

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 SEPTEMBER 5, 2024 @ 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
Victor Perez, Deputy City Manager
Olivia Navarro, City Clerk
Jim Martinez, City Attorney

Jose Botello, City Planner
Estevan Gonzales, IT Director
Robert Rojas, Police Chief
Alejandra Valadez, City Development Coordinator (*joined virtually*)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at: 6:05 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Establishment of Quorum

Quorum was established with all council members present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

4. PUBLIC COMENT

No speakers during Public Comment.

PRESENTATIONS

5. ***PROCLAMATION TO RECOGNIZE THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER AS THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S SUICIDE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH.*** ***VICTOR RETA***

Isidro Torres from Nami National Alliance on Mental Illness spoke on this item.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. ***EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS.*** ***OLIVIA NAVARRO***
7. ***APPROVAL OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 15, 2024.*** ***OLIVIA NAVARRO***
8. ***APPROVAL OF JULY DEPARTMENTS MONTHLY REPORT.*** ***ADRIANA RODARTE***
9. ***INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF PROPERTY TAXES WITHIN THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE EL PASO CITY TAX OFFICE TO PERFORM THE ACTUAL ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF SAID PROPERTY TAXES ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING ON OCTOBER 1, 2024 AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2025.*** ***ADRIANA RODARTE***
10. ***INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2024 AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2025.*** ***ADRIANA RODARTE***
11. ***INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON AND ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS ADOPTING THE AMENDED ORGANIZATIONAL CHART FOR THE CITY OF SOCORRO.*** ***ADRIANA RODARTE***
12. ***INTRODUCTION FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE # 578 AMENDMENT # 3 AMENDMENT TO INCREASE REVENUE OF \$461,000.00 AND DECREASE EXPENDITURES BY \$8,506.00 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024.*** ***ADRIANA RODARTE***

- 13. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S MASTER PLAN AND REZONING OF LOT 12, BLOCK 2, GRIJALVA GARDENS SUBDIVISION, LOCATED AT 793 GRIJALVA DR., SOCORRO, TEXAS FROM R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO R-2 (MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) TO ALLOW FOR A DUPLEX.**

LORRINE QUIMIRO

- 14. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S MASTER PLAN AND REZONING OF TRACT 16-A, TRACT 16-B, TRACT 16-C AND TRACT 16-D, BLOCK 7, SOCORRO GRANT, LOCATED AT 9977 AND 9987 ALAMEDA AVE., SOCORRO, TX FROM R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) AND C-1 (LIGHT COMMERCIAL) TO C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) TO ALLOW FOR A PARKING LOT AND FUTURE SHOPPING CENTER.**

LORRINE QUIMIRO

- 15. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO ALLOW FOR A PADDLE BALL/TENNIS FACILITY IN A C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) ZONING DISTRICT ON LOT 1, BLOCK 16, EASTLAKE VALLEY UNIT TWO SUBDIVISION, LOCATED AT 10081 JUDGE COLDWELL DR., SOCORRO, TEXAS.**

LORRINE QUIMIRO

- 16. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S MASTER PLAN AND REZONING OF LOT 14, BLOCK 8, ALAMEDA ESTATES REPLAT SUBDIVISION, LOCATED AT 10368 POTENCIA DR., SOCORRO, TEXAS FROM R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO R-2 (MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) TO ALLOW FOR A MULTI-FAMILY DWELLING.**

LORRINE QUIMIRO

- 17. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S MASTER PLAN AND REZONING OF LOT 12, BLOCK 1, MARY LOU PARK SUBDIVISION, LOCATED AT 10745 LYDIA RD., SOCORRO, TEXAS FROM R-1 (SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO C-2 (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) TO ALLOW FOR A COMMERCIAL OFFICE.**

LORRINE QUIMIRO

Floor amendment for item number nine (9) to the Ordinance.

