



City of Rio Communities Council Regular Business Meeting
City Council Chambers - 360 Rio Communities Blvd
Rio Communities, NM 87002
Wednesday, July 14, 2025, 6:00 PM
Minutes

Please silence all electronic devices.

Mayor - Joshua Ramsell

Mayor Pro Tem - Lawrence R. Gordon

Council - Arthur Apodaca, Thomas Nelson, Matthew Marquez

Call to Order

Mayor Ramsell called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Councilor Apodaca led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call

Governing Body

Mayor Joshua Ramsell
Councilor Lawrence Gordon
Councilor Arthur Apodaca
Councilor Thomas Nelson
Councilor Matthew Marquez

Staff

Manager Dr. Martin Moore

Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Councilor Nelson to remove action item number 8 from agenda (**Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Approval of Notice of Police Chief Contract Termination**). Seconded by Councilor Marquez.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Marquez
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Apodaca
Councilor Gordon

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Motion made by Councilor Nelson to approve agenda as amended, Seconded by Councilor Apodaca

Voting Yea:

Councilor Marquez
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Apodaca
Councilor Gordon

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Consent agenda

Councilor Marquez asked to remove account payable from consent agenda as it is incomplete with only having two items.

Councilor Gordon stated these two items should be paid later when we get the complete account payables to pay the rest.

Councilor Marquez made a motion to remove accounts payables until we have a complete account payable, Seconded by Councilor Nelson

Voting Yea:

Councilor Apodaca
Councilor Marquez
Councilor Nelson

Voting No:

Councilor Gordon

Motion passed with a 3-1 vote.

Councilor Nelson made a motion to approve consent agenda the minutes from June 9,2025 Seconded by Councilor Gordon

Voting Yea:

Councilor Marquez
Councilor Apodaca
Councilor Gordon
Councilor Nelson
Consent agenda Approved.

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Public Comment:

Delette Robinson stated she is the owner of Dough Daddy's Delights, a local Bakery in Rio Communities and is inviting the city of Rio Communities to join in the annual fall Bake Off

Victor Williams stated he has an issue with his neighbor. He started painting his house and the wall and stopped at his wall which is on his neighbor's property line. His Neighbor stated he would finish painting but now he is moving out of the home. Victor Williams stated he is not sure what to do or if this is the right place to bring it up.

Manager's Report:

Dr Martin Moore stated in order to complete the final budget he is requesting the council to have a special council meeting to go over the final budget on July 23,2025 at 6:00pm

Councilor Marquez stated he will be available.

Councilor Apodaca stated he will not be available, but he will be available on zoom if he is able to.

Councilor Nelson stated he is available.

Councilor Gordon stated he is available.

Councilor Marquez asked Dr Moore what the progress with Maverick in moving forward and if the city can reach out to them and see if they are wanting to move forward.

City Manager Dr Moore explained we can do that and from the latest conversation with the Department of Transportation they are doing a review of the final design comments for approval for

them to start onsite construction which means the entry ways. Dr Moore stated that it is the latest update we have but not directly from Maverick. He stated that we will contact them through the engineers.

Councilor Apodaca asked Dr Moore if the hold-up continues to be Department of Transportation

Dr Moore stated that that is what it seems to be.

Councilor Marques asked Dr Moore when the construction will begin for Goodman Ave

City Manager Dr. Moore explained we are preparing to have a pre-construction meeting in the coming weeks with the contractors.

Councilor Marquez asked Dr. Moore when construction will begin for Don Diego rd.

Dr Moore. Explained after the Pre-construction meeting for Goodman Ave takes place, the invitation to bid has been put out for Damon Street, and we will have a pre-construction meeting soon and after Damon Street, invitation bids will go out for Don Diego rd. We have till December of next year to be completed.

Councilor Marquez asked Dr. Moore what location will the large boulders and gravel that are at public works be going to?

City Manager Dr. Moore stated there are a couple of locations that they will be going to; the council has previously talked about the need for some boulders to guide a path for Horner Street, some will go to behind for a walkway, there will be boulders left over as we asked for a certain number and they brought more than we needed at no charge.

Councilor Marquez asked Dr. Moore if the boulders that are going on Horner Street on the south end will those be placed there to block vehicles from entering the piece of land, he stated we will need to block off all entrees to that area with the boulders so no vehicles will be able to enter.

Appointing Victor Williams as Municipal Judge

Councilor Nelson asked Victor Williams if appointed Municipal Judge will you be running in November elections.

Victor Williams stated he will possibly run in November elections.

Councilor Marquez stated August 26th is when you submit your name for candidacy to run for Municipal Judge. He stated the city is too close for the council to put someone in the position being this close to election. He stated it would be a good idea for the city to postpone council to decide till after we see if there is anyone else that wants to run for Municipal Judge and at that point to decide yes or no to having Victor Williams appointed at Municipal Judge.

