

City of Socorro Regular City Council Meeting
City Hall, 111 School of Mines Road, Socorro, NM 87801
July 2, 2018

Mayor Ravi Bhasker called the meeting to order at 12:00 Noon. Stephanie Saavedra, City Clerk, took roll call. Members present at roll call were: Mayor Ravi Bhasker, Councilor Peter Romero, Councilor Toby Jaramillo, Councilor Michael Olguin, Councilor Deborah Dean, Councilor Mary Ann Chavez-Lopez and Councilor Anton Salome. Councilor Nick Fleming and Councilor Gordy Hicks were absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bhasker led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF JULY 2, 2018 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilor Jaramillo, motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

a. June 18, 2018

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Councilor Dean, motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM

None.

DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION

a. Public Hearing – Liquor License Application – Small Brewer Liquor License with On-Premise Consumption and Package Sales with Patio Service – Hotcoat Systems Alaska, Inc. dba Sourdough Mine Brewery

Councilor Romero made a motion to go into public hearing. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Bhasker stated that Hotcoat Systems Alaska, Inc. dba Sourdough Mine Brewery has requested a Small Brewer Liquor License with On-Premise Consumption and Package Sales with Patio Service which must be approved by the local Governing Body. There were no comments from the public. The applicants requesting the license were present.

Councilor Romero made a motion to go back into regular session. Seconded by Councilor Jaramillo, motion passed unanimously.

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the Small Brewer Liquor License with On-Premise Consumption and Package Sales with Patio Service for Hotcoat Systems Alaska, Inc. dba Sourdough Mine Brewery. Seconded by Councilor Salome, motion passed unanimously.

Councilor Hicks arrived.

b. Consideration of Special Use Permit – 1495 NE Frontage Road – Debbie DeMoss dba Country Living Residential Care

Mayor Bhasker stated that Debbie DeMoss (Country Living Residential Care) is requesting a Special Use Permit in order to allow a community-based living and caregiving facility at 1495 NE Frontage Road which is zoned R-R. Mayor Bhasker stated that at the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting of June 21, 2018, the P & Z Commission unanimously approved a recommendation to the City Council that the Special Use Permit application from Country Living

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Residential Care be approved. Mayor Bhasker noted that the applicant is Administrator Monette's sister.

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the Special Use Permit for Country Living Residential Care at 1495 NE Frontage Road. Seconded by Councilor Jaramillo, motion passed unanimously.

c. Sketch Plat Approval – Spring Street – A-1 Quality Redi-Mix

Mayor Bhasker presented a sketch plat from A-1 Quality Redi-Mix for a proposed mobile home park on Spring Street. Mayor Bhasker stated that at the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting of June 21, 2018, the P & Z Commission unanimously approved a recommendation to the City Council that the sketch plat from A-1 Quality Redi-Mix be approved. Mayor Bhasker stated that the City Council will consider the sketch plat at the August 6, 2018 City Council meeting. Mayor Bhasker stated that the zoning for the property currently allows mobile home parks and while the property owner does not require P & Z or City Council approval to place one there, the owner is going through the process so as to keep the public aware of what is happening. Mayor Bhasker stated that the plat, completed by Dennis Engineering, shows gutters, sidewalks and drainage ponds. Mayor Bhasker stated that to date, the property owner has done everything asked of them (by the zoning code) in regards to the proposed mobile home park.

d. MOU – City of Socorro & Socorro Consolidated Schools – School Resource Officer

Mayor Bhasker presented a memorandum of understanding between the City of Socorro and Socorro Consolidated Schools. Mayor Bhasker stated that the one-year MOU outlines the obligations of both the City and the Schools as it relates to the City providing a school resource officer to the Schools.

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the memorandum of understanding between the City of Socorro and Socorro Consolidated Schools. Seconded by Councilor Salome, motion passed unanimously.

e. Resolution No. 18-07-02 – Granting NMDOT Maintenance Easement

Mayor Bhasker presented Resolution No. 18-07-02 which, if approved, allows the issuance of a maintenance easement, at no cost, to the NM Department of Transportation to ensure erosion control in the area of the Matanza Arroyo.

