



**City of Rio Communities Council Regular Business Meeting**  
**City Council Chambers - 360 Rio Communities Blvd**  
**Rio Communities, NM 87002**  
**Monday, July 11, 2022 6:00 PM**  
**Minutes**

*Please silence all electronic devices.*

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**Call to Order**

- Mayor Ramsell called the City Council Regular Business meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

- Councilor Gordon 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.
  - Present: City Manager Dr. Martin Moore, Municipal Clerk Elizabeth Adair, Valencia County News-Bulletin Editor Clara Garcia, Economic Development Consultant Ralph Mims.

**Approval of Agenda**

- Motion made by Councilor Winters to approve the agenda as written. Seconded by Councilor Gordon. With a unanimous vote the agenda for the regular business meeting was approved as presented.

**Approval of Minutes City Council Special Business Meeting Minutes (05/31/2022)**

- Motion made by Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr to approve the city council special business minutes of 5/31/2022. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca. With a unanimous vote the minutes for the special business meeting of May 31, 2022 was approved as written.

**Public Comment**

- Mayor Ramsell read the public comments from Tommy Westmorland as stated "I asked the City Manager Dr. Moore to replace streetlights in every corner especially on Hillandale and Horner as well as Goodman and Horner. I believe this has been discussed in the last few years. We have folks who refuse to put numbers on their mailboxes, and since many have curbing have then put it in white lettering on the curb for 911 purposes. As for businesses I would like to see a Whataburger where the artillery eyesore is. Then folks in Belen will come see us a bunch. The first Whataburger in Los Lunas is going to make a fortune. Let's get on before they do. Where is our park."

**Manager Report**

**a) LEDA Retail Ordinance b) Public Safety Task Force updates c) Economic Development Task Force updates**

- Manager Dr. Moore explained that they have received a rough draft for the LEDA Retail Ordinance which includes arts and culture. He then said he encourages council to look it over and if they agree then he will proceed with a 14-day review as well as whatever changes he needs to do for it.
- Manager Dr. Moore said we have been fortunate with the rains as the drainage systems have been able to contain but we are keeping a very close eye on it. He then said in reference to the public task force we are close to wrapping up and our goal is to be done by Labor Day so the US Council can review it and hopefully we will get strategic plans related to those in place.

- Manager Dr. Moore said he has been meeting with the P&Z and they are working on the comprehensive plan going through and seeing what goals and objectives they need to keep or get rid of.
- Manager Dr. Moore said we are looking at recommendations coming at the next meeting in relationship to potholes, streets, streetlights. He then said this Friday the Albuquerque Regional Economic Alliance (AREA) is doing a retreat and at the request of the Economic Development Consultant would like to have Councilor Apodaca be a part of this.
- Mayor Ramsell said he thinks this is an amazing opportunity and he has been seeing them more and more on social media and this is a great place to start.
- Councilor Apodaca said he thinks since they are representing 4 counties now it makes a big difference and thinks the city can benefit greatly
- Councilor Winters asked if the State Economic Development reviewed the LEDA Plan.
- Manager Dr. Moore said no not yet.
- Councilor Winters said I highly recommend it because if they don't like it they will not use it.

### **Municipal Court Department**

- Court Clerk Adair gave the department report. See agenda packet for report.

### **Approval of Accounts Payable**

- Councilor Gutjahr explained these are on the website if anyone had questions as well as you will see some description stating attorney's fees with the new rate included. She also stated the command vehicle was on the list as well.
- Motion made by Councilor Winters to approve accounts payable as presented at the workshop this afternoon. Seconded by Councilor Gordon. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 4-0 vote accounts payable was approved for payment.

### **Sick Leave Start-up**

- Mayor Ramsell said we did discuss at the workshop starting staff off with 8 hours and then from this point on it will be accumulating hours every pay period.
- Manager Dr. Moore said point of information that for part-time employees it would be half the amount.
- Motion made by Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr to approve the sick leave start-up as stated. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca.  
Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters

### **Council Discussion**

- Council had no reports at this time.

### **Executive Session - For the purpose 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 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 Winters. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. Council went into a closed session at 6:17 pm.

**Motion and roll call vote to go back into the regular business meeting session**

- Motion made by Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr with a roll call vote to go back into the regular business meeting session, Seconded by Councilor Gordon. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro-tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 4-0 vote the regular business meeting session was resumed at 7:09 pm.

**Welcome everyone back and statement by the Mayor**

- Mayor Ramsell said that the Governing Body of the City of Rio Communities, New Mexico, hereby states that on July 11, 2022 a Closed Executive Session was held and the matters discussed were 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).

**Action Items - Consideration & Decision – Mayor recommendation regarding the purchase, addition or disposal of real property or water rights by the public body**

- Mayor Ramsell stated there are no recommendations or decision at this time.

**Adjourn**

- Motion made by Councilor Winters to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca. With a unanimous vote the City Council regular business meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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