



City of Rio Communities Council Regular Business Meeting
City Council Chambers - 360 Rio Communities Blvd
Rio Communities, NM 87002
Monday, April 25, 2022 6:00 PM
Minutes

Please silence all electronic devices.

Call to Order

- Mayor Joshua Ramsell called to order the regular business meeting session at 6:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

- Councilor Gutjahr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

- PRESENT: Mayor Joshua Ramsell, Mayor Pro-tem Margaret R. Gutjahr, Councilor Arthur Apodaca, Councilor Lawrence Gordon, Councilor Jimmie Winters.
 - City Manager Martin Moore, Municipal Clerk Elizabeth Adair, Municipal Judge Noelle Chavez, Fire Chief Andrew Tabet, City Attorney Chris DeFillippo, Valencia County News-Bulletin Editor Clara Garcia.

Approval of Agenda

- Motion made by Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr to approve the agenda as is. Seconded by Councilor Winters. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 4-0 vote the agenda for the regular business meeting was approved as presented.

Approval of Minutes for the City Council Special Workshop Meeting Minutes (04/04/2022), Minutes for the City Council Workshop & Regular Business Meeting (04/11/2022)

- Motion made by Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr to approve the special workshop minutes of 4/4/2022 and the workshop and regular business meeting minutes 4/11/2022. Seconded by Councilor Winters. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 4-0 vote the minutes for the special workshop held on April 4, 2022 and the workshop and regular business meeting held on April 11, 2022 were approved as written.

Swearing in of Interim Fire Chief and Code enforcement Officer(s)

- Andrew Tabet took the Oath of Office to be the Interim Fire Chief. The oath was administered by Judge Noelle Chavez.

Proclamation - Municipal Clerk Week

- ❖ Municipal Clerk Adair read the proclamation.
- ❖ Mayor Ramsell gave his thanks to the Municipal Clerks and stated they do a lot that people do not see, and they are the first people you see especially when the public and government come into the office.
- ❖ Councilor Gutjahr said they also make sure everyone is up to date on current events.

Public Comment

- Jan Burkett stated her complaint, to who ever owns the old golf course came in last summer and cut down all the old trees and left the limbs behind and now other residents are dumping yard clippings amongst other things into the old golf course, this is a fire hazard. She continued

by saying the property that is across the street is a rental and there are cement bags that are coming apart and no one is doing anything. She then proceeded to talk about another property stating that it is disgusting with an old mattress and garbage all around the property as well. She then said there needs to be a code enforcer who will actually go enforce codes and not sit around until someone calls.

- Sue Carrasco stated her complaint, they had a flood from the golf course about 8 years ago, this past July it came in all 3 sliding doors all at once and I'm still paying for this with little insurance help.
- Jan Burkett said they need the old golf course situation solved.
- Sue Carrasco said her husband is a disabled veteran and due to the flood, she had to get sandbags to help if there would be another flood since the golf course put sand piles instead of spreading the sand where it can block the rain from going to into resident's yards.
- Jan Burkett said that she had called the golf course to come and clean up the mess and spray for weeds and all the gentleman said was "take me to small claims court".
- Sue Carrasco said they also have a bunch of ferial cats across the street the lady is feeding them and not fixing them, so they keep breeding.
- Both ladies explained they are happy to see the Sherriff around the neighborhood more frequently.

Manager Report

- Manager Dr. Moore said with the swearing in the Interim Fire Chief in his contract he agreed to supervise Code Enforcement and being as there are numerous types of codes and one of them is fire code and ties into several nuisance codes as well. He then said the Chief will be dividing the city into zones and will be targeting these parts as such.

a) Library Soft Opening

- Manager Dr. Moore said we are shooting for May 21, 1pm-3pm on a Saturday. He continued by saying the Belen Librarian has been very supportive, and the Library Board has the policy almost setup and we have library cards ready to go as well as putting out the part-time librarian position this week.

b) Public works and Janitor employee(s)

- Manager Dr. Moore confirmed we have individuals began working, 2 full-time public works and 1 part-time janitor. If you have gone to the great room, you will see it is starting to be cleared out as well as maintaining the outside of the building to make it presentable.
- Public Works Director Reeves said he is very excited and thank the Council that they can budget this, and he continued by saying, we are excited to get a lot of things done and you will be pleased on what is in store for next quarter.

