

DEE MARGO
MAYOR

TOMMY GONZALEZ
CITY MANAGER



CITY COUNCIL
PETER SVARZBEIN, DISTRICT 1
ALEXSANDRA ANNELLO, DISTRICT 2
CASSANDRA HERNANDEZ-BROWN, DISTRICT 3
SAM MORGAN, DISTRICT 4
MICHEL R. NOE, DISTRICT 5
CLAUDIA ORDAZ PEREZ, DISTRICT 6
HENRY RIVERA, DISTRICT 7
CORTNEY NILAND, DISTRICT 8

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM
July 24, 2017**

The City Council met at the above place and date. Meeting was called to order at 10:31 a.m. Mayor Dee Margo present and presiding and the following Council Members answered roll call: Cassandra Hernandez-Brown, Sam Morgan, Michiel R. Noe, and Ordaz Perez. Late arrivals: Henry Rivera at 10:32 a.m., Peter Svarzbein and Aleksandra Annello at 10:34 a.m. Not Present: Cortney Niland

AGENDA

1. **RESOLUTION CANVASSING RETURNS
OF THE RUNOFF ELECTION FOR THE
2017 SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL DISTRICT 8 VACANCY**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the El Paso ordered a special election to be held in said City on June 10, 2017 for the purpose of filling the vacancy created in the office of Representative for District No. 8 for the unexpired term; and

WHEREAS, no candidate received greater than fifty percent (50%) of the votes cast; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of El Paso ordered a runoff election to be held in said City on July 15, 2017 for the aforementioned office; and

WHEREAS, the election officers who held said runoff have duly made returns of the results thereof, and said returns have been duly delivered to the City Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

1. That the City Council officially finds and determines that notice of said runoff election was duly given, that proper election officers were duly appointed prior to said election, that said election was duly held, that due returns of the results of said election has been duly made and delivered, that the election returns have properly been made out and duly certified by the officers of said election in the different voting precincts of the City, and that the City Council has duly canvassed said returns, all in accordance with law and the resolution and amendments thereto calling said runoff election.

2. That the City Council officially finds and determines that the following

votes were cast at said runoff election for the following officer by the resident, qualified electors of said City, who voted at the runoff election:

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE NO. 8

Cissy Lizarraga	1834
Robert Cormell	1477

3. That in the case of the following office, the following person received more than a 50% majority of the votes cast for candidates for such office and is hereby declared elected to such office for the unexpired term, subject to the proper issuance of certificates of election by the presiding officer, and that the number of votes cast for each person who was a candidate for such office, according to the returns, is shown in paragraph 2 hereof:

DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE NO. 8

Cissy Lizarraga

4. That on file in the City Clerk's Office and made a part hereof by reference are copies of the mechanical precinct tabulations of the votes cast at the Runoff Election for the July 15, 2017 Special Election to fill the vacancy in the office of Representative for District No. 8, showing the number of votes cast in each precinct for each candidate.

5. That this Resolution is adopted subject to the right of any candidate to contest such runoff election in any way provided by law.

6. That this Resolution was acted upon in accordance with the law by the presiding officer and the City Council and was deemed by said City Council that upon passage of the Resolution, it shall take effect immediately.

7. This Resolution shall be spread upon the minutes of the City Council, and the City Clerk shall record the amendments so adopted in the separate book kept in her office for such purpose.

Motion made by Representative Ordaz Perez, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Noe, and unanimously carried to **APPROVE** the Resolution.

2. Discussion and update on FY 2017 – 2018 Council Budget Requests.

Mr. Roberto Cortinas, Director of Office and Management Budget, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in City Clerk's Office).

Representative Annelo stated, "It was her understanding that streets needed to be selected through a process, didn't think she could submit a street request at this time and wanted to clarify how it works."

Representative Hernandez-Brown asked, "Those that submitted street request was due diligence to request on behalf of constituents?"

Mayor Margo questioned, "Can they agree on a final deadline?" "We're in midst of budget that's preconditioned for a rate increase and wouldn't it be better off sending these requests to the City Manager to see if they're on the plan?" He would like to prioritize list of requests.

