

OSCAR LEESER  
MAYOR

TOMMY GONZALEZ  
CITY MANAGER



CITY COUNCIL  
BRIAN KENNEDY, DISTRICT 1  
JOSH ACEVEDO, DISTRICT 2  
CASSANDRA HERNANDEZ, DISTRICT 3  
JOE MOLINAR, DISTRICT 4  
ISABEL SALCIDO, DISTRICT 5  
ART FIERRO, DISTRICT 6  
HENRY RIVERA, DISTRICT 7  
CHRIS CANALES, DISTRICT 8

## SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 1, 2024

Main Conference Room, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 300 N. Campbell and Virtually  
9:00 A.M.

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The City Council of the City of El Paso met at the above place and date. Meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. Mayor Oscar Leeser was present and presiding and the following Council Members answered roll call: Brian Kennedy, Josh Acevedo, Joe Molinar, and Isabel Salcido. Chris Canales joined via videoconference. Late arrivals: Henry Rivera at 9:04 a.m., Cassandra Hernandez at 9:05 a.m., and Art Fierro at 9:08 a.m.

### AGENDA

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1. Presentation and submission of the appraisal roll, certified anticipated collection rate for the current year, the No-New-Revenue Tax Rate and Voter-Approval Tax Rate for the FY 2024 - 2025 taxes.

Mr. Cary Westin, Interim City Manager, introduced the item.

Ms. Nicole Cote, Office of Management and Budget Managing Director, and Ms. Maria Pasillas, Tax Assessor and Collector, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Mayor Leeser and Representatives Acevedo, and Hernandez commented.

Mr. Robert Cortinas, Chief Financial Officer, commented.

**NO ACTION** was taken on this item.

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2. Presentation, discussion and action on the following budget items:

- a. FY 2023 - 2024 - 3rd Quarter Financial Report
- b. FY 2024 - 2025 Proposed Budget

Mr. Robert Cortinas, Chief Financial Officer, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Mayor Leeser and Representatives Kennedy, Acevedo, Hernandez, Molinar, Salcido, Fierro, Rivera, and Canales commented.

The following City staff members commented:

- Ms. Yvette Hernandez, City Engineer
- Ms. Nicole Cote, Office of Management and Budget Managing Director

- Mr. Richard Bristol, Streets and Maintenance Director
- Ms. Nicole Ferrini, Climate and Sustainability Officer
- Mr. Cary Westin, Interim City Manager
- Mr. Pablo Caballero, Parks and Recreation Director
- Mr. Terry Kebschull, Animal Services Director
- Ms. Dionne Mack, Deputy City Manager of Quality of Life
- Mr. Philip Etiwe, Planning and Inspections Director
- Mr. Kevin Smith, Planning and Inspections Assistant Director
- Fire Chief Jonathan Killings
- Police Chief Peter Pacillas
- Mr. Tony Nevarez, Airport Interim Director
- Mr. Omar Martinez, Assistant Director of Legislative Affairs
- Ms. Laura Cruz-Acosta, Strategic Communications Director

The following members of the public commented:

1. Mr. Carlos Aguilar
2. Mr. Miguel Juarez
3. Ms. Veronica Carbajal
4. Ms. Anna Dominguez
5. Ms. Dora Villanueva
6. Mr. Rick Bonart

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Kennedy, seconded by Representative Fierro and unanimously carried to accept staff recommendations to:

- Utilize current year surplus to pay for the city-wide election, estimated at \$2.2 Million
- Increase investment interest from \$500,000 to \$2.5 million
- Increase State Disabled Veteran Exemption Relief from \$1 Million to \$1.6 Million

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Acevedo, Hernandez, Molinar, Salcido, Fierro, Rivera, and Canales

NAYS: None

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The meeting was **RECESSED** at 11:32 a.m. for a lunch break.

The meeting was **RECONVENED** at 12:39 p.m.

Late arrivals; Henry Rivera at 12:46 p.m., Art Fierro at 12:47 p.m., and Cassandra Hernandez at 12:48 p.m.

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**3.** Introduction of an Ordinance levying FY 2024 - 2025 taxes.

Ms. Nicole Cote, Office of Management and Budget Managing Director, commented.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Kennedy, seconded by Representative Molinar, and unanimously carried that the Ordinance having been introduced pursuant to Sections 3.9 and 7.12 of the El Paso City Charter, be **ADVERTISED AS AMENDED** for public hearing setting the tax rate of \$0.761405 of 1% of the assessed value on all property, real, personal, and mixed.

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Acevedo, Hernandez, Molinar, Salcido, Fierro, Rivera, and Canales

NAYS: None

**PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 13, 2024**

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4. Introduction of an Ordinance amending Title 12 (Vehicles and Traffic), Chapter 12.56 (Parking Meters), Section 12.56.070 (Applicability of Proceeds) to remove the Applicability of Proceeds from 2025 until 2042 for the Central Traffic District and the South El Paso District.

Mayor Leeser commented.

Mr. Robert Cortinas, Chief Financial Officer, commented.

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Kennedy, seconded by Representative Molinar, and unanimously carried that the Ordinance having been introduced pursuant to Section 3.9 of the El Paso City Charter, be **ADVERTISED** for public hearing.

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Acevedo, Hernandez, Molinar, Salcido, Fierro, Rivera, and Canales

NAYS: None

**PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD ON AUGUST 13, 2024.**

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**ADJOURN**

Motion made by Representative Rivera, seconded by Representative Salcido, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** the meeting at 1:42 p.m.

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Acevedo, Hernandez, Molinar, Salcido, Fierro, Rivera, and Canales

NAYS: None

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APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

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Laura D. Prine, City Clerk