

**Rudy Cruz, Jr.**  
Mayor

**Ruben Reyes**  
At Large

**Cesar Nevarez**  
District 1//Mayor Pro Tem



**Alejandro Garcia**  
District 2

**Gina Cordero**  
District 3

**Irene Rojas**  
District 4

## **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 7, 2025 @ 6:00 P.M.**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ruben Reyes  
Cesar Nevarez, Mayor ProTem  
Alejandro Garcia  
Gina Cordero  
Irene Rojas

### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Mayor Rudy Cruz, Jr (*arrived at the meeting at 6:17 pm*)

### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Adriana Rodarte, City Manager  
Victor Perez, Deputy City Manager  
Olivia Navarro, City Clerk  
Lorraine Quimiro, City Planner  
Merwan Bhatti, City Attorney  
  
Estevan Gonzales, IT Director  
Victor Reta Recreation Ctrs. Director  
Jose Quiñonez, Economy Recovery Coordinator  
Alejandra Valadez  
Chief Robert Rojas  
Lourdes Gomez, Finance Director

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

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

### **2. Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence by Escontrias Elementary School.**

Students from Escontrias and Campestre Elementary School recited the pledge of allegiance.

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

Quorum was established with five members present.

#### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Margie Perez spoke on this item.

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

#### **5. PRESENTATION AND UPDATE ON THE 89<sup>TH</sup> STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION.**

***ADRIANA RODARTE***

Presentation by Rick Armendariz, with FORM Group.

Ruben Reyes stepped out of the meeting at 6:15 pm

Ruben Reyes returned to the meeting at 6:16 pm

Mayor Rudy Cruz arrived to the meeting at 6:17 pm

#### **6. PRESENTATION BY THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ON UNESCO WORKING GROUP EFFORTS FOR MISSION TRAIL DESIGNATION.**

***ADRIANA RODARTE***

Presentation made by Maria Trevino.

#### **7. PRESENTATION FROM THE RIO GRANDE COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS ON THE REGIONAL COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY PROCESS FOR THE U.S. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION.**

***ADRIANA RODARTE***

Presentation made by Annette Gutierrez, with Rio Grande Council of Governments and Adriana Bulesio with the City of El Paso.

#### **8. RECOGNITION OF THE SOCORRO HIGH SCHOOL BARBERING PROGRAM FOR WINNING STATE AND NATIONAL AWARDS.**

***ALEJANDRO GARCIA***

Ms. Mestas, Instructor at Socorro High School and student were recognized.

#### **9. RECOGNITION OF CAMPESTRE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR ACHIEVING THE HIGHEST STUDENT ATTENDANCE RATE IN THE SOCORRO ISD FOR THE 3RD, 4TH, AND 5TH SIX WEEKS DURING THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR.**

***IRENE ROJAS***

Ms. Shreve, Principal and Ms. Ham-McCullough were recognized and presented with a certificate.

#### **10. RECOGNITION OF ESCONTRIAS STEAM ACADEMY FOR EARNING THE NATIONAL CERTIFICATE FOR STEM EXCELLENCE – CAMPUS CERTIFICATION.**

***IRENE ROJAS***

Ms. Ojeda, principal, Ms. Alvarez and Ms. Thomas were recognized.

**11. PRESENTATION TO RECOGNIZE WINE DOWN AS SMALL BUSINESS OF THE QUARTER IN THE FOOD & CAFÉ CATEGORY.**

**ALEJANDRA VALADEZ**

Wine Down was presented with a certificate.

**12. PRESENTATION TO RECOGNIZE GASTELUM'S MEAT MARKET AS SMALL BUSINESS OF THE QUARTER IN THE ALL OTHER BUSINESS CATEGORY.**

**ALEJANDRA VALADEZ**

Mr. and Mrs. Gastelum were recognized and presented with a certificate.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**13. EXCUSE ABSENT COUNCIL MEMBERS.**

**OLIVIA NAVARRO**

**14. APPROVAL OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 17, 2025.**

**OLIVIA NAVARRO**

**15. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE CASH RECEIPTS FOR APRIL 2025.**

**LOURDES GOMEZ**

**16. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE ACCOUNTS PAYABLE REPORT FOR APRIL 2025.**

**LOURDES GOMEZ**

**17. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE UNAUDITED MONTHLY REPORT FOR APRIL 2025.**

**LOURDES GOMEZ**

**18. INTRODUCTION FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE # 635 AMENDMENT # 2 AMENDMENT TO DECREASE EXPENDITURES BY \$150.00 FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025.**

**ADRIANA RODARTE**

**19. INTRODUCTION FIRST READING AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCE # 250 AMENDMENT # 2 TO ALLOW UP TO 100% OF INVESTABLE DEPOSIT TO BE ALLOCATED INTO MONEY MARKET FUNDS AND INVESTMENT POOLS.**

