



**City of Rio Communities Council Workshop**  
**City Council Chambers - 360 Rio Communities Blvd**  
**Rio Communities, NM 87002**  
**Monday, July 10, 2023 3:00 PM**  
**Minutes**

*Please silence all electronic devices.*

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**Call to Order**

- Mayor Joshua Ramsell called the regular workshop to order at 3:00 pm

**Attendees**

- PRESENT

Governing Body

Mayor Joshua Ramsell  
Mayor Pro-tem Margaret R. Gutjahr  
Councilor Arthur Apodaca  
Councilor Jimmie Winters

Staff

Manager Dr. Martin Moore  
Clerk Elizabeth Adair  
Accounting Specialist/CPO Angela Valadez  
Fire Chief Andrew Tabet  
Attorney Randall Van Vleck

**Accounts payable report**

- Accounting specialist Valadez went over everything over \$500.00. (see agenda packet for list)
- Councilor Gutjahr asked about the Trighton electric.
- Valadez explained it was a sub contractor for HEI put the electrical in the server room.

**Court Clerk Wages and Hours**

- Manager Dr. Moore explained that the Judge did an evaluation of the court clerk and felt the court clerk could come off her probation and then discussed the wages and hours.
- Councilor Apodaca asked if we set the salary at 19 + hour if the hours need to increase as time goes on then we have to maintain the 19 + an hour.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained that the council has to approve the budget so if it happens to go over you as council will make the decision.
- Councilor Apodaca asked what the potential for the hours is to increase
- Manager Dr. Moore continued to explain that he isn't sure.
- Councilor Gutjahr asked if this was established.
- Manager Dr. Moore said this had already been discussed with the judge about the fixed budget.
- Councilor Winters said what could be the big difference is with the police department.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained there could be an increase.
- Councilor Gordon said was an increase after probation discussed.
- Manger Dr. Moore said no there wasn't.
- Mayor Ramsell asked if the new dollar amount per hour fall in line with consistent.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained it is not in constant a big part is part of performance.
- Councilor Gutjahr said this is going to be with the new laws, the goal is to eventually move the municipal court and magistrate.

- Manager Dr. Moore explained that there has been a movement. Part of the challenges with the new laws is the number of cases has not gone down.
- Attorney Van Vleck said what they have done is taking away the city and the courts ability to assess fees to people that have been convicted the corrections fee which is the fee we use to pay the county for the cost of prisoners the educational fee is going away and the court animation fee that paid for animation and began a discussion.
- Councilor Gordon said with the judge coming back later you have no idea what later on needs.
- Manager Dr. Moore said the issue for her is if she wants to come back and ask for more hours than she would have to adjust the budget and the council will have to agree to it.
- Councilor Gutjahr clarified so she wouldn't have to us it would be approved by you the city manager.
- Manager Dr. Moore said only if she does not exceed the budgeted amount.
- Mayor Ramsell said most of the time is spent on Admin not necessarily in the court.
- Councilor Winters said the majority of stuff they would be getting fees for would be speeding tickets and began a discussion.
- Attorney Van Vleck said potentially you can see in that court would be traffic tickets, code citations and continued the discussion.

#### **Legal Services for Economic Development and LEDA Policies**

- Manager Dr. Moore explained that we have Jill Sweeney she is here to give a presentation.
- Ms. Sweeney began her presentation, what is an IRB. It is a loan from an investor to a company where the loan proceeds and payments goes through the city. She then went over the IRBs issuance process, LEDA: anti-donation clause exception, and LEDA incentives.
- Councilor Gutjahr asked if they can get a copy of the PowerPoint.
- Ms. Sweeney continued the presentation and went over the approval process.
- Councilor Apodaca asked if she has examples within the state where all three parties have worked together.
- Ms. Sweeney said, not many at this point since it is new and continued with the presentation.
- Councilor Gutjahr said one example was KEATER that was a combination of the state, the county and Belen.
- Councilor Gutjahr explained grants that have been received for other organizations in the city.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained what is in front of you is the first step in this is retaining the services she has included her hourly rate in there.

#### **Rules for Trash Day**

- Manager Dr. Moore said the rules we are talking about are pretty straightforward. We have some people that show up that are not from the city. 1. is not a disposal of domestic/household trash, major commercial construction, tires, toxic materials and please show your ID's we want. He further continued that we have seen a large amount of construction material and domestic stuff.
- Councilor Gordon asked can we add this to our flyer.

- Chief Tabet asked if maybe we can put on our big board a couple of days before and on Facebook also .
- Councilor Gutjahr said when we first started this, we gave out a flyer to everyone with everything we are talking about.

### **Public Comment**

- No public comments.

### **Manager Report**

- Manager Dr. Moore said he feels we are seeing some good things happen here, discussions with our Economic Development consultant Mr. Mimms.
- Manager Dr. Moore said we would like to get a survey out and put it into the newsletter.
- Manager Dr. Moore said our fire and emergency medical response has been extremely high, a lot of calls the heat has had a lot to do with it. The water has decreased in the river they have released some from Cochiti dame. The fire department did go out with some pumps.
- Fire Chief Tabet said they had to use 6 pumps, there was still 30% runoff coming down, they have moved the meetings to biweekly current focus is on the monsoon season it should be a good monsoon. The focus is on our area and Belen, and we will be over there to help Belen.
- Manager Dr. Moore said the 90% review on the Goodman construction design is happening tomorrow, 60% review on Horner and Hillandale will be around the 10th. He further said a cultural research survey is being required by DOT to insure we don't have any homes for the age limitation for protection for historic preservation and continued the discussion.

### **Council General Discussion & Future Agenda Items**

- Councilor Apodaca said he has a report from the triangle piece of land. He basically said it fell on deaf ears, so he is going to talk to the owner next week about possibly giving the city the easement so we could do something with it.
- Councilor Gutjahr said regarding fireworks, from her experience this has been the worst year. She then asked where we with the contract with the Sherriff office are.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained we are in basic agreement with the county manager and county sheriff's office.
- Mayor Ramsell regarding the minutes our Municipal Clerk sat down with Dr. Moore and myself and we came up with a different format. The other thing is going back to trash day is for us to rent a chipper and help make some room in the dumpster.
- Councilor Apodaca said 10-year anniversary we are looking at the Fall and it will be here before we know it. We need to look at some dates and get that down to start working on it.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained that we need to get a group together and have a meeting either this week or next week to set a date. We are looking sometime in October.
- Councilor Gutjahr asked about the applications for the library.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained that we had an internal employee interested and she has decided to stay where she is at so Lisa has made some changes to the job description and are hoping to have interviews sometime in August.

**Adjourn**

- The City Council regular workshop was adjourned at 4:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Elizabeth F. Adair, Municipal Clerk  
(Transcribed by Lalena Aragon, Deputy Clerk)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved:

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Joshua Ramsell,  
Mayor

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Margaret R. Gutjahr,  
Mayor Pro-tem/Councilor

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Arthur Apodaca,  
Councilor

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Lawrence R. Gordon,  
Councilor

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Jimmie Winters,  
Councilor