

City of Socorro Regular City Council Meeting
City Hall, 111 School of Mines Road, Socorro, NM 87801
September 20, 2021

Mayor Ravi Bhasker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Leopoldo Pineda, City Clerk took roll call.

Council members present at roll call were: Councilor Deborah Dean, Councilor Mary Ann Chavez-Lopez, Councilor Nick Fleming, Councilor Gordy Hicks, and Councilor Anton Salome.

Councilor members remotely present at roll call were: Councilor Peter Romero

Councilor Damian Ocampo, and Councilor Michael Olguin, Jr. were absent

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bhasker led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2021, CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Councilor Hicks made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Dean, motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

a. September 7, 2021

Councilor Hicks made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 30, 2021 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Romero, motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC FORM

Mayor Bhasker addressed emails regarding the funding of Socorrofest and the Hammel Museum's Oktoberfest. The Mayor stated that since both events have been canceled for the current year, he would like to have both funded and combined into one event next year.

DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION

a. Approval of NM Tax and Revenue Department Mediation Settlement Agreement

Mayor Bhasker reported the City was one of the 44 municipalities and counties that entered into Lawsuit No. D-202-CV-2018-08036, City of Albuquerque, et al v. Stephanie Schardin Clarke and New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department.

Donald Monette, City Administrator stated under the settlement agreement after payment of the Contingent Fee, the net amount of recovery to the City is \$95,647.24.

Councilor Dean inquired how the settlement would be spent. Mayor Bhasker responded that the City is short approximately \$100,000.00 on the paving of College and Franklin Streets and suggested he would like to use the settlement to cover the shortage.

City of Socorro Regular City Council Meeting
City Hall, 111 School of Mines Road, Socorro, NM 87801
September 20, 2021

Councilor Salome made a motion to approve the NM Tax and Revenue Department Mediation Settlement Agreement. The motion was seconded by Councilor Romero, motion passed unanimously.

b. Authorization to Sign Release of Claims

Councilor Chavez-Lopez made a motion to approve Mayor Bhasker to sign the Authorization to Sign Release of Claims. The motion was seconded by Councilor Romero, motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Bhasker reported to the Council the City is ready to demolish the Sands Motel after approval from the City Attorney. The Mayor stated before proceeding with the demolition a report certifying there is no asbestos present is required.

Mayor Bhasker informed the Council that a Code Enforcement Officer will be hired in October.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

MAYOR'S REPORT

a. Reporting on Personnel Changes

Councilor Hicks motioned to approve the Personnel Changes as read by Mayor Bhasker.

Taylor Saavedra – 09/21/2021 – Police – Transfer from Rodeo to Police – A-30
Kevin Chavez – 09/20/2021 – Parks – Temp to Full Time – A-26

Seconded by Councilor Romero, motion passed unanimously.

b. Business Registrations

Councilor Hicks motioned to approve the business registrations as read by Mayor Bhasker.

Loaded Lemon ABQ – Out of Town– Albuquerque, NM. – Christopher Chavez –
Lemonade Vendor
Luna Tire Socorro 1 LLC – C-2 – 111 21 California St. – Gabriela Ochoa-Quinones –
Tire Shop

Seconded by Councilor Dean, motion passed unanimously.

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c. Voucher Run

Councilor Fleming made a motion to approve vouchers 154073 to 154295 in the amount of \$1,171,431.24 plus Payroll Transfers \$341,637.16, for a total of \$1,513,068.42.

Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

d. Announcement – Next City Council Meeting Date and Time

Mayor Bhasker stated that the next regular City council meeting will be held on Monday, October 4, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers (111 School of Mines Road).

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

THE CITY OF SOCORRO – a municipal corporation

/s/
Ravi Bhasker, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/
Leopoldo Pineda, City Clerk