

City of Socorro Regular City Council Meeting
City Hall, 111 School of Mines Road, Socorro, NM 87801
April 4, 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 Deborah Dean, Councilor Nick Fleming, Councilor Gordy Hicks, Councilor Damian Ocampo, Councilor Michael Olguin, Jr., and Councilor Anton Salome.

Councilor Mary Ann Chavez-Lopez and Councilor Peter Romero were absent

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bhasker led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 4, 2022 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

a. March 21, 2022

Councilor Fleming made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2022 meeting as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hicks, motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC FORM

Paula Riley of the Socorro Lions Club addressed the Council for monetary assistance for advertising the upcoming Gun Show to be held on April 23rd and 24th at the Socorro County Fairgrounds.

Mayor Bhasker detailed the procedure for requesting Lodger Tax Funds for next year's event and explained that the City's Lodgers Tax Fund is just starting to recover from the pandemic.

DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION

a. Legislative Update – MJS Consulting

Matejka and Jay Santillanes of MJS Consulting, lobbyists for the City, provided a handout to the Mayor and Council. Mr. Santillanes stated during the 55th Legislature session that 720 bills were introduced. Mr. Santillanes stated that of the \$823 million appropriated to Capitol Outlay Socorro County received the following:

| | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| City of Socorro | \$500,000.00 |
| County of Socorro | \$0.00 |
| NMIMT | \$300,000.00 |
| Magdalena | \$480,000.00 |
| Alamo | \$850,000.00 |

Mr. and Ms. Santillanes highlighted the \$8.5 billion budget which goes into effect July 1, 2023.

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Mayor Bhasker stated his disappointment of the City's small share of Capital Outlay and stated that when Michael Olguin, Sr. was the State Representative the City received millions for its projects, so it helps tremendously to have representation from within the City.

Mr. Santillanes stated that Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham has called for a Special Legislative Session for April 5, 2022 to address the gasoline rebate for the spike in fuel cost and take up the revised "junior" spending bill.

Councilor Dean recommended that meetings should be setup with legislatures prior to next years session to stress the importance of the City's projects.

Councilor Olguin requested Mr. and Ms. Santillanes inform the Mayor and Councilors of upcoming committee meetings that happen throughout the year so that the City can keep the legislatures informed.

Mayor Bhasker thanked the State of New Mexico's Department of Transportation for the \$4,000,000.00 for Bullock Avenue and the Federal Government for the \$20,000,000.00 for the Eagle Pitcher Cleanup.

b. Special Use Permit – 1206 Cuba Road

Kristy Padilla, Planning and Zoning Manager stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission met on March 16, 2022 and by a unanimous vote the Commission denied the Special Use Permit for a 37-unit mobile home park at 1206 Cuba Road.

Councilor Hicks made a motion to except the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission for a Special Use Permit for 1206 Cuba Road. The motion was seconded by Councilor Fleming, motion passed unanimously.

c. Mutual Aid Agreement – EMS Services with Magdalena, NM

Councilor Olguin made a motion to approve the Mutual Aid Agreement for EMS Services with Magdalena, NM as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Fleming, motion passed unanimously.

d. MOA Between the City of Socorro and County of Socorro for Escondida Lake – Fishing Derby

Councilor Olguin made a motion to approve the MOA between the City of Socorro and County of Socorro for Escondida Lake for the annual Fishing Derby as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hicks, motion passed unanimously.

e. Resolution No. 22-04-04 – Disposition of Ambulance

Councilor Olguin made a motion to approve Resolution No. 22-04-04 – disposition of Ambulance as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Dean, motion passed unanimously.

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f. Restricting Open and Controlled Burns in City Limits

Mayor Bhasker presented the Council with an Ordinance from Sierra County as an example to create an ordinance for the City. Councilor Hicks stated an ordinance would be beneficial to set rules for open and controlled burning.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Bhasker inquired about the progress of Sands Motel. Lloyd Martinez, General Services Director stated Mr. Pineda has sent the PO to CES for approval and wage decision.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

MAYOR'S REPORT

a. Reporting on Personnel Changes

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

| NAME | EFFECTIVE DATE | DEPARTMENT | REASON | SALARY |
|--------------|----------------|------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| John McGuire | 04/07/2022 | Fire | Salary Adjustment - Minimum Wage | C-42 to C-47 |
| Leo Petersen | 04/01/2022 | Fire | Completed FF1 & FF2 Certification | C-42 to C-47 |

Seconded by Councilor Salome, motion passed unanimously.

b. Business Registrations

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

| NAME | ZONING | ADDRESS | OWNER | TYPE |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|--|
| Frontier Mechanical LLC | Out of Town | Salt Lake City, UT | Damon Perdue | Commercial Plumbing Contractor |
| Caskcara | C-2 | 1231 NW Frontage Rd. | Casey Spurgin | Grow, Manufacture, Sale of Cannabis |
| Roots by the Rio, LLC | R-3 | 214 School of Mines Rd. | Cari Powell | Nursery/Greenhouse, Sale of Plants at Markets |
| McCrary Electric Co. | Out of Town | Los Ranchos, NM | Roy McCrary | Electrical Contractor |
| Desert Badger Baking Company, LLC | Community Kitchen | 407 Center St. | Darla Broughton | Production of Baked Goods, Chocolates, and Candies |
| TDR Contractors, Inc. | Out of Town | Gilmer, TX | John Dean | Commercial HVAC |

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|------------------------|-----|------------|------------|-----------------|
| Country Crafts & Gifts | C-2 | 607 Hwy 60 | Vicki Wall | Handmade Crafts |
|------------------------|-----|------------|------------|-----------------|

Seconded by Councilor Olguin, motion passed unanimously.

c. Announcement – Next City Council Meeting Date and Time

Mayor Bhasker stated that the next regular City council meeting will be held on Monday, April 18, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers (111 School of Mines Road).

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

THE CITY OF SOCORRO – a municipal corporation

/s/

Ravi Bhasker, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/

Leopoldo Pineda, City Clerk