



**City of Rio Communities Council Regular Business Meeting**  
**City Council Chambers - 360 Rio Communities Blvd**  
**Rio Communities, NM 87002**  
**Monday, February 28, 2022 6:00 PM**  
**Minutes**

*Please silence all electronic devices.*

**Call to Order**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

- Councilor Gutjahr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

- PRESENT: Mayor Joshua Ramsell, Mayor Pro tem Peggy Gutjahr, Councilor Arthur Apodaca, Councilor Lawrence Gordon, Councilor Jim Winters.  
Present: City Manager Dr. Matin Moore, Municipal Clerk Elizabeth Adair, and Valencia County News-Bulletin Editor Clara Garcia.

**Approval of Agenda**

- Mayor Ramsell asked for amendments to the agenda on action number 4 to re-appoint members for P&Z to be moved to our next meeting, and another change will be for the executive session removing the Pro tem and would update it to recommendation by Mayor.
- Motion made by Councilor Winters to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr. With a 4-0 vote the agenda for the regular business meeting was approved as amended.

**Approval of Minutes Minutes for the City Council Workshop & Regular Business Meeting (02/14/2022)**

- Motion made by Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr to approve the minutes for City Council Workshop and for Regular Business Meeting for February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Seconded by Councilor Winters. With a 4-0 vote the minutes for the workshop and regular business meeting held on February 14, 2022 were approved as written.

**Public Comment**

- No public comments.

**Manager Report**

- Manager Dr. Moore stated the Legislature has completed their session, we are hopeful to get at least a million dollars in grants. The Legislatures have been supporting various projects. He then said that the federal grant was somewhere around a billion dollars will be going to different agencies and the Municipal League has hired a grant writer but would like cities to hire someone to help as well. He further explained the road grant and how we have someone already looking into plans and then talked about the demolition plan and how there are 38 key points, but the engineers have only picked 10 so far and will be giving us a templet for us to expand in the future. He stated he is very pleased on how this plan is going, then went on about how City hall is moving the remodel along.
- Manager Dr. Moore said the budget process has started at the staff level and invited Council to come and ask questions about any budget information they have.

### **Approval of Accounts Payable**

- Councilor Gutjahr said these are posted on our website. She then said there is a large amount spent about \$37k and it's listed as maker space its from the grant we received last year from our Representative McQueen and to let the public know that this is all reimbursement though the City.
- Manager Dr. Moore said he had a chance to do a tour of the new workforce training center at Valencia Campus they are also making a makers space and I did give them an idea of future collaboration with us.
- Motion made by Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr to approve the accounts payable as stated. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 4-0 vote accounts payable was approved for payments.

### **Re-appointment of P&Z member(s)**

- Council amended agenda to move this item to next Meeting.

### **Appointment of Planning and Zoning member(s)**

- Mayor Ramsell stated we have Ms. Melanie Good and is available for questions if anyone would like to ask.
- Councilor Gutjahr said she has known Melanie for a long time and its been wonderful working with her and she is a delight.
- Mayor Ramsell said she has quite of extensive experience in education but has been a member of our community for quite some time, she very involved in the County issues related to our community and is very interested in helping.
- Councilor Winters said it has been a long goal to educate our public about issues with planning and zoning.
- Councilor Gordon thanked her for coming into P&Z and all the ideas are there.
- Councilor Apodaca said I don't know you, but your resume is outstanding.
- Motion made by Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr to appoint Melonie Good to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Seconded by Councilor Gordon. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 4-0 vote Melanie Good was appointed to the Planning and Zoning Commission.
- Manager Dr. Moore said the next P&Z meeting is this Thursday March 3<sup>rd</sup> and starts at 5:30pm.

### **Council Discussion**

- Manager Dr. Moore gave a brief updated on COVID all our employees are successfully released from protocol and we are going to start opening City Hall next week to the public.
- Councilor Apodaca has no report.
- Councilor Gutjahr has no report.
- Councilor Gordon said on February 22, he had a zoom meeting with African American Chamber of Commerce, and it went good, Ralph Mims went as well. He further said they did a lot of talking about the City and there are talks about setting another meeting.
- Councilor Winters has no report
- Mayor Ramsell has no report

**Executive Session - For the purpose of the annual Performance Evaluation of the City Manager, the Municipal Clerk, the Finance Officer/Treasurer and the Public Works Director pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1(H)(2) - Limited Personnel Matters**

- **Motion and roll call vote to go into close session**
  - Motion made by Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr with a roll call vote to go for the purpose of the annual Performance Evaluation of the City Manager, the Municipal Clerk, the Finance Officer/Treasurer and the Public Works Director pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1(H)(2) - Limited Personnel Matters, Seconded by Councilor Gordon. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 4-0 vote Council went into close session at 6:23 pm.
- **Motion and roll call vote to go back into the regular business meeting session**
  - Motion made by Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr with a roll call vote to go back into the regular business meeting session. Seconded by Councilor Gordon. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 4-0 vote Council went back into the regular business meeting session at 8:36 PM.
- **Welcome everyone back and statement by the Mayor:**
  - The Governing Body of the City of Rio Communities, New Mexico, hereby states that on February 28, 2022 a Closed Executive Session was held and the matters discussed were for the purpose on the annual Performance Evaluation of City Manager, the Municipal Clerk, the Finance Officer/Treasurer and the Public Works Director pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1(H)(2) - Limited Personnel Matters.

**Action Items - Consideration & Decision – Mayor recommendation regarding the annual Performance Evaluation of the City Manager, the Municipal Clerk, the Finance Officer/Treasurer and the Public Works Director pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1(H)(2) - Limited Personnel Matters**

- Mayor Ramsell recommend continuing employment with Dr. Moore, and the department heads.
- Motion made by Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr to approve the recommendation by Mayor regarding the annual Performance Evaluation of the City Manager, The Municipal Clerk, Finance Officer/Treasurer and Public Works Director and continue their employment. Seconded by Councilor Winters. Voting Yea: Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr, Councilor Apodaca, Councilor Gordon, Councilor Winters. With a 4-0 vote recommendation has been approved.

**Adjourn**

- Councilor Winters moved to adjourn. The motion was second by Councilor Apodaca. With a 4-vote the City Council regular business meeting was adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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

Approved:

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret "Peggy" Gutjahr,  
Mayor Pro-tem/Councilor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Arthur "Art" Apodaca,  
Councilor

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

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Jim Winters,  
Councilor