



City of Rio Communities Council Special Business Meeting
City Council Chambers - 360 Rio Communities Blvd
Rio Communities, NM 87002
Monday May 18 2026, 6:00 PM
Minutes

Please silence all electronic devices.

Mayor - Joshua Ramsell

Mayor Pro Tem - Lawrence R. Gordon

Council – Michael Melendez, Thomas Nelson, Matthew Marquez

Call to Order

Mayor Ramsell called the meeting to order at 6:10pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Councilor Gordon led the pledge of allegiance.

Roll Call

Governing Body

Mayor Joshua Ramsell
Councilor Matthew Marquez
Councilor Lawrence Gordon
Councilor Thomas Nelson
Councilor Michael Melendez

Staff

Manager Dr. Martin Moore
City Attorney Cori Strife

Approval of Agenda

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

Voting Yea:

Councilor Marquez
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Melendez
Councilor Gordon

Motion Passed with a 4-0 Vote

Action Items

Discussion, Consideration, and Decision - Approval of Amended Financial and Accounting Services agreement with Beasley Mitchell through July 31, 2026.

Approved amended financial and accounting services agreement through August 15, 2026

Contract reduced from \$80K to \$60K (25% reduction) after negotiations

Actual overrun was \$24K, not the initially reported \$40-45K

Services limited to audit purposes only to control costs

Last year's audit cost \$34,183 for comparison

Motion made by Councilor Nelson to Approve the amended financial and accounting services agreement agreement with Beasley Mitchell I through August 15, 2026 in the amount not to exceed \$60,000.00

Voting Yea:
Councilor Melendez
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Gordon

Voting No:
Councilor Marquez

Motion passed with a 3-1 vote

Public Hearing - For the purpose of Adopting The City of Rio Communities Interim Budget for Fiscal Year 2026 – 2027.

Motion and roll call vote to recess Special Business Meeting session and to go into Public Hearing

Motion made by Councilor Melendez to recess Special Business Meeting session and to go into Public Hearing. Seconded by Councilor Gordon.

Voting Yea:
Councilor Marquez
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Melendez
Councilor Gordon

Motion Passed with a 4-0 Vote at 6:31pm

I know we had a workshop over the budget and I know you're you're getting prepped to there. Council have any questions, comments, anything they'd like to review over this?

Councilor Nelson: I think there's my. For the general public, we need to go over the budget again line like we did line by line. Just looks read in the record. This is a public hearing workshop is informal so I feel we need to go over it again.

Councilor Marquez: I'm fine with it.

Mayor Ramsell: Okay. Anyone else on council have any comments or do you think add to that?

Councilor Melendez: Sure. Well, since we've already been through it in a workshop, we can probably do a pretty good job of summarizing what we spoke about and edit any particular details that we want in it. But for the most part, a good summary of what our workshop was in a.

Councilor Nelson: Because it is public record and this is a hearing, we do actually go through it page by page, unfortunately,

Councilor Gordon: I think, I think we can go through it page by page just for the fact that all the questions have been asked and answered. So therefore we can just go through it and be done.

Mayor Ramsell: I'm perfectly fine with that. Also, just as a reminder, this is, you know, once a budget is passed, it is public document it is records It is available to allocate. So looks like we'll go ahead and go through this line by line, and I'll go turn it to.

Cassandra Montano: All right, thank you, Mayor, members of council, again, for your time being here this evening. I know that we spent an extensive amount of time going through this line by line earlier today, so I just want to note a couple of important details. One, since we are doing this for the public and they have a better understanding of what's going on, a couple of things that I do want to mention. I know it was bad timing, but the apparatus, fire apparatus or the police equipment that was purchased, those were purchased with grant funds, not city funds. And the grants were specific to those pieces of equipment. So it wasn't that we were spending outside of what we had facing a deficit. It was that we had money we had to spend. They were grants, and we needed to do that. The other piece of that is, I know it was bad timing that they were delivered during this time. However, the procurement process had started months prior. So I just wanted the public to understand that, that we're not misappropriating money. We're not throwing away their tax dollars. It's that we are using grant funds for these things. So I do understand timing. The other part of it that I do want to point out really, really quick is, Patricia, can you scroll to the end of general fundr? I just wanted to commend you guys on the work that you did with me. Keep going, Patricia. All the way down. Great. So between our cuts in budget, looking at the increase in property taxes, looking at our available cash and what our ending cash would be, maintaining our 12% reserves, we have successfully eliminated our budget gap. So with that, there's actually a look at we may not need to request emergency operating funds. May not need to. Okay, Just looking at what we have right here. So thank you for your work with me this afternoon, because this looks a whole lot better than a couple of months ago when we were thinking, oh, my gosh, we're facing a \$1.16 million gap.

Dr. Moore: Yeah. Mayor, members of council would like to add that part of the reason what you've got here is you're showing any cash in deposit, which is extremely good. One thing you are looking at, though, is a significant reduction in the amount of any cash that you're looking at compared to prior years. And so we do highly recommend that we still continue with the emergency application.

Councilor Marquez: So on. We've got a new new documents. So on the second Page of the new document. This is a police services special. \$50. Why do we have something so small there if it's that low? Should we just take it off?

Cassandra Montano: Yeah, I apologize. I printed copies for you guys and didn't have enough opportunity to print for myself.

Councilor Marquez: It'll be right in the middle where it says police services special.

Dr. Moore: Mayor, members of council, we anticipate that there may be some. And. And frankly, if it showed us. Even if it shows us a clip on the screen, \$50 for us is \$50. That's what I said. I believe there was some. There could be some type of activity. Let me give you an example. If the company considered. It says elevator, we need an hour or two of police services and we'd like to be able to utilize. Utilize them or something that's outside of We don't have any legal impediment to not do that. We don't have any contracts currently, no. But it's not hard

to. It's not hard for somebody like a golf course for someone else to come and ask for some services. And we say, okay, it's going to cost you this much. So it's basically just creating a revenue line for you.

Councilor Marquez: Okay, so that's just a revenue line. And it's just to say if. If somebody does request a police support for a special event, then you can add that amount.

Dr. Moore: You have a place to put it.

Councilor Marquez: Okay.

Councilor Nelson: And that 50 bucks is about 10

Cassandra Montano: minutes, an hour maybe.

Councilor Marquez: Okay, that's all I have with that one.

Councilor Gordon: Can we go ahead and start back

Councilor Nelson up at the top? We'll go line by line.

Cassandra Montano: I have my contacts in, but I do. Go see that again. Huh? Zoom it out.

Dr. Moore: No, make it larger.

Cassandra Montano: Oh, larger, Larger, More. That's too much. Yeah, too much.

Councilor Nelson: There we go.

Dr. Moore: Perfect.

Cassandra Montano: So line by line, starting from the top, we are looking at conservative proposed budget numbers based on trends over the last three years. As we discussed earlier this afternoon, some of these are left flat as what we projected last year because we came in right around that or in between those numbers. Some of those increased based on what we did see actually come in this year. And we were comfortable increasing it slightly and still remaining conservative. Go up just a little bit more. Thank you. So I guess not so there. And then with property tax, we did adjust that to \$450,000 from the 491 that we had proposed earlier this afternoon with council suggestion, we decreased that amount based on what we might actually see. So

Dr. Moore: And I believe. And we brought it flat back 8550 on the line lower for prior year.

Councilor Nelson: So we're going to go over line by line

Cassandra Montano: Go up. So just to be clear, just to be clear counselor, you want me to read each line and the amount.

Councilor Nelson: Yeah, just, just read in the record.

Cassandra Montano: So for franchise tax proposed budget is 22,000. Sorry 220,000. For gross receipts tax Municipal local auction general we're looking at 665,000 gross receipts tax municipal infrastructure we're looking at 20,500 compensating tax 5,000 interstate telecom gross receipts is 285. Property tax that we're

looking at with the increase Starting in January 450,000 property tax prior year we're expecting 8,550 GRT shared municipal equivalent distribution 450,000. Motor vehicle excise tax 20,000 other state share taxes 0.

Councilor Marquez: So I have a question on the GRT shared municipal equivalent distribution. It was higher last year for 460,000. How come we dropped it 10,000.

