

STATE OF TEXAS  
CITY OF MARFA  
COUNTY OF PRESIDIO

The City Council of the City of Marfa met in a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, in-person at 6:00pm in the Casner Room, located in Marfa's City Hall, 113 South Highland Ave, Marfa Texas 79843. Those in attendance were Mayor Baeza, Mayor Pro Tem Lara, Council Member Cash, Council Member Morrison, Council Member Pallarez, and Council Member Acreman.

1. Call the Meeting to order and establish a quorum.
  - Mayor Baeza called the meeting to order @ 6:00pm and established a quorum with all members present.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Citizen Comment Period.

At this time, any person may address the Council for a limited time concerning any matter and should limit their remarks to a period of three minutes. The Council is not allowed to take action on any subject presented, nor is the Council required to provide any response. As allowed in Texas Attorney General Opinion KP-0300, all public comments should be presented during this citizen comment period.

- Marfa resident Eileen Myles introduced herself and addressed Council. She spoke on the current airstrikes and bombing in Israel and Gaza. She proposed that the city pass a Resolution or Proclamation in support of an immediate ceasefire in Palestine.
- Kate Sterchi introduced herself and echoed Ms. Myles' comments on the airstrikes in Gaza, proposed the city make a non-political, baseline moral gesture by passing a resolution.

**Minutes:**

4. Adopt and approve Minutes from previous City Council Meetings.
  - December 12, 2023 – Council Member Pallarez made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Council Member Acreman seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. 5-0. Spelling correction to be made changing “Ruby Garcia” to “Rudy Garcia”.
  - January 25, 2024 – Council Member Pallarez made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Council Member Morrison seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.

**Financial Reports:**

5. Discussion with action as appropriate to accept Investment Report from Dan Dunlap.
  - Mr. Dunlap was not present for the meeting. Council Member Pallarez made a motion to Table this item to the next regular meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Lara seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.
6. Discussion with action as appropriate to approve Accounts Payable Reports.
  - Council Member Pallarez made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable Reports as presented. Council Member Morrison seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.
7. Discussion with action as appropriate to approve Revenue and Expenditure Reports.
  - Council Member Morrison made a motion to approve the Revenue and Expenditures Reports as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Lara seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.

**Old Business:**

8. Discussion with action as appropriate regarding amendment(s) to the Employee Handbook pertaining to On-Call Pay.
  - No discussion. Council chose to let this item die.
  - Item died for a lack of motion.

**New Business:**

9. Discussion with action as appropriate regarding AEP's proposed rate change and wholesale transmission rates.
  - The Mayor skipped this item until later in the meeting.
  - The council circled back to this item at 6:54pm with the Mayor recusing himself from the meeting and room while discussion on this item was had.
  - Council Member Pallarez, being retired from Marfa AEP, explained to the other Council Members what rate changes are, what they do for AEP, and how they affect the end user. He said it wouldn't hurt to have the City Attorney look into the proposal.
  - Council Member Morrison made a motion to direct the City Attorney to look into the proposed rate change. Council Member Acreman seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.
10. Discussion with action as appropriate to adopt Ordinance No. 2024-01, Ordering a General Municipal Election to be held on May 4, 2024, to elect three (3) City Council Members.
  - Council Member Acreman made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2024-01, Ordering a General Election. Mayor Pro Tem Lara seconded the motion.

All were in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.

11. Discussion with action as appropriate to allow Presidio County Clerk to use of the USO for Runoff Election purposes.

- The City Manager announced that the dates for voting would be May 20 through May 28, 2024.
- Mayor Pro Tem Lara made a motion to allow Presidio County Clerk's office to use the USO as requested. Council Member Morrison seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.

12. Discussion with action as appropriate to appoint One new member to the Planning and Zoning Commission Board.

- Commission Chairman, Chick Raybourn stood to speak on his thoughts for each interested party. He suggested appointing Lilliana Fields to the board.
- Council Member Acreman made a motion to appoint Lilliana Fields to serve on the Planning and Zoning Commission Board for a two-year term. Council Member Pallarez seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.

