

City of Socorro Regular Scheduled City Council Meeting
City Hall, 111 School of Mines Road, Socorro, NM 87801
September 5, 2023

Mayor Bhasker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Leopoldo Pineda, City Clerk, took roll call.

Council members present at roll call:

- Councilor Mary Ann Chavez-Lopez
- Councilor Deborah Dean
- Councilor Nick Fleming
- Councilor Gordy Hicks
- Councilor Michael Olguin, Jr.
- Councilor Peter Romero
- Councilor Anton Salome

Councilor members absent:

- Councilor Damien Ocampo

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Socorro County Fair Royalty Contestants led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of September 5, 2023 City Council Agenda
- b. Consideration of Minutes
 - i. August 15, 2023

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Seconded by Councilor Hicks, motion passed unanimously.

Councilor Ocampo arrived at 6:07 p.m.

PUBLIC FORUM

- a. Socorro County Fair Royalty Contestants

Councilor Chavez-Lopez introduced Mary Ellen Santillanes who helped train the children every night before the Rodeo and Anisa Ritter for the Fair activities. They all thanked Mayor Bhasker and the Council for the use of the City of Socorro Rodeo Complex. Councilor Chavez-Lopez had each contestant introduce themselves.

Mayor Bhasker introduced Jessica Carranza as the new editor of the Defensor Chieftain newspaper. Ms. Carranza stated that she is originally from Magdalena and expressed her pleasure becoming the editor.

DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION

- a. CWSRT #0129 – Evergreen Area and Spring Street Grant Agreement

Mayor Bhasker presented CWSRT #109 and if approved would provide sewer to the entire city.

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Councilor Olguin made a motion to approve CWSRT #129 – Evergreen Area and Spring Street Grant Agreement. Seconded by Councilor Salome.

Donald Monette, City Administrator stated this will expand the sewer by Pine Street around the loop and back down to Evergreen and reconnect after the loop out by the Fire Academy.

Motion passed unanimously.

b. Resolution No. 23-09-05a – Disposition of Fixed Assets

Councilor Olguin made a motion to approve Resolution No. 23-09-05a. Seconded by Councilor Romero.

Mr. Pineda stated one vehicle was destroyed by fire and three blowers that have been replaced need to be disposed.

Motion passed unanimously.

c. Resolution No. 23-09-05b – Senior Center ICIP

Councilor Olguin made a motion to approve Resolution No. 23-09-05b. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez.

Administrator Monette stated this is the same process as the municipal ICIP however the Senior Center has its own separate ICIP and a list of the projects are attached.

Mayor Bhasker stated Linda Mares and her employees are doing a great job.

Motion passed unanimously.

d. Resolution No. 23-09-05c – DFA Law Enforcement Fund Grant

Councilor Hicks made a motion to approve Resolution No. 23-09-05c. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez.

Angel Garcia, Police Chief stated that seven police officers are currently working under the grant, one that has graduated from the police academy, one currently in the academy, one that was already certified, and four more going to attend the academy in January. It is a \$750,000.00 grant and this year's portion is \$225,000.00.

Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Councilor Romero inquired if the City has ownership of the Sands Motel. Mayor Bhasker stated the City owns the property and has cleaned it up.

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Dezira Armijo, Convention Center/Tourism Director reported on the Socorro County Fair Rodeo. Ms. Armijo stated that the rodeo was at capacity both nights, the bar was open, and had the Fiber Arts Show at the Convention Center. The Pow-Wow event is scheduled for Saturday, September 9th from sunup to sunset and Socorrofest is to be held in the Plaza September 15th and 16th. Councilor Hicks stated that the South-Central Council of Governments would like to hold a meeting at the Convention Center and Mayor Bhasker stated the County Administrators are holding a meeting on the 29th.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Bhasker sends his condolences to former Governor Bill Richardson's family. During his tenure as Governor, he helped the City of Socorro. The Governor's funeral services will be held on Thursday September 14, 2023 at The Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi Church in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The City will be receiving three CNG dump trucks next week.

Guadalupe Tarrango, Animal Shelter/Dispatch Director reported 22 dogs were transported to Utah.

a. Socorro Consolidated School Board Meeting September 18, 2023 at the City of Socorro Convention Center

Mayor Bhasker stated the Socorro General Hospital, New Mexico Tech will be in attendance at the Socorro Consolidated School Board Meeting when the City will be on the agenda to present the City's Municipal Electric. Councilor Dean asked if the Council was invited, Mayor Bhasker replied that there will be a notice that the Council would be in attendance and there may be a possible quorum. The Mayor informed the Council the following attendees will give a short presentation.