Cassandra Montano: We're remaining conservative in the event that we don't receive the same amount that we projected for last year. So we did an in between kind of took the average and we looked at what we would most possibly receive. So then the motor vehicle excise tax again is 20,000 other state shared taxes 0. Animal license based on actual activity \$150. Building permits \$2,000 based on activity business license registration we kept at \$2,850 based on activity zoning permits want \$1,200. Other licenses and permits 3,500. Animal pound fees based on current activity we decreased that to \$250. Police services special we put that line holder of \$50. Printing and copying we put at \$100. Rental fees \$500. Other charges for services zero. Court fines zero. Until we are able to get a judge. Library fees \$25 Interest income 25,000. Reimbursement refunds 1000 10th anniversary donations 0. Miscellaneous Other 0. Small Cities Assistance 350,000 Other State distributions 12,000 Other State grants 6,000 Real quick question. Yes sir.

Councilor Nelson: I should have brought up earlier. Where's the franchise season all this where they falling.

Dr. Moore: If you can scroll back up to the top of the revenues there, that's

Mayor Ramsell: the very first answer.

Cassandra Montano: It's the franchise.

Dr. Moore: Franchise.

Councilor Nelson: Okay, I'm sorry, I'm an idiot.

Dr. Moore: No, no.

Councilor Marquez: And I just want to point out the the 10th anniversary donations is that. I know we requested to put. We had a spring fest for. We requested Food every year. Is that the line that we were putting under?

Dr. Moore: Yeah. Mayor, members, council. The last time that we did this we had set up a line and we figured out about how much was going to be coming in. We included that in revenue to go against expense. So if there's, if there's funds. Yeah, if something happens again, they say some people come to business say oh we want, we'd like to have this and, and we'd like this to donate this X amount to it. And we would come back into you with a budget request.

Councilor Nelson: So we could actually change that to special event donations at 10 anniversary. But we would.

Cassandra Montano: So with that, that gives us an estimated revenue of \$2,244,660 against that would be our expenses. First we're looking at governing body salaries, part time positions at 0. Travel for elected officials 2000 travel for employees 0. Other travel 0. Telecommunications \$600. Other operating costs 0. Next we going to meet municipal court. Depending that we end up with a judge, we have that salary for \$3,600. And then it does say salary full time positions. However, we are looking at a part time clerk at \$13,000. With that from our payroll deductions of FICA regular being \$1,029.20. FICA Medicare being \$240.70. Unemployment compensation being

\$1,601.90. Health and medical premiums 0. Life insurance premiums 0. Dental insurance premiums 0. Vision insurance, medical premiums 0. Workers compensation, employers fee \$499.66. Workers compensation self insured \$173.59 travel elected officials 500 postage 150 other operating costs \$300. Next is the manager's budget. I did add in the code enforcement so that changed to \$159,829.

Councilor Marquez: So I got something with code enforcement. Has the code enforcer been certified officially? Certified as, as, as a code enforcement

Dr. Moore: officer, Mayor members council, we know that he's had training that the state of New Mexico to the best of my knowledge over the past years does not have an official code enforcement officer certification. So it's trained. Yes, New Mexico certified.

Councilor Marquez: I think that position needs to be moved to part time because we don't have a judge, we don't have a court clerk. We don't have a way to, for our code enforcer to really do anything. And if there's, we're looking at things that we can pull back on. So that's, that's a position that needs to be pulled back on.

Councilor Nelson: I I agree with that. My I know C out drive around at 545 there's no reason for me to say.

Dr. Moore: Mayor members of council all I can tell you I don't believe that his last I believe he was a straight hours

Councilor Nelson: but I think what Councilor Marcus again I wish because we don't have anyway supportive parts to do really do his job because he can't be cited into court cut it down part time until we get a judge which would also save us some more money our

Cassandra Montano: members of council it really wouldn't save us a significant amount of money. When we look at a reduction in salary and a reduction in the payroll costs associated it would be pennies on the dollar. And considering the fact that we have done such a good job shaving a lot of costs off the budget and bringing down that gap I would suggest that we leave that position where it is and I have a proposal for it. You know he can assist in other duties. He can assist with other departments when he's not doing code enforcement, he's not fulfilling code enforcement obligations. However I do know that currently he's been working really close with Jennifer and with Patricia and they have been working on software and uploading different forms and getting things ready for iwerms. So I know that he has been doing other things.

Councilor Marquez: Is that doing uploaded forms and stuff like that. Is that a. I'm looking at privacy and stuff like that. Doing special things for the city that he doesn't have the credentials for to look at private information.

Cassandra Montano: That's not private information sir. It's. It's preparing the code enforcement forms so it would be things that people would fill out to record certain code enforcement violations or if they needed specific permits, those kinds of forms. So he doesn't have any access to private information right now. What he's helping with is the setup

Dr. Moore: Mayor, members of council and just talking a little short sidebar here with our our legal counsel. One thing I think would be important to consider here too is any types of administrative fines or fees that we can gravitate toward. And and Corey, our legal counsel is she can speak for herself I'm sure would be willing to work with us on or ordinances to try to get us into position so some of these

Councilor Nelson: don't have miss support and we could

Dr. Moore: just deal with fines and if that's the case then we generate a revenue stream.

Councilor Marquez: So. So we should put the code enforcement on part time until we can because how long have we been talking about fines and stuff about the city, it's been over six months and we still haven't agreed on fines. So something like this where you're saying pennies on a dollar, but it's not pennies on a dollar, it'll be a significant amount for the city to be able to say, okay, we're going to do this. And once we are set and we're ready, we have all the prerequisites to have a code enforcement. That's when we move in and say, okay, we'll put it permanent. But a temporary position is something where you would get the paperwork together, get everything situated who we can, rather than saying, oh well, we'll just have to do with something else. It's, it's, it's something that needs, needs to happen because we're not utilizing the code enforcement the way the city should be. And if we're looking at cuts, that's the cut that we should make.

Cassandra Montano: And Councillor Marcus, I do appreciate that input and that input would have definitely been appreciated several hours, hours ago as well. And so with that, we did discuss this budget with no cuts, as you guys had discussed, even cutting the library and decided against that. With that, I do think that keeping our code enforcement officer full time and if we can get those administrative fees going and fines, then that does help to support that position. Without him, we can't pursue that as actively as we could with a full time code enforcement officer.

Councilor Marquez: Yes, but the only thing is we don't have any of that in place and we talked about it for at least six months and nothing's moved forward yet. So until we can get a solid foundation, we need to move forward to say, okay, we're going to save the city some money in this position because it's not, not be utilized the way it should be.

City Attorney Cori Strife: Mayor, members of council, if I can just jump in just from my experience and you can take what's worked, what I have seen a lot of times, and I've worked with three different municipalities that have kind of been in a very similar position, which is that you guys are sort of stepping into law enforcement, stepping into, you know, hoping to get, you know, a real full time judge, stepping into some code enforcement, some revenue streams and things that, you know, obviously people see people feeding people, you know, parking places, they shouldn't, meeting all the things that you see in, you know, any city or even small town anywhere. And the difficulty that you guys face right now is that unlike some of those other small towns and other municipalities that have helped, you don't have a planning department so you don't have people on staff already doing the work that we would use to set up code enforcement. So for example, if you had, you know, one or two people on full time staff doing planning and zoning work as opposed to relying on planning and zoning commission, then I would have somebody that would already be trained into all of the laws of the planning and zoning and who would understand sort of when they are driving by the violations

Cassandra Montano: that they could cite.

City Attorney Cori Strife: And so the value I see in a full time code enforcement officer who may not actually be doing code enrollment enforcement now is that he would be that expert in that area because in reviewing the existing ordinances, he can identify those things that he would cite driving around with that power. And so it sounds sort of silly to spend money to make money, but because you don't have an alternative position, I don't have a planning and zoning department to rely on. I don't have anybody else with that expertise. And to the

same manager, he's already received that training. And so I guess sort of the next question is, if we were to want to shift this position to part time, are we hoping, praying, banking that this individual can afford to make ends meet after receiving this education and stay on with us part time so that whenever we finally get it together without his expertise to develop the structure that we can then bring him back to the full time? I think we might be spending more to train a new person later.

