

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

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 12, 2024 @ 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
Victor Perez, Deputy City Manager
Olivia Navarro, City Clerk
Jim Martinez, City Attorney (*joined virtually*)

Estevan Gonzales, IT Director
Victor Reta Recreation Ctrs. Director
Carol Candelaria, HR Director
Alejandra Valadez, City Development Coordinator (*joined virtually*)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at: 6:09 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Establishment of Quorum

Quorum was established with five council members present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

4. PUBLIC COMENT

No speakers during Public Comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS.

OLIVIA NAVARRO

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 HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES

6. PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2024, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2025.

ADRIANA RODARTE

Public Hearing opened at 6:10 pm

No Speakers

Public Hearing closed at 6:11 pm

7. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION ON AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2024, AND ENDING ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2025.

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve item seven (7)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO RATIFY THE TAX INCREASE SET FORTH IN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF SOCORRO.

ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve item eight (8)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

- 9. 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

Public Hearing opened at 6:15 pm

No Speakers

Public Hearing closed at 6:15 pm

- 10. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF 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

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of 0.666900 per \$100,00 which is effectively a 2.6836 percent increase in the tax rate.*

Ayes: Ruben Reyes and Alejandro Garcia and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays: Rudy Cruz, Jr.

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

Mayor Avalos broke the tie by voting nay.

An amended motion was made by Rudy Cruz, Jr., to *approve the No New Revenue.*

Motion died, no second.

An amended motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of 0.666900 per \$100,00 which is effectively a 2.6836 percent increase in the tax rate.*

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Alejandro Garcia, Mayor Ivy Avalos and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Absent Cesar Nevarez

Jim Martinez corrected the council and stated that Mayor Avalos should not vote for this item and the vote fails because it should be 60% of body, which would be four (4) voting members.

A motion was made by Ruben Reyes seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *approve that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of 0.666900 per \$100,00 which is effectively a 2.6836 percent increase in the tax rate.* Motion failed

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Alejandro Garcia and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays: Rudy Cruz, Jr.

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

A motion was made by Rudy Cruz, Jr., seconded by Ruben Reyes 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 TEN (10) MINUTE RECESS

RECESS

THE CITY COUNCIL RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION AT 7:03 PM

Cesar Nevarez virtually joined the meeting.

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of 0.666900 per \$100,00 which is effectively a 2.6836 percent increase in the tax rate.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez Alejandro Garcia and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays: Rudy Cruz, Jr.

Absent:

Cesar Nevarez left the meeting at 7:04 pm.

11. PUBLIC HEARING ON AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS ADOPTING THE AMENDED ORGANIZATIONAL CHART FOR THE CITY OF SOCORRO. ADRIANA RODARTE

Public Hearing opened at 7:04 pm

No Speakers

Public Hearing closed at 7:04 pm

12. SECOND READING AND ADOPTION ON AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS ADOPTING THE AMENDED ORGANIZATIONAL CHART FOR THE CITY OF SOCORRO. ADRIANA RODARTE

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

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Alejandro Garcia, Mayor Ivy Avalos and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Absent Cesar Nevarez

REGULAR AGENDA

13. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 802 REGARDING THE FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM PURSUANT TO SECTION 5.08 AND 5.09 OF THE SOCORRO CHARTER. ADRIANA RODARTE

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *approve item thirteen (13)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Alejandro Garcia, Mayor Ivy Avalos and Yvonne Colon-Villalobos

Nays:

Absent Cesar Nevarez

14. 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

15. 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

16. 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 fourteen (14), fifteen (14) and sixteen (16)*. Motion passed.

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez

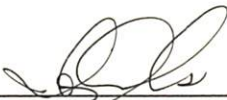
17. ADJOURN

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Ruben Reyes to *adjourn at 7:08 pm*

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

Nays:

Absent: Cesar Nevarez



Ivy Avalos, Mayor



Olivia Navarro, City Clerk



Nov 7, 2024

Date minutes were approved