



**City of Rio Communities Council Regular Business Meeting**  
**City Council Chambers - 360 Rio Communities Blvd**  
**Rio Communities, NM 87002**  
**Friday, September 30, 2022 10:00 AM**  
**Minutes**

*Please silence all electronic devices.*

**Call to Order**

- Mayor Joshua Ramsell called the regular business meeting to order at 10:00 am.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

- Councilor Lawrence 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: Manager Dr. Martin Moore, Municipal Clerk Elizabeth Adair, Fire Chief Andrew Tabet, Assistant Fire Chief Greg Gallegos, Valencia County News-Bulletin Editor Clara Garcia, Economic Development Consultant Ralph Mims.

**Approval of Agenda**

- Motion made by Councilor Winters to approve the agenda as written. Seconded by Councilor Gordon. Voting Yea: Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote the agenda for the regular business meeting was approved as presented.

**Approval of Minutes for the City Council Workshop & Regular Business Meeting (08/22/22) & the Regular Business Meeting (09/12/22)**

- Motion made by Councilor Gordon to approve the minutes workshop and regular business meeting from August 22, 2022 and the regular business meeting from September 12, 2022. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca. Voting Yea: Councilor Winters, Councilor Gordon, Councilor, Apodaca. With a 3-0 vote.

**Proclamation(s)**

**Fire Prevention Week**

- ✚ Mayor Ramsell read the Fire Prevention Week Proclamation for the Week of October 9th to 15th.
- ✚ Fire Chief Tabet said they will be having an open house on October 11th to give out free smoke detectors.

**Manager Report**

- Manager Dr. Moore explained that we have made some precautions and security, asking Council members to come through the front, public will still come from the back side door and that Law enforcement will be present in the future for City Council meetings.

**a) Police Department update**

- Manager Dr. Moore said we have gotten quotes for the remodel of the police department. Purchase order with gross receipt tax is 26,000 for the remodel part. He further said we are on schedule and scheduling our pre-construction conference on Monday to go over the timelines.

**b) Receipt of Promotional items**

- Manager Dr. Moore said the fire department is receiving approximately 7,000 worth of tablets from Sharp. My understanding is that it is part of a promotion they have, and they will provide

some tablets so the fire department could have them in the trucks. He then said we will be sending them a thank you letter. He further thanked the Sheriff department for being here.

### **c) Events in the City**

- Mr. Mims said there is another ribbon cutting tomorrow at 11 o clock for Good Fellas Barbera shop.
- Fire Chief Tabet said the next event for the fire department is a Halloween open house at the station to create a safe place for the children to come and are planning on decorate the department and serving hot chocolate.
- Councilor Gordon asked regarding the Police Department if there was going to be some kind sound proofing in your plans.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained yes there will be sound proofing in the back side of the building that is next to the fire department admin for HIPPA reasons. He further explained they are hardening up the evidence room to make is extra secure.
- Counselor Gordon asked if there will be a drop box.
- Manager Dr. Moore replied he was not sure on that.
- Mayor Ramsell continued to explain the way they are going to soundproof the police department.

### **Public Comment**

- No public comments.

### **Approval of Accounts Payable**

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

### **Resolution 2022- XX Participation in Capital Outlay Program - Plan, design of Goodman Ave**

- Manager Dr. Moore said this particular resolution is required by the State Department of Transportation; for the capital grant this is for a project that was passed by legislator for 200,000 this is to design the project portion of Goodman Ave from Damon to Horner Street. He further explained that we have another project that's 2.2 million from a different grant and we will not mix the two together. He continued to explain the design of the project.
- Motion made by Councilor Apodaca to approve Resolution 2022-29 Participation in Capital Outlay Program - Plan, design of Goodman Ave. Seconded by Councilor Winters. Voting Yea: Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters, Councilor Apodaca. With a 3-0 vote Resolution 2022-29 Participation in Capital Outlay Program – Plan, design of Goodman Ave was passed, approved, adopted, and signed.

### **Approval of Purchase of Police Cruisers**

- Manager Dr. Moore explained we have gone to the New Mexico Finance Authority, to finance two police cruisers for the cost of 131,719.00. He further explained that the New Mexico Finance Authority did approve the standard approval and we are waiting for the terms and conditions and in the meantime, we do need to purchase these vehicles. Manager Dr. Moore further explained the loan process.
- Finance Officer Finch explained that the laptops would not be included just the docking station and the City would have to purchase the laptops.
- Motion made by Councilor Gordon to approve the Purchase of Police Cruisers utilizing General Funds and to be re embused by the State. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca. Voting Yea: Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote Council approved the purchase of Police Cruisers.

## **Resolution 2022-XX - NMDOT (New Mexico Department of Transportation) Grant Agreement - Goodman Pavement Reconstruction**

- Manager Dr. Moore explained the the grant is for \$2,231,962.13 for the purpose of Goodman Ave. reconstruction with the addition of a multi-use path and safety lighting. He further said that this grant will be tracked and that is why we brought another person into the finance office so we would have the capacity to track a grant of this size and recommended approval of this, this is an opportunity that would provide for walkers, bikers and vehicles and increase safety.
- Councilor Apodaca asked how the city would handle if the contractor came with a change order, and does the city offer any kind of bonus if they finish the project early.
- Manager Dr. Moore said normally they do not give bonuses if project done early, we do recommend having a cost deduction built in that would have to be reviewed. He further explained some would come to council but hoping that the bulk will be covered by the contract and presented to council for approval with engineers to help walk council through the cost.
- Councilor Gordon asked with the 2 grants when would the projects start.
- Manger Dr. Moore said we have until 2024 but would like to start next year and continued to explain the construction window and the check list of the project.
- Motion made by Councilor Apodaca made the motion to approve Resolution 2022-30 NMDOT (New Mexico Department of Transportation) Grant Agreement - Goodman Pavement Reconstruction. Seconded by Councilor Winters. Voting Yea: Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote Resolution 2022-30 NMDOT (New Mexico Department of Transportation) was passed, approved, adopted, and signed.

