



**City of Rio Communities Council Regular Business Meeting**  
**City Council Chambers - 360 Rio Communities Blvd**  
**Rio Communities, NM 87002**  
**Monday, October 24, 2022 6:00 PM**  
**Minutes**

*Please silence all electronic devices.*

**Call to Order**

- Mayor Joshua Ramsell called to the regular business meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

- Councilor Gordon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

- PRESENT: Mayor Joshua Ramsell, Councilor Arthur Apodaca, Councilor Lawrence Gordon, Councilor Jimmie Winters.  
ABSENT: Mayor Pro-tem Margaret R. Gutjahr.
  - Present: City Manager Martin Moore, Municipal Clerk Elizabeth Adair, Finance Officer Stephanie Finch, Fire Chief Andrew Tabet, Valencia County News-Bulletin Editor Clara Garcia.

**Approval of Agenda**

- Motion made by Councilor Apodaca to approve the agenda as written. Seconded by Councilor Gordon. With a unanimous vote the agenda for the regular business meeting was approved as presented.

**Approval of Minutes for the City Council Workshop & Regular Business Meeting (10/11/2022)**

- Motion made by Councilor Gordon motioned to approve the minutes of October 11, 2022. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca. With a unanimous vote the minutes for the City Council workshop and regular business meeting held on October 11, 2022, were approved as written.

**Presentations**

**Recognition of the Rio Communities Fire Department**

- Mayor Ramsell said our Fire Department is pretty amazing and always answer the calls whether its for fire, EMS or someone asking for lift assist. He continued to say the fire department is open to the public and anyone can go over to see the trucks or ask them questions. He further said it's unbelievable to see where we are today and thanked them because without them none of this could happen.
- Councilor Apodaca said a big thank you to all the fire fighters for everything they do as well as taking on extra responsibilities and all of us on the council we're approached to support you with the equipment you need.
- Councilor Gordon said since he has been here, they have grown and are very professional and pleasant and appreciate everything you guys have done.
- Councilor Winters thanked both the fire department and the EMT group and said there is amazing feedback from the citizens and hope to continue to grow.
- Manager Dr. Moore said they are a great group to work with and is a pleasure to work with them. He further said the compliments we get from the state, or citizens they do not hear and with those it is very impressive.

- Mayor Ramsell presented a plaque to the Fire Department for recognition for outstanding services for the community.

### **Public Comment**

- Ricardo and Bobby Martinez spoke regarding the fire department. He continued to reflect the past incident with his wife and stated if it wasn't for them, she wouldn't be here and said we have a wonderful crew here and thanked them. He then said later he would like to help in some type of volunteering for anything he can help with.

### **Manager Report**

#### **Outdoor Recreation**

- Manager Dr. Moore said he was going to touch on the subject on what we talked about at the workshop and then said we have inherited a playground in Chamesa but is run down and the equipment is rusted. He continued to say with the Bill Brown funds, we would like to replace the playground equipment with something new and a grant has presented itself to pay 40% of the cost as well as a grant with the legislators but will be coming back to council with more of an estimated cost.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained that RC Assist should be coming up and once it is up and running staff will have training as well as citizens will be able to track and alert the city for any potholes, animal issues and more.
- Manager Dr. Moore said he is pleased to announce that the street light plan is in effect.
- Manager Dr. Moore continued to say our clerk's office is going to have some Master Clerk training, and himself and one or two finance office will be at the Infrastructure Finance Conference this week as well.
- Manager Dr. Moore finished by stating there will be a sustainable economy forum which will be on zoom as well as in person at the city.

#### **Approval of Accounts Payable**

- Motion made by Councilor Winters to approve accounts payable. Seconded by Councilor Gordon. Voting Yea: Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote accounts payable has been approved for payment.

#### **Decision Resolution 2022 - XX NMFA (New Mexico Finance Authority) Loan Agreement**

- Motion made by Councilor Apodaca to approve Resolution 2022-2031 NMFA New Mexico Finance Authority Loan Agreement. Seconded by Councilor Winters. Voting Yea: Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote resolution 2022 – 31 NMFA loan agreement was passed, approved, adopted, and signed.