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez for item number nine (9). *"The Tax Rate will effectively be raised by (2.6836%) percent and will raise taxes for Maintenance and Operations on a \$100,000 home by approximately \$(14.66)".* 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 *approve the Consent Agenda with the exception of item nine (9)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

REGULAR AGENDA
PUBLIC HEARING/ORDINANCES

- 18. PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PLAT FOR NIT SUBDIVISION, BEING TRACTS 11-B-1, 11-B-3, ROBERT E. NIX SURVEY NO. 302, SOCORRO, TEXAS AND VARIANCE REQUESTS FOR A 50' - 0" MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE BUILDING HEIGHT AND REDUCED PARKING SPACE REQUIREMENTS OF 1 SPACE PER 400 S.F. OF NET LEASABLE OFFICE SPACE AND 1 SPACE PER 5,000 S.F. OF NET LEASEABLE WAREHOUSE AREA.** *LORRINE QUIMIRO*

Public Hearing opened at 6:10 pm

No Speakers for Public Hearing

Public Hearing closed at 6:11

- 19. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PLAT FOR NIT SUBDIVISION, BEING TRACTS 11-B-1, 11-B-3, ROBERT E. NIX SURVEY NO. 302, SOCORRO, TEXAS AND VARIANCE REQUESTS FOR A 50' - 0" MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE BUILDING HEIGHT AND REDUCED PARKING SPACE REQUIREMENTS OF 1 SPACE PER 400 S.F. OF NET LEASABLE OFFICE SPACE AND 1 SPACE PER 5,000 S.F. OF NET LEASEABLE WAREHOUSE AREA.** *LORRINE QUIMIRO*

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

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

Nays:

Absent:

20. PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE MASTER PLAN FOR NIT INDUSTRIAL BEING TRACTS 11-B-1, 11-B-3, ROBERT E. NIX SURVEY NO. 302, SOCORRO, TEXAS. LORRINE QUIMIRO

Public Hearing opened at 6:18 pm

No Speakers

Public Hearing closed at 6:19 pm

21. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE MASTER PLAN FOR NIT INDUSTRIAL BEING TRACTS 11-B-1, 11-B-3, ROBERT E. NIX SURVEY NO. 302, SOCORRO, TEXAS.

LORRINE QUIMIRO

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

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

Nays:

Absent:

22. PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S MASTER PLAN AND REZONING OF ALL OF TRACTS 1-D-1, 1-D-2, 4-A, 4-A-2-A, 4-B AND 5-A, BLOCK 6, SOCORRO GRANT, LOCATED SOUTHEAST OF INGLEWOOD DRIVE AND NEVAREZ ROAD, SOCORRO, TEXAS, FROM A-1 (AGRICULTURAL) TO IC-MUD (INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENTS) WITH A VARIANCE REQUEST TO ALLOW AN IC-MUD ZONING DISTRICT LESS THAN THE REQUIRED 10 ACRES FOR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT. LORRINE QUIMIRO

Public Hearing opened at 6:22 pm

No Speakers

Public Hearing closed at 6:23 pm

23. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S MASTER PLAN AND REZONING OF ALL OF TRACTS 1-D-1, 1-D-2, 4-A, 4-A-2-A, 4-B AND 5-A, BLOCK 6, SOCORRO GRANT, LOCATED SOUTHEAST OF INGLEWOOD DRIVE AND NEVAREZ ROAD, SOCORRO, TEXAS, FROM A-1 (AGRICULTURAL) TO IC-MUD (INDUSTRIAL COMMERCIAL MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENTS) WITH A VARIANCE REQUEST TO ALLOW AN IC-MUD ZONING DISTRICT LESS THAN THE REQUIRED 10 ACRES FOR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT. LORRINE QUIMIRO

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *deny item twenty-three (23)*. Motion passed.

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

24. PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A REPLAT FOR HORIZON PARK UNIT ONE REPLAT "A", BEING A REPLAT OF LOT 3, BLOCK 1, HORIZON PARK UNIT ONE, SOCORRO, TEXAS.

LORRINE QUIMIRO

Public Hearing opened at 6:57 pm
No Speakers
Public Hearing closed at 6:58 pm

25. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A REPLAT FOR HORIZON PARK UNIT ONE REPLAT "A", BEING A REPLAT OF LOT 3, BLOCK 1, HORIZON PARK UNIT ONE, SOCORRO, TEXAS.

LORRINE QUIMIRO

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:

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *move up item thirty-seven (37)*. Motion passed.

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

37. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2023, ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT BY SBNG CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS.

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item thirty-seven (37)*. Motion passed.

