



**City of Rio Communities Council Special Workshop**  
**City Council Chambers - 360 Rio Communities Blvd**  
**Rio Communities, NM 87002**  
**Monday, May 20, 2024 3:00 PM**  
**Minutes**

*Please silence all electronic devices.*

**Call to Order**

Mayor Ramsell called the Special Business meeting to order at 3:02pm.

**PRESENT**

**Governing Body**

Mayor Joshua Ramsell  
Councilor Lawrance Gordon  
Councilor Marquez  
Councilor Apodaca

**Staff**

Manager Dr. Martin Moore  
Deputy Clerk Lalena Aragon  
City Attorney Randy Van Vleck  
Fire Chief Andrew Tabet

**ABSENT**

Councilor Thomas Nelson

**Discussion/Agenda Items – FY Tentative 2024-2025 Budget**

City Manager Dr. Moore went over the tentative 2024-2025 FY budget. He explained that we are still waiting for some items from the state and there will be more items in the final budget. He explained if we do not have the money, or we have an agreement in process it will not be in here unless it is a revenue that comes in year after year. Dr. Moore went over the organizational chart. He then explained that general operating funds and talked about permits and licenses and that the Judge will come in a present her wish list for the court's budget for 2024-2025. Dr. Moore then went over the general fund and all the departments in the city and the contracts with Valencia County. He explained that in the final budget there will be changes for parks. He explained a big part of revenue is property tax and explained how property taxes are broken down and that 10% of property taxes come to the city. He continued with his presentation. Dr. Moore explained franchise agreements the city has. Dr. Moore continued his presentation. (See packet).

Judge Smith gave a presentation. She explained that Court is a separate branch of Government and not a department of the City. She explained that Council can not control the courts money only give the courts a flat fee. Judge Smith went over travel, renovations she would like done to the court room, training the courts will need, translator fees for the court, general office supplies, hourly pay for the court clerk. She continued with her presentation.

City Manager Dr. Moore explained that Judge Smith is being reasonable in her budget.

Mayor Ramsell thanked Judge Smith for her presentation.

Councilor Marquez asked if the courts needed money for furniture in the Court Room.

Judge Smith explained that the Courts will make do with what they have as far as furniture is concerned.

City Manager Dr. Moore continued his presentation and explained they are keeping the budget flat (see packet).

Councilor Marquez talked about asking for more money to build a park on a piece of property that is owned by the city.

City Manager Dr. Moore explained that he will be keeping a close eye on that and continued to go over departments budget and explained with inflation we will have to keep in mind pay raises for employees for the final budget and adjust.

Councilor Marquez asked where the money goes that has not been spent.

City Manager Dr. Moore explained that it will go back into pulled cash and explained how the money in pulled cash is used.

Councilor Marquez asked about the Makers Space funds and asked to see the line of the budget.

City Manager Dr. Moore explained that it does not have its own line.

Councilor Marquez asked if there were funds to add materials or events for the library and the maker's space.

City Manager Dr. Moore stated that there is no money in the general fund and explained there is a Jr. bill that assists with those funds.

Councilor Marquez asked how the city will pay for a librarian and training if the budget is zero.

City Manager Dr. Moore explained those numbers will change with the final budget.

Councilor Marquez asked about the numbers on the Fire Department budget.

Fire Chief Tabet explained how the funds were spent.

City Manager Dr. Moore went over the roadside streetlights.

Councilor Marquez requested to raise the roadside streetlight fund due to inflation and being over budget.

City Manager Dr Moore explained that there is a little bit of padding, so we can go over, and we don't want to budget our expenses any higher than our revenue.

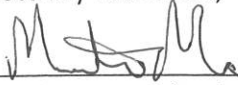
City Manager Dr. Moore went over the rescues plan act and explained we have until 2026 to spend it and explained that there are supply chain issues. He continued his presentation.

Mayor Ramsell stated he would like to close out the workshop and go into the Council Meeting after a quick break.

## **Adjourn**

Mayor Ramsell adjourned at 6:02pm.

Respectfully submitted,



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

Date: July 22, 2024

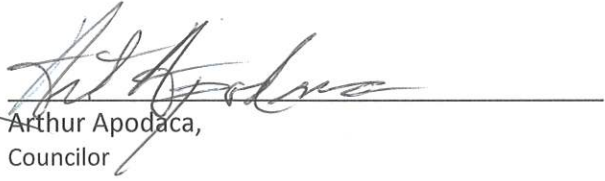
Approved:



Joshua Ramsell,  
Mayor



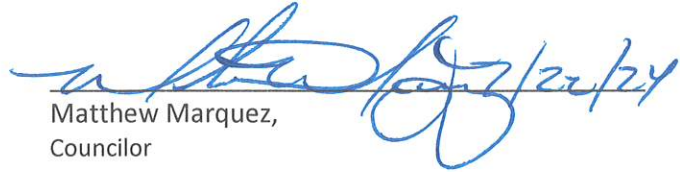
Lawrance R. Gordon,  
Mayor Pro-tem/Councilor



Arthur Apodaca,  
Councilor

Thomas Nelson 7-22-24

Thomas Nelson,  
Councilor



Matthew Marquez,  
Councilor