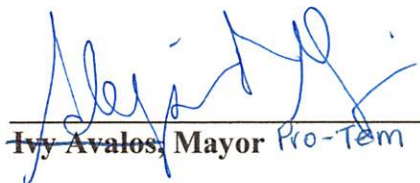
ADJOURN

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Yvonne Colon-Villalobos to *adjourn at 7:31 pm.*

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez


Ivy Avalos, Mayor Pro-Tem




Olivia Navarro, City Clerk


Date minutes were approved