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve Resolution No. 18-07-02. Seconded by Councilor Jaramillo, motion passed unanimously.

f. City of Socorro ICIP – Public Input & Top 5 Priorities

Mr. Monette stated that the City is currently working on its ICIP and asked anyone who would like a project added to the ICIP to present their information to the City for consideration. Mr. Monette stated that this would be the first of three public hearings. Mr. Monette asked the Mayor and City Council to consider which projects they would like to see as the top five priorities.

Councilor Hicks made a motion to go into public hearing. Seconded by Councilor Romero, motion passed unanimously.

There were no comments from the public.

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Councilor Hicks made a motion to go back into regular session. Seconded by Councilor Romero, motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Bhasker stated that Socorro Consolidated Schools built and furnished a \$1.5 million facility at Socorro High School and asked if anyone knew the purpose of the new building. Councilor Salome stated that it was his understanding that the facility is to be used for high school students for vocational/technical training during the day and for the same purpose for the community in the evenings. Mayor Bhasker stated that there is a workforce training facility on the ICIP and if the building at SHS is to be used for this purpose, he did not want to duplicate services. Mayor Bhasker stated that Finley Gym should remain on the ICIP as it needs to be upgraded. Mayor Bhasker stated that reconstruction of City streets should remain a high priority. Mayor Bhasker suggested that solar projects also be placed on the ICIP. Some discussion followed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Councilor Hicks stated that he and Councilor Olguin recently attended a WIA meeting in Las Cruces. Councilor Hicks stated that they were able to visit a training center for kids sponsored by Spaceport of American. Councilor Hicks stated that there were approximately 50 kids in the center and he would like to see something similar happen in Socorro. Mayor Bhasker stated that the STEM Committee could possibly find a program for Socorro kids.

Councilor Olguin stated that he had received a call regarding swimming pool hours. Cindy Rivera, Recreation Director, stated that mornings at the pool consist of swim lessons, swim team practice and lap swim and that afternoons/evenings consist of public swim and swim team practice. Ms. Rivera stated that the pool is closed Sundays and Mondays. Ms. Rivera stated that Saturday hours were changed from mornings to afternoons because attendance was low. Ms. Rivera stated that it would be hard to add more hours as there are fewer lifeguards than previous years to cover additional hours. Mr. Monette stated that several sponsors donated \$16,000 so that kids could swim free this summer but that it costs the City approximately \$172,000 to operate the pool each summer.

Mayor Bhasker stated that the City did not place restrictions on fireworks this year and that in order to do so, drought conditions have to be at certain levels. Mayor Bhasker stated that State Statute does not allow a municipality to completely ban fireworks.

a. Reporting on Personnel Changes

Councilor Romero motioned to approve the personnel changes as read by Mayor Bhasker:

Justin Lopez - 7-2-18 – Street - New Hire*(Crewman) - A-20

Michael Benavidez - 7-2-18 – Street - Additional Job Duties - J-27 to J-29

Sergio Cuevas - 7-2-18 – Street - Promotion to Operator/Additional Job Duties - C-17 to C-24

Lena Chavez - 7-2-18 – Finance - Completed Probation - A-38 to A-40

Seconded by Councilor Jaramillo, motion passed unanimously.

b. Business Registrations

Councilor Romero motioned to approve the business registrations as read by Mayor Bhasker:

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Snow Co. - R-3 (Approved by P&Z) - 1207 Entrada Bonita - Jared Marquez & Morgan Guernsey - Shaved Ice/Snow Cone Vendor

Seconded by Councilor Olguin, motion passed unanimously.

c. Next City Council Meeting Announcement

Mayor Bhasker stated that the next City Council meeting will be held on Monday, July 23, 2018 at 12:00 Noon in the City Hall Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

At 12:35 p.m., Councilor Hicks motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Romero, motion passed unanimously.

THE CITY OF SOCORRO – a municipal corporation

/s/
Ravi Bhasker, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/
Stephanie Saavedra, City Clerk