Councilor Marquez: So I don't think that's part of a legal question for you to butt into what city council is doing. That's more of a. I think this is what we should do because it's something that's good for us. That's not a legal question. What we're talking about is saving money rather than he's not certified. So, so that doesn't, that's part of the legal question. Is he certified? No. I've seen emails where there's been responses as a code enforcement that wasn't how a code enforcement should respond. So that's putting the city more into a legal bind rather than responding in a professional way. So there's things that have happened, happen things that, that I have seen personally through forwarding emails that said, hey, you know what, things like blocking traffic, the code enforcement shouldn't be blocking traffic or doing police.

Cassandra Montano: What are you doing?

Councilor Marquez: Procedures or responding to police call. And that's part of doing stuff that's extra, which shouldn't be happening.

Cassandra Montano: Councillor Marcus, if I may to that point, my, my dad works for public works in Valencia County. He and code enforcement officers are utilized at times for traffic control when needed, when they are short staffed. So that is something that he is well within his abilities to do is

Councilor Marquez: help have it in document that says he has a code enforcement. You can block traffic because we don't.

Cassandra Montano: So then.

Councilor Nelson: So let's just get back to the savings part of it. We come back part time save the city probably \$21,092 plus the insurances. So that takes it a lot higher than minuscule.

Cassandra Montano: It's going to save approximately 30 to \$35,000. And if we go to that bottom line, that doesn't change much when we look at the bottom line.

Councilor Nelson: But it's still \$35,000 that we're saving.

Cassandra Montano: It's almost like that cell phone for the library.

Councilor Nelson: Well no, it's not even close to cell phone to the library that that should even be there. But we don't have the need for a full time code department right now. We have entity for full technical reporting for years.

Cassandra Montano: So then to the point of legal counsel, I think it would cost more to retrain somebody than to keep the person that we have. And so then I must pose the question because I'm starting to wonder is this cost savings or is it personal?

Councilor Nelson: It's cost savings. Cost savings.

Cassandra Montano: I heard a lot more that was personal reference. That's why I'm asking the questions that

Councilor Marquez: have come to Citizens city council. Everybody's received except for Melendez. He hasn't received it because he's new. But everybody received issues that code enforcement has made email responses that were not professional in manner as a code. So.

Mayor Ramsell: So are we cutting the salary based off on professional emails or. I'm just, I'm asking some trying to understand. That's what that sounds like.

Councilor Marquez: No, we're cutting because we don't have the proper training yet for this person and we don't need a code enforcement right now because we don't have a court system to support the code enforcement.

Mayor Ramsell: So we have a very long workshop at the center family hearing workshop. So it's a little confusing. Here we are about trying to pass the budget and we're trying to change things last minute.

Councilor Marquez: It's not very confusing. We're talking about a workshop or. I know we had a workshop budget. Nothing, not everything comes out in a workshop budget. If it pops up the audience at this point. That's very funny.

Mayor Ramsell: It is. It's always last minute changes, obviously ours trying to delay things, change things.

Councilor Nelson: So let's just move on then.

Mayor Ramsell: Okay, let's move on. Thank you.

Cassandra Montano: So payroll deductions under the manager's Department Biker Regular \$9,909.40 FICA Medicare \$2,317.52 Retirement 1000 I Apologize \$15,423.50 Health and Medical Premiums \$20,846.98 Life Insurance Premiums \$110 Insurance Premiums \$1,000 Vision Insurance Medical Premiums \$165 Unemployment Compensation \$527.44 Workers Compensation Employer's Fees \$4,810.85 Workers Compensation Self Insured \$173.59 Travel Employees \$750 that would only apply to city manager. Maintenance and repairs for vehicles \$500 again only applying to the city manager. Supplies General Officers \$200 supplies vehicle fuel \$500 applied only to the city manager.

Councilor Marquez: I have a question. For travel, what was last year's expenditure for travel?

Cassandra Montano: It exceeded the budget of a thousand. Yes sir. Because there was travel for different trainings and municipality in Santa Fe. So yes it exceeded the budget.

Councilor Nelson: So going back because you had them in there. He had a vehicle you can't where's his fuel and stuff where it's going to come from and it has to come out of the police department has to go into the city manager unfortunately.

Cassandra Montano: And that is a good point and that was a line that I overlooked. However I do know that the city manager has not expended the full 500 in his budget for fuel. And so we can look at revising that from the law enforcement line.

Mayor Ramsell: So the current year it's 350 and it's a close. It's 500.

Councilor Nelson: Well no. Well maintenance. Cuz I get another vehicle in there.

Cassandra Montano: Correct. And I also know that the city manager has not exceeded the \$500 in maintenance for his vehicle.

Councilor Nelson: I thought we just had a pretty tight bill for his vehicle a couple months ago.

Cassandra Montano: That was not his vehicle.

Councilor Nelson: Sorry.

Cassandra Montano: Employee training is \$750. That would apply to the city manager unless there is other training that the code enforcement officer needs to attend. Subscription and dues \$1,500 and telecommunications \$750. Applying only to the city manager. And we may have to correct that. That is the current item that's being taken out of the police department budget. So we could add \$600 to that 750 then remove it from the police. Correct. Under general administration we have maintenance and repairs, building instruction \$5,000 maintenance and repair furniture, fixtures and equipment, \$0, maintenance supplies \$250.

Councilor Marquez: So I have a question. If we're going to remove it from the police and put it under city manager, how are we going to approve it on here? Shouldn't that be changed first before mayor?

Cassandra Montano: Can I have 5 minutes?

Councilor Nelson: By all means.

Mayor Ramsell: It's an internal budget, counselor, so any changes.

Councilor Marquez: I'm just asking him to be changed.

Mayor Ramsell: That's no problem.

Councilor Marquez: I was just asking. I just. And I know it's a stressful situation. We have to go through it as it is. As it is an important things to talk about. Even if you decide to laugh about it, it's not a laughable situation. We have to go through this seriously and figure out what's going on and how to fix it. No, that's not.

Cassandra Montano: Do I.

Speaker A: Plus YouTube.

Councilor Marquez: Professional theme. Doesn't matter.

Councilor Nelson: I'm sorry you feel that way, sir.

Councilor Marquez: In case you're back, if you like

Mayor Ramsell: to take five minutes as a recess, anyone can view the restroom or anything like that back,

Councilor Melendez: take a little pause. There's a place in time for that.

Cassandra Montano: It.

Councilor Marquez: And I know you've gone through over and over through the budget and gone through and gone through, but this was the first time seeing the budget at the budget workshop and then coming back again, that's the second time we've seen it. So there's always going to be more questions. It's not just. I should have said it in the first one.

Councilor Melendez: Well, as we just verify.

Councilor Marquez: So I. I just wanted to say it's not something that I'm trying to.

Councilor Nelson: So that's contained all the pipe and everything? Correct. I mean.

Cassandra Montano: It's why I have the formulas in the.

Councilor Nelson: Yeah.

Councilor Melendez: Well, I have to admit I'm impressed with the rapid update that was done on the budget. That comes to practice.

Mayor Ramsell: Thank you Ms. Casey, for getting force.

Cassandra Montano: And so I do apologize. I was looking for the law enforcement line on here so that way I could correct that line. And then I will email the updated version to Patricia so she can put it on your screen. Do you need your computer too?

Speaker A: No.

Councilor Nelson: Sure. Might as well get this place safe.

Mayor Ramsell: No, no,

Cassandra Montano: you might as well. It's. I apologize.

Speaker A: Used to having my mouth.

Councilor Marquez: I just wanted to say that it's important that the city makes sure that we have the budget correct before we approve it. And so that's the reason why I'm requesting for the changes. I know that what we could do moving forward, if we're changing it, we could mention it, write it down, make sure it's changed or voted on with the Changes that, that were discussed rather than having to change it immediately. That would have been something that we could have did rather than doing it right away. But it was wasn't brought up. So I would say moving forward, we could do that as an amended, as amendment rather than changing it immediately. Because that was the question, how are we going to do it? And so that would be the proper answer would be to say as amended with changes.

Cassandra Montano: Counselor, I appreciate that statement. That would have been appreciated a long time ago as well. Because instead you said, how are we going to approve this without this change? To me that states that you want it changed now, therefore you will get the change now.

Councilor Marquez: Okay, well that's really not what I meant. I asked how are we going to do it? That's an open question and anybody could answer that here on council, you, if you had thought of it, it could have been answered too. So I'm just answering the question that I had.

Cassandra Montano: With that, though making the immediate change, I did notice that I omitted a line. Therefore there is something for you to review.