- Luis Reyes, Kit Carson Electric Cooperative, CEO
- Jeff Heit, Guzman Energy, Principal Managing Director
- John Lester, Finley Engineering, VP of Energy
- Sam Lipman, ICAST (International Center for Appropriate & Sustainable Technology)
- Nann Winter, Attorney, Stelzner, Winter, Warburton, Flores, Sanchez & Dawes
- Ed Reyes, Enchantment Energy Consulting, LLC

The meeting will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the City of Socorro Convention Center.

b. Job Descriptions

- i. Administration – Accounts Payable Clerk**
- ii. Fire – Captain**
- iii. Fire – Chief**
- iv. Fire – Firefighter/EMT**
- v. Fire – Captain**
- vi. Police – Administrative Assistant**

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Councilor Salome motioned to approve the Job Descriptions as read by Mayor Bhasker. Seconded by Councilor Romero, motion pass unanimously.

c. Personnel Changes

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

NAME	EFFECTIVE DATE	DEPARTMENT	REASON	SALARY
Raul Contreras	07/18/2023	Rodeo	Temporary to Permanent	A-38
Katelyn Garza	09/05/2023	Police	New Hire	A-40
Dustin Aldrich	09/05/2023	Fire	Salary Adjustment	L-60 to L-62
Mario Amaro	09/05/2023	Fire	Salary Adjustment	Y-64 to Y-66
Jedi Angel	09/05/2023	Fire	Salary Adjustment	G-60 to G-62
Lawrence Baca	09/05/2023	Fire	Salary Adjustment	AZ-77 to AZ-79
Simon Costello	09/05/2023	Fire	Salary Adjustment	B-56 to B-58
Stephen Jojola	09/05/2023	Fire	Salary Adjustment	F-58 to F-60
Humberto Lucero	09/05/2023	Fire	Salary Adjustment	K-62 to K-64
Antonio Munoz	09/05/2023	Fire	Salary Adjustment	B-58 to B-60
Daniel Pacheco	09/05/2023	Fire	Salary Adjustment	Q-62 to Q-64
Michael Padilla	09/05/2023	Fire	Salary Adjustment	E-56 to E-58
Thomas Padilla	09/05/2023	Fire	Salary Adjustment	A-48 to A-50
Leo Patersen	09/05/2023	Fire	Salary Adjustment	D-56 to D-58
Gabriel Sosa-Alvarado	09/05/2023	Fire	Salary Adjustment	K-60 to K-62
Hobbs Stroud	09/05/2023	Fire	Salary Adjustment	A-48 to A-50
Clara Reyes	09/05/2023	Administration	Temporary to Permanent	A-35
Valen Alonzo	09/05/2023	Administration	Promotion to Office Manager	K-44 to K-46
Mariah Jaramillo	09/05/2023	Administration	Promotion to Accounts Payable Clerk	E-40 to E-44
Jeanette Lukesh	09/05/2023	Administration	Lateral Position Change	P-44 to P-44
Jared Padilla Green	09/05/2023	Dispatch	Completion of Academy	B-42 to B-44
Andrew Garcia Vigil	09/05/2023	Dispatch	Completion of Academy	D-40 to D-44
Janette Archibeque	09/05/2023	Dispatch	Completion of Academy	A-42 to A-44
Alena Gachupin	08/23/2023	Administration	Resignation	

Seconded by Councilor Romero, motion passed unanimously.

d. Business Registrations

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

NAME	ZONING	ADDRESS	OWNER	TYPE
Patricia Padilla	Out of Town	Laguna, NM	Patricia Padilla	Agua Frescas
Smokal Smoke Local LLC	C-2	402 California St.	Jay E. Peters	Medical/Recreational Dispensary Cannabis

Seconded by Councilor Dean, motion passed unanimously.

e. Announcement – Next City Council Meeting Dates and Times

Mayor Bhasker stated that the next regular City Council meeting will be held Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

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ADJOURNMENT

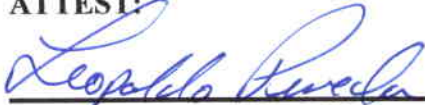
The meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

THE CITY OF SOCORRO – a municipal corporation



Ravi Bhasker, Mayor

ATTEST:



Leopoldo Pineda, City Clerk