

**City of Socorro Regular Scheduled City Council Meeting**  
**City Hall, 111 School of Mines Road, Socorro, NM 87801**  
**December 2, 2019**

Mayor Ravi Bhasker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Stephanie Saavedra, City Clerk, took roll call. Members present at roll call were: Mayor Ravi Bhasker, Councilor Deborah Dean, Councilor Mary Ann Chavez-Lopez, Councilor Michael Olguin, Councilor Nick Fleming and Councilor Toby Jaramillo. Councilor Anton Salome, Councilor Gordy Hicks and Councilor Peter Romero were absent.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Bhasker led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2, 2019 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**

Councilor Fleming made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**a. November 18, 2019**

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

**PROCLAMATIONS AND AWARDS**

**a. SHS Lady Warrior Volleyball - Certificates**

JB Mauldin, who is a first-year Varsity SHS Lady Warrior Volleyball Coach, stated that the Lady Warrior volleyball team came in as state runner-up in the 2019 NM Class 3A state volleyball championship. Mr. Mauldin stated that this is the first SHS volleyball team to win a match in a state tournament. Mr. Mauldin stated that all of the girls will be returning next year to play except for one senior who graduates this year. Mayor Bhasker and Mr. Mauldin presented each of the Socorro High School Lady Warrior players with a certificate of recognition from the City of Socorro. The players each stated what grade they were in. Mayor Bhasker and the City Council congratulated the players on making it to the State Championship.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Rob Lopez, a resident of Giles Lane, stated that Giles Lane was chip-sealed three years ago and is already “destroyed”. Demecio Silva, the Street Superintendent, stated that the road was actually chip-sealed five years ago. Mr. Silva stated that the road is in need of repair and proper drainage. Mayor Bhasker asked Mr. Silva to look into the cost of another chip-seal and look into the City’s rights of way in that area.

Martin Gross stated that he is the new owner of Wagon Wheel Trailer Park and he has been working towards cleaning up the park of debris and dry brush. Mr. Gross stated that his concern is the neighbor to the north of the trailer park. Mr. Gross stated that there was already a fire on that property and he is afraid that with the dry brush and additional trailers that have been moved on the property, there will be another fire. Mayor Bhasker stated that City staff has attempted to work with Dave Willis and his daughter, who actually owns the parcel but lives in another state, but has not been able to make any progress. Mayor Bhasker stated that the next step with have to be done through the court system. Mayor Bhasker stated that Mr. Willis is not compliant on other properties in Socorro as well.

Damien Ocampo, SHS Football Coach and local business owner, thanked the City of Socorro, and employees Lloyd Martinez and Demecio Silva, for helping to prepare the roads and football field for the state championship football game on November 30, 2019.

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**DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION**

None.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Ruby Lopez, Finance Director, stated that Budget Committee meetings will begin in March 2020.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Bhasker stated that the City Council would be going into executive session to discuss a potential legal situation having to do with the recent Socorro Electric Cooperative agenda item "Consideration of Declaratory Judgment Filing in District Court".

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilor Olguin made a motion to go into executive session. Seconded by Councilor Fleming, a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

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

Mayor Bhasker reported out of executive session the discussion of providing a Guzman Energy update (more specifically the letter of intent) and one possible legal situation (see New Business above). No action was taken.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

**a. Sale of Garbage Truck to Casa Grandes, Mexico**

Mayor Bhasker stated that the City of Socorro has had a sister-city relationship with Casas Grandes, Mexico for over 20 years. Mayor Bhasker stated the Mayor of Casas Grandes has requested to purchase a sanitation truck that the City of Socorro owns and has not used in approximately 3 years. Mayor Bhasker stated that they are willing to pay the City \$8,000 and will come to Socorro and transport the vehicle back to Casas Grandes. Donald Monette, City Administrator, stated that the Administration will provide a resolution at the next City Council meeting requesting that the City Council deem the truck as surplus equipment.

**b. Personnel Changes**

None.

Mayor Bhasker stated that Jay Santillanes, Division Director of the Gas, Auto Maintenance, Airport and Transportation departments, will be retiring December 31, 2019. Mayor Bhasker stated that the Administration met with the department heads of those departments to discuss possible changes to positions and compensation. Mayor Bhasker stated that Mr. Monette, Mr. Santillanes and Ms. Saavedra met with the department heads in a separate meeting to review job descriptions and the updated job descriptions will be presented to the City Council for approval. Mayor Bhasker stated that he would like to continue to work with Mr. Santillanes, in some capacity, to provide the City with a certified Floodplain Manager.

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**c. Business Registrations**

Councilor Olguin motioned to approve the Business Registrations as read by Mayor Bhasker:

CDM Smith Inc. - Out of Town - Albuquerque, NM – Corporation - Environmental Consulting  
T-Loc Photography - R-3 (Approved by P&Z) - 502 Bullock - Anthony Sanchez - Photography  
Que Suave Café LLC - C-2 - 915 N. California Street, Suite A – Corporation - Coffee Shop  
Angie’s Food Truck - Out of Town - Transient Vendor - Ricardo Ocampo - Food Truck  
Pecos Valley Counseling - Out of Town - 1894 Chaparral Loop - David Wright - Mental Health  
Counseling

Seconded by Councilor Dean, motion passed unanimously.

**d. Announcement – Next City Council Meeting Dates and Times**

Mayor Bhasker stated that the next regular City Council meeting will be held on Monday, December 16, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers (111 School of Mines Road).

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:37 p.m., Councilor Fleming motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Jaramillo, motion passed unanimously.

**THE CITY OF SOCORRO – a municipal corporation**

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/s/  
**Ravi Bhasker, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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/s/  
**Stephanie Saavedra, City Clerk**