Councilor Marquez: Thank you.

Cassandra Montano: Put your choice on that new one.

Speaker A: Okay, I just received it.

Councilor Nelson: So just working faster.

Speaker A: I told you it's good now.

Cassandra Montano: And then I apologize. I did make one other correction that I will point out as we get into the Law Enforcement Protection Fund. Thank you, Patricia. And we were on the manager

Mayor Ramsell: page six

Cassandra Montano: more. Okay, there we go. So go ahead and we scroll down a little bit more to the telecommunications. Telecommunications now are changed to 1350.

Councilor Marquez: So it's a rise from 750.

Dr. Moore: Correct?

Cassandra Montano: Correct. By \$600.

Councilor Nelson: So just by looking at this, he doesn't take care of the insurances.

Cassandra Montano: The formulas are in there. And so when I plugged in the new salary amount, they didn't change.

Councilor Nelson: That was.

Cassandra Montano: They didn't change. And that is probably because we based that off of last year when Patricia's salary was combined with managers. Therefore, those amounts are expected to stay the same.

Councilor Nelson: Okay, well I'm looking from the working

Cassandra Montano: capital, they'll stay the same. So then looking at general administration, we look at maintenance and repairs, building and structure, we have that at \$5,000. Maintenance and repair for furniture, fixtures and equipment. \$0 maintenance supplies, \$250 contract for audit, \$34,440 contract for attorneys fees, \$60,000 contract for professional services, \$46,000 contract other services, \$25,000 software, \$35,000 supplies, general office, \$750 supplies, furniture, fixtures, equipment, non capital, \$500 supplies, other \$1500 claims judgment settlements that we can expect to incur from the last finance officer is \$10,000 remaining real quick.

Councilor Nelson: That's fine, whatever. Like CO pays this tort claim, stuff like that.

Cassandra Montano: No, those are actually related to some taxes that weren't paid.

Councilor Nelson: So that's fees that we had to pay because they weren't done, potentially.

Cassandra Montano: So that's an estimated amount and it may be less than. I know that we have worked diligently to get those caught up.

Councilor Nelson: I'm sorry I didn't catch it earlier today. So that's for the question.

Councilor Marquez: Yeah, same here.

Cassandra Montano: I didn't see it and I know I have mentioned it in previous that we were going to see those, but that is the approximated amount.

Dr. Moore: Okay.

Councilor Marquez: And it was zero last year. It's 10,000 now. So we're just making sure that we're covering our butt in case things are.

Cassandra Montano: Yeah. And that's off of what Beasley Mitchell calculated with what they were working on and what we've actually seen that we had to pay out this year in fines and fees. We just put that into that line item. We didn't actually put it into that line because there was no budget for it this year. So it got into another one that was appropriate for them.

Councilor Marquez: And the next line, insurance, general liability, property, it went from 9,000 to 30,000. Did we discuss that?

Cassandra Montano: Yes, we did. So what we did is we took that from individual departments and we put it together. So instead of finance office paying their portion, the clerk's office, public works, everybody paying their own portion.

Councilor Marquez: Thank you.

Cassandra Montano: Yes. And where we could take it off of the general fund, we did apply it to other funds. Our Postage is at 1,500. Printing, publishing and advertising, 2,500. Rent of equipment and machinery, 5,000. Subscriptions and dues 13,000. Telecommunications 15,000. That is the office phones, not cell phones, just to be clear on that. Telecommunication. Telecommunication light.

Councilor Nelson: That's pretty much all the cell phones in city Hall.

Cassandra Montano: The. The office ones. So the.

Councilor Nelson: So even. Please follow.

Cassandra Montano: Correct. However, I do not have the exact number. We do look to be changing that in November. I don't have that exact contracted number, but it's going to be significantly less.

Speaker A: Yeah, by like sorry, mayor and city council, it's going to be go. Going down monthly by almost \$400 a month. We pay 750 now. It's going to go down to like 350.

Councilor Nelson: Thank you for saving us more. Yes.

Councilor Marquez: And that will be projected on the next budget review, Correct.

Councilor Nelson: Okay.

Cassandra Montano: Well, unfortunately it won't be projected until we can switch in November because that's when our contract with Sharp is up. So it'll be end of year. We'll review that. Our utilities, electricity at \$2,000. Utilities, natural gas \$8,000. Utilities water \$5,000.

Dr. Moore: Mayor, council member. That's. I think there's 20,000 on.

Cassandra Montano: I apologize. It is \$20,000. My eyes. It's been like five years. It's really bad.

Councilor Marquez: Have we. And this is just like for the lighting inside the city hall. And are we on LED also rather than.

Dr. Moore: Yes, the old guests are here. Sitting under LED lights here.

Councilor Melendez: Okay.

Councilor Nelson: And where we can. The motion sensor, light or switches are in.

Cassandra Montano: Yes, sir.

Dr. Moore: Yes, sir.

Cassandra Montano: Okay.

Dr. Moore: One of the upgrades is. We've got a grant. It has. There's a few upgrades that have to happen to this room. One room security upgrades and another one's the deus. And the third one is the electrical and going to the automatic way.

Cassandra Montano: So then after our utilities, we have our GRT administrative fee of \$19,000 and other operating costs \$8,000. Moving into the finance department, we have salaries for 10 positions. That's two full time positions. I apologies. It's going to be \$140,754. With that we have FICA regular at \$8,726.75. FICA Medicare \$2,040.93. Retirement \$13,582.76. Health and medical premiums \$20,846.98. Life insurance premiums \$1,000. Dental insurance premiums \$1,000. Vision insurance, medical premiums \$165.

Councilor Nelson: So you should use it. You're paying for it.

Cassandra Montano: And the premiums went up.

Councilor Marquez: I also want to say that like the compensation and all those fees, they went up because in the recent past we've had a high turnover for the city. So that with them collecting unemployment, that increases our payout that we have to pay for the state.

Dr. Moore: So.

Councilor Marquez: So I just wanted to push that out and let everybody know that's the reason why we're paying more rather than what we did last year.

Speaker A: Correct.

Cassandra Montano: And just a reminder, the city is not exempt from increases. Right. So we still see all those payroll increases that everybody else is filling in their own. Their own jobs or in their own lives.

Mayor Ramsell: So when the rates go up because

Councilor Marquez: it's a shared pool.

Mayor Ramsell: So even if you had no claims, your rates are still going to go up.

Speaker A: Yeah.

Cassandra Montano: So Unemployment compensation is \$464.49. Workers compensation, employer's fee is \$4,236.70. Workers compensation, self insured \$173.59 Tribal employees \$500 supplies, general office \$500 supplies, furniture, fixtures, equipment, non capital \$500 employee training \$500 postage 150 Printing, publishing and advertising \$150 subscriptions and dues \$500 telecommunications \$600 other operating costs \$500. The municipal clerk office or department, their budget is \$119,720. I need to review that. That doesn't sound like.

Councilor Marquez: Yeah, so I was going to say that's a little high, isn't it?

Cassandra Montano: No, it's low compared to what the finance office is for salaries. And I apologize because I did not catch that earlier today.

Councilor Nelson: You have two full time employees in there. So it's.

Councilor Marquez: Oh, yes. I was, I was thinking of something else. I was thinking about the judge in

Cassandra Montano: that area is that that number was correct. Okay. Oh, do you know what? I did not. Okay, so in the finance salaries and I did just put it into salaries full time is. So the one that we have through Workforce Solutions, who is getting paid 50% through the city, 50% through and she does not qualify for any benefits.

Dr. Moore: Okay, that's right.

Cassandra Montano: That's why that's different. Yes. Okay, so then FICA regular is \$7,422.64. FICA Medicare is \$1,735.94. Retirement is \$11,552.98. Health and medical premiums \$20,846.98 Life insurance premiums \$110 Dental insurance premiums \$1,000 Vision insurance, medical premiums \$165 Unemployment compensation \$395.08 Workers compensation, employer fee \$3,603.50 Workers compensation, self insured \$173.59 Travel employees \$750 Supplies, general office \$1,500. Apologies. Supplies, furniture, pictures, equipment Non capital \$200 Employee training \$1,000 Postage \$200 Printing, publishing, advertising, \$1,000 Subscriptions and dues \$450. Telecommunications \$1,800.

Councilor Nelson: Were you afraid to say it or what?

