

City of Socorro Regular Scheduled City Council Meeting
City Hall, 111 School of Mines Road, Socorro, NM 87801
September 19, 2016

Mayor Pro-Tem Gordy Hicks called the meeting to order. Stephanie Saavedra, Deputy Clerk, took roll call. Members present at roll call were: Mayor Pro-Tem Gordy Hicks, Councilor Mary Ann Chavez-Lopez, Councilor Anton Salome, Councilor Peter Romero, Councilor Michael Olguin and Councilor Nick Fleming. Mayor Ravi Bhasker, Councilor Ernest Pargas and Councilor Toby Jaramillo were absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Patrick Castillo-Torres and Joey Castillo, who attend the City's Youth Center, led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2016 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

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

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

a. September 6, 2016

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Seconded by Councilor Olguin, motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM

a. "Walk for Freedom" – Bryan Sharp

Bryan Sharp, a student at NM Tech, provided a handout regarding the "Walk for Freedom". Mr. Sharp stated that the event will be held on October 15th at 10:00 a.m. and consists of a 3-mile silent walk. Mr. Sharp stated that the purpose of the event is to raise awareness regarding human trafficking/modern day slavery. Mr. Sharp provided a handout with the route for the walk. Police Chief, Mike Winders, stated that police presence could be provided, if needed.

b. New Senior Center Director Linda Murillo

Linda Murillo introduced herself as the new director of the Socorro Senior Center. Ms. Murillo thanked Mayor Bhasker and the City for continuing to support the Senior Center. Ms. Murillo stated that the Senior Center now has a newsletter and a Facebook page. Ms. Murillo stated that funds provided by the City helped the Senior Center acquire computers. Ms. Murillo thanked Mayor Bhasker who, in his capacity as a medical doctor, provides free physicals for the seniors.

Leslie Johnson, a local resident, stated that in regards to the "San Agustin Water Grab Proposal", which has been an issue for the last nine years, she feels it would be a travesty to allow a corporation to sell "our" water. Ms. Johnson stated that a private corporation plans to drill 37 wells to acquire and privately sell 54,000 acre feet of water per year. Ms. Johnson stated that she would like the City to consider filing a protest and that it must be done by October 1st. Donald Monette, City Administrator, stated that he could work on the protest if he was provided with the form/application.

John Standefer, State Fire Marshall, thanked the City of Socorro for continuing to support the annual Fire and EMS Expo. Mr. Standefer stated that the most recent Expo had over 300 attendees each day over 8 days. Mr. Standefer stated that the City of Socorro has supported the Fire Academy since it opened in 1989. Mr. Standefer introduced Brad Brunson, the Deputy Fire Marshall at the Fire Academy, who also attended the meeting.

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Cindy Rivera, the City's Youth Center Director, along with several youth center employees (Regina Valencia, Zach Anaya and Sistine Dunn) and kids from the youth center, provided the City Council and Administration with bags of vegetables from the garden at the Youth Center. Ms. Rivera stated that the kids also entered several items in the County Fair (apple pie, cherry pie, peanut butter candy, vegetables) and won multiple ribbons. Ms. Rivera thanked the City Council, City staff and Socorro Schools for supporting the youth center.

DISCUSSION AND DELIBERATION

a. Memorandum of Understanding – City of Socorro & Village of Magdalena – Animal Shelter Services

Mr. Monette presented a memorandum of understanding between the City of Socorro and the Village of Magdalena, which, if approved, will outline both the City and the Village's responsibilities as it relates to the City providing animal shelter services to the Village. Mr. Monette stated that the Village's fee for these services will be \$125.00 per month.

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the memorandum of understanding between the City of Socorro and the Village of Magdalena. Seconded by Councilor Fleming, motion passed unanimously.

b. Agreement for Professional Services – City of Socorro & Site Southwest – Bicycle & Trail Plan

Jay Santillanes, Division Director, presented a professional services agreement between the City of Socorro and Sites Southwest. Mr. Santillanes stated that Sites Southwest will prepare a bicycle and trail plan for the City of Socorro. Mr. Santillanes stated that the amount of the agreement is \$54,945.00 and the City will be responsible for an \$8,000 match. Mr. Santillanes stated that the plan is necessary in order to be able to apply and acquire additional federal funding. Mable Gonzales, City Clerk/Treasurer, stated that the \$8,000 match will be funded with \$4,000 from the General Fund and \$4,000 from the Healthy Kids Grant.

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the professional services agreement between the City of Socorro and Sites Southwest. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

c. Resolution No. 16-09-19 – Financial Assistant for Planning Grant

Mr. Monette presented Resolution No. 16-09-19 which, if approved, authorizes the submission of an application for financial assistant to the New Mexico Finance Authority for a planning document (to prepare an asset management plan). Mr. Monette stated that an asset management plan is needed as part of applying for funding (CDBG, etc.). Mr. Santillanes stated that asset management is a complex and expensive issue but it is becoming more important to have a plan as entities get points from potential funding sources for having the plan.

