

City of Rio Communities Council Minutes
Regular Business Meeting
September 10, 2019

Call to Order

- Mayor Gwinn called to order the city council regular business meeting at 6:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

- Buddy Dillow led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

- Present: Mayor Mark Gwinn, Councilors; Bill Brown, Peggy Gutjahr, Arturo Sais.
- Absent: Councilor Ramsell.
Present: City Manager Leisa Haynes, Municipal Clerk Lisa Adair, Finance Officer/Treasurer Stephanie Finch, EDC Chairman Frank Logan, P&Z member Jim Winters, RGEFD Assistant Fire Chief Andrew Tabot, Code Enforcement Officer Gordon Reeves and Court Clerk Lisa Adair.

Approval of Agenda

- Mayor Gwinn asked to add to the agenda under department reports; Municipal clerk and Code Enforcer.
- Councilor Gutjahr moved to approve the agenda for the business meeting Tuesday September 10 at 6:00 with the amendments. The motion was second by Councilor Sais. With a 3-0 vote the agenda for the regular business meeting of September 10, 2019 was approved as amended.

Approval of Workshop Minutes

- Councilor Sais moved to approve the workshop minutes of 8/13/2019. The motion was second by Councilor Brown. With a 3-0 vote the minutes for the workshop held on August 13, 2019 was approved as written.

Approval of City Council Minutes

- Councilor Gutjahr moved to approve the city council minutes of August 13, 2019. The motion was second by Councilor Brown. With a 3-0 vote the minutes for the city council meeting held on August 13, 2019 was approved as written.

Approval of Special Business Minutes

- Councilor Sais asked what the special meeting was for.
- Councilor Gutjahr explained it was to approve the ICIP.
- Councilor Sais moved to approve the special business minutes of 8/20/2019. The motion was second by Councilor Gutjahr. With a 3-0 vote the minutes for the special business meeting held on August 20, 2019 was approved as written.

Public Comment

- Alison Martin the education manager for Whitfield Wildlife Conservation Area; said she is working with the public schools and explained that she has 18 field trips planned and a lot of events that are happening at Whitfield. She said they are having the first ever night sky event on October 19th. She further explained events that will be going on next year. She then said they are going to do their 2nd Annual Science Fiesta April 25, 2019. She further explained other areas they are working on.
- Abel Camarone said Alison is the outcome of a lot of thinking and planning going into the Mil-Levy and said the authorities have increased the funds and explained programs that have been funded by the Mil Levy priority plan and said the bottom line on the funding over time the programs will expand and they find they need to go after a full Mil.

- Kuan Tikkun said she is on EDC and her interest in education and improve jobs for our young people and said she then said she got involved with United Way Mission graduate and that has evolved in the Valencia County Partnership for work ready community. She then explained what the program consists of and what they have accomplished in the last year, going from 400 students to reaching over 900 and 20 employers to retaining 40 employers and also teachers have been brought in on how to use what they learn in the classrooms in their jobs.
- Buddy Dillow explained just the number of kids they reached last year they have had over 1,350 students involved, over 30 teachers and over the summer it was extremely successful and explained they have events planned this week, and they plan to increase participants and said they will continue to seek employers to join as well.
 - Councilor Sais asked what level of kids they are working with.
- Mr. Dillow said they are working with High School kids 9th – 12th grades and continued to explain the recruiting procedures.
- Ron Gentry Rio Communities business owner; said he has been attending the meetings and said he compliments how much information and material they go over in the workshop and said he wishes that we would go over that in this particular meeting. He then asked do you provide a copy of the tape of those meetings.
 - Clerk Adair explained how to request a copy of the tape.
- Ron Gentry asked if the amount that was stated regarding the budget was cleared up.
 - Manager Hayes explained that we were given last year's budget and further explained the discrepancy in the budget.
- Ron Gentry said to consider bringing that information to this meeting.
- Lt. Jeffery Smith with the State Police said he is supervising Valencia County and explained the New Governor, her initiative is community outreach to the smaller communities and more law enforcement service.
 - Mayor Gwinn asked how often you cover this area.
- Lt. Smith said Belen has the highest capita in this area and further explained the crime rate in this area and the priorities. He then said, he understands there is an office available for the Officers to complete the reports and asked where that might be.
 - Clerk Adair asked for Lt. Smith to talk with her and she will let them know what office is available.
- Lt. Smith said as usually with every agency they are short people, but they will do the best they can.

