



City of Rio Communities Council Workshop
City Council Chambers - 360 Rio Communities Blvd
Rio Communities, NM 87002
Monday, September 27, 2021 3:00 PM
Minutes

Please silence all electronic devices.

Public Comment

- No public comments

Call to Order

- Mayor Pro tem Joshua Ramsell called to order the workshop at 3:07 pm.

Present

- PRESENT: Mayor Pro-Tem Joshua Ramsell, Councilor Peggy Gutjahr and Councilor Jim Winters. Present: City Manager Dr. Martin Moore, Municipal Clerk Lisa Adair and (virtual) Finance Officer Stephanie Finch.

Accounts payable report

- Finance Officer Finch gave a report of all items over \$500.00: GSD Administrative Services of GSD Dues regarding health insurance in the amount of \$827.38; Amazon Business for HP Laptop in the amount of \$1,169.00 for Fire Chief; Joseph Moya for a blanket PO for weed control; Able and Willies One Stop Shop for shirts and uniforms in the amount of \$932.50; TLC uniforms in the amount of \$639.41; Four charges from Universal Contractors for NM GRT, Retro-Reflectorized paint, and traffic control for a total amount of \$3,033.04.

Consideration to Cancel/Move 10/11/2021 Workshop and Council Meeting

- Council began a discussion on moving the date to Tuesday, October 12, 2021.

Agenda items for special workshop with the Economic Development Commission (Manager/Council)

- Manager Dr. Moore explained the changes made to the brochure and began a discussion on the brochures for EDC.
- Manager Dr. Moore said Daniel Casey with Albuquerque Economic Development is willing to come in and work with EDC to get Rio Communities on the map and some exposure; October 13th is the retirement expo EDC is attending and they will want to tell you how that went when they meet with you next; he then explained they do want to go over the strategic plan.
- Council began a discussion on agenda items.

Hiring of temporary (4) individuals for City Cleanup (Manager/Council)

- Manager Dr. Moore explained he had a good talk with the interim fire chief and it will take a substantial amount of work and roll-off bins to get the area cleaned up and suggested bringing some fire personnel in for a day, making a budget adjustment to cover \$12 an hour without benefits; he then said we are trying to get some big equipment from County and further explained the cleanup plan.
- Councilor Gutjahr said it is very important we get it cleaned up, it attracts crime and others dumping.
- Mayor Pro tem Ramsell asked how many hours it would take.

- Manager Dr. Moore said it should take around 100 hours and continued the discussion.

Department of Homeland Security Emergency Management (DHSEM) - Disaster Assistance Program PW #1, PW #2 & PW #3

- Manager Dr. Moore explained there are 3 categories: PW #1: Insurance Deductible for damages to City Hall in the amount of \$13,000; PW #2: Rebuilding ditch, replacing asphalt along the road, cleaning debris along Avenida del Fuego, removing debris and silt in ditches, replacing asphalt and concrete rundowns on San Lucas and Chamartin; replacing existing curb and gutter, rebuild ditch and road asphalt surface and edges in the amount of \$300,000; PW #3: Hiring contractor to help remove debris from roadways for public safety, as well as paying fire department to help in the amount of \$48,750.
- Council began a discussion on the items.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained the City's responsibility of a 25 % match and other issues that will need to be handled.

Automatic Assistance Agreement for Fire Protection with Belen Fire Department

- City Manager Dr. Moore explained the City of Belen has presented us a new document that our attorney has reviewed and approved of and recommended Council approves this.
- Councilor Winters said there is a 24-hour rule if we use water in Belen and the new Chief will need to know this.
- Councilor Gutjahr noted some typographical errors in the contract and began a discussion.

Manager Report

a) Professional Service Contract for Economic Development

- Manager Dr. Moore began a discussion on adding a professional service contract is in order to make economic development possible, there is a professional willing to work with us and put together a preliminary scope of work, the attorney has reviewed the scope of work and what would come next would be to make a contract and develop a budget, staying under a certain amount of money to allow for a contract rather than going out for bid. He then explained there is some movement now on business inquiries because homes are being built, and he would like to have the Council's consideration.
- Council began a discussion and Mayor Pro tem Ramsell explained this topic is not up for approval right now, what is being approved is moving this topic forward to another meeting for possible approval.

b) Electrical Sign

- Manager Dr. Moore explained we are on bids for the electrical portion of the sign, and we cannot move forward until those are in, once the quotes are obtained, Council can approve and move forward on the sign.

c) Hwy 47 Streetlights

- Manager Dr. Moore explained the streetlights on Hwy 47 had a discussion with the finance department and Public works director on getting certifications on the direction that we have received if we do it on our surface streets will be proposing to the City Council to go along Hwy 47 and replace the lighting with LED's. He then explained most of the businesses

are on Hwy 47 and we are having trouble with break ins and going to LEDs would save the City a significant amount of money.

- Councilor Winters said we have always been charged by light and asked if that is how it will continue to be billed.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained billing and said it is not a monetary issue but a safety issue and continued the discussion.

d) Fencing of the City' New Property

- Manager Dr. Moore explained he has received a couple of quotes for the fencing around the new property next to the fire station that is approximately 3 acres, and we are looking at \$30,000 for fencing and would like to have it on the next agenda.
- Council began a discussion regarding the fence.
- Manager Dr. Moore said they are looking at the traffic count to see if they are high enough to require a turning lane.
- Council Gutjahr asked when it comes back to us if Council can please have a diagram about where the gates will go in relation to Hwy 47 and began a discussion.

Council General Discussion & Future Agenda Items

- Councilor Gutjahr would like to talk about resealing of roads.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained it appears the rains did damage to the fog seal and stripping on Hillandale and on Hillandale in particular we will need to take care of it to prolong its life until we can redo them completely, also adding some traffic calming would be beneficial, and began a discussion.
- Councilor Gutjahr asked when we do work on roads, if having a reseal added on the contract would be a possibility and began a discussion.
- Councilor Gutjahr asked when the staff will be moving offices.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained it will be after election and continued the discussion.
- Councilor Winters said we suggests having the candidates at the cleanup.
- Mayor Pro tem Ramsell said there is often a traffic back up and asked if there was a way to get a traffic study at Hwy 47 and Avenida del Fuego to make the traffic flow better. A discussion began.
- Clerk Adair requested an agenda item for a change of command and began a discussion.
- Manager Dr. Moore explained we are having trouble filling the public works positions and recommended having the code enforcer work the allowed 29 hours a week, having a part time public works, and have an active recruitment of school janitors to see if we can get someone in here, the positions are in the budget.
- Clerk Adair mentioned the library board mission statement and would like Council's approval and asked to have that as an agenda item.

Adjourn

- The City Council workshop was adjourned at 4:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Date: _____

Approved:

Mark Gwinn,
Mayor

Joshua Ramsell,
Mayor Pro-tem/Councilor

Robert Chavez,
Councilor

Margaret (Peggy) Gutjahr,
Councilor

Jim Winters,
Councilor