

City of Rio Communities Council Minutes
Regular Business Meeting
Tuesday September 12, 2017

Call to Order

- Mayor Gwinn called to order the City Council Regular Business meeting at 6:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

- Clyde Shue led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

- Present: Mayor Gwinn; Councilors; Bill Brown, Peggy Gutjahr, Arturo Sais and Thomas Scroggins
Also, Present: City Manager Bob Skerry, City Treasurer Celina Benavidez, Municipal Clerk Lisa Adair, EDC Chairman Jim Winters, P&Z Chairman Robert Teague, Fire Chief Taylor Lewis and Court Clerk Lisa Adair.

Approval of Agenda

- Councilor Scroggins moved to approve the agenda as written for tonight. The motion was second by Councilor Gutjahr. With a 4-0 vote the agenda for the City Council regular business meeting held on September 12, 2017 was approved as presented.

Approval of Workshop Minutes

- Councilor Gutjahr moved to approve the workshop minutes of July 24, 2017. The motion was second by Councilor Brown. With a 4-0 vote the minutes for the workshop held on July 24, 2017 was approved as written.

City Manager Report

- Manager Skerry said we received a bid on the roads for the DOT co-op grant and explained that we will be coming up with more money over the required matching money from the \$75,000 grant money.
- Mayor Gwinn asked when will they get started.
- Manager Skerry said hopefully soon.
- Manager Skerry explained he has been talking with Lance Geist from Tularosa NM of Lancon Construction about putting together a cost and design for the building and further explained the thresholds for procurement being the design cannot exceed \$60,000. He then said that we had a bid regarding fire alarms for \$34,000 and he said he will be seeking further bids.
- Mayor Gwinn asked if there have been any other companies contacted.
- Manager Skerry said yes, we have but have not received any responses back.
- Manager Skerry explained that we are waiting on someone to come here today regarding the lights out in the parking lot and then explained the procedure.
- Manager Skerry explained that we have a crew cleaning up the rights-of-way.
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Public Comment:

- No public comments.

Economic Development

- Chairman Jim Winters explained DOT is in the process of mowing Hwy 47 and they have also mowed Hwy 304.
- Chairman Winters said the welcome wagon is progressing and explained who has contributed to the baskets and they are still working on the business welcome wagon. He then explained there is a new restaurant coming in and further explained that both the residential and business welcome wagons are non-city events and no city monies are going to this program.
- Chairman Winters said there was a good turnout at the Valencia County fair.
- Chairman Winters explained the grocery store that was being pursued aggressively appears to have backed off and further explained that EDC will be doing a mailout to a whole new group of business.
- Chairman Winters said they are still working on the business brochure and website.
- Chairman Winters said the City has joined the Albuquerque Economic Development and the welcome meeting will be this week on Thursday.
- Chairman Winters explained EDC had attended today the Mission Graduate program luncheon.
- Councilor Sais asked regarding the gentleman who was doing the cleanup around Golf Course have you heard anything about him.
- Chairman Winters said this has to do with DOT/Paul and VIA not EDC.

Planning and Zoning

- Chairman Robert Teague explained they are actively working on parks and trails and said this Saturday they have the public forum.
- Chairman Teague said P&Z is looking into ordinances regarding trash and solid waste and everyone trying to get different information from other cities and what they are doing.
- Chairman Teague explained at the City cleanup they are trying to get P&Z more actively involved and is trying to get other organizations involved as well with the cleanups.
- Chairman Teague thanked all City Employees for helping with the mailers.

Rio Grande Estates Fire Department

- Fire Chief Taylor Lewis said in August they had 33 calls; 30 were medical. He then said they have gotten 3 new volunteers.
- Chief Lewis explained a few events coming up one being the Community Health Fair where they will be setting up a booth and Halloween.
- Mayor Gwinn asked do they need candy to be brought to the station for Halloween.
- Chief Lewis said sure everything is welcome.
- Mayor Gwinn asked if they still have the program if a fire alarm is broken can people still call the fire department.
- Chief Lewis said yes, we can replace the smoke alarms.
- Councilor Brown asked regarding the 33 calls that you responded to can you tell how many calls were not responded to.
- Chief Lewis said he could not give you an exact number.
- Councilor Brown asked how many are on the roster now.
- Chief Lewis said they have 28/29 on roster.
- Councilor Brown asked how many are Jr.'s
- Chief Lewis said 0.
- Councilor Brown asked how many are EMS.