Representative Ordaz Perez suggestion is to forward constituent request to CR study since Khalil's team is already going to do a study across the board maybe they can include Representative Morgan's request.

Representative Morgan stated, "He placed issues brought to him by constituents and he put them on to have oversight and visibility and doesn't have an issue putting them on study list".

Representative Ordaz Perez stated, "List was done in 2012 and it a rushed list so it's imperative and crucial to conduct a thorough a study, city-wide."

Representative Anello misunderstood process and she didn't put some items that she wanted to and took list of items and scaled them down.

Mayor Margo stated, "Doesn't think she misunderstood."

Representative Noe stated, "Was going to wait to put items on list. Legitimate requests should be made through the CR process. They can forward items to the study and give the City time to return the list and take them off the budget for now and set them for upcoming budgets to see which ones get done as far as dog parks and things like that."

Representative Rivera questioned if they were going to abandon the last thought about asking Mr. Ted Marquez to determine the streets.

Mayor Margo commented, "His thought process that was on streets submitted by constituents that Council send them to staff and ask where they are, not a budget item but not changing representation on behalf of constituents, check where they are in the process if not they need to readdress process or priority."

Representative Hernandez-Brown stated, "We should wait for the study before they identify new streets, need to revisit 2012 intent, need to complete previous administration's intent, what has been committed to and what's the status." They need to have a discussion about the priorities of streets and the dollars allocated wants to move up the timeframe.

Mayor Margo agrees up to staff to determine since they're dealing with prior Councils not full filling the infrastructure responsibilities.

Representative Svarzbein requests they prioritize for example, safety issues on Brown from Rim to Schuster, Wiggs Middle School, El Paso High School. Staff suggested putting them on budget requests.

Mayor Margo stated, "Representative Anello is doing it correct by submitting them to staff."

Representative Ordaz Perez questioned, "Presentation from Streets and Maintenance with remaining streets, can't they just bring back list so new Council can see?"

Mr. Tommy Gonzalez, City Manager, replied, "We will send it all to Council, doesn't

believe traffic counts were taken into consideration before.”

Representative Brown-Hernandez stated that using logic since it's a 10-year program, they should prioritize streets because if not she can't support new projects.

Mr. Gonzalez recounting where we are if you want to reduce from 10 years to 7 years.

Representative Hernandez-Brown replied, “Yes.”

Mayor Margo stated they should expedite it and get them completed as soon as possible.

Representative Noe stated, “Discussing the timeline should be separate.” He agrees that staff does not include the streets when crunching numbers and how to fund them is a separate issue. The list should be transferred to the CR process to see where they are on the list.

Representative Hernandez-Brown asked, “Anyone opposed to this process they're proposing?”

Representative Ordaz Perez that's what she's been doing, completely agrees.

Representative Rivera asked, “Does the Representative have the last word on the street itself since the previous Representative removed a critical street.”

Representative Noe replied, “Once all evaluations come in it may turn out that another street is worse.”

Mr. Khalil Zaied, Deputy City Manager Public Works stated, “Once COs approved we will look at every single street, needs to get study moving to develop priority.”

Representative Anello questioned, “Timeline for study, will the City be cut into three sections, how will they be funded?”

Mr. Zaied replied, “Yes, two years.”

Mr. Gonzalez stated “Issue is that it hasn't been funded on an annual basis, we should bring them back annually. This isn't the first time it's been recommended.”

Representative Ordaz Perez stated, “In 2012 staff already did a thorough analysis previous Council committed funding to critical high priority streets.”

Representative Anello stated, “Some funding was moved.”

Mr. Gonzalez replied, “Need to send list and note which are there or not and why, the reconstruction list is not all on budget so staff made recommendations. Will come back and show that previous Council moved money to match MPO projects. Will show Council new numbers and that the money went to approved expenditures and will show seven to ten year's impact.”

Representative Ordaz Perez stated, "No longer using matches."

Mr. Gonzalez stated, "Once approved they can use CO MPO list to match dollars."

