

**City of Socorro Regular Scheduled City Council Meeting
City Hall, 111 School of Mines Road, Socorro, NM 87801
October 17, 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 Nick Fleming, Councilor Gordy Hicks, and Councilor Anton Salome.

Councilor Peter Romero was present remotely.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Bhasker led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 17, 2022 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Councilor Hicks made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilor Salome, motion passed unanimously.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

a. October 3, 2022

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

PUBLIC FORUM

a. TDS

Josh Worrell, Sr. Manager-Business Development thanked the Mayor, City Council and the City of Socorro for their patience for a project that was a long time coming. Mr. Worrell stated the total build will be an estimated 68 miles of fiber and cover 5,261 estimated service addresses. There are four build areas with construction starting at the TDS office on Fisher Street. Construction notification will be sent out labeled Important Fiber Construction Information with a letter that contains several common questions and answers pertaining to the construction. Television, phone, and internet services are offered with internet speeds ranging from 300mbs up to 2 gigabytes symmetrical.

Councilor Dean arrived at 6:07 p.m.

b. AYSO Board

AYSO Board Members Chris Olguin, Maggie Olguin, Ronnita Montoya, Laura County, and Raul Morales addressed the Council. Ms. Montoya thanked the City and Recreation Department for the use of the soccer fields at the City's Rodeo and Sports Complex. The current season has 235 participants ranging from 3 to 13 years old, 22 teams, and 36 coaches and assistant coaches. Ms. Montoya requested the following in addition to the \$2,500.00 the City has already budgeted to AYSO.

- Help in maintaining the paint lines on the fields

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- Trash cans more available at the fields
- Improve conditions at Sedillo Park fields
- New nets for the goals
- Help with publicizing the AYSO fundraiser

Mayor Bhasker requested that they provide an equipment list and would work with the Parks Department on a more frequent maintenance schedule at Sedillo Park. The Mayor suggested that AYSO collaborate with the school system on the lining of the fields and the City would help subsidize.

Mayor Bhasker requested he would like AYSO to host a tournament in Socorro like the M Mountain Tournament and the Turkey Tune-Up that AYSO previously held at the Rodeo and Sports Complex.

ORDINANCES

a. Ordinance No. 22-10-17 – Amending Ordinance No. 08-05-19

Councilor Hicks made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 22-10-17 as follows,

The Governing Body shall hold its regular meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. When the day of the regular meeting falls on a legal holiday, such meeting shall be held on a date determined by the Governing Body. All regular meetings shall be held at City Hall, 111 School of Mines Road, or other such public places as the Governing Body may designate.

Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez. Mr. Pineda took a roll call vote, motion passed unanimously.

FIRST READING OF ORDINANCES

a. Ordinance No. 22-11-15 – Authorizing the Issuance of \$3,265,000 City of Socorro, New Mexico Joint Utility System Improvement Revenue Bonds

Ruby Lopez, Finance Director stated the RCAC interim loan will be closed out and transferred to USDA.

Chris Muirhead, Bond Attorney with Modrall Sperling presented Ordinance No. 22-11-15, for the publication only for the issuance of \$3,265,000 City of Socorro New Mexico Joint Utility System Improvement bonds.

Councilor Hicks made a motion to approve the publication of Ordinance No. 22-11-15. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez. Mr. Pineda took a roll call vote, motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION

a. Renaming Municipal Court Building

Mayor Bhasker stated he has noticed Mike A. Trujillo's name on the sign at the Municipal Court building has been removed. The Mayor emphasized City buildings have to maintain their names until the City Council decides to change the name.

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Joseph Gutierrez, Municipal Judge explained his position on the name change.

Councilor Romero expressed his opinion that he is not in favor of individual names on City buildings. The Mayor's recommendation is leave Mike Trujillo's name and have Mr. Gutierrez's name added as the presiding Municipal Judge. Administration will design a new sign and if Mr. Gutierrez approves, the design will come before the Council for final approval.

b. Bid Award – Cuba Road Street and Drainage Improvements (CDB)

Leopoldo Pineda, City Clerk stated two bids were received and opened on September 7, 2022.

Albuquerque Asphalt, Inc.	\$942,224.24
Sierra Valley Contractors, LLC	\$946,703.90

Mr. Pineda requested Albuquerque Asphalt, Inc. be awarded the bid, and thanked Mayor Bhasker for his help in procuring \$265,818.65 from the New Mexico Department of Transportation for the deficit between the budgeted amount from CDBG and the actual bid amount.