## **Fiber Service to City Hall - Approval**

- Manager Dr. Moore said the City of Rio Communities currently operates through comcast on a cable and explained the amount of upload and download and further explained we have expanded on the number of computers and quest that access the internet. Because of this we are using more internet that is slowing the internet down. He also said the police department is going to need high speed internet as well. Comcast is recommending is a Ethernet Virtual private line into the city that will cost the City approximately \$1,300.00 a month. That would include 1 gigabit for upload and download. We were told Comcast will be covering the \$14,000.00 in discussion for installation of the fiber. They gave us a guarantee of 99% or 99.5%
- Councilor Apodaca asked if the business incubator is connected to this service.
- Manager Dr. Moore said I do not believe so.
- Councilor Winters asked what the existing cost per month is.
- Finance Officer Finch said we are paying approximate \$432.00 a month.
- Fire Chief Tabet said the Fire Department has fiber and it” s helped us immensely.
- Manager Dr. Moore said on page 9 of the contract on the bottom it lays out the terms for seeking credit for interruption of service.
- Motion made by Councilor Apodaca to approve fiber service to City Hall. Seconded by Councilor Gordon. Voting Yea: Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote Council approved moving forward with installing fiber service to City Hall.

## **Membership to AREA (Albuquerque Regional Economic Alliance)**

- Manager Dr. Moore explained the cost of membership to AREA is 1692.72
- Councilor Apodaca said this is money well spent based on that AREA offers so much to the development of the city.

- Counselor Winters said this is less money than we are paying now so this is a saving to us and offers a lot of benefits that we can use.
- Motion made by Councilor Winters to move forward with AREA. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca. Voting Yea: Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote Council approved the membership with AREA – Albuquerque Regional Economic Alliance.

#### **Purchase of Public Works Vehicle**

- Manager Dr. Moore explained this has been discussed with public works and the finance department, we are looking at for the city taking the SUV vehicle to utilize for the compliance. We did look at the spec and it is not equipped to be used as a police vehicle, but we can use it for compliance as of right now we are using our fire truck and that can get us in trouble with the state fire marshal office. He further explained the type of vehicle is a gasoline one-ton long bed truck that will be able to pull a backhoe. Approximant delivery date of December
- Finance Officer Finch explained said she does not have the quote for the outfitting and said the request should not exceed \$55,000 for the gasoline engine and the outfitting and was requesting to have the light on top installed and the city logo on the door and a goose neck hitch as well.
- Manager Dr. Moore said we are anticipating picking up a goose neck flat bed to haul equipment around. It is not cheap we are looking about 12,000 on the general side after we use the Bill Brown funds.
- Motion made by Councilor Apodaca to approve the purchase of a public works vehicle not to exceed 50,000 not including gross receipt tax. Seconded by Councilor Winters. Voting Yea: Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote Council approved the purchase of a public works vehicle.

#### **Move the October 10th Workshop and City Council regular business meeting**

- Mayor Ramsell explained the State of NM recognizes Monday October 10<sup>th</sup> a Holiday and city hall is closed and that the Workshop and City Council regular business meeting be moved to Tuesday October 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Motion made by Councilor Gordon to approve the move of the October 10th Workshop and City Council regular business meeting to October 11th. Seconded by Councilor Winters. Voting Yea: Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote Council approved moving the workshop and regular business meeting to October 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Schedule of Council Retreat & topics**

- Mayor Ramsell said the Council Retreat and topic will be held on October 17 and October 18 for overflow.

#### **Council Discussion**

- Councilor Apodaca asked what the time for the retreat was.
- Council decided on 10 am - 4 pm.

#### **Executive Session - For the purpose of the discussion of the purchase, addition or disposal of real property or water rights by the public body pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1(H)(8)**

- **Motion and roll call vote to go into closed session**
  - Motion made by Councilor Apodaca with a roll call vote to go into closed session regarding the purpose of the discussion of the purchase, addition or disposal of real property or water rights by the public body pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1(H)(8). Seconded by Councilor Gordon.

Voting Yea: Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote Council went into closed session at 11:02 am.

- **Motion and roll call vote to go back into the regular business meeting session**
  - Motion made by Councilor Apodaca with a roll to go back into the regular business meeting session. Seconded by Councilor Gordon. Voting Yea: Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 3-0 vote Council was back into the regular business meeting session at 12:13 pm.
- **Welcome everyone back and statement by the Mayor:**
  - Mayor Ramsell stated: The Governing Body of the City of Rio Communities, New Mexico, hereby states that on September 26, 2022, a Closed Executive Session was held, and the matters discussed were for the discussion of the purchase, addition or disposal of real property or water rights by the public body pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1(H)(8).

**Mayor recommendation regarding the purchase, addition or disposal of real property or water rights by the public body**

- Mayor Ramsell said there are no recommendations.

**Adjourn**

- Motion made by Councilor Winters. Seconded by Councilor Gordon. With a unanimous vote the City Council Regular Business meeting was adjourned at 12:14 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Elizabeth F. Adair, Municipal Clerk  
(Transcribed by Lalena Aragon, Deputy Clerk)

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

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joshua Ramsell,  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret R. Gutjahr,  
Mayor Pro-tem/Councilor

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

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

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Jimmie Winters,  
Councilor