

City of Socorro Regular Scheduled City Council Meeting
City Hall, 111 School of Mines Road, Socorro, NM 87801
November 15, 2022

Mayor Pro Tem Hicks 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, Mayor Pro Tem Gordy Hicks, Councilor Damian Ocampo, Councilor Michael Olguin, Jr., Councilor Peter Romero, and Councilor Anton Salome.

Mayor Ravi Bhasker, Councilor Deborah Dean, and Councilor Nick Fleming were absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Salome led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- a. **Approval of November 15, 2022 City Council Agenda**
- b. **Consideration of Minutes**
 - i. **November 1, 2022**
- c. **Voucher Run**

The Voucher Run included 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.

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM

None

DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION

- a. **Resolution No. 22-11-15a – RUS Loan \$540,000.00**

Councilor Olguin motioned to approve Resolution No. 22-11-15a. Seconded by Councilor Romero.

Donald Monette, City Administrator stated the City is refinancing two loans from RCAC to USDA.

Motion passed unanimously.

- b. **Resolution No. 22-11-15b – RUS Loan \$2,725,000.00**

Councilor Olguin motioned to approve Resolution No. 22-11-15b. Seconded by Councilor Romero.

Ruby Lopez, Finance Director stated the City is closing out the interim loan from RCAC and USDA will take over. Mr. Monette explained a rate increase was required by USDA in order to pay back the loan. Ms. Lopez added that sewer rates were increased by \$4.00 per year for four years with the last increase this last February. Councilor Olguin asked if there were any more upcoming rate increases. Ms. Lopez replied that the Utility

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Committee will meet to discuss a possible water and gas rate increase, but sewer rates will not be affected.

Motion passed unanimously.

SECOND READING OF ORDINANCES

a. Ordinance No. 22-11-15 – authorizing the Issuance of the \$3,265,000.00 City of Socorro, New Mexico Joint Utility System Improvement Revenue Bonds

Councilor Olguin made a motion to go into public hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilor Ocampo, motion passed unanimously.

After hearing no input from the public Councilor Olguin made a motion to go back into regular session. Seconded by Councilor Romero, motion passed unanimously.

Councilor Olguin made a motion to approve Ordinance No. 21-11-15. The motion was seconded by Councilor Romero, Mr. Pineda took a roll call vote, motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Councilor Olguin stated that he has received feedback from constituents about the condition of College Avenue and if the contractor will be deployed to make repairs. Mr. Monette stated that the City is attempting to get the same contractor to perform three separate projects at the same time, College Avenue, Avenida De Paisano, and the sewer collapse on Spring Street, to avoid a separate mobilization fee. Mr. Monette also stated that College Avenue is under warranty.

OLD BUSINESS

Councilor Chavez-Lopez announced that Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham approved the Housing Authority's grant for 2.5 million for the construction of low-income apartments, the total cost of the project is 11 million dollars.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

MAYOR'S REPORT

a. Reporting on Personnel Changes

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

NAME	EFFECTIVE DATE	DEPARTMENT	REASON	SALARY
Juan Manzano	11/15/2022	Street	New Hire	A-35
Julio Carrasco	11/15/2022	Street	New Hire	A-35
Janette Archibeque	11/15/2022	Dispatch	New Hire	A-40
Jared Padilla	11/15/2022	Dispatch	Completed Probation	B-40 to B-42
Devrie Chavez	11/15/2022	Dispatch	Salary Adjustment	G-42 to G-44
Camryn Sager	11/15/2022	Dispatch	Salary Adjustment	C-40 to C-42