Councilor Hicks made a motion to approve the bid award as presented. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

c. Resolution No. 22-10-17a – Open Meeting Act

Donald Monette stated that with the passage of Ordinance No. 22-10-17a changing the meetings dates, the Open Meeting Resolution needs to be readopted to reflect the changes.

Councilor Hicks made a motion to approve Resolution No. 22-10-17a as presented. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

d. Resolution No. 22-10-17b – New Mexico Volkswagen Mitigation Trust

Mayor Bhasker stated originally the city would purchase three garbage trucks and three dump trucks, but with the recent price increases the city will be able to purchase two of the three garbage trucks.

Councilor Fleming made a motion to approve Resolution No. 22-10-17b as presented. Seconded by Councilor Romero, motion passed unanimously.

e. Resolution No. 22-10-17c – Authorizing the Assignment of Authorized Officers and Agents

Mr. Monette explained this is to authorize signatures for the \$100,000 Capital Outlay to design the wastewater system for Spring Street.

Councilor Hicks made a motion to approve Resolution No. 22-09-19c as presented. Seconded by Councilor Fleming, motion passed unanimously.

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- f. **Budget Resolution #1 – Sedillo Park**
- g. **Budget Resolution #2 – Street Fund**
- h. **Budget Resolution #3 – Recreation Fund**
- i. **Budget Resolution #4 – Community Trans Grant**
- j. **Budget Resolution #5 – USDA WW Collection Lines**
- k. **Budget Resolution #6 – Joint Enterprise**
- l. **Budget Resolution #7 – General Fund Cannabis Revenue**
- m. **Budget Resolution #9 – General Fund Airport Maintenance**
- n. **Budget Resolution #9 – Rodeo Arena Sports Complex Fund**
- o. **Budget Resolution #10 – USDA Wastewater Collections**

Councilor Fleming made a motion to approve Budget Resolution #1 through #10. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

p. In-House Budget Resolution #101

Councilor Fleming made a motion to approve In-House Budget Resolution #101. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilor Hicks relayed a message from David Hicks, School Board President suggesting the Youth Center provide services on Fridays because the Socorro Consolidated Schools are on a four-day week with Fridays off. Mayor Bhasker agreed, if there are sufficient staff and funds budgeted to operate the center. Councilor Chavez-Lopez stated the Socorro Consolidated Schools do provide Friday activities.

Councilor Fleming suggested that the New Mexico Tech Rugby Team should be recognized for winning the National Championship at the next Council Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilor Hicks discussed the Captain Laura S. Haines M Mountain Fly-In that occurred on October 1, 2022 and made suggestions for next year's event.

Michael Lucero, Landfill & Sanitation Director announced the bid award for Cell 3 & 4 will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Chelsea Jones reported on activities at the Public Library.

Chris Carrillo, Code Enforcement Officer reported for September, the department has hauled away 16 loads of rubbish from 11 properties totaling 2.25 tons. Councilor Hicks discussed abandoned houses he would like the Code Enforcement Department to look into.

Angel Garcia, Police Chief informed the Council of four new police recruits and is waiting for clarification on the use of funds from the Law Enforcement Fund Grant that was awarded to the City.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

MAYOR'S REPORT

a. Business Registrations

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

NAME	ZOING	ADDRESS	OWNER	TYPE
ONU8/WSS, LLC	R-1	1210 Hilton Pl	Will Stanley	Providing Temporary R.P.I. (Pharmacist) Shift Coverage
Steve Mathieu Landscape	R-1	1208 Avenida Ladera	Steve Mathieu	Yard Services
Copestone General Contractors	Out of Town	Colorado Springs, CO	Gilbert Patino	Construction
CEC Facilities Group	Out of Town	Irving, TX	Rich Mcalpine	Fiber Optic Installation

Seconded by Councilor Dean, motion passed unanimously.

b. Voucher Run

Councilor Fleming made a motion to approve vouchers 157051 to 157246 in the amount of \$1,040,742.96 plus Payroll Transfers \$433,070.10 for a total of \$1,473,813.06.

Seconded by Councilor Salome, 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 Tuesday, November 1, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers – 111 School of Mines Road.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

THE CITY OF SOCORRO – a municipal corporation

/s/

Gordy Hicks, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

/s/

Leopoldo Pineda, City Clerk