Cassandra Montano: No. Yeah, that was my fault. Sorry. For planning and zoning, we have salaries, term position at \$4,900. Travel, employees \$1,000 employee training \$1,000.

Councilor Nelson: Real quick, the 4900 is their stipend they get.

Cassandra Montano: Correct.

Councilor Nelson: I should have asked that earlier.

Cassandra Montano: But it's fair to assume under salary, term positions, economic development. We change contract professional services under the guidance of council to \$10,000 subscription and dues \$4,000 for law enforcement. We discuss the absorption of the law enforcement recruitment cost. And then I extracted the code enforcement salary out of this. So it now comes to \$357,815.80 with overtime budgeted at \$5,000.

Councilor Nelson: That's. That's the same as our paper hair re. I didn't subtract it.

Cassandra Montano: I gave you a new budget after.

Councilor Nelson: No, the one you printed. Oh, never mind. Yesterday.

Cassandra Montano: Yeah, there were other changes yesterday. I understand. Trying to track all of them can be confusing. Overtime is \$5,000. FICA Regular \$22,494.58 FICA Medicare is \$5,260.83 Retirement \$35,011.72 Health and medical premiums \$78,000 Life insurance premiums \$320 Dental insurance premiums \$2,325 Vision insurance, medical premiums \$563 Unemployment compensation \$1,197.29 Workers compensation, employers fees \$10,770.26 Workers compensation Self insured \$173.50 Moving into the fire department and adjusting salaries where we can while absorbing the fire recruitment fund Expenses. Salary Full Time position is \$491,344. Salaries for temporary positions at \$23,000 salaries. Overtime is \$35,000 FICA Regular \$34,059.33 FICA Medicare \$7,965.49 Retirement \$53,011.70 Health and medical premiums \$17,844.35 Life insurance premiums \$27.50 Dental insurance premiums \$156.25 Vision insurance, medical premiums \$30 Unemployment compensation \$1,812.84 \$0.04 Workers compensation, employer fees \$16,535.25 Workers compensation Self insured \$60

Councilor Nelson: I just noticed their vision is a lot cheaper than everybody else's.

Cassandra Montano: It may be who elects to. It's based on how many people.

Councilor Nelson: It's probably just the chief.

Cassandra Montano: Well, not only that, but the PRNs are not.

Speaker A: Yeah, they're not eligible.

Cassandra Montano: The PRNs are not eligible. So some of the staff are not eligible for the benefits or they staff department we have.

Councilor Nelson: That's the lowest vision we have.

Cassandra Montano: And that might be something that I need to revisit.

Dr. Moore: Trisha, can you go back to that line? Yeah, we would concur.

Cassandra Montano: Do you know what actually what may have happened and we'll look at that when we get to the next fund is some of those costs that moved to another fund instead of incurring in the general.

Councilor Marquez: And I was going to ask you to explain that to the community about.

Dr. Moore: Right.

Councilor Marquez: We're only doing the employees and the insurances on this portion because we also have the firefighters.

Cassandra Montano: Correct. Fire has fire grts, they have EMS grts, they have EMS fund, they have fire protection fund. So they have a large number of funds to pull from. And so we're able to spread their cost out a little bit more so that way the city's not incurring all of the expenses.

Councilor Nelson: Thank you.

Cassandra Montano: For animal control, we have \$12,000. 911 dispatch is over a \$30,000 increase. So we are now sitting at \$107,562. Parks and Recreation \$3,000 for contract other services and other operating Costs is also \$3,000. Library Full Time Positions \$43,680.00 FICA Regular \$2,708.16 FICA Medicare \$633.36 Retirement \$4,215.12 Health and Medical Premium. Sorry Health and Medical Premiums \$7,809.36 Life Insurance Premiums is going to be \$55.00 Dental Insurance Premiums \$931.00 Vision Insurance Medical Premiums \$160.00 Unemployment Compensation \$812.70 Workers Compensation Employer's Fee \$10.00 Workers Compensations Health Insured \$250.00 Travel Employees 0 Software \$1,500.00 Supplies General Office \$500.00 Supplies Other \$500.00 Postage \$150.00 Printing, Publishing, Advertising \$250.00 Subscription and Dues \$200.00 Library Museum Acquisition \$250.00 Telecommunications

City Attorney Cori Strife: 3

Cassandra Montano: For Public Works we have salaries Full Time Position \$182,728.00 Overtime 0 FICA Regular \$11,329.14 FICA Medicare \$2,649.56 Retirement \$17,633.25 Health and Medical Premiums \$37,106.50 Life Insurance Premiums \$223.00 Dental Insurance Premiums 1,000 yes sir.

Councilor Marquez: How come the FICA regular Medicare those numbers stayed the same even though we we got more full time. Two more full time positions.

Cassandra Montano: I just noticed that as well. Thank you for bringing that up.

Councilor Nelson: Get a drink real quick.

Cassandra Montano: So actually, yes,

Councilor Nelson: Dr. Morris right here on the floor.

Councilor Marquez: And it's pretty much all of them. Not all of them but most of them.

Cassandra Montano: And I do apologize, some of these may have lost the formula. When I was working Thursday night.

Councilor Marquez: It's great not to pay for us but that's interesting.

Councilor Nelson: Yeah.

Dr. Moore: Like a Regular would be 6.2% of

Cassandra Montano: the salaries and my formula is at 6.2% of the salaries. So that's interesting that that number stayed the same. So we may have over budgeted last year and actually

Speaker A: probably they came in at the end.

Dr. Moore: Yeah.

Councilor Nelson: We still pay the fights on them even though they're general employees.

Dr. Moore: Oh yeah. And mayor, members of council. We. The number of employees I don't think has changed really. It's just a couple of them flipped from what we called on call or temporary. Temporary to full time. So it's 6.2 is still at the same rate. So that could be an explanation.

Councilor Marquez: But I don't think temporaries receive dental insurance today.

Speaker A: That was new.

Councilor Nelson: Stay the same.

Speaker A: It was mayor, members of council that was new. The only person that changed were Carlos and Bernard. They changed from temporary to. And then they were afforded the insurance at that time.

Councilor Marquez: Yeah. So that's what I was saying. Those, those two are the two numbers from last year and this year are the same. So there's something that happened.

Dr. Moore: Keep going.

Cassandra Montano: Yeah. And I do find it interesting because the formula is in my spreadsheet. So I did not lose the formula. And let's see. And that salary. That's very interesting. Okay. One more office is just bringing a computer.

Speaker A: You're going to make me go get mine, aren't you?

Cassandra Montano: Just go get it now, Jenny. I will say that we are on track for that 11,329 this year. So I do expect that that's gonna. That might be an increase that we need to double check those numbers on. I hope not. But at this point I would say considering the fact that all of my formulas are in here, it is a possibility that those. Those are based on last year's numbers, not this year's. And it still doesn't make sense as to why that that map would not increase that line. So we'll look at that. Yeah. Because it's. It increased by 14 cents.

Dr. Moore: So this department is public works.

Cassandra Montano: Yes sir. Yeah. So unless I enter the formula incorrectly. 6.3%. Is that what you have for FICA? Regular is 6.2%.

Dr. Moore: Yes.

Cassandra Montano: And Medicare is 1.45%.

Dr. Moore: Correct. And in a vision. Looks like vision is here is 320. On my screen it's 960. Because we also, we also include our. I know that we have our custodian who's part time.

Speaker A: Oh, I forgot all about Marley. That's sad. Shame on me. He is public works. He does not get benefits though, just para. Well, no, he doesn't even get para because he's on part time.

Dr. Moore: Yeah, dental is correct as far as we can tell. If one or two of those additional add in then it's going to be.

Councilor Marquez: It'll be another.

Councilor Nelson: So you said vision went to 960 from 320.

Cassandra Montano: I don't believe that that's actually going to be accurate. Because he's a part time employee. He gets 15 hours a week. So I don't believe he qualifies for that benefit.

Dr. Moore: That would be.

Cassandra Montano: It goes to 800.

Councilor Nelson: Yes.

Dr. Moore: Dental insurance premium goes up to. 1861.

Cassandra Montano: And I do apologize. On Thursday we were working and then something happened to my spreadsheet and so some of these numbers got skewed. We thought we'd fix them all. That would be why when you got the email on Thursday, if you got the email from me, it was so late.