- Chief Lewis said 13/14.
- Manager Skerry said VRECC 911 call center does not keep how many responses to the calls and however when they get the new system up and running they will be able to track responses.

Municipal Court – Court Clerk

- Court Clerk Adair stated that last month our Police Officer Roque was very busy and gave the report for the month of August. She stated there were 29 traffic citations filed in the courts; payments for Correction fees \$160.00; Court Automation fee \$48.00; Judicial Education fee \$24.00; Court Fine \$805.00; giving a total of money received for the month of August is \$1,037.00.

Accounts Payable -- City Treasurer Celina Benavidez

- Treasurer Benavidez asked for permission to pay the following bills totaling \$13,055.16.

Bankcard MTOT	\$ 66.89	AC Disposal Services	\$ 720.00
PNM	\$ 622.32	NM Gas Co	\$ 29.54
PNM	\$ 350.91	University of New Mexico	\$ 158.00
USPS	\$ 611.74	Frank Logan	\$ 35.00
NM Water Service Company	\$ 246.95	AC disposal Services	\$ 48.00
Comcast Business	\$ 289.23	Number Nine Media	\$ 306.96
Heather Benavidez (Judge)	\$ 100.00	Bob Skerry	\$ 77.14
NM Municipal League (training)	\$ 1120.00	Gusto	\$ 75.00
Gusto	\$ 5,820.46	Gusto	\$ 2,377.02

- Councilor Brown moved to accept and pay the accounts payable for \$13,055.16 for the period of August 24 – September 12. The motion was second by Councilor Sais. Vote: Councilor Scroggins-yes; Councilor Gutjahr-yes; Councilor Brown-yes and Councilor Sais-yes. With a 4-0 vote
- Councilor Scroggins said we just opened two accounts for \$500,000 and don't show the amounts in the accounts.
- Treasurer Benavidez said we haven't done the transfers yet into the new accounts.
- Councilor Sais asked was AC Disposal Services for \$720.00 for the dumpsters.
- Treasurer Benavidez said yes and the regular trash pickup is for \$48.00.

Notification of approval of the final budget from the LGD (Local Government Division)

- Manager Skerry said we received final approval from DFA-LGD and this will be published on our website.
- Councilor Gutjahr moved to approve the final budget for the FY2018. The motion was second by Councilor Scroggins. Vote: Councilor Sais-yes; Councilor Brown-yes; Councilor Gutjahr-yes and Councilor Scroggins-yes. With a 4-0 vote the Final Budget approval for the FY2018 was approved as submitted from the LGD (Local Government Division).

Meet Legislators Day – Set date

- Mayor Gwinn explained things will start happening in January so if we want to meet with the Legislators we need to do this within the next few weeks and suggested that we might want to consider an annual event so that we can plan this way in advance.
- Councilor Gutjahr suggested setting the date for Wednesday the 11th of October.
- Mayor Gwinn said then in the future it would be better to setup this meet and greet in September.

- Councilor Sais asked if we were going to just setup October tonight and worry about September later.
- Mayor Gwinn said he would like to motion to cover both dates.
- Councilor Gutjahr moved to have the Meet Legislators Day on October 11 and amended the motion to add the time frame of 10 am – 12 pm in Council Chambers and lunch afterwards. The motion was second by Councilor Sais. Vote: Councilor Brown-yes; Councilor Scroggins-yes; Councilor Sais-yes and Councilor Gutjahr-yes. With a 4-0 vote the Date of October 11, 2017 10 am – 12 pm to have a Meet the Legislators Day and lunch to follow afterwards.
- Councilor Sais suggested the 3rd Wednesday of September to be the annual time and having the event between 10 am – 12 pm.
- Councilor Sais moved to have the 3rd Wednesday of September to be the Meet the Legislator Day as an annual event. The motion was second by Councilor Brown. Vote: Councilor Scroggins-yes; Councilor Gutjahr-yes; Councilor Brown-yes and Councilor Sais-yes. With a 4-0 vote the 3rd Wednesday of September to be the annual day of Meet the Legislator Day.

