



City of Rio Communities Council Special Business Meeting
City Council Chambers - 360 Rio Communities Blvd
Rio Communities, NM 87002
Monday, January 29, 2024, 6:00 PM
Minutes

Please silence all electronic devices.

Call to Order

Mayor Ramsell called the Special Business Meeting to order at 6:04pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Councilor Marquez led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Governing Body

Mayor Joshua Ramsell
Councilor Lawrance Gordon
Councilor Marquez
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Apodaca (Virtual)

Staff

Manager Dr. Martin Moore
Deputy Clerk Lalena Aragon
Finance Officer Stephanie Finch
Police Chief Felix Nunez
Fire Chief Andrew Tabet
City Attorney Ken Tager

Approval of Agenda

Councilor Gordon made a motion to approve the agenda with the change to have Andrew Good sworn in before the consent agenda and to remove executive session.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Gordon
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Marquez
Councilor Apodaca

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote

Swearing in of Code Enforcer Andrew Good

Judge Chavez sworn Andrew Good as Rio Communities Code Enforcer.

Approval of Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Accounts Payable
2. Approval of Minutes for December 29, 2023
3. Approval of Minutes January 08, 2024
4. Confirmation of Appointed Officers
 - a. Re-Appointment of Fire Chief, Andrew Tabet
 - b. Re-Appointment of Police Chief, Felix Nunez

Amazon Business	1,202.53	Richard A. Martinez	1,253.75
Home Depot	679.75	Woodlands Hardware	210.25

Sharp Electronics Corporation	49.45	Wells Fargo Financial Leasing	2,635.82
TLC Uniforms	798.18	Century Link	78.45
Desert Fox, LLC.	3,249.00	Craig Independent Tire Co.	162.49
McKesson Medical-Surgical Government	100.00	Rentokil North America Inc.	466.43
Aqua3, LLC.	83.60	HDR Engineering, Inc.	43,432.44
NM Local Government Law	8,174.66	Artesia Fire Equipment Inc.	810.80
Matthew Marquez	306.30	Andy's Boot Shop	325.00
LN Curtis	216.00	Linde Gas & Equipment Inc.	198.54
Tyler Technologies	259.65	BRADY COMPANIES LLC	438.66
Once a Day Marketing LLC.	7,771.66	Total Glass Solutions, LLC	30,901.73
Bound tree Medical	1,257.84	Ortega and Son's Propane Services,	507.79
Emblems, Inc.	668.00	Ridgecrest Products	312.00
Sanchez Demolition Inc.	12,194.58	Albuquerque Publishing Co.	4,381.76
Thomas Nelson	348.29	Comcast Business	284.70
Pitney Bowes	472.68		

Motion made by Councilor Gordon to approve consent agenda. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca.

<u>Voting Yea:</u>	<u>Voting Nay</u>
Councilor Gordon	Councilor Nelson
Councilor Apodaca	Councilor Marquez
Mayor Ramsell (Tie breaker)	

Motion passed with a 3-2 vote

Public Comment:

Dick Irvin talked about his disappointment of the Judge resigning and thanked her for all the things she does for the public. He then talked about his concerns about code enforcement.

Rex Cheney, talked about the speed bumps and that he had a few issues with getting his motorcycle over them. He continued to talk about abandoned homes in his neighborhood and overgrown weeds.

Organizational items

Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Appointment of Mayor Pro Tempore

Mayor Ramsell recommended the appointment of Lawrance Gordon as Mayor Pro Tem. Motion made Councilor Apodaca for the appointment of Lawrance Gordon as Mayor Pro Tem. Seconded by Councilor Gordon.

<u>Voting Yea:</u>	<u>Voting Nay</u>
Councilor Gordon	Councilor Nelson
Councilor Apodaca	Councilor Marquez
Mayor Ramsell (Tie breaker)	

Motion passed with a 3-2 vote

Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Appointment of Jim Winters Planning and Zoning Commission

Mayor Ramsell recommended the appointment of Jim Winters as Planning & Zoning Commission.

Councilor Nelson asked if Mr. Winters had applied and requested that he submits an application before moving forward.

Motion made by Councilor Nelson to remove this until the next meeting. Seconded by Councilor Marquez.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Gordon

Councilor Nelson

Councilor Marquez

Councilor Apodaca

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote

Manager Report

City Manager Dr. Moore talked about ongoing City projects. He explained with a homeland security grant work is being done on El Fuego. He then explained that the work on San Lucas is almost complete and continued to talk about the progress on the park in Chamisa. He then talked about having a budget 101 to walk through budget finances.

Finance officer Finch explained that it will be a good training to help new Councilors understand how city government finances work and what the money can and cannot be used for.

City Manager Dr. Moore talked about the Goodman Ave. project and said that the engineers are at about 90%. He thanked the public that came to the Public Forum for the projects. He further explained that there will be another Public Forum in the near future for a project on Horner.