City Manager

- Manager Haynes mentioned the Auditors enjoyed working with our City and they will be back again before December.
- Manager Haynes said she is working on the National Map of the City which is holding up the See Click Fix App which is a code enforcement tool.
- Manager Haynes said she attended the Hospital workshop yesterday and explained the meeting.
- Manager Haynes said she is a speaker for the Belen Chamber of Commerce tomorrow night at Mitchell Theater in Los Lunas.
- Manager Haynes explained 14 people attended a housing seminar that was hosted here with 2 lenders.

- Manager Haynes said the Governor put a million dollars into the Opportunity Zones for developers which is great for the City. She continued to say the ICIP was turned in on time and she will begin to work on streetlight, solid waste, stormwater and sole source RFP's.
- Manager Haynes explained there will be a Vista del Rio Mobile home park meeting September 19 and further explained a TV station will be there.
- Manager Haynes said she will be attending the New Mexico Economic Development and rural strategies conference on September 26 & 27.
- Manager Haynes explained that we will be sending representative to a Pipeline Response Training on September 12th.
- Manager Haynes reminded there is a "meet your legislator day" here on September 18.
- Manager Hayes said we have been awarded the PNM Quick Saver Program, giving us free LED lights for City Hall and both fire stations.
- Manager Haynes explained Councilor Brown has been working on getting a solar charging station here at City Hall and we have a grant that would pay for 75% of it.
- Manager Haynes said that workforce will be giving us 1 or 2 free workers for 10 weeks to work with the Public Works department.
- Manager Haynes explained we have painted the car and have gotten it ready for the Citizen patrol group and all we need is volunteers.
- Councilor Sais asked about the potholes.
- Manager Haynes said Universal has started to fill potholes today.
 - Resident asked if the City was going to get an electric car to go with the chargers.
- Manager Haynes explained the charger will be for residents that need to charge their electric cars.

Economic Development

- EDC Chairman Frank Logan explained EDC is doing a backup and regroup and looking at stuff that has been done, trying to see where those projects are at and how do they progress and looking at a priority list, looking at the budget and seeing where they need to spend their money.
 - Councilor Sais asked how is the 501c3 doing.
- Chairman Logan said they are still taking baby steps on it and trying to do a dual track with a Valencia County network program and explained what they can do to try to get started.
- Councilor Brown said that there is a donation of \$8,000 to EDC 2 or 3 years ago.
- EDC Chairman Logan said that was set aside and this is the question that is going back to the finance department to let us know the budget and make sure it is still secured for a big project.

Planning and Zoning

- P&Z member Jim Winters said they have been spending a lot of time on the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances which will be hopefully moved to a 14-day review tonight. He then said the next project is they have started working on an abatement ordinance and they will be looking at what they have and how complete it is and that is where they are at and will be asking for review from Council along the way.
 - Councilor Brown said in his version it not only includes the uniform code but also 6 or 7 different Cities ordinances and should have plenty to draw from.
- Jim Winters said they will thoroughly review it and keep them advised along the way. He then said they have several projects working on.

Rio Grande Estates Fire Department

- Assistant Fire Chief Andrew Tabot explained the organization has a policy committee, fleet maintenance committee and a training officer, public outreaches, daily maintenance program.

- Assistant Chief Tabet said they have new members, and newly certified members. They have ordered training props and will be ordering more. He then said the EMT basic course will be held in a couple of days at fire station one. He further explained the training props and they are starting a fitness program and explained that program.
- Assistant Chief Tabet said there was 45 calls for last month: 28 meds, 5 mutual aids fire calls and 10 fires in the district.

Municipal Court

- Court Clerk Lisa Adair gave the court report for the month of August: 2 code violation(s) and 1 traffic citation(s) were filled in the courts; amounts collected are: Correction fees \$160; Court Automation fees \$48; Judicial Education fees \$24; Court Fines of \$355 giving a total of \$587 was collected in the courts for the month of August.

Municipal Clerk

- Municipal Clerk Adair explained we were awarded our area as the early voting as well as the election day site. The early voting will be conducted starting October 19 – November 2, Monday – Saturday 8 am – 6 pm. She further explained the process of that way it will be run and also explained that the north front room on the Southside of the building where they held the last Optimist club banquet and further explained other process for the upcoming election regarding anyone in the County can vote at our polling site or another site on the list, absentee ballots, political signs and no campaigning 100 feet from a polling site.

