

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 WORK SESSION MINUTES
CITY HALL, 300 N. CAMPBELL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
February 17, 2020
9:05 AM**

The City Council met at the above place and date. Meeting was called to order at 9:46 a.m. Mayor Dee Margo present and presiding and the following Council Members answered roll call: Peter Svarzbein, Cassandra Hernandez, Sam Morgan, Claudia Rodriguez, and Cissy Lizarraga. Late arrival: Henry Rivera at 9:51 a.m. Isabel Salcido requested to be excused and Aleksandra Annello was absent.

AGENDA

1. Presentation and discussion on The Power of our Strategic Plan: El Paso Transformational Results with reports by the following departments:
 - o Economic Development
 - o Planning and Inspections

Ms. Julie Baldwin-Munoz, Chief Learning Officer, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office), which included an overview of the results produced on the last five years since the City's Strategic Plan was adopted and introduced the presentations aligned to Goals 1 and 3 of the City's Vibrant Regional Economy Vision Block.

Ms. Jessica Herrera, Economic and International Development Director, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's office).

Ms. Herrera reported on the increase of jobs and investments in the City and presented testimonials from companies that have benefited from the City's incentives programs.

Mr. Ricardo Mora, Chief Executive Officer and cofounder of Tech Hub-Juarez, addressed Council and provided examples of how the City enhances the way he conducts his business.

Mr. Kevin Smith, Planning and Inspections Deputy Director presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in the City Clerk's Office).

Mr. Smith's presentation focused on the process improvements at the City's One Stop Shop that have resulted in a significant reduction on wait times and he illustrated the process for completing transactions. He also reported on the increase in residential and

commercial investments, as well as the Department's investments in their staff.

Mayor Margo and Representative Svarzbein commented on the upcoming Mexico/US Sister Cities Mayors Summit.

Mr. Tommy Gonzalez, City Manager, highlighted additional examples of process improvements implemented in response to customer feedback and thanked staff for their work.

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion made by Representative Rivera, seconded by Representative Lizarraga, and unanimously carried that the City Council retire into **EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 11:09 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:

Section 551.071 CONSULTATION WITH ATTORNEY
Section 551.072 DELIBERATION REGARDING REAL PROPERTY
Section 551.076 DELIBERATION REGARDING SECURITY DEVICES OR SECURITY AUDITS
Section 551.087 DELIBERATION REGARDING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEGOTIATIONS
Section 551.089 DELIBERATION REGARDING SECURITY DEVICES OR SECURITY AUDITS; CLOSED MEETING

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

NAYS: None

NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Representative Svarzbein

ABSENT: Representatives Annello and Salcido

Motion made by Representative Rivera, seconded by Representative Lizarraga, and unanimously carried to adjourn the Executive Session at 12:50 p.m. and **RECONVENE** the meeting of the City Council.

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

NAYS: None

NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Representative Hernandez

ABSENT: Representatives Annello and Salcido

Goal 6: Set the Standard for Sound Governance and Fiscal Management

Discussion and action on the following:

EX1. Ex Parte: City of El Paso; Supreme Court of Texas, Case #19-0022; Matter No. 17-1001-171.002 (551.071)

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

EX2. Max Grossman v. City of El Paso; 8th Court of Appeals, Case #08-19-00272-CV; Matter No. 17-1001-171.001.001 (551.071)

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

EX3. Claim of Luz Elena Ramirez; Matter No. 19-1006-1242 (551.071)

Motion made by Representative Lizarraga, seconded by Representative Rivera, and carried that the City Attorney's Office be authorized to **DENY** the property damage claim of Luz Elena Ramirez in its entirety, pending in Matter No. 19-1006-1242.

AYES: Representatives Morgan, Rodriguez, Rivera, and Lizarraga

NAYS: Representative Svarzbein

NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Representative Hernandez

ABSENT: Representatives Annello and Salcido

EX4. Economic Incentives for a Mixed-Use Development to be located in the City of El Paso (18-1007-2339) (551.087) (551.071) (551.072)

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

EX5. Cyber Security Briefing. (551.076, 551.089)

NO ACTION was taken on this item.

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ADJOURN

Motion made by Mayor Pro Tempore Svarzbein, seconded by Representative Lizarraga and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** this meeting at 12:52 p.m.

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

NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Representative Hernandez

ABSENT: Representatives Annello and Salcido
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APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Laura D. Prine, City Clerk