#### **Resolution 2022- xx Reimbursement Tax Exempt**

- Motion made by Councilor Gordon to approve resolution 2022-32 reimbursement tax exempt. Seconded by Councilor Winters. Voting Yea: Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote Resolution 2022-32 reimbursement tax exempt was passed, approved, adopted, and signed.

#### **Resolution 2022 – XX BAR #2**

- Finance Officer Finch said this is a budget adjustment that has already been approved such as the city wide clean up, wildland fire fighters, due to the interest rates that have going up and increase the interest increase in general fund from \$1,900 to \$2,350, as well as received refunds and reimbursements to increase the city wide cleanup and also have to increase the

expenditures for demolition of homes in the city, as well as increase the revenue for the fixed assets for the fire department and with the public works pickup we need to increase the capital project fund as well.

- Motion made by Councilor Apodaca to approve resolution 2022-33 BAR #2. Seconded by Councilor Winters. Voting Yea: Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote Resolution 2022 – 33 BAR #2 was passed, approved, adopted, and signed.

#### **Resolution 2022-XX 1st Quarter Financial Report**

- Finance Officer Finch said some of our bigger funds we use are: General Fund, Fire Protection Fund, and the ending cash balance for the general fund as well as the fire protection fund are \$2,278,561.88, and \$79,935.53 for the end of the first quarter. She then said normally at the first quarter you want to be at 25% and then explained with revenues they are at 19.2% as well as the expenses for general fund which are at 23.01%, and the fire protection fund being at 59.68%, with their expenses being at 31.39% and explained not to worry about these percentages. She finished by saying all in all the city is looking in great shape.
- Motion made by Councilor Gordon to approve Resolution 2022-34 1st Quarter Financial Report. Seconded by Councilor Winters. Voting Yea: Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote Resolution 2022-34 1<sup>st</sup> quarter financial report was passed, approved, adopted, and signed.

#### **Resolution 2022 - XX Dangerous property - 4 Manzano Expressway**

- Fire Chief Tabet said the dangerous property of concern is the carwash and explained there had been an encampment on the property and for the fire side it is unsafe to have people living in the building as they made a fireplace for heat and to cook on top of that they also had burned some of the building. He continued by saying the owner will be liable for overdose and/or the building burning down.
- Councilor Apodaca asked if we would table or move forward.
- Mayor Ramsell said we would pass the resolution and then hope for the best possible outcome and if worse case they would take this to the owner and show them they are serious on this matter.
- Motion made by Councilor Gordon to approve resolution 2022-35 Dangerous Property - 4 Manzano Expressway. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca. Voting Yea: Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote Resolution 2022-35 Dangerous Property – 4 Manzano expressway was passed, approved, adopted, and signed.

#### **AREA (Albuquerque Regional Economic Alliance) - Public Sector Advisory Council**

- Mayor Ramsell said for the public sector advisory council Councilor Gordon has volunteered to take on this role.
- Councilor Gordon said he is looking forward to serving the advisory council and is ready to see what he can bring.
- Motion made by Councilor Winters to approve Councilor Gordons nomination. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca. Voting Yea: Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote Councilor Gordon was approved to be the on the Public Sector Advisory Council.

#### **AREA (Albuquerque Regional Economic Alliance) - Economic Development Professional Advisory Council**

- Mayor Ramsell said Councilor Apodaca has volunteered for the economic development professional advisory council.

- Motion made by Councilor Winters to approve Councilor Apodaca’s nomination. Seconded by Councilor Gordon. Voting Yea: Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote Councilor Apodaca was approved to be on the Economic Development Professional Advisory Council.

**Council Discussion**

- Councilor Apodaca gave an update on the area for the veteran’s memorial and stated he will contact other entities to see about landscaping and signs for the property.
- Councilor Gordon had nothing to report.
- Councilor Winters said the city cleanup is progressing and this is very positive.
- Mayor Ramsell asked Chief Tabet the explain the upcoming events.
- Chief Tabet said the fire department will be open on Halloween night and giving out candy, and hot chocolate.

**Adjourn**

- Motion made by Councilor Winters to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca. With a unanimous vote the city council regular business meeting was adjourned at 6:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved:

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Joshua Ramsell,  
Mayor

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Margaret R. Gutjahr,  
Mayor Pro-tem/Councilor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Arthur Apodaca,  
Councilor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lawrence R. Gordon,  
Councilor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jimmie Winters,  
Councilor