

**City of Socorro Regular Scheduled City Council Meeting  
City Hall, 111 School of Mines Road, Socorro, NM 87801  
August 1, 2022**

Mayor 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 Gordy Hicks, Councilor Michael Olguin, Jr., Councilor Peter Romero, and Councilor Anton Salome.

Councilor Damian Ocampo was absent.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Bhasker led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AUGUST 1, 2022, 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. July 25, 2022**

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

**PUBLIC FORUM**

**a. Madison Chavez-Lopez**

Madison Chavez-Lopez informed the Council that she is running for Socorro County Fair Sweetheart and is seeking donations.

**b. Mary Baca**

Mary Baca addressed the Council with information about an incident that occurred with CYFD in Clovis, New Mexico. Ms. Baca requested the help of the City in making contact with the agency. Mayor Bhasker scheduled a meeting with Ms. Baca and Mike Winders, Chief of Police, to discuss how the City can help.

**ORDINANCES**

**a. Ordinance No. 22-08-01 – Authorizing the Sale of Lot 2, Block 4 of the City of Socorro Industrial Park**

Donald Monette, City Administrator stated Dave MacNeil of Carolina's Choice is in the process of purchasing or leasing the Solaro building and this lot is to the north of the building. The sale has been advertised according to the law and the public can still come forward if approved tonight and will have 45 days to contest and if contested will go to referendum at the next election or special election. Mr. Monette informed the Council that another company is interested in two lots, New Mexico Tech and Western New Mexico Telecom are both interested in a lot and The Soil and Water Conservation District has agreed to lease land.

Councilor Hicks made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 22-08-01. Seconded by

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Councilor Romero.

Dave MacNeil, Carolina's Choice reported to the Council that the land will be used as their manufacturing facility.

Mr. Pineda took a roll call vote, motion passed unanimously.

**DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION**

**b. Resolution No. 16-11-07b**

Mayor Bhasker informed the Council that the vacation of Smith Road had already been done by resolution on November 7, 2016. Councilor Salome stated that there were items on the resolution that the administration had to follow that would start the process of vacating the property and the resolution's intent was to create that system in place to vacate property in the future. Councilor Dean stated that the resolution identified it has to go the Planning and Zoning before coming back to City Council. Mr. Monette stated the resolution does specifically mention Smith Road but could not guarantee it has gone through Planning and Zoning for a recommendation. Mayor Bhasker stated it would be researched and would let the Council know of the results.

**c. TDS Broadband Fiber Loop Build**

Mayor Bhasker pointed out the maps on the City Council Chamber wall showing the four areas that TDS will install its fiber throughout the city. Mr. Pineda stated the fiber will extend to the Convention Center located in the industrial park and all within the city limits. The Mayor informed the Council that the initial bid award came in overbudgeted and they are now in negotiations with Cascade. Councilor Dean asked what is estimated time frame of the project. Mr. Pineda replied that when the project is in construction the estimated time would be six months to a year.

**d. Cuba Road Street and Drainage Improvements (CDBG) Bid**

Mr. Pineda informed the Council the bid opening for the Cuba Road, Street and Drainage Improvements was held on July 28, 2022 and rejected for exceeding the threshold of 10% and would like the Council to approve the City rebid the project.

Councilor Romero made motion to approve the City to rebid the project. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hicks.

Mayor Bhasker asked what would happen if the project gets retracted, would the City have to approach Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) multiple times for funds. Mr. Pineda responded that after the rebid opening and if the bids still over the threshold of 10% the City can approach DFA to see if additional funds are available.

Mayor Bhasker suggested, that if new bids come in significantly higher again, the City may have to consider using ARPA or NM Clean Water State Revolving Funds to complete this phase of the project.

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Motion passed unanimously.

**e. NMML Voting Delegate**

Mayor Bhasker nominated Councilor Hicks to be the voting delegate.

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve Councilor Hicks as the voting delegate. Seconded by Councilor Olguin, motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Bhasker nominated Councilor Romero as alternate voting delegate.

Councilor Salome made a motion to approve Councilor Romero as alternate voting delegate. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

**f. Resolution No. 22-08-01 – Adopting the FY2024-2028 Infrastructure Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP)**

Mr. Monette informed the Council that Bike Trails has been added to the ICIP. Councilor Dean stated that when the City is doing Road Construction bike trails could be added at that time.

Councilor Olguin made a motion to approve Resolution No. 22-08-01. The motion was seconded by Councilor Salome, motion passed unanimously.

**g. Budget Resolution #21 – Municipal Street Fund**

**h. Budget Resolution #22 – Street Improvement Fund**

Ms. Lopez presented and informed the Council the purpose of each Budget Resolution.

Councilor Olguin made a motion to approve Budget Resolution #21 and #22. The motion was seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

**i. In-House Budget Resolution #111**

Ms. Lopez presented and informed the Council the purpose of the In-House Budget Resolution.

Councilor Olguin made a motion to approve In-House Budget Resolution #111. The motion was seconded by Councilor Chavez Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Councilor Romero asked if the street sweeper is in use. Mayor Bhasker stated that with the terrible rains and the material that is on the roads is not good for the sweeper and could cause damage. Lloyd Martinez, General Services Director stated what is needed for the sweeper is a brush broom. The sweeper has been on routes since it was delivered and will clean all the roads that are associated with the Annual Chile Harvest Triathlon coming up this weekend.

Councilor Chavez-Lopez asked if the City will be purchasing new garbage trucks. Mayor Bhasker replied that the City was awarded the VW Grant and will be receiving natural gas vehicles

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consisting of three new garbage trucks and three new dump trucks.

Mayor Bhasker gave an update on events occurring at the City’s Rodeo and Sports Complex.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Councilor Olguin distributed information from the Middle Rio Grande Economic Development Association highlighting their current accomplishments.

Councilor Romero informed the Council that patrons of the Community Kitchen have told him the cooling system needs repair. Mayor Bhasker stated that it is the responsibility of the person that manages the kitchen to contact the City.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

**a. Reporting on Personnel Changes**

Councilor Romero motioned to approve the Personnel Changes as read by Administrator Monette.

NAME	EFFECTIVE DATE	DEPARTMENT	REASON	SALARY
Adam Lopez	07/25/2022	Parks/Crewman	Temporary to Fulltime	A-28

Seconded by Councilor Dean, motion passed unanimously.

**b. Business Registrations**

Councilor Romero motioned to approve the Business Registrations as read by Mayor Bhasker.

NAME	ZOING	ADDRESS	OWNER	TYPE
Box Canyon Brewing Company	C-2	110 Manzanares	David Chavez	Nano Brewery and Taproom
Xtreme Control LLC	Out of Town	Magdalena, NM	Miguel Castillo	Pest Control
RJ’s Fun “N” Jump LLC	Out of Town	Polvadera, NM	Rojelio Silva	Amusement
Guzman & Sons Roofing	Out of Town	Belen, NM	Norberto Guzman Vazquez	Roofing

Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

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

Mayor Bhasker stated that the next regular City Council meeting will be held on Monday, August 15, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers – 111 School of Mines Road.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 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**