



City of Rio Communities Council Workshop
City Council Chambers - 360 Rio Communities Blvd
Rio Communities, NM 87002
Monday, April 25, 2022 3:00 PM
Minutes

Please silence all electronic devices.

Call to Order

- Joshua Ramsell called to order the City Council regular workshop at 3:00 pm.

Attendees

- PRESENT: Mayor Joshua Ramsell, Mayor Pro-tem Margaret R. Gutjahr, Councilor Arthur Apodaca, Councilor Lawrence Gordon, Councilor Jimmie Winters
 - Present: City Manager Martin Moore, Municipal Clerk Elizabeth Adair, Finance Clerk Renee Adams, Accounting Specialist Angela Valadez.

Accounts payable report

- Finance Clerk Adams went over the accounts payable amounts over \$500; Wells Fargo in the amount of \$2,497.73; TLC Plumbing in the amount of \$1,307.20; Card Services in the amount of \$3,340.65; Card Services in the amount of \$3,314.47; HDR in the amount of \$2,235.50; Palmetto LLC in the amount of \$1,543.50; APIC in the amount of \$11,128.96; 441 Equipment, LLC in the amount of \$525; TLC Plumbing in the amount of \$677.70; Stericycle in the amount of \$1,239.13; 4 accounts for HDR in the amount of \$22,468.53; Amazon in the amount of \$4,927.50; 2 accounts for HDR in the amount of \$5,580.47; Quill in the amount of \$1,217.99; Card Services in the amount of \$720.
- Councilor Apodaca questioned the \$11k for the repair of city lights.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained the cost was for the 7 streetlights that needed to be repaired and explained what the company had to do to several of the light poles to get them working again.
- Councilor Apodaca asked if we have an insurance policy or what fund was that paid out of.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained it came out of the general fund and no we do not have insurance on the lights, but we are looking into getting insurance for the future.

Grant Writer Contract

- Manager Dr. Moore explained the grant writer contract and stated the position would be \$25 an hour and won't exceed \$30k for the year. He continued by saying Scott Adair will be doing the grant writing and Mr. Adair stated this amount is more than enough for him as to another grant writer would ask for more.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained that we have been granted an extension of one week by Senator Lujans office to file correct congressional direct requests. He continued by saying we have filed two grants: one grant is for the phase two and phase three for the community room areas and court rooms, and the second grant is for stormwater (i.e. the flood).
- Manager Dr. Moore said if there is opportunity to pick up some grants that pertain to playgrounds and equipment, we would like to try to go for them, also there is a speciality grant writer that we would go and ask for help but will let you know if we need to get a small contract or anything like that.
- Councilor Gordon asked if it would be a conflict with the Planning and Zoning.
- Manager Dr. Moore said he had asked the attorney and he said it wasn't direct conflict but will be direct conflict if he is writing grants for the planning and zoning committee.

- Councilor Gutjahr said Mr. Adair has been part of the planning and zoning committee since the beginning of the city, so he has a wealth of information. She went on by saying with having someone who has been on the planning and zoning committee really brings quite a resume.

MOA Rio Communities Sheriff

- Manager Dr. Moore said in discussion with the attorney about the LAPF, Law Enforcement Protection Funds, Sheriff Vigil due to the contract with the city, but for the auditors its good to change the agreement just a little bit.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained how the agreement is important and how the city has been progressing over the years on these funds.
- Councilor Gutjahr asked under duties of the county it says to sign a full-time deputy, so if we want to have another deputy would that be another separate contract.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained it would be an amendment to this contract.
- Councilor Apodaca asked in this contract is there is only room for one deputy but if we wanted to add another one do we have to amend the contract.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained there is in section #3 where is talks about per deputy but this might be a language discrepancy issue so he will talk to the Sheriff's Office and continued the discussion.
- Mayor Ramsell said the Governor talked about a \$50 million dollar fund to help offset the cost to the police officers.
- Councilor Apadaca said so every municipality would have to apply for that fund.
- Mayor Ramsell said yes, every agency that has law enforcement.

Fee(s) Workgroup

- Manager Dr. Moore explained the fees are woefully behind and in this case non-existent. He continued by saying some fees are set by ordinances and don't have any differences on the way the fees are structured for the city. He recommends someone start to go through those fee(s) and get them lined out. He stated there is a package on the fees and it can be split into two parts such as getting the first part and focusing that on ordinance fees and the second bringing them in front of Council with the appropriate recommendations. He then asked Council if one or two would assist with the Municipal Clerk and himself and start going over fees.
- Councilor Apodaca and Councilor Gordon agreed to assist in helping with the fees.

Public Comment

- No public comment.

Manager Report

a) Universal Waste

- Manager Dr. Moore started explained we have a few residents and businesses who have had their services pulled due to non-payment or refusal of payment. He stated Universal Waste is concerned and we do have a contractual obligation to follow up on the number of non-payers.

b) Library Soft Opening

- Manager Dr. Moore explained the soft opening for the library will be Saturday May 21, 1-3 pm. He stated the Library Board is quite excited and have only a few pieces of business left until they bring it in front of Council.

c) Public Works and Janitor employee(s)

- Manager Dr. Moore explained the public works department is fully staffed and have been moving quickly on a lot of projects.

- Councilor Gutjahr said it was very nice to come down the steps in the front and not see tumbleweeds, and sand.
- Municipal Clerk Adair said we also have the Janitor inside working on the bathrooms, trash, and mopping.

Council General Discussion & Future Agenda Items

- Councilor Winters had nothing to report.
- Councilor Gordon had nothing to report.
- Councilor Gutjahr had nothing to report.
- Councilor Apodaca had nothing to report.
- Municipal Clerk Adair asked due to having to cancel Planning and Zoning Workshop can they place it on the books again.
- Council decided May 12th at 4pm will be the Planning and Zoning Workshop date.

Adjourn

- The City Council regular workshop was adjourned at 3:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

 Elizabeth F. Adair, Municipal Clerk
 (Transcribed by Cheyenne Sullivan, Assistant Clerk)

Date: _____

Approved:

 Joshua Ramsell,
 Mayor

 Margaret R. Gutjahr,
 Mayor Pro-tem/Councilor

 Arthur Apodaca,
 Councilor

 Lawrence R. Gordon,
 Councilor

 Jimmie Winters,
 Councilor