

This meeting was streamed on Facebook Live
<https://www.facebook.com/riocommunities>

Call to Order

- Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr called to order the city council regular business meeting at 6:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

- Dr. Martin Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

- Present: Mayor Pro tem Peggy Gutjahr, Councilors; Bill Brown, Joshua Ramsell and Jim Winters.
Present: City Manager Dr. Martin Moore, Municipal Clerk Lisa Adair, and Valencia County News-Bulletin Editor Clara Garcia.

Approval of Agenda

- Councilor Ramsell made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was second by Councilor Brown. Vote: Councilor Winters-yes; Councilor Brown-yes; Councilor Ramsell-yes and Councilor Gutjahr-yes. With a 4-0 vote the agenda for the City Council Regular business meeting was approved as presented.

Approval of Approval of the minutes for the Special Business Meeting of 12/22/2020, the Workshop of 12/29/2020 & the City Council Regular Business Meeting of 12/29/2020

- Councilor Ramsell moved to approve the minutes for the Special Business Meeting of December 12, 2020, the Workshop of December 29, 2020 & the City Council Regular Business Meeting of December 29, 2020. The motion was second by Councilor Brown. Vote: Councilor Winters-yes; Councilor Brown-yes; Councilor Ramsell-yes and Councilor Gutjahr-yes. With a 4-0 vote the minutes for the special business meeting held on 12/22/2020, the workshop and regular business meeting held on 12/29/2020 were approved as written.

Swearing in of the New City Manager – Martin Moore

- Judge Noelle Chavez swore in Dr. Martin Moore as our City Manager.
- Councilor Brown said welcome aboard.
- Councilor Ramsell said glad you are here.
- Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr said there were lots of comments on why the Council took so long to hire a manager and as a Council we wanted to go through the right process, hire the right person. She then explained the process of hiring the manager and Council is happy with the outcome.

100% Community - Presentation by Community Wellness Council, Diana Good

- ❖ Community Wellness Council Vice-Chair Diana Good gave a presentation on 100% Community.
- ❖ Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr explained there still are spots open, there are a lot of people putting this together, and the goal is for the family and children to thrive.

Public Comment

- No public comments.

City Manager

- City Manager Dr. Martin Moore reported that he walked into his office the first day and in the spirit of diving in head-first he sorted through the stack of papers to review, talked with several items with the Mayor Pro tem, and appreciate the department reports and make sure we will update the public on important issues. He then said open communication is very important to a smooth operation and he is glad to be back in New Mexico.

Economic Development

- Rio Comm Dec.2019 EDC report: EDC only met December 9th and cancelled the second meeting for the holidays. December 9 meeting: For city branding/logo research attending members decided to each take 2 cities and report on January 13: Kuan- Las Cruces and Silver City; Fran- San Antonio and Gallup; Loedi- Santa Rosa and Mesa; Frank- Tucumcari and Amarillo; Tom- not present. Education ideas: Frank to bring in IEDC class directory; Kuan to bring in UNMVC catalog. USDA sewer lines research: Since our sewer lines are owned by privately owned water company, USDA will not fund new lines. NM Water owned by company in Bakersfield, CA and Garth Tallman will contact to see if they would support sewer line expansion if private funding available. Garth Tallman reports USDA funding available (note: April deadline to apply) for City Hall development, or drainage projects. Contact: community programs at 505 461-4957, email:cpassist@usda.gov. Suggested we may have success with sewer lines if for a low-income housing project. USDA supports those. Agenda items for 1/20/21 council meeting: updates on library, parks, city hall improvements and roads (beautification of 47). Submitted, Kuan Tikkun, EDC chair, January 12, 2021

Planning and Zoning

- No report.

Code Enforcement /Public Works

- Code Enforcement: Weed and Vehicle violation Health and safety violation: coordinating with the Fire Department for inspection is month; storing of RVs and boats violations; Orders ATV's prohibited signs with the ordinance and fines printed on them, to be posted on City property. He will present locations of sign posting to City Manager before proceeding. Sign order is set up pick-up this Friday the 15th; Generated a list of private property owners and Corps that own very large parcels in the City (Hot zones for ATV's). Gave list to Mayor Pro tem, attorney will be sending letters out. He asked if the Attorney has sent letters to property owners. Talked with NMDOT, concerning ATVs traveling up and down the DOT right -away, eroding it away, along Rio Communities Blvd. DOT will pay for the signs the installation of them and the up keep. Both sides of R.C. Blvd and the south side of HWY 304. Still in the works; Trespassing on Government property, Public is using the land to access private property, he has sent letters out. he will bring the City Manager up to speed on this for additional Direction. He is waiting on Abatement Ordinance ruling from Attorney. He has been attending P&Z meeting; the printing of posters for substandard structures with the ordinance # on them is still on hold.
- Public Works: Workers; Weed control and illegal dumping control; Street Light upgrade; Location Hwy304 LEDs light upgrade use the existing light fixtures from Hwy304 to repair the lights on R C Blvd and use the fixtures at the proposed street intersections for lighting; the Public worker position waiting on scheduling interviews; LED lighting Rear of City Hall still waiting on order;
- Future proposal; Cost of erecting a 4 ft. fence along southside of Hwy 304, to establish the City's and residence property lines. This fence will correct any existing encroachment and eliminate any future encroaching.

