

City of Rio Communities Council Minutes  
Regular Business Meeting  
October 27, 2020

**This meeting was streamed on Facebook Live**  
<https://www.facebook.com/riocommunities>

**Call to Order**

- Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Gutjahr called to order the city council regular business meeting at 6:00 pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

- Jim Winters led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call**

- Present: Mayor Pro Tem Peggy Gutjahr, Councilors; Bill Brown, Joshua Ramsell and Jim Winters. Present: Municipal Clerk Lisa Adair and (virtual) Valencia County News-Bulletin Editor Clara Garcia

**Approval of Agenda**

- Councilor Brown moved to accept the agenda as modified by tabling item #09. The motion was second by Councilor Winters. Vote: Councilor Ramsell-yes; Councilor Brown-yes; Councilor Winters-yes and Councilor Gutjahr-yes. With a 4-0 vote the regular business meeting for October 27, 2020 was approved as amended.

**Approval of Workshop & City Council Regular Business Meeting Minutes for October 13, 2020**

- Councilor Ramsell moved to approve the Workshop and City Council Regular Business Meeting Minutes for October 13, 2020. The motion was second by Councilor Winters. Vote: Councilor Brown-yes; Councilor Winters-yes; Councilor Ramsell-yes and Councilor Gutjahr-yes. With a 4-0 vote the minutes for the workshop and city council regular business meeting held on October 13, 2020 were approved as written.

**Public Comment**

- No public comments

**Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Approval of Accounts Payable**

- Councilor Brown said the accounts payable was discussed in detail.
- Councilor Ramsell had no comments.
- Councilor Winters said if you have any questions please contact City Hall or look on our website.
- Mayor Pro tem said explained the cost of \$4,300 was for the LED lights for the Fire trucks.
- Councilor Brown moved for the approval of accounts payable covering the period up to October 27, 2020. The motion was second by Councilor Winters. Vote: Councilor Winters-yes; Councilor Ramsell-yes; Councilor Brown-yes and Councilor Gutjahr-yes. With a 4-0 vote accounts payable was approved to be paid.

### **Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Resolution-XX Volunteer Fire Chief**

- Clerk Adair read resolution 2020-184 Volunteer fire chief into the minutes.
- Councilor Brown said he is in opposition of this resolution because it completely obviates the rules and regulation of the fire station that calls for nominations for a volunteer fire chief election that is to take place on November 4<sup>th</sup> and the be elected in December, and this would take away the right for them to do so.
- Councilor Winters said we are in 2/3 through looking at the applications for the paid fire chief position and can have the process completed in November, before the vote, and seems futile to go through the process when we are so close to hiring a chief.
- Councilor Ramsell said City Council appointed our current fire chief as the interim chief until we hire a paid chief and I believe this resolution just cements that decision.
- Councilor Ramsell made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-184 Volunteer Fire Chief, keeping Andrew Tabet as the fire chief for Rio Communities until we have a paid fire chief. The motion was second by Councilor Winters. Vote: Councilor Winters-yes; Councilor Ramsell-yes; Councilor Brown-no and Councilor Gutjahr-yes. With a 3-1 vote Resolution 2020-184 Volunteer Fire Chief was passed, approved, adopted, and signed.

### **Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Hiring of (2) EMT Basics & another Officer**

- Tabled till 11/10/2020

### **Discussion, Consideration, and Decision – Salary & Wages**

- Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr explained we had a discussion around all the wages and how that would frame itself out to be fair, the only one we are approving tonight is the City Manager's wage, from \$65,000 - \$80,000 to \$70,000 - \$90,000.
- Councilor Winters moved to approve the change of the City Manager from \$65,000 - \$80,000 to \$70,000 - \$90,000. The motion was second by Councilor Ramsell. Vote: Councilor Brown-yes; Councilor Winters; Councilor Ramsell-yes and Councilor Gutjahr-yes. With a 4-0 vote Council approved the salary and wage range of \$65,000 - \$80,000 to \$70,000 - \$90,000 for the City Manager position was approved.

### **Council Reports**

- Councilor Winters said we need to look at a plan to handle ice and snow on the roads.
- Councilor Ramsell said this coming weekend is Halloween so we are asking the public to be safe.
- Councilor Brown had no report.
- Mayor Pro tem Gutjahr said as we all know there has been issues with ATV's, we are going to be setting up a virtual meeting with those residents that signed the petition, including our deputy and his supervisor and be able to discuss what we can do; we will also address placing signs.

### **Adjourn**

- Councilor Ramsell moved to adjourn. The motion was second by Councilor Brown. With a 4-0 vote the City Council regular business meeting was adjourned at 6:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Elizabeth (Lisa) Adair, Municipal Clerk  
(Transcribed by Amy L. Lopez, Deputy Clerk)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Gwinn,  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret (Peggy) Gutjahr,  
Mayor Pro-tem/Councilor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Brown,  
Councilor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joshua Ramsell,  
Councilor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Winters,  
Councilor