Approval of Accounts Payable

- Motion made by Councilor Winters to pay the accounts payable as presented in the workshop today. Seconded by Councilor Gordon. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 4-0 vote the accounts payable was approved for payment.

Grant Writer Contract

- Manager Dr. Moore said we have searched, and we have an individual on our Planning and Zoning Commission Scott Adair, who has had training with grant writing before. He continued by stating, he has agreed to work with us for a year at \$25 an hour and not to exceed \$30,000.

He then went over the scope of work which includes, providing assistance with the grant writing, and developing, importing a team, which will be internally. He further explained the grant writer will be offering guidance and mentorship related to the grants. He finished by letting the public know that grants are 2/3rds of the city's budget, and it is a very important part especially since we are working on economic development.

- Councilor Gutjahr said he has a wonderful background and being on P&Z when the city was just being formed so his knowledge as well as by the skill can be a great addition.
- Motion made by Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr to approve the grant writer contract as stated. Seconded by Councilor Gordon. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 4-0 vote Council approved the Manager Dr. Moore to executive the contract with the grant writer Scott Adair.

Appointment/Re-appointment of P&Z member(s)

- Mayor Ramsell asked that the agenda item be off the table and add that to a future meeting.
- Motion made by Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr to table agenda item #7 to a future meeting. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 4-0 vote Council tabled the agenda item to a future meeting.

Council Discussion

- Councilor Apodaca had nothing to report.
- Councilor Gutjahr had nothing to report.
- Councilor Gordon had nothing to report.
- Councilor Winters said we have new carpet, working our way down and have very good insulation. He continued by saying our next step is to add tile and LED's.

Executive Session - For the purpose of legal services agreement pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1(H)(2) - Limited Personnel Matters and for the discussion of the purchase, addition or disposal of real property or water rights by the public body pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1(H)(8)

- **Motion and roll call vote to go into close session**
 - Motion made by Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr with a roll call vote to go into executive session for the purpose of legal services agreement pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1(H)(2) - Limited Personnel Matters and for the discussion of the purchase, addition or disposal of real property or water rights by the public body pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1(H)(8). Seconded by Councilor Gordon. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 4-0 vote Council went into executive session at 6:35 pm.
- **Motion and roll call vote to go back into the regular business meeting session**
 - Motion made by Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr to go back into the regular business meeting session. Seconded by Councilor Winters. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 4-0 vote Council went back into the regular business meeting session at 7:21 pm.
- **Welcome everyone back and statement by the Mayor**
 - Mayor Ramsell stated, The Governing Body of the City of Rio Communities, New Mexico, hereby states that on April 25, 2022 a Closed Executive Session was held and the matters discussed were the legal services agreement pursuant to pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1(H)(2) - Limited Personnel Matters and for the discussion of the purchase, addition or disposal of real property or water rights by the public body pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1(H)(8).

Mayor recommendation regarding the legal services agreement and for the purchase, addition or disposal of real property or water rights by the public body

- Mayor Ramsell said there is no recommendation regarding legal services agreement and for the purchase, addition, disposal of real property or water rights by the public body.

Adjourn

- Motion made by Councilor Winters to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca. with a 4-0 vote the city council regular business meeting was adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth F. Adair, Municipal Clerk
(Transcribed by Cheyenne Sullivan, Assistant Clerk)

Date: _____

Approved:

Joshua Ramsell,
Mayor

Margaret R. Gutjahr,
Mayor Pro-tem/Councilor

Arthur Apodaca,
Councilor

Lawrence R. Gordon,
Councilor

Jimmie Winters,
Councilor