Setup Volunteer Appreciation Committee

- Mayor Gwinn said we have spoken a lot about recognizing volunteers and making an appreciation committee.
- Councilor Brown said he would like to see initially a committee of 5 to be established with ground rules to honor and to counter what the previous discussion have been, the committee of 5 be the Council. He then said even though the Mayor is the only person to have served all 5 years he can't think of any committee member appointed from the public at large who would be able to recognize as Council would be able to and then further explained that the members of that committee are not eligible to be recognized and they need to establish the rules of the nomination selection for appreciation and previous winners cannot be nominated again.
- Councilor Sais agreed that policies need to be established and then said he would like to see a couple of community people at large and then suggested one of P&Z, one of EDC and one governing body member. He then said he can see the rational what Bill said but he would like to see more community involvement.
- Councilor Brown said the community has not seeing the volunteerism going on.
- Councilor Scroggins said he agrees to the Council doing this temporally at this point and we could talk to a multitude of constitutes and get their opinions.
- Councilor Sais said his concern would be that if it was Council being the committee they are already in the firing line and they would get more scrutiny about this person was picked because of political reason or nepotism.
- Mayor Gwinn said he also sees it should only be one person from here and he would like to see on from P&Z and EDC and then explained when the City started it was all volunteers.
- Councilor Gutjahr said she feels we might want to start off with 2 from Council and then said Council will have input into this by giving names to the committee. She then said her thought would be this first group of recognized volunteers should be everybody that has volunteered up to this point.
- Councilor Sais said having more people on the committee would be fine but then there will be more bureaucracy and lots of pro and cons.
- Mayor Gwinn asked where does the Council stand on this and would we need further discussion.
- Councilor Sais moved to make a 5-person committee, 1-councilor, 1-econminc development, 1-planning and zoning and 2-at large from the community. The motion was second by Councilor Gutjahr.

- Councilor Brown said he strongly disagrees to the motion for reasons stated before.
- Councilor Scroggins said he feels it is important to have citizens that are not involved in government and allows them to feel they are being heard.
- Councilor Gutjahr said her thought is set this up now, put it in place but then they can amend the committee at some point and time.
- Councilor Sais said he feels they need to involve EDC, P&Z and Council and feels we need to be vested but feels that it being strictly Council would be putting them all on the firing line.
- Mayor Gwinn asked for a vote to the motion. Vote: Councilor Scroggins-no, Councilor Sais-yes; Councilor Gutjahr-yes and Councilor Brown-no. Mayor Gwinn invoked his right to break the tie and voted yes. With a 3-2 vote City Council approved to set up a volunteer committee with 1-Council member, 1-EDC member, 1-P&Z member and 2 residents.
- Mayor Gwinn asked Council to consider and get back to him who they feel should be part of the committee and setting up ground rules.

Council Reports

- Councilor Scroggins had nothing to report.
- Councilor Sais said he would like more discussion later requiring mandatory trash bins, on foreclosures and narrowing down our policy or procedure on nuisances.
- Councilor Sais said he meet the Keter plant manager at the Moose Lodge and talked briefly with him.
- Councilor Brown said in addition to the nuisance ordinance which we already have P&Z is working on the solid waste ordinance. He then said on the governing body priority list is to look at solid waste and abatement ordinances.
- Councilor Gutjahr reminded that the adult health fair will be on Friday October 20 from 10-2 and she will have a list of vendors who will be at the fair.
- Councilor Gutjahr said we need to have a discussion at a workshop on how to fund another police officer.
- Mayor Gwinn asked to put that on the next workshop meeting.
- Mayor Gwinn said this weekend we will have the next cleanup and the public meeting for parks and trails later that afternoon.
- Mayor Gwinn said next Tuesday the neighborhood watch is meeting at abundant life at 6:00 pm.
- Mayor Gwinn said it is a brand-new school year and he talked with the school bus department and they gave him the routes and said please be careful with the kids being around.

ADJOURN

- Councilor Brown moved to adjourn. The motion was second by Councilor Scroggins. With a 4-0 vote the City Council regular business meeting was adjourned at 7:08pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth (Lisa) Adair
Municipal Clerk

Approved:

Mark Gwinn,
Mayor

Margaret (Peggy) Gutjahr,
Councilor Mayor Pro-tem

William (Bill) Brown,
Councilor

Arturo R. Sais,
Councilor

Thomas Scroggins,
Councilor

Date: _____