- PNM meeting with their Engineer Dec 16th regarding the grey electrical meter cabinets. The outcome, City owns the 14 grey metal electrical meter cabinets behind City Hall. Out of the 14-meter cabinets the City is using three to four cabinets. Proposal; get with HDR Engineering to put a cost together, to design an electrical engineer drawing for new service into City Hall. Eliminate all the grey metal cabinets. All this will be run by the City Manager. He proposed a hot water loop, to have hot water at all sinks located in building, a health and safety issue for the washing of hands. They have stripped the cope equipment from both Crown Victoria and the decals. UWS hired a contractor and remodeling the inside of their building.
- Project Managing Street Paving: Passed out public notification on the street work in their area. City's roads 80% of the cut & replacement is completed. Contractor is working around the weather. The chip & seal is on till spring time. Contractors contract has been extended to May 2021. Gordon Reeves

Rio Grande Estates Fire Department

- No report
- Councilor Ramsell stated that they have been very busy running calls and if we had any questions to give Chief Tabet a call.

Municipal Court

- Court Clerk Lisa Adair gave the court report for the month of December: 4 code violation(s) and 4 traffic violation(s) were filed in the courts.
- Amounts collected are: Correction fees \$20; Court Automation fees \$6; Judicial Education fees \$3; Court Fines of \$40 giving a total of \$69 collected in the courts.

Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Approval of Accounts Payable

- Councilor Brown moved for the approval of accounts payable as presented. The motion was second by Councilor Winters. Vote: Councilor Ramsell-yes; Councilor Brown-yes; Councilor Winters-yes and Councilor Gutjahr-yes. with a 4-0 vote accounts payable was approved to be paid.

Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Resolution 2021 – XX BAR #2

- Clerk Adair read into the minutes Resolution 2021-01 BAR #2
- Councilor Ramsell moved to approve Resolution 2021 – 01 BAR #2. The motion was second by Councilor Brown. Vote: Councilor Winters-yes; Councilor Ramsell-yes; Councilor Brown-yes and Councilor Gutjahr-yes. With a 4-0 vote Resolution 2021-01 BAR #2 (budget amendments) was passed, approved, adopted, and signed.

Discussion, Consideration, and Decision - Resolution 2021 – XX 2nd Quarter Financial Report

- Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr explained the accounts payable report will be posted online tomorrow and the public is welcome to call and ask questions. She then said at his point we are right on target even with the pandemic.
- Councilor Brown said it is a very extensive report and it was very thorough and well done.

Councilor Brown moved for the acceptance of Resolution 2021 – 02 2nd Quarter Financial Report. The motion was second by Councilor Winters. Vote: Councilor Winters-yes; Councilor Ramsell-yes; Councilor Brown-yes and Councilor Gutjahr-yes. With a 4-0 vote Resolution 2021-2 2nd Quarter Financial Report was passed, approved, adopted, and signed.

Discussion, Consideration, and Decision - Resolution 2021 – XX Open Meetings Act

- Clerk Adair read into the minutes Resolution 2021 – 03 Open Meetings Act.
- Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr went over some high lights, including meeting times and places, how the governing body may meet, emergency meetings, and posting places.
- Councilor Brown moved for the approval Resolution 2021 – 03 Open Meetings Act, concerning governing body meetings and the public notice required. The motion was second by Councilor Ramsell. Vote: Councilor Winters-yes; Councilor Brown-yes; Councilor Ramsell-yes and Councilor Gutjahr-yes. With a 4-0 vote Resolution 2021 - 03 Open Meetings Act was passed, approved, adopted, and signed.

Discussion, Consideration, and Decision - Ordinance 2021-xx zoning code

- Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr explained this has been a conversation from Council and Planning and Zoning regarding changes and clarification.
- Councilor Brown said it has been brought up this afternoon, a fine job from P&Z and thank them for the updates.
- Councilor Brown moved to approval of the Ordinance 2021-04, an ordinance superseding or repealing Ordinance 2019-70, date September 24, 2019, Chapter 4 Zoning Code to go to a public review of 14 days. The motion was second by Councilor Winters. Vote: Councilor Ramsell-yes; Councilor Brown-yes; Councilor Winters-yes and Councilor Gutjahr-yes. With a 4-0 vote Ordinance 2021-04 Chapter 4 zoning code was approved for a 14-day public review.

Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – New Mexico Economic Development Guide

- Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr explained that we had a guide that we participated in last year and discussed in the workshop whether to participate in this year.
- Councilor Winters explained that one of the problems was we did not budget for this expense, probably wise to redirect and better use our money in a different direction.
- Councilor Ramsell said moving in the future a more targeted, specific marketing would be better. He then said most marketing is going digital.
- Councilor Brown moved that we do not subscribe to the Economic development guide. The motion was second by Councilor Winters. Vote: Councilor Ramsell-yes; Councilor Winters-yes; Councilor Brown-yes and Councilor Gutjahr-yes. With a 4-0 vote Council will not subscribe or advertise in the New Mexico Economic Development Guide.

Council Reports

- Councilor Brown had no report.
- Councilor Ramsell said going to the USDA funding regarding the drainage and if you were a municipality water utility, they have grants, but we do not qualify.

- Councilor Winters said in the previous meeting we had a drainage water presentation, and they did not mention water retention ponds and we would like more clarification on this from the engineering company.
- Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr had no report.

Adjourn

- Councilor Ramsell moved to adjourn. The motion was second by Councilor Winters. With a 4-0 vote the City Council regular business meeting was adjourned at 6:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth (Lisa) Adair, Municipal Clerk
(Transcribed by Amy L. Lopez, Deputy Clerk)

Date: _____

Approved:

Mark Gwinn,
Mayor

Margaret (Peggy) Gutjahr,
Mayor Pro-tem/Councilor

Bill Brown,
Councilor

Joshua Ramsell,
Councilor

Jim Winters,
Councilor