

CITY OF RIO COMMUNITIES New Mexico



Volume 1 Number 5

Rio Communities City Hall
360 Rio Communities Blvd.
P.O. Box 565
Rio Communities NM 87002
505 861-6803

Hours:
Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
email:
admin@riocommunities.net
info@riocommunities.net
website -- riocommunities.net

November 2018

Governing Body

Mayor Mark Gwinn

505 264-3412

mgwinn@riocommunities.net

Councilor William (Bill) Brown

505 864-0718

bbrown@riocommunities.net

Councilor Margaret (Peggy) Gutjahr

505 864-6908

pgutjahr@riocommunities.net

Councilor Joshua Ramsell

505 861-6804

jramsell@riocommunities.net

Councilor Arturo R. Sais

505 966-6168

asais@riocommunities.net

Municipal Judge Heather Benavidez

505 861-6804

hbenavidez@riocommunities.net

Municipal Officers

Municipal Clerk Lisa Adair

Treasurer/CPO Celina Benavidez

City Offices — 505 861-6803

Search On For City Manager

The search is on for a city manager for Rio Communities after the City Council released Manager Bob Skerry from his duties at the October 9, 2018, council meeting.

The manager is under the administrative direction of the Rio Communities Mayor and Council.

The manager is responsible for the efficient administration of all the affairs of the City; coordinates the implementation of the Governing Body policy decisions and the initiation of all intergovernmental operations of the City.

The City Manager plans, directs, and coordinates various services, community planning, and activities as determined by the Mayor and Council in accordance with the City's Municipal Code.

The City Manager:

- Enforces and carries out all ordinances, rules and regulations enacted by the City Council.

- Employs and discharges all persons engaged in the administrative service of the municipality.

- Advises the Mayor and Council as to the financial condition of the City and supervises the preparation of financial reports.

- Assists in the identification of sources of funding for citywide projects.

- Applies for grants and implements administrative processes as needed to comply with grant conditions.

- ^a Makes recommendations to the Council on all matters concerning the welfare of the municipality.

The City Manager job description is available on the city website, riocommunities.net, under Personnel.

Work Underway

Work continues on renovations to the City of Rio Communities Municipal Complex.

The old facade on the side facing Highway 47 has been taken down and will be replaced with a stucco-stone veneer.

The project is funded through Capital Outlay funds which can only be used to build, improve, or equip physical property that will be used by the public.



Dealing With Public Nuisances in Rio Communities

The City of Rio Communities governing body has passed a variety of ordinances intended to make the municipality a better place to live and do business in.

Public nuisances are covered under the “Public Peace, Morals and Vice” section.

The ordinance states “It is unlawful to commit a public nuisance. A public nuisance is knowingly creating, performing or maintaining anything affecting any number of citizens without lawful authority that is either injurious to public health, safety, morals or welfare or interferes with the exercise and enjoyment of public rights including the right to use public property.”

Designated nuisances which are prohibited are the accumulation of waste, refuse and junk; excessive overgrowth of weeds; graffiti; and noise that disturbs the peace and quiet of a neighborhood. A notice may be issued to anyone who violates the nuisance ordinance with a time limit for abating the nuisance. Failure to comply can result in a complaint filed in Rio Communities Municipal Court.

Here’s some acts considered a public nuisance.

What Is Unlawful on Premises

It is unlawful for any person to permit or cause to remain in or about his premises any solid waste, weeds, motor vehicles not in operating condition, waste water or any conglomeration of residue that emits odors or serves as a feeding or breeding ground for flies, insects or rodents and, as determined by the City, is unsanitary or injurious to public health.

The accumulation of building materials, pipes, lumber or boxes may be maintained on the premises if the accumulation is evenly piled and stacked for a reasonable length of time determined by the City’s code enforcement officer.

No Inoperative Motor Vehicles

It is unlawful for any person, business, firm or corporation to store on, place on, or permit to be stored or placed on, or allowed to remain on any occupied or unoccupied land within the City limits, a dismantled, partially dismantled or inoperative motor vehicle or any parts of a motor vehicle, except in areas where such

activity is within the contemplated purposes of duly licensed businesses and are kept in a completely enclosed garage or structure.

Weed Growth and Accumulation

It is unlawful for any owner, lessee or occupant having charge or control of any occupied, unoccupied or unimproved lot or tract of land within the City to permit or maintain any growth of weeds or vegetation that are highly flammable or attain a height greater than twenty inches or any accumulation of weeds on any such lot or tract of land, including any curb, gutter, and sidewalks and the area located between the property line and the middle of the alley adjacent to any such lot or tract of land.

Any owner, lessee, occupant or person in charge of or in control of any occupied, unoccupied or unimproved lot or tract of land should cut or eradicate the accumulation of weeds and remove and lawfully dispose of any cuttings as often as is necessary in order to comply with City of Rio Communities ordinances.

Graffiti in Rio Communities

It is unlawful for any person to paint, chalk or otherwise apply graffiti on public or privately owned structures located on public or privately owned real property within the City of Rio Communities.

Whenever the City determines that graffiti is located on any private property that is capable of being viewed by a person using any public right-of-way and with the property owner’s consent, the City shall be authorized to provide for the removal of the graffiti as outlined in the ordinance.

Loud Noises Prohibited

It shall be unlawful for any person to produce or allow noise during nighttime hours that is plainly audible to another person who is either inside the confines of the dwelling unit, house, or apartment or at a distance of fifty feet or more from the source of the noise.

