

OSCAR LEESER
MAYOR

DIONNE MACK
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
October 7, 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 9:18 a.m. Mayor Oscar Leeser was present and presiding and the following Council Members answered roll call: Brian Kennedy, Josh Acevedo, Cassandra Hernandez, Isabel Salcido, Henry Rivera, and Chris Canales. Joe Molinar and Art Fierro requested to be excused.
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AGENDA

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1. A briefing by the Code Enforcement Director on the Restructuring of Code Enforcement.
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The following City staff members presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office):

- Mr. Steve Alvarado, Code Enforcement Director
- Ms. Denice Sepulveda, Performance Management Coordinator

The following City staff members commented:

- Ms. Dionne Mack, City Manager
- Mr. Philip Etiwe, Director of Planning and Inspections
- Ms. Kristen Hamilton-Karam, Deputy City Attorney

Mayor Leeser and Representatives Acevedo and Canales commented.

NO ACTION was taken on this item.
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2. Update on environmental conditions in the Chamizal Neighborhood.

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

- Mr. Kevin Smith, Assistant Director of Planning and Inspections
- Assistant Fire Chief Robert Arvizu

Mayor Leeser and Representatives Acevedo, Salcido, and Canales commented.

Ms. Dionne Mack, City Manager, commented.

Ms. Celia Aguilar, citizen, commented.

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Representative Rivera, seconded by Representative Acevedo, and unanimously carried that the City Council **RETIRE** into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 10:15 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 executive session items posted on the agenda:

Section 551.071 CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY

Section 551.087 DELIBERATION REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representatives Molinar and Fierro

Motion made by Representative Rivera, seconded by Representative Salcido, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** the Executive Session at 11:51 a.m. and **RECONVENE** the meeting of the City Council at which time motions were made.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representatives Molinar and Fierro

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EX1. Torres v. City of El Paso; Cause No.:2017DCV0738 (551.071)

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Kennedy, seconded by Representative Rivera, and carried that the City Attorney's Office be **AUTHORIZED** certain authority to engage in settlement negotiations and/or settle the matter of Maria H. Torres v. City of El Paso, in Matter Number 2017DCV0738, and to take all steps necessary, including the execution of any required documents, in order to effectuate this authority.

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Hernandez, Salcido, Rivera, and Canales

NAYS: Representative Acevedo

ABSENT: Representatives Molinar and Fierro

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EX2. Claim of Isaiah Rodriguez obo the Estate of Delilah Madelyn Rodriguez; Claim-337 (551.071)

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Kennedy, seconded by Representative Rivera, and carried that the City Attorney's Office be **AUTHORIZED** to deny the claim of Isaiah Rodriguez, in Claim number 337, and to take all steps necessary, including the execution of any required documents, in order to effectuate this authority

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Representatives Molinar and Fierro

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EX3. Claim of David A. Schomaker; Claim-517 (551.071)

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Kennedy, seconded by Representative Rivera, and carried that the City Attorney's Office be **AUTHORIZED** to deny the claim of David Schomaker, in Claim number 517, and to take all steps necessary, including the execution of any required documents, in order to effectuate this authority.

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Acevedo, Hernandez, Salcido, Rivera, and Canales
 NAYS: None
 ABSENT: Representatives Molinar and Fierro

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EX4. Application of El Paso Electric Company to Amend its Energy Efficiency Cost Recovery Factor; HQ#UTILITY-39 (551.071)

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Kennedy, seconded by Representative Salcido, and carried that the City Attorney in consultation with the City Manager be **AUTHORIZED** to negotiate and/or settle the Application of El Paso Electric Company to Amend its Energy Efficiency Cost Recovery Factor, under the Texas Public Utility Commission, Docket No. 56572, in Matter Number HighQ Utility-39, 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 contribution received from El Paso Electric Employee Political Action Committee.

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Acevedo, Hernandez, Salcido, Rivera, and Canales
 NAYS: None
 ABSENT: Representatives Molinar and Fierro

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EX5. Application of El Paso Electric Company to Reconcile Fuel Costs; HQ#UTILITY-55 (551.071)

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Kennedy, seconded by Representative Rivera, and 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 to Reconcile Fuel Costs*, under the Texas Public Utility Commission, Docket No. 57149, in Matter Number HighQ Utility-55, 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 contribution received from El Paso Electric Employee Political Action Committee.

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Acevedo, Hernandez, Salcido, Rivera, and Canales
 NAYS: None
 ABSENT: Representatives Molinar and Fierro

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EX6 El Paso Firemen and Policemen Pension Fund request (551.071)

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

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EX7 Discussion on economic development opportunities in West El Paso. HQ#24-3469 (551.087)

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

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Motion made by Representative Rivera, seconded by Representative Salcido, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** the meeting at 11:57 a.m.

AYES: Representatives Kennedy, Acevedo, Hernandez, Salcido, Rivera, and Canales
NAYS: None
ABSENT: Representatives Molinar and Fierro

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APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Laura D. Prine, City Clerk