13. Discussion with action as appropriate to approve AMI (Advanced Metering Infrastructure) RFP.

- City Manager Roane explained that the RFP for "Smart Meters" also included a timeline that would need to be approved as well. The timeline references date ranges for steps in the implementation process that the city will request the award company to follow.
- Council Member Morrison made a motion to approve the RFP and Timeline as presented. Council Member Acreman seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.

14. Discussion with action as appropriate to select a prefabricated restroom facility to be purchased for outdoor use at the USO Pavilion.

- Mayor Baeza asked Tourism Director Jenna Conners if any of the quotes she gathered were ADA Compliant or had options available to be compliant. Ms. Conners responded that yes, the bathroom units could be made for ADA use, but the height of entry into the bathroom units would need to be checked on as far as the possibility of needing a ramp installed.
- Mayor Baeza recommended to Council that the restroom building proposed by RFL (Restroom Facilities, Ltd. a *CorWorth Company*) would be the best option due to its study construction being the same or very similar to the concession stand located at Coffield Park.
- Council Member Morrison made a motion to approve the drawing and quote from RFL for Model W312 and directed the City Manager and city staff to work on the procurement of the building. Council Member Cash seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.

15. Discussion with action as appropriate to update Marfa Police Department Policy # 11 pertaining to Automated License Plate Reader.
  - City Manager Roane and Police Chief Carrillo explained that specific wording needed to be exact, so the proposed update is to satisfy the requirement.
  - Council Member Pallarez made a motion to approve updating the Marfa Police Department Policy #11 as requested. Council Member Cash seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.
  
16. Discussion with action as appropriate to approve Resolution No. 2024-02, authorizing the Marfa Police Department to participate in Operation Stonegarden 2024/2025.
  - Council Member Pallarez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-02, authorizing the Marfa Police Department to participate in Operation Stonegarden 2024/2025. Mayor Pro Tem Lara seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.
  
17. Discussion with action as appropriate to approve Resolution No. 2024-03, authorizing the Marfa Police Department to participate in Ballistic Shields Grant FY2025.
  - Council Member Morrison made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-03, authorizing the Marfa Police Department to participate in Ballistic Shields Grant FY2025. Mayor Pro Tem Lara seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.
  
18. Discussion with action as appropriate to approve Resolution No. 2024-04, authorizing the Marfa Police Department to participate in Rifle Resistant Body Armor Grant FY2025.
  - Council Member Pallarez made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-04, authorizing the Marfa Police Department to participate in Rifle Resistant Body Armor Grant FY2025. Council Member Acreman seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.
  
19. Discussion with action as appropriate to approve Resolution No. 2024-05, authorizing the Marfa Police Department to participate in Body-worn Cameras Grant FY2025.
  - Council Member Morrison made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-05, authorizing the Marfa Police Department to participate in Body-worn Cameras Grant FY2025. Council Member Cash seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. 5-0.

*The City Council reserves the right to adjourn into executive session at any time during the course of the meeting to discuss any matters listed above as authorized by the Texas Government Code Section 551.071 (Consultation with Attorney), 551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), 551.073 (Deliberations*

about Gifts and Donations) 551.074 (Personnel Matters), 551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), 551.086 (Economic Development).

**Reports:**

20. Mayor's Report – None.

21. City Manager's Report – City Manager announced that the new Marfa EMS ambulance is on its way to Marfa! EMS Director, Bert Lagarde, is in Houston picking it up.

22. Police Chief's Report


23. Council Members' Comments – Council Member Morrison announced that he had personally begun looking into what a tax bond to fix the city's streets would look like for the city and the taxpayers of Marfa. He reported that through his brief looking-into that since the project of repaving all city streets would be a large undertaking, the costs associate would be astronomical and would increase taxpayers' yearly taxes by several hundreds of dollars, dependent on each house's appraised value. He stated that he was not interested in looking any further into a tax bond as the solution to the rehab of the city streets.

24. Adjourn

- Mayor Pro Tem Lara made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Morrison seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:12pm.

  
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Manuel V. Baeza, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Amanda T Roane, City Secretary