

**City of Socorro Regular City Council Meeting**  
**City Hall, 111 School of Mines Road, Socorro, NM 87801**  
**January 18, 2022**

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 Mary Ann Chavez-Lopez, Councilor Deborah Dean, Councilor Nick Fleming, Councilor Damien Ocampo, Councilor Michael Olguin, Jr., Councilor Peter Romero, and Councilor Anton Salome.

Councilor Gordy Hicks was absent.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Bhasker led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF JANUARY 18, 2022, CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA**

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

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**a. January 3, 2022**

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 3, 2022, meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC FORM**

Councilor Hicks arrived at 6:05 p.m.

**a. Maggie Olguin – Literacy Volunteers of Socorro County Presentation**

Maggie Olguin, Literacy Volunteers of Socorro County Coordinator gave the Council a presentation on the progress of the program.

**b. Samantha Winter – SCOPE Presentation**

Samantha Winter, SCOPE Coordinator gave the Council an update on the progress of SCOPE program in accordance with the funds approved by the City Council Budget Committee.

Ms. Winter asked for additional funding for the new Community Garden located at 905 Bullock on property owned by the New Mexico Tech Foundation. Mayor Bhasker stated the City will fund gardening equipment for the garden.

**c. Frances Fuller – SHS Social Worker**

Frances Fuller, Socorro High School Social Worker addressed the Council with concerns of housing issues for homeless students. Ms. Fuller stated there is funding for clothes, food, and transportation, but no funding for housing a homeless student. Ms. Fuller asked the Council for advice on how to fund a youth and family shelter.

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Mayor Bhasker asked Councilor Chavez-Lopez, as the Housing Authority Director, if they may have programs to help.

After a lengthy discussion, Mayor Bhasker advised Ms. Fuller the City would help look into a grant to fund a program.

**DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION**

**a. Special Use Permit – Pallottino Properties, LLC**

Brandon Pallottino, Pallottino Properties, LLC, stated he is applying for a special use permit for a 39-unit mobile home park located on Cuba Road.

Councilor Hicks made a motion to approve the Special Use Permit, motion died for the lack of a second.

Councilor Olguin made a motion to send the Special Use Permit to the Planning and Zoning Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hicks.

After a lengthy discussion concerning the process of the Zoning Committee, and the lack of a Committee at this time, the motion passed unanimously.

**b. MOU- Socorro County and the City of Socorro – Providing Housing and Care of Adult Persons Arrested by the City of Socorro**

Donald Monette, City Administrator stated the MOU is the City's obligation to pay for inmates at the Socorro County Jail that are arrested under municipal warrants.

Councilor Olguin made a motion to approve the MOU between Socorro County and City of Socorro. The motion was seconded by Councilor Salome, motion passed unanimously.

**c. Resolution No. 22-01-18a – Open Meetings Resolution**

**d. Resolution No. 22-01-18b – Governing Body Rules of Procedure Resolution**

**e. Resolution No. 22-01-18c – Purchasing Policy Resolution**

**f. Resolution No. 22-01-18d – CDBG Certification and Commitments – Exhibit 1-Y**

**g. Resolution No. 22-01-18e – CDBG Federal Requirements – Exhibit 1-Z**

Mr. Monette stated the Council adopts Resolutions No. 22-01-18a through No. 22-01-18c annually at the beginning of each year and Resolution No. 22-01-18d and Resolution No. 22-01-18e are annual Resolutions that are required for CDBG projects.

Councilor Olguin made a motion to approve Resolutions No. 22-01-18a, through No. 22-01-18e. The motion was seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

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- h. Budget Resolution #5 – Special Utility Fund**
- i. Budget Resolution #6 – Lodgers Tax Fund**
- j. Budget Resolution #7 – Lodgers Tax Fund**
- k. Budget Resolution #8 – General Fund**
- l. Budget Resolution #9 – Airport Construction**
- m. Budget Resolution #10 – USDA Wastewater Collection System Improvement Project**

Ruby Lopez, Finance Director informed the Council the purpose of each Budget Resolution.

Councilor Olguin made a motion to approve Budget Resolution #5 through #10. The motion was seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

- n. City Full-Time Employee Salary Increase Discussion**

Ms. Lopez gave the Council an overview of the Budget Committee's recommendation of the across-the-board wage increase. Employees making \$14.99 an hour and under receive a 7.5% increase, \$15.00 to \$19.99 a 5% increase and over \$20.00 a 2.5% increase.

Mayor Bhasker informed the Council that administration supports the increase.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Councilor Chavez-Lopez reported there are several potholes on Bagley Street.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Councilor Olguin asked for an update on College Street. Mayor Bhasker informed the Council that paving will begin January 19, 2022.

Councilor Chavez-Lopez asked when the application for funds for Spring Street paving is due. Mayor Bhasker reminded the Council that improvements to the infrastructure need to be done before paving can take place.

Mr. Monette stated that the City has requested 6.2 million from the Legislature for infrastructure (water and sewer improvements) for Spring Street. If this funding is received and the improvements made, the City will then look for funding to improve the road.

Councilor Romero stated he was asked if the fireworks issue could be on the agenda for the next meeting. Mayor Bhasker presented a letter from administration to the Council recommending no changes to the fireworks ordinance. The Mayor informed the Council that they can still change the ordinance if the Council so chooses.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

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**MAYOR'S REPORT**

**a. Reporting on Personnel Changes**

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

Mike Alderete – 01/31/2022 – Rodeo – Resignation

Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

**b. Business Registrations**

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

Rocket Realty – C-2– 315 N. California St. – Jeanie Johnston – Real Estate Sales  
Haywire Electric – Out of Town – Luis Lopez, NM – Richard Romero – Electrical Contractor

Ray's Land Care – Out of Town – Magdalena, NM – Ray Olmsted – Yard Care  
Stop Restoration – Out of Town – Albuquerque, NM – John Clough – Mitigation, Remediation, Abatement

Seconded by Councilor Dean, motion passed unanimously.

**c. Voucher Run**

Councilor Hicks made a motion to approve vouchers 154946 to 155149 in the amount of \$572,296.92 plus Payroll Transfers \$208,386.68 for a total of \$780,683.60.

Seconded by Councilor Fleming, motion passed unanimously.

**Announcement – Next City Council Meeting Date and Time**

Mayor Bhasker stated that the next regular City council meeting will be held on Monday, February 7, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers (111 School of Mines Road).

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7: p.m.

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

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/s/  
**Ravi Bhasker, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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/s/  
**Leopoldo Pineda, City Clerk**