

DEE MARGO  
MAYOR

TOMMY GONZALEZ  
CITY MANAGER



CITY COUNCIL  
PETER SVARZBEIN, DISTRICT 1  
ALEXSANDRA ANNELLO, DISTRICT 2  
CASSANDRA HERNANDEZ, DISTRICT 3  
SAM MORGAN, DISTRICT 4  
ISABEL SALCIDO, DISTRICT 5  
CLAUDIA L. RODRIGUEZ, DISTRICT 6  
HENRY RIVERA, DISTRICT 7  
CISSY LIZARRAGA, DISTRICT 8

**CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**December 21, 2020**  
**10:00 AM**

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**Due to the temporary suspension of Open Meetings laws due to the COVID-19 emergency this meeting was conducted via telephonic and videoconference formats.**  
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The City Council of the City Council met on the above time and date via videoconference. Meeting was called to order at 10:12 a.m. Mayor Dee Margo present and presiding and the following Council Members answered roll call: Peter Svarzbein, Alexsandra Annello, Cassandra Hernandez, Sam Morgan, Isabel Salcido, Claudia Rodriguez, Henry Rivera and Cissy Lizarraga.

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**AGENDA**  
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1. **RESOLUTION CANVASSING RETURNS OF THE RUNOFF ELECTION FOR THE 2020 GENERAL ELECTION FOR THE MAYOR AND DISTRICTS 2 AND 4, JUDGE MUNICIPAL COURT NO. 4, AND THE JUDGE OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT OF APPEALS**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of El Paso called for the 2020 Runoff Election to be held in said City on December 12, 2020, to fill the terms of the Mayor, two District Representatives from Single-Member District Nos. 2 and 4, and the Judges of the Municipal Court No. 4 and the Municipal Court of Appeals for the terms as established by and in accordance with the Charter of the City of El Paso; and

**WHEREAS**, the election officers who held said election have duly made returns of the results thereof, and said returns have been duly delivered to said City Council.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:**

1. That the City Council officially finds and determines that notice of said runoff election was duly given, that proper election officers were duly appointed prior to said election, that said election was duly held, that due returns of the results of said election has been duly made and delivered, that the election returns have properly been made out and duly certified by the officers of said election

in the different voting precincts of the City, and that the City Council has duly canvassed said returns, all in accordance with law and the resolution and amendments thereto calling said runoff election.

2. That the City Council officially finds and determines that the following votes were cast at said runoff election for the following officer by the resident, qualified electors of said City, who voted at the runoff election:

**MAYOR**

Oscar Leeser	43,182
Dee Margo	11,108

**DISTRICT 2**

Miriam "Judy" Gutierrez	2,712
Alexsandra Annelo	2,928

**DISTRICT 4**

Sam Morgan	3,327
Joe Molinar	3,874

**JUDGE, MUNICIPAL COURT NO. 4**

Lillian Elena Blancas	29,344
Enrique Alonso Holguin	19,413

**JUDGE, MUNICIOPAL COURT OF APPEALS**

Maria Ramirez	27,737
Rebecca Tarango	20,491

3. That in the case of the following offices, the following persons who received more than a 50% majority of the votes cast for candidates for such offices are hereby declared elected to such offices for the ensuing terms, or until the election and qualification of their successors, subject to the proper issuance of certificates of election by the presiding officer, and that the number of votes cast for each person who was a candidate for such offices, according to the returns, is shown in paragraph 2 hereof:

**MAYOR**

Oscar Leeser

**DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE NO. 2**

Alexandra Annelo

**DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE NO. 4**

Joe Molinar

**JUDGE, MUNICIPAL COURT NO. 4**

Lillian Elena Blancas

**JUDGE, MUNICIPAL COURT OF APPEALS**

Maria Ramirez

4. That on file in the City Clerk's Office and made a part hereof by reference are copies of the mechanical precinct tabulations of the votes cast at the Runoff Election for the December 12, 2020 Runoff Election to elect the Mayor, District Representatives Districts 2 and 4, Judge Municipal Court No. 4, Judge, Municipal Court of Appeals, showing the number of votes cast in each precinct for each candidate.
5. That this Resolution is adopted subject to the right of any candidate to contest such runoff election in any way provided by law.
6. That this Resolution was acted upon in accordance with the law by the presiding officer and the City Council and was deemed by said City Council that upon passage of the Resolution, it shall take effect immediately.
7. This Resolution shall be spread upon the minutes of the City Council, and the City Clerk shall record the amendments so adopted in tine separate book kept in her office for such purpose.

Motion made by Representative Morgan, seconded by Representative Annello, and unanimously carried to **APPROVE** the Resolution.

AYES: Representatives Svarzbein, Annello, Hernandez, Morgan, Salcido, Rodriguez, Rivera, and Lizarraga

NAYS: None

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2. Discussion and action on recommendations regarding COVID-19 protocols for newly elected officials taking the Oath of Office.

Ms. Laura Cruz-Acosta, Strategic Communications Director, briefed Council on the COVID-19 protocols put in place to allow newly elected officials to take the Oath of Office in a safe manner. Newly elected officers may participate in person or virtually. The in person ceremony will be limited to allow only one person accompanying the elected officer in order to reduce the number of people gathering in Council Chambers.

Mayor Margo and Representatives Annello and Rivera commented.

Motion made by Representative Annello, seconded by Representative Hernandez, and unanimously carried to **ACCEPT** staff recommendations.

AYES: Representatives Svarzbein, Annello, Hernandez, Morgan, Rodriguez, Rivera, and Lizarraga

NAYS: None

NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Representative Salcido

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**ADJOURN**

Motion made by Representative Morgan, seconded by Representative Hernandez, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** this meeting at 10:26 a.m.

AYES: Representatives Svarzbein, Annello, Hernandez, Morgan, Rodriguez, Rivera, and Lizarraga

NAYS: None

NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Representative Salcido

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APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

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Laura D. Prine, City Clerk