City Manager Dr. Moore talked about Judge Chavez resigning and said she will be missed on the bench.

Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Intergovernmental services agreement between the County of Valencia and the City of Rio Communities for law enforcement protection

City Manager Dr. Moore explained that the MOU is laid out as was discussed with a flat fee structure.

Under Sheriff Noah stated they would answer any questions.

Councilor Apodaca asked how Police Chief Nunez felt about the contract.

Police Chief Nunez stated the police department is moving along but building a police department is difficult right now people aren't interested in law enforcement. He stated it is important to have a working relationship with the Sheriff's department.

Sheriff Vigil stated that they are here for Rio Communities. They know that a police department is being established and it is a slow process.

Motion made by Councilor Nelson to approve the intergovernmental services agreement between the County of Valencia and the City of Rio Communities for law enforcement protection. Seconded by Councilor Gordon.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Gordon
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Marquez
Councilor Apodaca

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Approval of Purchasing Police Vehicles

City Manager Dr. Moore talked about having one opening for a police officer and we currently do not have a vehicle for that officer. He then said Police Chief Nunez has three vehicles that he has found and that will leave some cushion in case one of our units breaks down.

Police Chief Nunez explained that police vehicles have become extremely expensive. He then went over the vehicles he had found and the prices and explained the units are already outfitted and ready to go and that they are all highway miles. He explained the only thing we are not getting are the radio systems and explained the price of the radios. He then talked about having to buy two mounts and explained the mounts are to hold the computer system.

Councilor Nelson asked where the money was coming from.

Finance officer Finch explained it will come from available cash in the general fund.

Councilor Marquez had some questions about the price and recommended that that they only purchase 2 vehicles until we get the officers to fill the vehicles.

Police Chief Nunez explained that just to get a vehicle outfitted and ready to go it can take up to 9 months.

Mayor Ramsell asked about a timeline due to supply chain issues for a brand-new vehicle.

Fire Chief Tabet explained it is about a two year wait for a new vehicle.

Finance officer Finch explained that it was over a year to get the new vehicles outfitted and ready for our police officers.

Motion made by Councilor Apodaca to approve purchasing of police vehicles. Seconded by Councilor Marquez.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Gordon
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Marquez
Councilor Apodaca

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote

Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Resolution 2024-01 Second Quarterly Report

Finance officer Finch went over the second quarterly report.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Gordon
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Marquez
Councilor Apodaca

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote

Council Discussion

Councilor Nelson talked about the City Council meeting being cancelled on January 22, 2024 and stated that they should have voted on it at the January 08 meeting. He asked why Councilors were not notified of the resignation of the Municipal judge and the Planning and Zoning Commissioner. He then asked about legislation days and who will be attending, he stated that it is important for himself and Councilor Marquez to have business cards for such events. He also stated that the Capital Outlay request he received is very vague.

Councilor Marquez thanked staff for the agenda being out by Wednesday. He also thanked the city for the groundbreaking and the News Bulletin for being there. He continued to thank the administrative staff, Public Works, and the Fire Department. He then asked who the grant writer was for the city. He then asked for the draft of SOPS for the employees. He then explained that he was notified about the Judge resigning by a citizen and asked why Council wasn't notified immediately. He then explained that they need to put a notice out for recruitment for a judge. He then recited Ordinance 2013-03 section 2-2-1 B and requested that the Council be informed of things right away. He then requested better communication from the City Manager and the Mayor in the future.

Adjourn

Motion made by Councilor Nelson to adjourn at 7:53pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

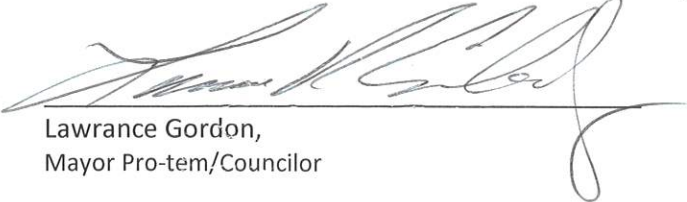


Dr. Martin Moore, Acting Municipal Clerk
(Taken and Transcribed by Lalena Aragon, Deputy Clerk)


Date: _____

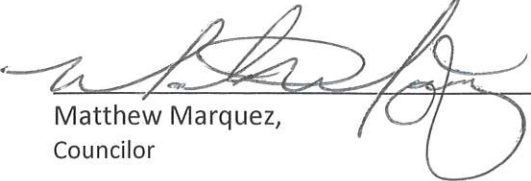
Approved:



Joshua Ramsell,
Mayor

Lawrance Gordon,
Mayor Pro-tem/Councilor

Arthur Apodaca,
Councilor

Thomas Nelson,
Councilor

Matthew Marquez,
Councilor