

OSCAR LEESER
MAYOR

CARY WESTIN
INTERIM 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

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES
August 12, 2024
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL AND VIRTUALLY
9:05 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 9:17 a.m. Mayor Oscar Leeser was present and presiding and the following Council Members answered roll call: Brian Kennedy, Josh Acevedo, Joe Molinar, Art Fierro, and Henry Rivera. Cassandra Hernandez, Isabel Salcido, and Chris Canales requested to be excused.

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AGENDA

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1. Presentation on the preliminary assessment of dedicated outdoor pickleball courts and the identified sites across the City of El Paso.

Mr. Pablo Caballero, Parks and Recreation Director, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk’s Office).

Mayor Leeser and Representatives Molinar, Fierro, and Rivera commented.

Mr. Cary Westin, Interim City Manager, commented.

The following members of the public commented:

1. Ms. Jamie Fisher
2. Ms. Therese Avalos
3. Mr. Ben Avalos
4. Ms. Laura Houston
5. Ms. Cissy Lizarraga

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Representative Rivera, seconded by Representative Molinar, and unanimously carried that the City Council **RETIRE** into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 9:47 a.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 551.072 DELIBERATION REGARDING REAL PROPERTY
- Section 551.087 DELIBERATION REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Acevedo, Molinar, Fierro, and Rivera

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representatives Hernandez, Salcido, and Canales

Motion made by Representative Rivera, seconded by Representative Fierro, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** the Executive Session at 11:19 a.m. and **RECONVENE** the meeting of the City Council at which time motions were made.

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Acevedo, Molinar, Fierro, and Rivera

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representatives Hernandez, Salcido, and Canales

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EX1. Joseph Pickett v. City of El Paso; 384th District Court; Cause No. 2020DCV3514. (551.071)

This item was not briefed during executive session.

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EX2. Martinez Bros. Contractors, LLC v. City of El Paso; Cause No. 2023DCV1661; 120th District Court. (551.071)

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

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EX3. Ariel Perez, et. al v. Bowling Enterprises, LTD, Northtowne Village Joint Venture, and CEA Engineering Group, Inc., 2023DCV2046; HQ426.

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

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EX4. Application of El Paso Electric Company for an Economic Development Rate for a New Data Center to be located in El Paso, Texas. HQ#UTILITY-52 (551.071)

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Kennedy, seconded by Representative Molinar and unanimously carried that the City Attorney in consultation with the City Manager be **AUTHORIZED** to retain outside counsel and any other necessary consultants, and to suspend the implementation of El Paso Electric’s proposed rates Schedule No. 33-A and 33-B Economic Development Service Rates for an additional ninety (90) days after the effective date, and to file an intervention in the *Application of El Paso Electric Company for an Economic Development Rate for a New Data Center to be Located in El Paso, Texas* filed on August 1, 2024, under the Texas Public Utility Commission, Docket No. 56903, in Matter Number UTILITY-52, and to take all steps necessary, including the execution of any required documents, in order to effectuate this authority.

Representative Acevedo verbally disclosed a \$750 campaign contribution from El Paso Electric Employee Political Action Committee (PAC).

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Acevedo, Molinar, Fierro, and Rivera

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representatives Hernandez, Salcido, and Canales

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EX5. Application of El Paso Electric Company for Approval of a Military Resiliency Services Tariff. HQ#UTILITY-51 (551.071)

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Kennedy, seconded by Representative Molinar and unanimously carried that the City Attorney in consultation with the City Manager be **AUTHORIZED** to retain outside counsel and any other necessary consultants in the *Application of El Paso Electric Company for Approval of a Military Resiliency Services Tariff*,

submitted on July 12, 2024, to the City of El Paso, in Matter Number UTILITY-51, and to take all steps necessary, including the execution of any required documents, in order to effectuate this authority.

Representative Acevedo verbally disclosed a \$750 campaign contribution from El Paso Electric Employee Political Action Committee (PAC).

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Acevedo, Molinar, Fierro, and Rivera

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representatives Hernandez, Salcido, and Canales

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EX6. Discussion on economic development opportunities in Downtown El Paso (HQ# 24-3197) (551.087)

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

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EX7. Discussion on purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property located in Downtown El Paso; HQ 24-3125; (551.072)

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

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Motion made by Alternate Mayor Pro Tempore Molinar, seconded by Representative Acevedo, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** the meeting at 11:23 a.m.

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Acevedo, Molinar, Fierro, and Rivera

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representatives Hernandez, Salcido, and Canales

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APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Laura D. Prine, City Clerk