Councilor Nelson: That might be why didn't get it

Cassandra Montano: because it was 9:30 at night by the time I sent it out. So I don't know if that's part of it or if I just didn't hit reply all to Patricia's email.

Councilor Nelson: I never received any from you.

Councilor Marquez: So sorry. So what were the ones that have changed so far?

Cassandra Montano: So the vision changed to \$800 and the dental changed to \$1,861.

Councilor Marquez: Okay, thank you.

Dr. Moore: And the workers compensation employers,

Cassandra Montano: it should be.

Dr. Moore: I'm sorry, 9300.

Speaker A: Can you go down a little

Dr. Moore: address?

Councilor Nelson: That's why I take over. I'm behind.

Speaker A: Did you text him and make sure they made it?

Cassandra Montano: We did. Okay, so then travel employees is \$500. Maintenance and repairs vehicles \$15,000. Maintenance and repair furniture, fixture equipment zero contract. Other services, \$2,000. Supplies, general office \$500. Supplies, field supplies. That's a tongue twister. Zero dollars. Supplies, furniture, fixtures, equipment, non capital, zero. Supplies, uniforms, linen \$2,000. Supplies. Vehicle fuel \$10,000. Supplies, vehicle tires, \$2,000. Insurance, general liability property is \$2,000. Rent of equipment and machinery is \$3,000. And telecommunications \$1,200. Bringing us to a total expense of \$2,673,884.33 with our beginning available cash of \$1,091.69. Correction. \$1,091,069.16 minus.

Councilor Nelson: You forgot one street lights.

Cassandra Montano: Oh, I'm sorry. Street lights.

Councilor Nelson: Streets and highways.

Cassandra Montano: Streets and highways. Utilities. Electricity is \$5,000. So then that does bring us to our total expenditures of \$2,673,884.33. That does not include the \$270,000 transfers out. So with our beginning available cash, we have \$1,091,069.16. When we subtract our expenditures and the \$270,000, we have ending cash of \$391,844.83. And that does include the 112 reserve that we're required to have.

Councilor Nelson: So what was the expenditure again? Because it changed.

Cassandra Montano: You're actually. You are correct because it's not what's on the screen. The expenditures are now 2,678,000. So 2, 6, 7, 8, \$784.22. Our available cash remains the same. Our ending cash changes to \$386,944. Including our 12% reserve, it's 386-944-9414.

Councilor Marquez: And the 2 million, if you root it down.

Cassandra Montano: 267-826-78784 and 22 cents.

Councilor Nelson: Thank you.

Cassandra Montano: Which still leaves us a positive cash balance, which is nice. However, it doesn't leave us a lot in reserves. So for corrections, we don't expect any revenue and care of prisoners is set at \$5,000. However, we haven't seen any expenditures on that this year. So the likelihood of having expenditures there.

Dr. Moore: We have beginning available cash to cover that expense.

Cassandra Montano: For our environmental fund, grocery seats, municipality, sorry, gross receipts tax, municipal, environmental. We have a proposed revenue line of \$71,327.93. Other state grants, \$0. Expenses would be salaries, temporary positions, \$10,000 salary, overtime, \$5,000. FICA regular \$930. FICA Medicare, \$217.50. Unemployment compensation, \$49.50. Workers compensation, employers fees, \$709.50. Maintenance and repairs, building structure, 0. Contract, other services, \$16,953.50. Supplies, field supplies, \$2,000. Supplies, furniture, fixtures, equipment, non capital, 0. Supplies, other, 0. Equipment and machinery, 0.

Councilor Nelson: So just for general public, this is where you took some of the over for public works.

Cassandra Montano: Correct. So overtime for public works does not fall on general fund. It falls under this fund. And when we look at our revenues. Patricia, can you scroll up just a little bit so we can see those revenues again? Those revenues coming in at a proposed \$71,000. And then we look at our total Expenses, which is a little over \$35,000. So we have a 71, 327. And then our expenses are approximately half of that. So then that leaves us a little bit of a cushion in that fund in the event that we need to increase any of those budget lines. Next, we have our emergency medical services. This is a grant. Therefore, we have to do our best to balance this to zero. So they have \$50,000 that they're allotted. And with that, that's where we put a lot of the maintenance and repairs for their vehicles. \$1,500. Contract professional services \$200 contract other services \$100. Supplies field supplies \$150. Supplies medical \$15,217. That's where they're able to restock their rescues and get the proper medical equipment that they need or any new equipment

Councilor Nelson: that they might need before that was coming out. General firefigts and tr. General fund. Correct.

Cassandra Montano: We've tried to maintain that out of this fund as much as possible, but

Councilor Nelson: in previous years it could have.

Cassandra Montano: Yes, yes. We also rely on this fund for their training. So supplies training is \$2,833. Supplies, uniforms, linen, \$10,000. Supplies other is \$10,000. And then employee training is another \$10,000. So we balance that to zero. Under fire protection, we're expecting \$395,000. With that, we're going to also try to balance this to zero. And this fund only allows us to put certain expenditures under it, so we cannot budget salaries or those kinds of cost payroll deductions. So we can only do Travel, which is \$4,000. Maintenance and repairs, building and structure \$5,000. Maintenance and repair contracts. \$4,000. Maintenance and Repairs Vehicles \$60,000. Maintenance and repair furniture, fixtures, equipment \$5,000. Maintenance supplies \$1,500. Other maintenance \$5,000. Contract professional services \$25,000. Contract other services \$7,000. Software \$8,000. Supplies general office \$1,000. Supplied supplies, field supplies \$30,000. Supplies, furniture, fixtures, equipment, non capital \$4,500. Supplies, janitorial maintenance \$2,000. Supplies, medical \$2,500. Supplies safety zero. Supplies training \$5,000. Supplies, uniforms, linens, \$10,000. Supplies vehicle fuel \$15,000. Supplies vehicle lubricants, antifreeze \$1,000. Supplies vehicle tires \$3,000. Supplies other \$1,000. Employee training \$5,000. Insurance, general liability, property \$40,000. And it's because they have the two stations. Postage zero. Printing, publishing, advertising \$1,000. Rent of equipment, machinery \$1,600. Subscription and dues \$3,000. Telecommunications \$10,000. Utilities. Electricity is \$12,500. Utilities. Natural gas \$5,000. Utilities. Propane, butane \$2,500. Utilities. Water \$2,000. Buildings and structures, zero. Equipment and machinery \$15,000. Furniture and fixtures, zero dollars. Infrastructure, zero dollars. I also want to point out that a lot of these expenditures do go for two fire stations because we have the Tierra Grande station as well as the main station here in the city. So with that, I have a question.

Councilor Marquez: The 911, how it increased by over \$30,000, how come we can't put some of that funds towards in this portion?

Councilor Nelson: That was the same question I was gonna.

Cassandra Montano: So we have looked at that. Those are things that we would have to definitely talk to the state about to make sure that we're not violating any of the LE language that they have for these funds. So if they say that yes, we can use it towards that. Chief Habit has been in agreement with us to look at utilizing some of those funds. For. For that we just have to verify with the state that that would be appropriate and it would be allowed.

Councilor Marquez: Okay, thank you.

Cassandra Montano: So with that, just that way everybody knows that if we do spend on something that's not allowed by the state, they will take those funds away and so that we're in violation and we don't want to do that. So we always check before we spend. With this, we would spend \$297,100, leaving them about \$5,655.80 to spend towards the end of the year on any extra equipment that they might need.

Councilor Nelson: One tire for the ladder truck, maybe

Cassandra Montano: if the price doesn't go up by then.

Councilor Marquez: Do we have an idea of when we would be able to get a response or have we submitted a response, a question?

Cassandra Montano: I can, I can reach out tomorrow and see what exactly they will allow in that. And that would be something to. To look at too.

Councilor Nelson: I tend to feel the county's giving us money. They don't know if they're allowed to give it back to them or take. You know, that might be the issue with it because it is county money. Correct.

Cassandra Montano: I believe that the fire fund is state.

Mayor Ramsell: Okay.

Councilor Marquez: So hopefully we can use in. Hopefully we can kind of transfer funds over or not. You know.

Cassandra Montano: I agree.

Councilor Nelson: Okay, thank you.