Representative Brown questioned, "2012 list unfunded portion, what is the cost for the City combined?"

Mr. Gonzalez replied, "The number is really large any way it's submitted is okay, staff will put it on the list and some of the questions they will work on coming up with answers."

Mayor Margo stated, "To sum it up this Council very concerned about infrastructure and they want make sure streets are in good working order for our residents and they want staff to put together how to implement that in a way that's cost effective and in the most expeditious manner possible."

Mr. Cortinas stated, "The introduction of the ordinance to set the tax rate will be on the July 31st meeting."

Mr. Gonzalez stated, "Once you set the rate you can't go above it you can only go below it all you're doing on the 31st is setting the rate you can give yourself the latitude to decide that way you have the most flexibility possible."

Mayor Margo replied, "We want as much flexibility we can always reduce."

NO ACTION taken on this item.

3. Overview presentation and discussion on the Lean Six Sigma (LSS) Program.

Mr. Roman Sanchez, Business Systems Analyst, presented a PowerPoint presentation (copy on file in City Clerk's Office).

Representative Lizarraga asked, "How are candidates selected?"

Mr. Sanchez replied, "Recommended by department."

Representative Lizarraga asked, "Where does savings go?"

Mr. Sanchez replied, "Budgetary savings are within departments distributed to other needs within that department. Once they fix the process they determine the new savings and they deliver service faster."

Representative Ordaz Perez explained that she has spoken to the Mayor about the importance of legislative review committee but the concern was a cost in staff time for example and she's still a big fan. For example Representative Noe was on the Animal Services Committee and came out with an amazing proposal to make the Animal Shelter a no kill by 2020. Can they incorporate LSS and LRCs, can it be done? She sees a lot of potential.

Mr. Gonzalez stated, "It would be great to have a champion from Council, he likes that when you provide training for an employee it drives a result. If Council could get more involved it would be helpful."

Representative Ordaz Perez sees a lot of potential to incorporate Legislative Committees with Lean Six Sigma.

Representative Rivera questioned increase on the program itself.

Mr. Sanchez stated, "they currently have 25 to 26 projects and they want to deliver and evaluate on how to move forward once those projects are completed."

Mr. Gonzalez wants those certified belts to continue working on programs since there's no retraining needed. He wants Council to understand the impact.

Ms. Dionne Mack, Deputy City Manager Public Safety & Support Services, stated, "The cost is flat for several years, there are some staff leaders that can mentor staff."

Representative Hernandez-Brown stated, "Can they develop a plan and match them to strategic goals, recommend one on procurement program."

Mr. Sanchez replied, "There's a program on procurement, it should be completed soon."

Mr. Gonzalez would welcome ideas from Council, suggested to internal auditor to make suggestions if he finds processes that could be improved.

Representative Svarzbein agrees with Representative Hernandez-Brown on strategic goals.

Representative Noe commented, "LRCs argument has been on what the point is if Representatives get together and decide on something then Council changes it. LRCs were to gather data to bring it to Council then they decided to bring all data to Council so it doesn't go to Council twice. LSS is best thing that happened to departments but it's not a good thing to include Representatives to a process they don't understand, they should champion projects but not be on a team."

Representative Hernandez-Brown stated, "Alternative is don't appoint but it could open it up to everyone to see if anyone wants to participate in LSS."

Mayor Margo stated, "Bottom line we want to have expenditures an all-inclusive process, we want good information and we want results, he has an aversion to lots of meetings but he's all for implementation and results to meet what's required of those who have been elected."

Ms. Mack explained that the review of policies and procedures are delegated to the 50 boards and commissions and there needs to be some balance between what's been authorized and where Council might want to go next.

Mr. Gonzalez stated, "We can also add more items to Council work sessions so the

full body can consider.”

NO ACTION taken on this item.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Representative Ordaz Perez, seconded by Mayor Pro Tempore Noe, and unanimously carried to **ADJOURN** this meeting at 11:40 a.m.

NOT PRESENT FOR THE VOTE: Representative Niland

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APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Laura D. Prine, Interim City Clerk