



City of Rio Communities Council Regular Business Meeting
City Council Chambers - 360 Rio Communities Blvd
Rio Communities, NM 87002
Monday, March 13, 2023 6:00 PM
Minutes

Please silence all electronic devices.

Call to Order

- Mayor Pro tem Peggy Gutjahr called the city council regular business meeting to order at 6:02pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

- Councilor Apodaca led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

- PRESENT: Mayor Pro-tem Margaret R. Gutjahr, Councilor Arthur Apodaca, (virtual) Councilor Jimmie Winters.
ABSENT: Mayor Joshua Ramsell, Councilor Lawrence Gordon.
 - City Manager Martin Moore, Municipal Clerk Elizabeth Adair, (virtual) Finance Officer Stephanie Finch, Fire Chief Andrew Tabet, City Attorney Randy Van Vleck, Valencia County News-Bulletin Editor Clara Garcia.

Approval of Agenda

- Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr asked to table the executive session.
- Motion made by Councilor Apodaca to approve the agenda as amended as presented. Seconded by Councilor Winters. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote the agenda was approved for the regular business meeting as amended.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items: Minutes for the City Council Workshop & Regular Business Meeting (02/27/23), Approval of Accounts Payable

- Motion made by Councilor Apodaca to approve the minutes for the city council workshop and regular business meeting of 2/27/23 and the approval of accounts payable as presented. Seconded by Councilor Winters. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote the consent agenda items were approved as presented.

Public Comment

- Dick Irvin at 607 Western Dr. started by saying he did a follow up on 603 Western Dr., which has been an ongoing occurrence with the pop-up camper, good news is the popup camper has been closed up and has not been moved off but does believe the owner of the camper is no longer there at because no he is walking up and down Western Drive. He continued to say is there anywhere they can find the presentation of the budget for the public and said thank you to everyone who was involved in this reoccurring issue.

Manager Report

Code Enforcement

- Manager Dr. Moore said we have been getting some issues resolved by the code enforcers and with trash piling up as well as other violations they will make sure to keep track of the ongoing circumstances.
- Fire Chief Tabet said as far as code enforcement they do have some work to do but some residents are doing remodels and such but fail to dispose the rest of the materials/trash properly so they have been educating residents instead of just a ticket right away. He continued

to say during the summer they will still be conducting the grid as well as educate on the cleaning up and fire hazards.

Municipal Court Department

- See packet for court report.
- Councilor Apodaca said thank you for the ongoing cooperation with code enforcement as well as the residents have seen the difference this all has made.

Ordinance 2023 - xx GRT Chapter 3 Rev & Finance Article 5 Municipal GRT (.6125%) - 14-day public review

- Finance Officer Finch began her presentation on the GRT increase stating the available percentage is 9/16 (.6125%), which will generate \$100k in revenue as well as replacing the Assistant Clerk, Finance Clerk and Public Works Director with a full time Librarian/Community Programs Coordinator and an Administrative Assistant in the Police Department. She continued to say this will allow salary adjustments for the departments losing an employee, add 5 extra hours for the Janitor and add 12.5 extra hours to the Court Clerk as well. She then went over the revenues by class which will be a forecasted total of \$1,506,405 with these changes as well as the expenses by class, which is forecasted to be \$1,505,869, and this leaves the budget to be balanced with \$536 in the good.
- Councilor Apodaca thanked the Finance Officer for clarification at the workshop about how there are no money carry overs from one fiscal year to the next if not all spent.
- Finance Officer Finch said we start with a clean slate and if we don't use it, we lose it, but you never want to over budget your expenses more than your revenues.
- Finance Officer Finch read into the minutes the Ordinance 2023-xx GRT Chapter 3 Rev & Finance Article 5 Municipal GRT. -please see packet for ordinance.
- Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr asked what is the official rate if we pass this amount.
- Finance Officer Finch said currently it is 7.8125% to 8.4275% which is the same as Bosque Farms.
- Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr said these positions listed are much needed especially for the Police Department and as Finance Officer Finch mentioned the Police Chief is a working chief so there does need to be someone to take care of other issues as well.
- Motion made by Councilor Apodaca to approve ordinance 2023 – xx GRT Chapter 3 rev & finance Article 5 municipal GRT .6125% pending a 14-day public review. Seconded by Councilor Winters. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote council approved a 14-day public review of Ordinance 2023 – xx GRT Chapter 3 rev & finance.

Resolution 2023 - xx Cooperative Agreement (NMDOT Co-op Agreement)

- Manager Dr. Moore explained this is an agreement with NMDOT, and last year with applying for a map grant and being approved we are looking at Don Diego but the rising costs the amount is about \$600k to \$800k. He made a recommendation to go ahead with the cooperative agreement for the design on Don Diego and will be coming back with a transportation grant for construction.
- Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr said there is a limit that we can ask for the amount which was \$300k but the city does have to make a 25% match for the amount.
- Manager Dr. Moore said between \$300k to \$325k as this project was going to cost double.
- Manager Dr. Moore read into the Resolution 2023-XX Cooperative Agreement Program. -Please see packet.

- Motion made by Councilor Apodaca to approve Resolution 2023 – 08 Cooperative Agreement NMDOT co-op agreement. Seconded by Councilor Winters. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote Resolution 2023 – 08 Cooperative Agreement (NMDOT Co-op Agreement) was passed, approved, adopted, and signed.

Council Discussion

- Councilor Apodaca had no comments.
- Councilor Winters had no comments.
- Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr had no comments.

Executive Session - For the purpose of a) the Public works Director separation agreement and release pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1(H)(2) - Limited Personnel Matters and b) 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)

- Tabled

Adjourn

- Motion made by Councilor Apodaca to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Winters. With a unanimous vote the City Council Regular Business Meeting was adjourned at 6:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date: _____

Approved:

Joshua Ramsell,
Mayor

Margaret R. Gutjahr,
Mayor Pro-tem/Councilor

Arthur Apodaca,
Councilor

Lawrence R. Gordon,
Councilor

Jimmie Winters,
Councilor