Cassandra Montano: I agree. So we have been looking at ways to. To relieve that stress on the city. So then we have this, the law enforcement protection fund. With this, again, we have to spend it to zero. So we have to balance this budget out to zero. That is new. That is something that they just sent out within the last week. And we don't have the language on it yet that we can use it for salaries, but we're hearing rumor that we can. And so if we can use it for salaries over time, then we will come back to council with a new proposed budget for that. So currently we have maintenance and repairs contracts \$0 maintenance and repairs vehicles 7,500 at the guidance of council maintenance and repair furniture, fixture and equipment \$0 contract professional services \$9,000 contract other services \$0 software \$5,000. I believe this is the line where I need an adjustment for the field supplies. And I did that because the line that I omitted was their Teleke. That telecommunications line used to exist under the the general fund. And so I moved that to law enforcement protection. And so currently that supplies field supplies on my adjustments is at \$22,686. Supply, furniture, fixtures, equipment, non capital, zero safe supply, safety \$4,500 supplies, uniforms, linen \$6,000 supplies other \$7,291.24. Employee training at the

guidance of council was adjusted to \$7,500. Rent of equipment and machinery \$2,500. And telecommunications is going to sit at \$1,912. And that's with removing the code enforcement line to the manager's fund. So with that we balance this to zero.

Councilor Nelson: So that's, that's the line submitted on our right?

Cassandra Montano: Correct. The telecommunications line is the one that's submitted and it's \$1912.

Dr. Moore: Okay. So Mayor, members of council, the deficit showing for fund 21100 equals that 1912.

Cassandra Montano: Yes. And I corrected on my end and it's.

Dr. Moore: And she corrected that on her side. So it is zeroed out.

Cassandra Montano: Because where I did not make the correction was in that previous link before emailing it to Patricia. Next, we have the municipal street, Municipal street gas tax. For general purposes, we're expecting \$20,000. With that we have maintenance and repairs, grounds, roadways \$10,000 contract other services \$10,000 roadways and bridges \$0. We zero out that fund. County fire gross receipt tax. Again, just to refresh your memory, we had two of these listed in our accounting software. So we had two funds with two budget lines, one with absolutely nothing in it, and then this one matches four what the state has on record for us. So we're just going to use this one. In this one we have a proposed local other revenue of \$50,000 that we expect to see with gross receipts taxes based on current trends so our salaries and full time position. Salaries and full time positions. We extracted some of that expense from the general fund after absorbing absorbing the fire recruitment. And then we pulled out what we could into this GRT fund which after we start seeing our revenues, if we can increase that line, we'll come back to council with a proposed change. So if our revenues exceed that \$50,000 then we can look at adjusting this. But currently we have it budgeted at salaries, full time position, \$35,000. I apologize. This, this one is actually the volunteer fire stipend. That's what this one is. So with that, this is where I want to remind you that we spoke with chief Prop. This is the money that we get from the county and chief Prop said that we are allowed to purchase equipment with this these funds. So we'll come back with an adjustment to add that supply line. Instead of just salaries, payroll deductions. Now we have the American Rescue Plan act and that is a zero budget. Then we have Bill Brown Parks and Rec Public works donation. We don't expect to receive any donations this year and we did with the funds in that account. Already we're proposing \$180,000. So we do have available cash to cover that expenditure for contract other services.

Councilor Marquez: And that would be for the veterans memorial and possibly Sawtooth.

Dr. Moore: Right. And possibly and possibly a design for some bureau.

Cassandra Montano: This is the fund county EMS GRT where we extracted salaries from general fund after absorbing the fire recruitment. So we changed salary. We expect to receive \$250,000 and then \$1,000 in compensating tax. So then we changed salaries full time positions to \$120,000. \$120,724 with salaries for temporary positions being 25,000. Salaries for overtime 20,000 FICA regular \$10,274.89 FICA Medicare \$2,403 Retirement \$19,208.83 Health and medical premiums \$20,000 Life insurance premiums 125 Dental insurance premiums \$1,335 Vision insurance, medical premiums \$350 Other insurance premiums 0 Unemployment compensation \$828.62 Workers compensation Employer's fees \$100 Workers compensation Self insured \$5,253.45 Maintenance and repair, furniture, fixtures, equipment 0 Contract other services 0 Software \$5,000 Supplies, furniture, pictures, equipment, non capital 0 Supplies Medical \$7,397.22 Supplies Safety \$1,000.

Supplies training 0 supplies uniforms, linen 0. Supplies, vehicle fuel, \$5,000. Supplies, vehicle tires, 2. Supplies, other \$3,000. Insurance, general liability property, \$2,000. Subscription and dues, 0. Telecommunications 0. Maintenance and repairs vehicles, 0. We 0 owe this budget. Wildland fire. We do have available cash to go against this, and we also receive wildland reimbursements. So whenever our fire department goes out on any type of fire, the bosky fires or any large wildland fires. A wildland fire is something that's grass fire, not necessarily a structure fire. Right. A house or a building on fire. When they go out to these things, then the state reimburses us for depending on how much time they spend out there. And if the state comes in and takes over, then we start receiving money from the state for that emergency, just like the fire we had recently. So with that, we're expecting approximately \$20,000. Salaries and temporary positions would go \$18,920.29. FICA regular \$1,173.06. FICA Medicare, \$274.34. Unemployment Compensation, \$2,582.62. Travel for Employees, 0. Contact Professional Services 0. Field. For our other special revenue. We don't expect to receive any contributions or donations or other state distributions. So this is a zero budget. Our state legislative appropriation project is \$190,000.

Dr. Moore: Actually, we can add zero to that.

Cassandra Montano: \$1,900,000. Thank you.

Dr. Moore: Yeah, we did better at the legislature than 100 million.

Cassandra Montano: It's a whole lot more. I apologize.

Councilor Nelson: You got it wrong both times.

Cassandra Montano: It is getting late. Oh, my goodness. Okay, so then I'll start counting my zeros. Contract professional services. Hundred thousand dollars services. That was. That was a joke. One million dollars. Supplies, furniture, fixture, equipment, non capital, zero. Supplies, other zero. Buildings and structures, \$200,000. Equipment and machinery, \$500,000. Furniture and fixtures, zero. Infrastructure, zero. Vehicles, zero. Other capital purchases, \$100,000. No transfers out. We zero off this budget. Road street projects. We don't expect any revenue.

Dr. Moore: But we actually do.

Cassandra Montano: We do expect revenue on this one because we received the \$4 million for the Don Diego project. Therefore, we have grant funds. So we don't expect. We already received the funds. We don't expect to get future funds. That's what I should say. We don't expect anything to come in over.

Dr. Moore: Right. The funds have already been received.

Councilor Nelson: Those funds are ambitious. We are not necessarily.

Cassandra Montano: Correct, Correct, yes. So with that, we do have to spend the money. So contract professional services is going to be \$119,538.38. Our roadways and bridges, \$3,003,800,000. Past prison, \$220,000. And that was out of that \$270,000 transfer out from general fund for the match. So then we are at \$4,139,538.38, which we do have grant funding for. The next is. Scroll up just a little bit. Sorry. Other capital projects. Thank you. We don't expect to receive revenue. This is against our capital. So we have our maintenance and repairs. Building structures. 0. Maintenance and repair, furniture, fixtures and equipment. 0. Contract professional services, \$50,000 contract other services, 0. Supplies, furniture, fixtures, equipment, non

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capital. 0. Building and structures, 0. Equipment and machinery, 0. Furniture and fixtures, 0. Vehicles, 0. Roadways and bridges, 0. Other capital purchases, 0. Transfers in. That is the money that's going against that \$50,000 expenditure. And if you remember, we moved or transferred out \$270,000 from general fund, 220 went to that previous fund, 50,000 to our capital projects. And that is why we did not expect to see revenue in that fund. Our debt services. The only thing that we are showing right now is the PPRF 3629. And so we have our debt service principal payments of \$53,423 and then interest of \$239.

Mayor Ramsell: And just to be clear, that comes out of our state fire funds for that truck is intercepted. So we don't actually pay it out.

Speaker A: Correct.

Cassandra Montano: We just have to record it.

Dr. Moore: And we have. I believe we've got at least four of these types from the Maxwell Finance Authority. The latest one you had, if you can scroll down to the bottom. PPRF, the 6755, that was the one for our latest fire engine. And the first pin will be coming out this year. And that those payments were already indicated as transfers out.

Cassandra Montano: Yes.