For More Information

The nuisances portion of the City of Rio Communities Public Peace, Morals and Vice section of the City ordinances is more extensive than this article. It can be found on riocommunities.net under Ordinances.

No Trash Accumulation in Rio Communities

Uncollected trash can make a community unattractive which is why Rio Communities has an ordinance prohibiting trash accumulation.

The ordinance says “No person shall permit debris, refuse, rubbish or garbage, trash or other similar material to accumulate on any portion of their property when the accumulation constitutes a detriment to the public health, public safety or a fire hazard and a fire hazard to the community.”

If any accumulation is allowed to exist by any person or any property owner within the Rio Communities city limits for a period of five days after being notified by the code enforcement officer to remove same, the City may:

A. Remove all of the refuse, rubbish, garbage or similar material. All expenses incurred by the City in the removal are deemed to constitute a lien on the real property and collectible by the City in accordance with applicable provisions of lien statutes of the State of New Mexico; and

B. Serve owner or occupant with a twenty-four hour notice to remove immediately the accumulation of all refuse, rubbish, garbage or similar material. Failure to comply with this notice shall constitute a violation of the ordinance.

No Illegal Dumping

In dealing with trash, people should not illegally dump anywhere including in the City of Rio Communities. The Rio Communities illegal dumping ordinance says “it shall be unlawful for any person to place or dump solid waste or debris on any property within the City whether owned by the person or not.”

People who illegally dump shall be prosecuted and may be fined up to \$500 or forfeit their vehicle or forfeit their business license or perform community service as determined by the Rio Communities Municipal Court.

Visible Correct Addresses Needed

For everyone’s safety, addresses on Rio Communities buildings should be plainly visible and correct. A correct address helps ensure emergency personnel can locate a structure when help is needed.

Numbers should contrast with the background and be a minimum of four-inches high with a minimum stroke width of 1/2 inch.

Consider extra lighting at night to facilitate people locating buildings. The expense could save a life.

Business License Time

It’s that time of year to think about renewing your business license.

Rio Communities Ordinance Number 2013-10 calls for all persons, firms, corporations or associations engaged in business in the City of Rio Communities to annually pay a \$35 fee for a business license.

Business licenses can be renewed starting January 1st and the deadline for renewals is March 16th.

Information required for business licenses includes the name of the person, firm, corporation or association, together with a description of the nature of the business conducted.

The license applicant must provide a current New Mexico Taxpayer Identification Number or evidence of application for that number.

Go to Rio Communities City Hall, 360 Rio Communities Blvd., to get your business license.

City Hall Holiday Closings

Rio Communities City Hall will be closed Monday, Nov. 12, for Veterans Day as well as Thursday, Nov. 22, and Friday, Nov. 23, in commemoration of Thanksgiving.

In addition, City Hall will be closed Christmas Day, Tuesday, Dec. 25, as well as New Year’s Day, Tuesday, Jan. 1.

Use Rio Communities

The 87002 zip code now encompasses Rio Communities and Belen which is why it is important to use Rio Communities for all address issues.

When dealing with emergency services it is very important to tell the Valencia Regional Emergency Communications Center operators that the emergency is in Rio Communities when it is in the City of Rio Communities.

Change any address information that says Belen to Rio Communities. Use Rio Communities as a return address. Change the addresses on your communications to Rio Communities rather than using Belen.

Remaining 2018 Cleanup Days

To help keep Rio Communities clean, the city will have three dumpsters in the parking lot of City Hall, 360 Rio Communities Blvd., on Saturday, Nov. 17, 2018. Get ready for the Holidays and clean up Rio Communities by helping fill the dumpsters.

Code Enforcer Begins Work



Gordon Reeves

Volunteer for Rio Communities

Interested in helping your community? You can volunteer to be on a City of Rio Communities commission such as Economic Development or Planning and Zoning.

Talk to Mayor Mark Gwinn for more information and to volunteer.

Gordon Reeves begins work for the City of Rio Communities as Code Enforcer beginning this month, November 2018.

The Code Enforcer responds and investigates complaints of potential code violations relating to building occupancy, nuisances, hazardous sidewalks, or other conditions, construction, land use, zoning, animals, noise, dumping, clearing, grading, filling, polluting, weed control, improper licensing, crowd control, encroachment, or other code related matters.

The Code Enforcer conducts field investigations of potential violations, gathers evidence, questions or interrogates complainants, witnesses and suspects and compares facts to code requirements, makes findings, and issues warnings, correction notices or citations.

Welcome to the City of Rio Communities New Mexico NEWS

A digest of what is going on in the City of Rio Communities.

Inside this Edition

Search On For City Manager
Dealing With Public Nuisances
No Trash Accumulation
Visible Correct Addresses Needed
City Offices Holiday Closings

Rio Communities City Council

meets 6 p.m. 2nd and 4th Tuesday

Economic Development Commission

meets 10 a.m. 2nd and 4th Wednesday

Planning and Zoning Commission

meets 6:30 p.m. 1st and 3rd Thursday

City of Rio Communities Municipal Court

meets 5:30 p.m. 2nd and 4th Thursday

website -- riocommunities.net

info@riocommunities.net

admin@riocommunities.net

email:

Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Hours:

505 861-6803

Rio Communities NM 87002

P.O. Box 565

360 Rio Communities Blvd.

Rio Communities City Hall

NEWS
CITY OF RIO COMMUNITIES
New Mexico

Permit No. 360

87002

Rio Communities, NM

PAID

U.S. Postage

Bulk Rate