Councilor Marquez made a motion to table appoint Victor Williams as Municipal Judge till after the August 26th deadline for candidacy, Seconded by Councilor Nelson

Victor Williams stated that he is not doing it for himself, he is doing it to help the community.

Councilor Apodaca stated he does not see a problem with Victor Williams starting now and get an idea of what the job entails and run for election if he chooses to.

Councilor Gordon, he agrees with Councilor Apodaca

Voting Yea:

Councilor Marquez
Councilor Nelson

Voting No:

Councilor Gordon
Councilor Apodaca
Motion tied with a 2-2 vote.

Mayor Ramsell votes No; Motion has been denied.

Councilor Gordon Made a Motion to approve appointing Victor Williams as Municipal Judge, seconded by Councilor Apodaca

Voting Yea:

Councilor Apodaca
Councilor Gordon

Voting No:

Councilor Marquez
Councilor Nelson
Motion tied with a 2-2 vote.

Mayor Ramsell votes Yea: Motion has been approved.

Council Discussion

Councilor Nelson asked Dr. Moore about the Attorneys invoices.

Dr. Moore stated yes that he will get those to Councilor Nelson

Councilor Nelson stated smoking in city vehicles should not be allowed and asked Dr. Moore if there is a policy against it.

Dr Moore stated he is not aware that the city does but he will look into it.

Councilor Gordon stated that Oasis opened and that they do not want to have a grand opening, but they are open.

Councilor Marquez stated to the audience and people watching online if you have any issues and need to bring it to council come and feel free to speak during public comments.

Councilor Marquez asked Dr. Moore when we will be able to buy a new computer for council.

Dr Moore explained we are now in a new budget year, and we will get the computer ordered.

Councilor Marquez asked Dr. Moore if we could put the council meetings on YouTube instead of Facebook live.

Dr Moore stated the mayor has sent over an email on setting up a YouTube account.

Councilor Marquez stated for National Night out he has not seen any postings for the event.

Dr. Moore explained we will be getting with the police department to get an announcement out.

Councilor Marquez explained that spring fest budget was less than proposed and if we can use the remaining to help with the Fall bake off Dough Daddy's delights will be doing in November.

Executive Session for the Purpose of Police Chief Contract Termination and Notice pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1(H)(2) - Limited Personnel Matters

Motion with a roll call to go into a closed session made by Council Nelson. Seconded by Councilor Gordon

Voting Yea:

Councilor Nelson
Councilor Marquez
Councilor Apodaca
Councilor Gordon

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote at 6:44pm

Motion and roll call vote to go back into the Regular business meeting session.

Motion made by Councilor Gordon to go back into the Regular business meeting session. Seconded by Councilor Apodaca.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Nelson
Councilor Gordon
Councilor Marquez
Councilor Apodaca

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote at 7:12pm

Statement from the Mayor

Mayor Ramsell Stated that on Monday July 14, 2025, City of Rio Communities City Council did hold an executive session **for the Purpose of Police Chief Contract Termination and Notice pursuant to NMSA 10-15-1(H)(2) - Limited Personnel Matters** and no other items were discussed at this time.

Motion made by Councilor Nelson to approve the statement by the mayor. Seconded by Councilor Gordon.

Voting Yea:

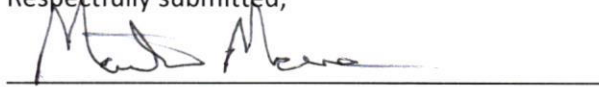
Councilor Gordon
Councilor Apodaca
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Marquez

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Adjourn

Motion made by Councilor Nelson to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Gordon. Motion carried out at 7:13pm.

Respectfully submitted,



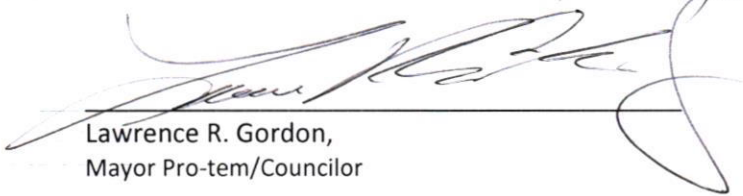
Dr. Martin Moore (acting Municipal Clerk)
(Taken and Transcribed by Patricia McCloskey,

Date: 9/8/2025


Approved:



Joshua Ramsell,
Mayor



Lawrence R. Gordon,
Mayor Pro-tem/Councilor



Arthur Apodaca,
Councilor

Thomas 9-8-25

Thomas Nelson,
Councilor



Matthew Marquez,
Councilor