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

GRANTS DEPARTMENT

- 26. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO AUTHORIZE THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE EL PASO METROPOLITAN ORGANIZATION (EPMPO) FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION'S FFY 2024 AND FFY 2025 SECTION 5310 PROGRAM TO OFFSET THE COSTS OF HIRING PERSONNEL AND PROCURING ONE (1) ADA VEHICLE. THE CITY'S REQUIRED TOTAL MATCH CONTRIBUTION FOR FFY 2024 AND FFY 2025 IS UP TO \$96,353.71. ALEJANDRA VALADEZ**

Alejandro Garcia stepped out of the meeting at 7:38 pm

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

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

Nays:

Absent: Alejandro Garcia

Alejandro Garcia returned to the meeting at 7:40 pm

- 27. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 800 AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE EL PASO METROPOLITAN ORGANIZATION (EPMPO) FY 2026-2028 TASA PROJECT CALL FOR THE SOCORRO SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOLS PROJECT. THE CITY'S REQUIRED TOTAL MATCH CONTRIBUTION IS UP TO \$764,739.00. ALEJANDRA VALADEZ**

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

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

Nays:

Absent:

Cesar Nevarez stepped out of the meeting at 7:46 pm

- 28. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 801 AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE EL PASO METROPOLITAN ORGANIZATION (EPMPO) FY 2026-2028 TASA PROJECT CALL FOR THE SOCORRO ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN. THE CITY'S REQUIRED TOTAL MATCH CONTRIBUTION IS UP TO \$57,500.00. ALEJANDRA VALADEZ**

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

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

A motion was made by Ruben Reyes seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *take a ten (10) minute recess*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO A RECESS AT 7:49 PM

RECESS

THE CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION AT 8:03 PM

POLICE DEPARTMENT

29. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* ON APPROVAL FOR THE DONATION AND TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF A CANINE FROM U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION TO THE SOCORRO POLICE DEPARTMENT.

CHIEF ROBERT ROJAS

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

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

Nays:

Absent:

30. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* TO APPROVE AND REQUEST PERMISSION FOR THE CITY MANAGER AND THE CHIEF OF POLICE TO SIGN THE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL (MCA) AGREEMENT WITH TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI) FOR THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEMS.

CHIEF ROBERT ROJAS

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item thirty (30)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

31. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN THE TEXAS JOINT COUNTERDRUG TASK FORCE AND THE SOCORRO POLICE DEPARTMENT.*
CHIEF ROBERT ROJAS

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve item thirty-one (31)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

32. *PUBLIC HEARING ON WRITTEN CHARGE TO REMOVE RODRIGO ARRAS FROM THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS PLACE 2 OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS.*
LORRINE QUIMIRO

Public Hearing opened at 8:13 pm

No Speakers

Public Hearing closed at 8:14 pm

33. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON APPROVAL TO REMOVE RODRIGO ARRAS FROM THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS PLACE 2 OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS.*
LORRINE QUIMIRO

A motion was made by Cesar Nevarez seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *approve item thirty-three (33)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

CITY MANAGER

34. *PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING TAX RATE CALCULATIONS, REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024.*

ADRIANA RODARTE

No action on this item.

35. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO ANNOUNCE THE DATE ON WHICH CITY COUNCIL WILL TAKE FINAL ACTION THE TAX RATE AND ON THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET. ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve September 12, 2024 as the date to adopt the Tax Rate and Municipal Budget.* Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

36. PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND APPROVE RESOLUTION 802 PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 5.08 AND 5.09 OF THE SOCORRO CITY CHARTER. ADRIANA RODARTE

Public Hearing opened at 8:18 pm

No Speakers

Public Hearing closed at 8:19 pm

MAYOR AND COUNCIL

38. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO DIRECT STAFF TO AMEND ORDINANCE 76 CHAPTER 46 SECTION 46-628 PARKING AND STORAGE OF CERTAIN VEHICLES. RUDY CRUZ, JR.

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *approve and to include prohibition of parking and storage of inoperable/abandoned vehicles including C1 and C2 zoning.*

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

Nays:

Absent:

39. 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

40. 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

41. 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 thirty-nine (39), forty (40) and forty-one (41)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent:

39. ADJOURN

A motion was made Alejandro Garcia seconded by Cesar Nevarez to *adjourn at 8:24 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





Date minutes were approved