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve Resolution No. 16-09-19. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

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d. Agreement for Professional Services – City of Socorro & Terry O. Brown, PE – Traffic Study

Mr. Santillanes presented a professional services agreement between the City of Socorro and Terry O. Brown, PE. Mr. Santillanes stated that Terry O. Brown, PE will be conducting a traffic study for traffic relating to the Rodeo Arena/Soccer Fields area. Mr. Santillanes stated that the amount of the agreement is \$14,650.00. Councilor Romero asked if the traffic study will take into account increased traffic on Spring Street. Mr. Santillanes stated that it would but that the main focus of the study will be from the railroad tracks on Highway 60 to the Matanza Arroyo.

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the professional services agreement between the City of Socorro and Terry O. Brown, PE. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

e. Sewer Utility Line Extension Approval – Alice Road

Mr. Monette stated that at a previous City Council meeting, residents from the Alice Road area requested that the City install sewer lines on Alice Road. Sammy Padilla, a resident of Alice Road, stated that he would like to have sewer lines in that area in order to accommodate more homes. Lloyd Martinez, Division Director, stated that the cost estimate for running sewer line on Alice Road is \$7,623.28. Mr. Martinez stated that the construction would consist of rerouting existing sewer lines and adding 3 manholes.

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve the installation of additional sewer lines on Alice Road. Seconded by Councilor Chavez-Lopez, motion passed unanimously.

f. Budget Resolutions

Mable Gonzales, City Clerk/Treasurer, presented the following:

1. No. 1 – Fire Protection Fund

Resources are Beginning Cash Balance Available – Requirements are Repairs & System Maintenance – Amount is \$4,255 – The increase is needed to allow for expenditures.

2. No. 2 – Gas Valve Replacement Project Fund

Resources are NMFA Loan Proceeds – Requirements are Construction & Engineering - Amount is \$810,929.00 – The increase is needed to allow for the NMFA loan for the Gas Valve Replacement Project.

Councilor Fleming made a motion to approve Budget Resolution No. 1 and 2. Seconded by Councilor Romero, motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR REPORTS

Councilor Romero asked if the street sweeper had been repaired. Mr. Santillanes stated that the part needed for the sweeper had come in and the mechanic should be installing it soon.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

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OLD BUSINESS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Pro-Tem Hicks stated that he recently attended the New Mexico Municipal League's MOLI (Municipal Officials Leadership Institute) training and that he would provide the City Council with the information he received at the conference.

a. Planning & Zoning Commission Appointment

Mayor Pro-Tem Hicks stated that Mayor Bhasker would like to appoint Robert Jaramillo to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Councilor Fleming made a motion to approve Mayor Bhasker's appointment of Robert Jaramillo to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Seconded by Councilor Salome, motion passed unanimously.

b. Library Board Appointment

Mayor Pro-Tem Hicks stated that Mayor Bhasker would like to appoint Genevie Baca to the Library Board.

Councilor Fleming made a motion to approve Mayor Bhasker's appointment of Genevie Baca to the Library Board. Seconded by Councilor Salome, motion passed unanimously.

c. Personnel Changes

Councilor Chavez-Lopez motioned to approve the personnel changes as read by Mr. Monette:

Gabe Sosa – 7-1-16 – Fire – FFII Certification – D-33 to D-36

Temporary New Hires: Jeriana Contreras, Zach Anaya, Mariah Jaramillo, Jasen Leviner, Tiara Jojola, Erin Melendrez

Temporary Renewals: Elias Jacquez, Felipe Romero, Billy Romero, Chris Carrillo, Paul Foulfont, Jerry Griego, Pat Silva, Sebastian Alvarado, Marcella Alvarado, David Chavez, Leann Barth

Student Workers: Serena Perez, Maya Cordova, Chris Altamirano, Taylor Saavedra, Wesley Mauldin, Alondra Gomez, Gabe Sanchez, Emerald Goranson

Referees (6), Zumba (2)

Seconded by Councilor Olguin, motion passed unanimously.

d. Business Registrations

Councilor Romero motioned to approve the business registrations as read by Mr. Monette:

Interstate Cell Service dba ICS – Out of Town – Las Cruces, NM – Robert Armijo – Free Cell Phone Program & Coupons Door to Door

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TOMCO Stores dba Socorro True Value – C-2 – 105 Manzanares – Glen & Nikki Tomlinson – Retail Hardware
Maureen Wilks Digital Fine Art – R-1 (Approved by P & Z) – 1104 High School Road – Maureen Wilks – Creating & Selling Digital Fine Art

Seconded by Councilor Salome, motion passed unanimously.

e. Voucher Run

Councilor Romero made a motion to approve vouchers 139020 to 138532 in the amount of \$1,527,686.27, plus Payroll Transfers (\$312,049.48), for a total of \$1,839,735.75. Seconded by Councilor Fleming, motion passed unanimously.

f. Announcement – Next City Council Meeting Date and Time – Monday, October 3, 2016 @ 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro-Tem Hicks stated that the next regular City Council meeting will be held on Monday, October 3, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:56 p.m., Councilor Romero motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Fleming, motion passed unanimously.

THE CITY OF SOCORRO – a municipal corporation

/s/
Ravi Bhasker, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/
Stephanie Saavedra, Deputy Clerk