**ADRIANA RODARTE**

**20. INTRODUCTION AND FIRST READING OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO TEXAS, ORDAINING THE CITY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE TEXAS ENTERPRISE ZONE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THE TEXAS ENTERPRISE ZONE ACT, CHAPTER 2303, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE (ACT), PROVIDING TAX INCENTIVES, DESIGNATING A LIAISON FOR COMMUNICATION WITH INTERESTED PARTIES, AND NOMINATING WIWYNN TECHNOLOGY CORP., TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM (EDT) THROUGH THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (BANK) AS AN ENTERPRISE PROJECT (PROJECT).** *ALEJANDRA VALADEZ*

**21. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PLAT WITH A VARIANCE REQUEST FROM SECTION 46-631. - OFF-STREET PARKING REQUIREMENTS (SUB-SECTION 15) TO ALLOW A REDUCTION IN PARKING SPACE REQUIREMENTS OF 1 SPACE PER 320 S.F. OF NET LEASABLE AREA INSTEAD OF THE 1 SPACE PER 200 S.F. REQUIREMENT FOR THE SOCORRO DG ADDITION SUBDIVISION, BEING TRACT 8-C, AND TRACT 8-D, BLOCK 19, SOCORRO GRANT, AND LOCATED AT 10401 SOCORRO RD., SOCORRO, TEXAS.**

*LORRINE QUIMIRO*

**22. INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, AND CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING OF AN ORDINANCE FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S MASTER PLAN AND REZONING OF LOT 4, BLOCK 12, EL GRAN VALLE SUBDIVISION, LOCATED AT 11631 RIVERSIDE RD., SOCORRO, TEXAS, FROM R-1 (SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) TO R-2 (MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) TO ALLOW FOR A QUADRUPLEX.**

*LORRINE QUIMIRO*

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, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes

Nays:

Absent:

**REGULAR AGENDA**  
**ORDINANCES**

- 23. *PUBLIC HEARING* OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS, ORDAINING THE CITY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE TEXAS ENTERPRISE ZONE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THE TEXAS ENTERPRISE ZONE ACT, CHAPTER 2303, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE (ACT), PROVIDING TAX INCENTIVES, DESIGNATING A LIAISON FOR COMMUNICATION WITH INTERESTED PARTIES, AND NOMINATING WIWYNN TECHNOLOGY CORP., TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM (EDT) THROUGH THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (BANK) AS AN ENTERPRISE PROJECT (PROJECT).** *ALEJANDRA VALADEZ*

- 24. *SECOND READING AND ADOPTION* OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SOCORRO, TEXAS, ORDAINING THE CITY'S PARTICIPATION IN THE TEXAS ENTERPRISE ZONE PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THE TEXAS ENTERPRISE ZONE ACT, CHAPTER 2303, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE (ACT), PROVIDING TAX INCENTIVES, DESIGNATING A LIAISON FOR COMMUNICATION WITH INTERESTED PARTIES, AND NOMINATING WIWYNN TECHNOLOGY CORP., TO THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM (EDT) THROUGH THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BANK (BANK) AS AN ENTERPRISE PROJECT (PROJECT).** *ALEJANDRA VALADEZ*

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Irene Rojas to *delete items twenty-three (23) and twenty-four (24)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes

Nays:

Absent:

**GRANTS DEPARTMENT**

- 25. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION* TO APPROVE WORK AUTHORIZATION NO. 5 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$251,449.53 UNDER CONTRACT 22-07-02 WITH CEA GROUP FOR DESIGN PHASE SERVICES FOR THE VINEYARD ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT.** *ALEJANDRA VALADEZ*

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Irene Rojas to *approve item twenty-five (25)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes  
Nays:  
Absent:

**26. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE WORK AUTHORIZATION NO. 6 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$302,793.75 UNDER CONTRACT 22-07-02 WITH CEA GROUP FOR DESIGN PHASE SERVICES FOR THE PASSMORE ROAD BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT. ALEJANDRA VALADEZ**

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

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes  
Nays:  
Absent:

**27. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO THE EL PASO CHAMBER IN SUPPORT OF THE DRAFT 2026 UNIFIED TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM (UTP), AND PARTICULARLY, THE PROPOSED AUTHORIZATION OF \$150 MILLION FOR SS320 BORDERLAND EXPRESSWAY PHASE 3 – EL PASO (CATEGORY 12: STRATEGIC PRIORITY). ALEJANDRA VALADEZ**

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

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes  
Nays:  
Absent:

**28. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR PROJECT VIDA'S GRANT APPLICATION TO THE NASDAQ FOUNDATION FOR THE MICROENTERPRISE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (MTAP). ALEJANDRA VALADEZ**

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

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes  
Nays:  
Absent:

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**29. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT  
FOR OPERATION STONEGARDEN (OPSG) FY24.**

***CHIEF ROBERT ROJAS***

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

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes

Nays:

Absent:

**PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT**

**30. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE AN EVENT PERMIT AND FEE  
WAIVER REQUEST FOR THE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF LA  
PURISIMA CHURCH AT 328 S. NEVAREZ ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 18, 2025  
FROM 10:00 AM TO 9:00 PM.**

***LORRINE QUIMIRO***

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, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes

Nays:

Absent:

