



City of Rio Communities Council Regular Business Meeting

City Council Chambers - 360 Rio Communities Blvd

Rio Communities, NM 87002

Monday, September 08, 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 6:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Ramsell led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call

Governing Body

Mayor Joshua Ramsell

Councilor Matthew Marquez

Councilor Lawrence Gordon

Councilor Thomas Nelson

Councilor Arthur Apodaca

Staff

Manager Dr. Martin Moore

Fire Chief Andrew Tabet

Randy Van Vleck

Approval of Agenda

Councilor Nelson stated that the action item Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Approve Appointment of the Mayor’s Art in Public Places Selection Committee. Should not be The Mayors Art in Public Places and it should be changed to just Art in Public Places.

Dr. Moore explained it is a committee of the mayor’s recommendation.

Councilor Marquez Seconded Councilor Nelsons Motion to change to Art in Public Places.

Motion made by Councilor Nelson to Change the title on Approve Appointment of the Mayor’s Art in Public Places Selection Committee to Art in Public Places. Seconded by Councilor Marquez.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Gordon

Councilor Apodaca

Councilor Nelson

Councilor Marquez

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Motion made by Councilor Nelson to approve agenda as amended. Seconded by Councilor Gordon.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Gordon

Councilor Apodaca

Councilor Nelson

Councilor Marquez

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Consent Agenda

Motion made by Councilor Gordon to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Councilor Nelson.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Gordon

Councilor Apodaca

Councilor Nelson

Councilor Marquez

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote.

Public Comment:

Ron Gentry commented about the Goodman Project and the water flow. Gentry stated that the flood water is running on to his property and he would like to see something done about this in the 2nd phase of the Goodman project.

Allan Sinclair commented on why certain campaign signs were removed. He stated they were not in any violation or hazard to public safety and should not have been removed.

Jo Skelton commented that she also had a sign removed and there was no reason for the campaign sign to be removed.

Manager Report

Presentation for the Veteran's Memorial park by Rob Loftis.

Rob Loftis presented to council the Veterans Memorial Park Project. Council discussed the Location of the Veterans Memorial Park.

Goodman Ave Construction.

Dr. Moore discussed update on Goodman Avenue construction.

RV Park Ribbon Cutting.

Dr. Moore discussed the possibility of a Ribbon Cutting for the Baca RV Park. As of right now they do not have a set date.

Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Approve Appointment of the Art in Public Places Selection Committee.

Mayor Ramsell stated he has spoken to three or four individuals.

Council Nelson recommended Richard Melzer as a candidate for the committee.

Motion made by Councilor Gordon to Approve Appointment of the Art in Public Places Selection Committee. Seconded by Councilor Nelson.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Gordon
Councilor Apodaca
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Marquez

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote

Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Approve Notice of Award for ITB #2026-0001 Damon Street Pavement Rehabilitation Project.

City Manager Dr. Moore stated that John Tortelle is here to answer any questions council may have.

Dr. Moore stated the city did go out to bid for this grant project. Albuquerque Asphalt was the lowest bid.

Motion made by Councilor Gordon Approve Notice of Award for ITB #2026-0001 Damon Street Pavement Rehabilitation Project. Seconded by Councilor Marquez.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Gordon
Councilor Apodaca
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Marquez

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote

Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Approve Letter of Support for Valencia County's New Mexico Outdoor Recreation Trails+ Grant application

Dr. Moore explained the city has entered into an agreement to assist with upkeep of operations in the center of Willie and Chavez Park. They have requested if council will provide a letter of support for the grant application.

Motion made by Councilor Marquez Approve Letter of Support for Valencia County's New Mexico Outdoor Recreation Trails+ Grant application. Seconded by Councilor Nelson.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Gordon
Councilor Apodaca
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Marquez

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote

Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Approve Use of Joint Expert Witness for Cost Sharing of New Mexico Water Case Testimony.

City Attorney Randy Van Vleck explained to council this is an agreement between the city and Spencer Faye.

Motion made by Councilor Nelson Approve Use of Joint Expert Witness for Cost Sharing of New Mexico Water Case Testimony. Seconded by Councilor Marquez.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Gordon
Councilor Apodaca
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Marquez

Motion passed with a 4-0 vote

Executive Session - The city council will convene in executive session pursuant to NMSA 1978 section 10-15-1 (H)(7), meetings subject to the attorney-client privilege pertaining to the pending administrative litigation before the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission in the *Matter of New Mexico Water Service Company's application for approval of a revised sewer capacity charge pursuant to Advice Notice no.22 and first revised rate no. 5* in which the City of Rio Communities is an intervenor.

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 7:05pm

Statement from the Mayor

Mayor Ramsell Stated that on Monday September 08, 2025, City of Rio Communities City Council did hold an executive session pursuant to NMSA 1978 section 10-15-1 (H)(7), meetings subject to the attorney-client privilege pertaining to the pending administrative litigation before the New Mexico Public Regulation Commission in the *Matter of New Mexico Water Service Company's application for approval of a revised sewer capacity charge pursuant to Advice Notice no.22 and first revised rate no. 5* in which the City of Rio Communities is an intervenor.

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.

Council Discussion

Councilor Apodaca stated that the Valencia County Chambers of Commerce is asking for things to fill around fifty bags with for the car show in Belen

Councilor Nelson asked if council will be representing for the 9/11 Memorial.

He also stated that McDougall and Baldwin need to possibly be repaved.

Councilor Nelson asked when we be receiving police chief applications and possibly setting up a special meeting to review the application.

Councilor Marquez stated he is available September 22,2025 at 4:00pm before the regular meeting.

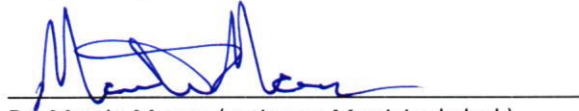
Mayor Ramsell asked all council members if they would be available for that date and time.

Councilor Gordon asked the members of the public to remember that we still need a couple different committees and that they still come forward to assist the city.

Councilor Marquez stated that the road Don Diego is pretty bad as well.

Motion made by Councilor Nelson to Adjourn. Seconded by councilor Gordon Motion carried out.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. Martin Moore (acting as Municipal clerk)
(Taken and Transcribed by Patricia McCloskey)

Date: 1/6/2024

Approved:



Joshua Ramsell,
Mayor



Lawrence R. Gordon,
Mayor Pro-tem/Councilor



Arthur Apodaca,
Councilor

Thomas Nelson,
Councilor

Matthew Marquez,
Councilor