Code Enforcement Officer

- Code Enforcement Officer Gordon Reeves explained he has been writing a lot of violations, putting out red tags and addressing many issues.
- Code Enforcer Reeves explained he has implanted a program with Officer Cole Knight on what kind of activities going on.
- Code Enforcer Reeves said the County will be taking care of weeds on Manzano, the State is taking care of 47 and 304 will follow suit.
- Code Enforcer Reeves said the car is painted and we have been donated from Belen a suburban and many chairs.
- Code Enforcer Reeves asked the public when reporting illegal dumping, please call him or City Hall and do not touch the evidence.
- Code Enforcer Reeves further explained about the workers from Workforce, potholes are being taken care of, we are working on City Hall, the offices and the room designs. He said we did work on the finance room and had to do that right away to get it ready for the new server.
- Code Enforcer Reeves said he had 2 guys helping with the graffiti cleanup that is part of his team.
 - Councilor Gutjahr thanked Code Enforcer Reeves for the report since there is so many people stating they do not see the enforcer, and nothing is not getting done.

Accounts Payable approval

- Finance Officer/Treasurer Stephanie Finch said earlier at the workshop they received the accounts payable list and respectively requested approval to pay the bills.
- Councilor Gutjahr said as part of the workshop as a recommendations we will say the amounts out loud for the residents to hear.
- Councilor Gutjahr made a motion to pay the bills that are from 8/26/2019 to 9/10/2019. The motion was second by Councilor Sais. Vote: Councilor Brown-yes; Councilor Gutjahr-yes and Councilor Sais-yes. With a 3-0 vote the accounts payable for the Fire Department and the City were approved for payment.

Notification of approval of the final budget from the LGD (Local Government Division)

- Mayor Gwinn read into the minutes letter from the DFA LGD (Local Government Divisions) of our budget being approved.
- Councilor Gutjahr moved to approve the notification for the final budget from the LGD (Local Government Divisions). The motion was second by Councilor Sais. Vote: Councilor Sais-yes; Councilor Gutjahr-yes and Councilor Brown-yes. With a 3-0 vote the acceptance of the letter from LGD for the final fiscal budget of 2020 was approved.

Ordinance 2019-xx Chapter 4 Zoning – (14-day review)

- Mayor Gwinn explained P&Z and Council has been going through this and thinks it is ready for the public to review.
- Councilor Sais moved that ordinance 2019- xx Chapter 4 Zoning go into a 14-day review. The motion was second by Councilor Brown. Vote Councilor Brown-yes; Councilor Sais-yes and Councilor Gutjahr-yes. With a 3-0 vote Ordinance 2019-xx Chapter 4 zoning was approved for a 14-day review.

Ordinance 2019-xx Chapter 6 Subdivision – (14-day review)

- Mayor Gwinn said all changes have been marked and underscored and is ready for a public review.
- Councilor Gutjahr moved that Ordinance 2019-xx Chapter 6 Subdivision for a 14-day review. The motion was second by Councilor Brown. Vote: Councilor Brown-yes; Councilor Gutjahr-yes and Councilor Sais-yes. With a 3-0 vote Ordinance 2019-xx Chapter 6 Subdivision was approved for a 14-day review.

Council Reports

- Councilor Sais explained a couple of things he brought up this morning, one he would like to see a couple of roundabouts installed on Hillandale and Horner and Horner and Goodman. Two was discussed today the definition of farm animals or domestic animals.
- Councilor Brown said he would like to start a new tradition with our council, there is a culture in our Governing Body that strongly encourages that they receive training and become educated in what it is that they are attempting to do legally. He then said he received his certification and then said the tradition he would like to adopt it putting up the Certification plaque on the wall of City Hall.
- Councilor Brown donated to the City an American flag.
- Councilor Gutjahr said the 18th of October is the Health fair and explained what events will be here at the fair.
- Councilor Gutjahr congratulated Councilor Brown for receiving his Certification.
- Councilor Gutjahr explained the citizens patrol at the last meeting and then said that they will continue to get the word out but is giving it till the 1st week of November to get volunteers they need at least 12 to start up the program. She further said at one point they had several meetings on neighborhood watch and people came and some of the block captains would like to get back together, but it is not happening.
- Mayor Gwinn said Wednesday the 18th there will be 3 of our representatives here.
- Mayor Gwinn said the 21st is our city cleanup.
- Mayor Gwinn said this Thursday he will be hosting the Mayor Caucasus here at the city at the Oasis café.

Adjourn

- Councilor Gutjahr moved to adjourn. The motion was second by Councilor Sais. With a 3-0 vote the City Council regular business meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth (Lisa) Adair, Municipal Clerk

Date: _____

Approved:

Mark Gwinn,
Mayor

Margaret (Peggy) Gutjahr,
Councilor Mayor Pro-tem

Bill Brown,
Councilor

Joshua Ramsell,
Councilor

Arturo R. Sais,
Councilor