**31. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO AWARD RFP 24-03 FOR BUILDING  
INSPECTIONS AND PLAN REVIEW SERVICES TO AOKA ENGINEERING  
AND AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER OR HER DESIGNEE TO NEGOTIATE  
AND EXECUTE AGREEMENT.**

***LORRINE QUIMIRO***

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, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes

Nays:

Absent:

**CITY MANAGER**

**32. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE THE SCHEDULING OF PUBLIC HEARING ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2025 FOR THE ANTICIPATED PROPOSED TAX RATE OF 0.645233 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 2025 THRU SEPTEMBER 30, 2026. ADRIANA RODARTE**

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Gina Cordero to *approve item thirty-two (32)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes

Nays:

Absent:

**33. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO REVIEW AND APPROVE EL PASO COUNTY 911 DISTRICT BUDGET PLAN FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026. ADRIANA RODARTE**

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

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes

Nays:

Absent:

**34. DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE A CITYWIDE FESTIVAL "HEARTS UNITED" TO BE HELD AT BULLDOG CHAMPIONSHIP PARK. ADRIANA RODARTE**

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Irene Rojas to *approve item thirty-four (34)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes

Nays:

Absent:



**35. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING PETITION TO RELEASE THE FOLLOWING REAL PROPERTY FROM THE CITY OF SOCORRO'S EXTRATERRITORIAL JURISDICTION: APPROXIMATELY 2.689 SQUARE MILES OR 1,830.4 ACRES DESCRIBED AS [COMPOSED OF THAT PART OF EL PASO COUNTY TRACT 010347 INCLUDED IN BLOCK 2033, 2034, 2035, 3003, 3004, 3005, 3306, 3007, 3008, 3009, 3010, 3011, 3012, 3013, 3014, 3017, 3018, 3019, 3020, 3021 AND 3022 AND THAT PART OF EL PASO COUNTY TRACT 010404 INCLUDED IN BLOCKS 4016, 4017, 4020, 4021, 4022, 4023, 4024 AND 4025; AND THAT PART OF EL PASO COUNTY TRACT 010502 INCLUDED IN BLOCK 2003, 2004, 2008 AND 2009].**

**ADRIANA RODARTE**

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Gina Cordero to *move into Executive Session at this time as recommended by city attorney to discuss this item.*

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes

Nays:

Absent:

**THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:29 PM**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**THE COUNCIL RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION AT 7:49 PM**

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Gina Cordero to *deny the application due to inaccurate legal descriptions.*

A motion was made by Gina Cordero seconded by Irene Rojas to *allow time to Mr. James Lowenberg to speak.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes

Nays:

Absent:

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Gina Cordero to *deny the application due to inaccurate legal descriptions.* Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes

Nays:

Absent:

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

**36. *DISCUSSION AND ACTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 829 STATING THE CITY COUNCIL'S INTENT TO LIMIT USE OF EMINENT DOMAIN.***

***MAYOR RUDY CRUZ, JR.***

A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Gina Cordero to *approve item thirty-six (36)*. Motion passed.

Azulema Reyna spoke on this item

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes

Nays:

Absent:

**37. *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***

**38. *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***

**39. *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 seven (37), thirty-eight (38) and thirty-nine (39)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes

Nays:

Absent:

A motion was made by Gina Cordero seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *move into Executive Session at this time to consult with the attorney regarding item forty (40)*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes  
Nays:  
Absent

**40. DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING TEXAS GAS SERVICE COMPANY, A DIVISION OF ONE GAS, INC'S STATEMENT OF INTENT TO CHANGE GAS UTILITY RATES WITHIN THE INCORPORATED AREAS OF THE COMPANY'S CENTRAL-GULF, WEST NORTH, AND RIO GRANDE VALLEY SERVICE AREAS RRC#OS-25-00028202; HQ#UTILITY-67 [551.071].**  
**JAMES A. MARTINEZ**

**THE CITY COUNCIL CONVENED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:21 PM**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**COUNCIL RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION AT 8:28PM**

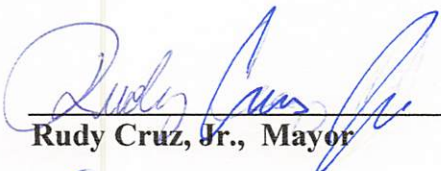
A motion was made by Gina Cordero seconded by Alejandro Garcia to *suspend the Texas Gas tax rate increase for ninety (90) days*. Motion passed.

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes  
Nays:  
Absent


**41. ADJOURN**

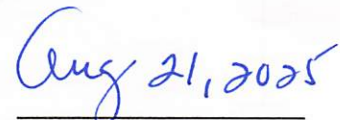
A motion was made by Alejandro Garcia seconded by Gina Cordero to *adjourn at 8:30 pm*

Ayes: Ruben Reyes, Cesar Nevarez, Alejandro Garcia, Gina Cordero and Irene Reyes  
Nays:  
Absent

  
Rudy Cruz, Jr., Mayor



  
Olivia Navarro, City Clerk

  
Date minutes were approved