

RENARD U. JOHNSON
MAYOR

DIONNE MACK
CITY MANAGER



CITY COUNCIL
ALEJANDRA CHÁVEZ, DISTRICT 1
JOSH ACEVEDO, DISTRICT 2
DEANNA MALDONADO-ROCHA, DISTRICT 3
CYNTHIA BOYAR TREJO, DISTRICT 4
IVAN NIÑO, DISTRICT 5
ART FIERRO, DISTRICT 6
LILY LIMÓN, DISTRICT 7
CHRIS CANALES, DISTRICT 8

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
June 23, 2025
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL AND VIRTUALLY
9:00 A.M.

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The City Council met at the above place and date. Meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m. Mayor Renard Johnson was present and presiding. The following Council Members answered roll call: Alejandra Chávez, Josh Acevedo, Deanna Maldonado-Rocha, Cynthia Boyar Trejo, Art Fierro, and Chris Canales. Late arrivals: Lily Limón at 9:12 virtually, and Ivan Niño at 10:05 a.m..

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AGENDA

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1. Presentation, discussion, and action by Weaver and Tidwell, LLP on City of El Paso's Internal Audit Current State, Maturity, and Needs Assessment.

The following Weaver and Tidwell, LLP associates presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office):

- Mr. Brandon Tanous, Partner, Risk Advisory Services
- Ms. Holly Hart, Manager, Risk Advisory Services

Mayor Johnson and Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, and Limón commented.

The following City staff members commented:

- Ms. Dionne Mack, City Manager
- Ms. Karla Nieman, City Attorney

Ms. Lisa Turner, citizen, commented.

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

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2. Presentation and update on behalf of the Humanitarian Engagement Action Response Team.

The following City staff members presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office).

- Ms. Denice Sepulveda, Community Experience Manager
- Police Commander Steven Lopez
- Police Lieutenant Falisha Milner

- Police Officer Alberto Machorro

Mayor Johnson and Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Limón, and Canales commented.

The following City staff members commented:

- Ms. Nickole Rodriguez, Community and Human Development Director
- Fire Captain Jesus Aranda

The following members of the public commented:

1. Ms. Lisa Turner
2. Mr. John Martin, Deputy Director at Opportunity Center for the Homeless
3. Ms. Kristi Mitchell, Clinical Social Work Manager, Veterans Affairs

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried that the City Council **RETIRE** into **EXECUTIVE SESSION**, at 12:12 p.m. pursuant to Section 3.5A of the El Paso City Charter and the Texas Government Code, Sections 551.071 - 551.089 to discuss the following items:

Section 551.071 CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY

Section 551.074 PERSONNEL MATTERS

Section 551.087 DELIBERATION REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales

NAYS: None

Representative Limón not present for Executive Session as she participated virtually.

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Motion made, seconded, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** the Executive Session at 3:52 p.m. and **RECONVENE** the meeting of the City Council at which time motions were made.

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales

NAYS: None

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EX1. Claim of Khlayel Fareed - Claim-748. (551.071)

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Chávez, seconded by Representative Fierro, and unanimously carried that the City Attorney's Office, in consultation with the City Manager, be authorized to **DENY** the claim of *Khlayel Fareed*, in HighQ Matter No. Claim-748, and to take all steps necessary, including the execution of any required documents, in order to effectuate this authority.

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, and Canales

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: Representative Limón

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EX2. Application of El Paso Electric Company for Its Amendment to its Commission-Approved AMS Deployment Plan - PUC#58209; HQ#UTILITY-68 (551.071)

Mayor Johnson verbally disclosed a contribution received from El Paso Electric Employee Political Action Committee.

Representative Acevedo verbally disclosed a \$1,750 contribution received from El Paso Electric Employee Political Action Committee.

Representative Maldonado-Rocha verbally disclosed a contribution received from El Paso Electric Political Action Committee.

Representative Niño verbally disclosed a \$1,000 contribution received from El Paso Electric Employee Political Action Committee.

Motion made by Mayor Tempore Chávez, seconded by Maldonado-Rocha, and unanimously carried that the City Attorney in consultation with the City Manager be **AUTHORIZED** to hire and retain outside counsel and any other necessary consultants, and to file an intervention in the *Application of El Paso Electric Company for its Amendment to its Commission Approved AMS Deployment Plan*, under the Texas Public Utility Commission, Docket No. 58209, in Matter Number HighQ Utility-68, and to take all steps necessary, including the execution of any required documents, in order to effectuate this authority.

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, and Canales

NAYS: None

ABSTAINED: Representative Limón

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EX3. Application of El Paso Electric Company to Change Rates - PUC#57568; HQ#UTILITY-60 (551.071)

Mayor Johnson verbally disclosed a contribution received from El Paso Electric Employee Political Action Committee.

Representative Acevedo verbally disclosed a \$1,750 contribution received from El Paso Electric Employee Political Action Committee.

Representative Maldonado-Rocha verbally disclosed a contribution received from El Paso Electric Political Action Committee.

Representative Niño verbally disclosed a \$1,000 contribution received from El Paso Electric Employee Political Action Committee.

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

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EX4. Discussion on economic development opportunities in West El Paso HQ#24-4099 (551.087)

NO ACTION was taken on this item.
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EX5. Discussion on economic development opportunities in East El Paso. HQ# 24-3468 (551.087)

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

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EX6. Discussion on economic development opportunities in East El Paso. HQ# City Attorney evaluation and legal consultation regarding employment, evaluation process and duties for City Manager, City Attorney and Chief Internal Auditor, as City Council appointed employees. HQ#4883 (551.071) (551.074)24-3468 (551.087)

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

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Motion made by Representative Niño, seconded by Representative Canales, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

AYES: Representatives Chávez, Acevedo, Maldonado-Rocha, Boyar Trejo, Niño, Fierro, Limón, and Canales

NAYS: None

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APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Laura D. Prine, City Clerk