



City of Rio Communities Council Regular Business Meeting
City Council Chambers - 360 Rio Communities Blvd
Rio Communities, NM 87002
Tuesday, October 28, 2024, 6:00 PM
Minutes

Please silence all electronic devices.

Mayor - Joshua Ramsell
Mayor Pro Tem – Lawrence R. Gordon
Council - Arthur Apodaca, Thomas Nelson, Matthew Marquez

Call to Order

Mayor Ramsell called the meeting to order at 6:02pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Nelson led the pledge of allegiance

Roll Call:

Governing Body

Mayor Joshua Ramsell
Councilor Art Apodaca
Councilor Thomas Nelson
Councilor Matthew Marquez

Staff

Manager Dr. Martin Moore
Deputy Clerk Rachael M. Howe
City Attorney Randy VanVleck

Approval of Agenda:

Motion made by Councilor Nelson to approve the agenda. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Marquez
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Apodaca

Motion passed with 3-0

Approval of Consent Agenda:

Contains the Approval of Accounts Payable

Motion made by Councilor Nelson to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Councilor Marquez

Voting Yea:

Councilor Marquez
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Apodaca

Motion passed with 3-0

Public Comment:

Robert Chaves spoke about accidentally hitting the SOS button on his cell phone. Within five minutes of him hitting that button the Rio Communities Police were at the front door of his house. He wanted to openly give a shout out to Officer Rodriguez and Officer Gabby for their quick response. The second shout out Robert wanted to give was to Public Works. With all the rain, the City has seen a lot of weeds Mr. Chaves stated that he sees Public Works working all day long to try and manage the weeds. He specifically mentioned the sidewalks along Golf Course Road. All the weeds were cleaned up. ~~weeds.~~

Mr. Chaves also mentioned that he appreciates seeing Lalena Aragon. She is such a nice individual to see when one walks into City Hall.

Dick Irvine gave a shout out to H2R and the Roadrunner Festival. It was a great event. Next, Mr. Irvine mentioned the problem with parking on his street, including a camper.-He stated he believes someone is living in it.

Manager Report

Dr. Moore confirmed that all processes for Sombrero Loop have been completed and that the deed has been recorded. The property is officially in the City's name. There is a right-of-way on the inside of the curb area where Public Works cleaned up the weeds.

Second, Dr. Moore introduced Tom Robinson with General Electric and Margret Haines with NMDOT and turned it over to them to discuss the Arcosa temporary wind tower shipments. Mr. Robinson stated that there are 30 towers that need to be moved from the facility, at rate of two to three towers a per day. This will go on for the next two to three weeks. This is a temporary solution; a permanent solution will be to create a new roadway that will be a bypass.

Ms. Haines added that NMDOT has been working closely with Mr. Robinsons and that the traffic control permit has been approved. There will be automated flagging operations with road closures. The barrels have already been staged. She added that the automated flaggers will be manned. Ms. Haines also clarified that two to three towers means six to nine trucks. Trucks will be moving between 9 am and 3 pm with two closures. One in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Mayor Ramsell asked if they will be allowing emergency vehicles to go through as well as school buses. Ms. Haines replied yes.

Councilor Apodaca asked if they could move the trucks later in the afternoon and Ms. Haines stated that if they were to do it later in the day, that would impact the peak hours of traffic in the community. Councilor Apodaca asked about moving the towers at night and Ms. Haines stated that was not an option due to safety concerns and being able to see.

Councilor Marquez asked how long the closures will last. Mr. Robinson stated that October 29th will truly tell. They are estimating 30 to 45 minutes. Councilor Marquez also inquired if NMDOT had identified any issues or concerns. Ms. Haines stated that there are a few items that they have talked about such as infrastructure. The infrastructure must be maintained as it is today. They took measurements and pictures before to compare against the aftereffects.

Ms. Haines stated the construction of the permanent bypass road will start as soon as the temporary closure is completed. After the 30 towers are moved no more movement will happen until construction is over, which is estimated to be completed in January or February. They will start the US 60 intersection as soon as this phase of shipments is done. The construction of intersections at US 60 and 47 and US 60 and I-25 and 116 will start as soon as this is done. The bypass road is still a work in progress; NMDOT is not there yet. She stated that they are not planning to have Rio Communities have additional temporary closures.

Dr. Moore and Ms. Haines discussed that the eastbound road will be designed to withstand 110-ton trucks. The west bound lane will be designed for a standard 18-wheeler load. Ms. Haines added that one side will be thicker ~~on one side~~ due to the trucks will carry the heavier load going eastbound.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Nelson asked when the City will be holding a grand opening for Chamesa Park. Dr. Moore mentioned before Thanksgiving and that if the council would like to pick a date that would be fine. Councilor Nelson also brought up the fact that the City Council has had all kinds of Special Meetings and that he feels the City and Council needs to stop doing that and take care of items during the regular meetings. It uses overtime comp time and the City can't afford it. Mayor Ramsell stated that some of those things were time sensitive.


Councilor Marquez asked if we had any applicants for the finance posting. Dr. Moore informed him that we have two interviews scheduled for 9 am and 10 am. Councilor Marquez stated that he received an email about a code violation. The person who sent the email asked what is going on with it. Dr. Moore let him know that the violation was going to Planning and Zoning's next meeting on November 7th. Councilor Marquez inquired about sand and dirt blowing on the housing surrounding where they cleared the land for Jubilee and is there anything that the City can do. Dr. Moore stated that the City can ask the landowner to do something to help with soil erosion.

Sunday November 17, 2024, is the date the Council is considering holding the Chamesa Park opening.

Adjourn

Motion made by Councilor Apodaca to adjourn. Seconded by Nelson. Motion carried at 6:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



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

RAMON M. HOWE 

Date: 11-12-2024

Approved:



Joshua Ramsell,
Mayor



Lawrence R. Gordon,
Mayor Pro-tem/Councilor



Arthur Apodaca,
Councilor

Thomas Nelson 11-12-24

Thomas Nelson,
Councilor

Matthew Marquez,
Councilor