Dr. Moore: Of the fire protection fund. So we've already accounted for the money that has to come in here to take care of that. We'd love to be able to say we could keep that money in our account and get the interest, but the state's keeping it in there.

Cassandra Montano: So then that brings me to the edge for the second time today. Or the end of our proposed 26, 27 budget.

Councilor Nelson: Do it again.

Cassandra Montano: No.

Mayor Ramsell: Casey, do you mind? Just.

Councilor Nelson: Unfortunately, you have to. For the final budget, Would you mind

Mayor Ramsell: just recapping where we started at? You know, the owner's searching cash expenses and then remaining cash.

Cassandra Montano: Yes.

Mayor Ramsell: With this proposed budget, the interim budget.

Cassandra Montano: Yes. I will Read those numbers off of my spreadsheet. Okay. They are not accurate. Updated. There we go. So then just a reminder. Our total general fund or city expenses that are not grant related come to 2,678,784.22. We have a beginning available cash of \$1,091. Correction. \$1,091,069.16. When we deduct our expenses plus our \$270,000 transfers out to cover those other expenses and other funds, we have an ending cash balance of \$386,944.84. And that does include our reserves.

Mayor Ramsell: Can you repeat that last number one more time?

Cassandra Montano: Yes sir. Our ending cash 386944 and 94 cents.

Mayor Ramsell: So just to be clear, we had close that budget gap with this proposed budget.

Cassandra Montano: Correct. Like I said though, it does include our reserves and then it doesn't leave us much in the way of reserves or it includes our required. Yes.

Councilor Nelson: And the only thing that would actually affect us is if the property tax doesn't come to fruition. That's all. They would affect us.

Cassandra Montano: Correct. However, I do want to, I want to be the optimist in the room and say with the way that we've seen things trending, we did budget on the conservative side for revenues. So we could see a tremendous increase in those revenues, especially with new businesses coming in. And so we could see new growth. We could see a lot of other new things happening. And so with that I'm really hoping that we see an increase of in those revenues to help with that budget gap.

Dr. Moore: Great.

Councilor Nelson: And you have to be the optimist. Unfortunately, we have to be the pessimists. That's our job, unfortunately.

Dr. Moore: Yeah.

Cassandra Montano: However, there are facts that we cannot deny. There are new businesses coming in that will generate revenue.

Dr. Moore: Thank you, Mayor, members of council, if you don't mind us throwing in just one or two little things of potentially positive news. We believe there could be as much as \$180,000 in GROW funds to help with police and fire salaries which would help us with our. Help us protect our reserves. In addition, we're looking at. We still don't have a final legal answer from the state, but we're looking to try to see if we can use a part of the law enforcement protection fund and have a little bit of salary. So we will. We can't count it in this budget because it's not firm just like we've talked about a levy. However, we are taking a look at those as potential Areas that could then help help us get some relief and

Cassandra Montano: we don't stop applying for grants. There are grant applications in the works right now.

Councilor Nelson: Here's a real legal question real quick. This is a public hearing. Wasn't she supposed to explaining. Let me sh you all over.

City Attorney Cori Strife: I'm really pining to do this tomorrow.

Speaker A: If we won for the record, we can always swear her in after the

Dr. Moore: fact, make sure she's okay, telling the truth.

Councilor Nelson: Supposed to be up here.

Cassandra Montano: I read it off of the screen if I like. Then everybody knows.

Councilor Marquez: So all you have to do is swear that you told the truth, nothing but the truth.

Cassandra Montano: I swear.

Dr. Moore: Jennifer, go for it.

Speaker A: Do you swear that the testimony you gave in this hearing was the truth,

Cassandra Montano: the whole truth and nothing but?

Councilor Marquez: And again, I wanted to say that we all know finance is stressful and for us to go over it, even though you went through it multiple times, we still have questions and we still, every time we go over there will be a new question. So we know tensions go run high when we're going through it. So we all have to adjust ourselves and respond the way we should. So I just want to let everybody know that that is stressful for yourself and for council to try and figure out where we can save money and where we can't. So I just wanted to make sure we all know that.

Cassandra Montano: Correct, Counselor and I, I will address that. It's not all in what we say. Right. It's in how we say it. And that's, I think if any of us in here, our parents, that's exactly what we're going to tell our kids. It's not what you say, it's how you say it. And so we also should be aware of that, especially in a public hearing.

Dr. Moore: Mayor, members of council, I would like to take the opportunity for the record as the city manager, to personally thank our finance officer for the weeks and the long hours, several late nights, two or three weekends at least she's put into the effort on, on this particular. On this municipal budget. This is her first New Mexico municipal budget, and I think she's done a good job.

Councilor Nelson: How long have you actually been employed by the city as financial officer? Roughly.

Cassandra Montano: Roughly five months. Yeah.

Councilor Nelson: So we threw a big burden on you in five months. Guess what?

Cassandra Montano: It's okay.

Mayor Ramsell: Yes.

Councilor Melendez: I have to. Again, thank you. You've done a wonderful job of crunching numbers and bringing us a very good budget for the next fiscal year. And I know it's a lot of work, but even you reading it to us verbatim brought out some little details that need a little tweaking, but that comes from, I mean, you spent a

Dr. Moore: lot of hours on it.

Mayor Ramsell: Of course you're going to

Councilor Marquez: overlook a

Councilor Melendez: few, few little details, but thank you for what you did and hanging in there for the past 35, 40 minutes reading this, reading this spreadsheet,

Councilor Marquez: which is

Mayor Ramsell: very,

Councilor Melendez: how shall I say, burdensome. But you have been through it through and through a few times, and you've taken us through it. So I do appreciate an excellent presentation. Thank you.

Councilor Nelson: I just want to thank you, as everyone else has been saying, and I want to thank your family for them losing you on the weekends while you're

Dr. Moore: working on this budget.

Councilor Nelson: So thank you for all your hard work.

Councilor Marquez: Yes, thank you. As you know, finances, you have to be on the dot. You have to be perfect in what you're doing. So for us finding those small little things that need to be adjusted, it makes the city that much better. So you're helping the city make become better.

Councilor Nelson: So thank you.

Mayor Ramsell: I just want to say, you guys don't know this, but when Casey came on, she knew she had a big job ahead of her. And I had a lot of faith in her that she can get the job done. And she told me flat out from the beginning that this budget would be done, it'd be complete, it'd be on time, and she would make sure that we did everything possible to close the perceived budget gap that we had, also while not reducing services and not losing staff.

Councilor Marquez: So thank you.

Mayor Ramsell: I don't know, you know, if the staff truly knows all the effort you put in, not just for the residents, but on their behalf as well. So thank you. I really appreciate that. It does not look like we had anyone here for public comment.

Cassandra Montano: We did. They left.

Councilor Marquez: Speaking.

Mayor Ramsell: Okay. That's what I was going to say. Yeah, he's not here now.

Cassandra Montano: I'm sure that me reading the budget was highly entertaining.

Motion and roll call vote to go back into Special Business Meeting session

Motion made by Councilor Nelson to go back into Special Business Meeting session. Seconded by Councilor Melendez.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Marquez
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Melendez
Councilor Gordon

Motion Passed with a 4-0 Vote at 8:10pm

Action Items

Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Approval of The City of Rio Communities Interim Budget for Fiscal Year 2026 – 2027.

Motion made by Councilor Melendez to Approve The City of Rio Communities Interim Budget for Fiscal Year 2026 – 2027. Seconded by Councilor Gordon.

Voting Yea:

Councilor Marquez
Councilor Nelson
Councilor Melendez
Councilor Gordon

Motion Passed with a 4-0 Vote

Adjourn at 8:25 pm

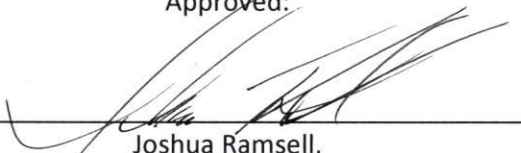
Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Gauna Municipal clerk
(Taken and Transcribed by Patricia McCloskey, Deputy Clerk)

Date: 8/10/26

Approved:



Joshua Ramsell,
Mayor



Lawrence R. Gordon,
Mayor Pro-tem/Councilor

Michael Melendez,
Councilor

Thom 8-10-26

Thomas Nelson,
Councilor

 8/10/26

Matthew Marquez,
Councilor