

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD
ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025 AT 5:30 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL
CHAMBERS.**

MAYOR: David Romero

COUNCILORS: Marvin Martinez
Barbara Casey
Michael L. Montoya
David Ulibarri (*Excused*)

ALSO PRESENT: Robert A. Anaya, City Manager
Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk
Caleb Marquez, Sergeant at Arms

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Romero called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Councilor Casey asked for a moment of silence to pray for the individuals who had passed away and that City staff assure that all of the work being done was for the betterment of the community.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilor Martinez made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilor Casey seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked if all were in favor. All were in favor.

PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS/REPORTS AND RECOGNITIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Romero stated that City Manager Robert A. Anaya, Councilor Marvin Martinez and himself had attended a meeting at New Mexico Highlands University where they had spoken with Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham regarding the Water Treatment Plant. Mayor Romero stated that Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham had mentioned she was pleased with the collaboration between the City of Las Vegas and the State, however had wished the process would progress quicker.

Mayor Romero stated that there had been events that had taken place at the Plaza Park and mentioned Councilor Martinez and himself met with business owners and had discussions with City Manager Anaya and staff. Mayor Romero stated moving forward they shouldn't have those issues occur.

COUNCILOR'S REPORTS

Councilor Martinez advised that he had received complaints from constituents near the Plaza Park regarding loud motor vehicles, speeding, and ATV's, side-by-sides and mini bikes being utilized on public roads. Councilor Martinez stated that he had also received complaints from constituents near Lincoln Park who reported tents being in the park and wanted to assure it stayed a safe place for children to play.

Councilor Casey stated that she had received complaints from constituents regarding loud motor vehicles and the letter that was sent out by the Water department regarding the lead pipes. Councilor Casey stated that she had received feedback from business owners at the Plaza Park regarding the road

closures and booths and mentioned that Mayor Romero and Councilor Martinez had spoken with the business owners to assure no further conflict occurred.

Councilor Montoya stated that he had received compliments from constituents regarding the cleanliness and maintenance of the community parks. Councilor Montoya stated that he had received complaints from constituents in Ward II regarding the lack of crosswalks, signage and speeding. Councilor Montoya stated that the Governing Body had approved \$150,000 dollars and allocated it towards crosswalks within the community and mentioned that the Governing Body was not pleased with the work but was grateful it was being completed. Councilor Montoya stated that he had attended a meeting with the New Mexico Department of Transportation and mentioned that they had funded the Commerce Street project for phase I in the amount of \$1.4 million. Councilor Montoya thanked Chairman Walter Adams and the NMDOT Board for assisting with funding for the betterment of the community.

Councilor Martinez stated that there was money allocated for 7th Street and Douglas Avenue to add curb and rain gutters, however the contractor did not install the rain gutters and mentioned it was being re-evaluated.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

City Manager Robert A. Anaya welcomed Executive Assistant Elena Martinez to the City of Las Vegas. City Manager Anaya stated that he was in contact with Public Information Officer Amanda Salas to include new employee images to the City website for the Governing Body to familiarize themselves with the new staff. City Manager Anaya had asked Human Resources Interim Director and Benefits Coordinator Consuelo Gallegos to elaborate on the new hires.

Human Resources Benefits Coordinator Gallegos stated that there were several new hires within the last couple of months and mentioned that the community was acknowledging the new and younger staff members.

City Manager Anaya asked Water Director Travis Martinez to elaborate on the process of creating a permanent Water Treatment Plant for the City of Las Vegas.

Water Director Martinez discussed the following regarding what was taking place as a part of the process for the new Water Treatment Plant; jar sampling, tests and analysis, pre qualification of design and building firms, GSA's, piping location assessments, GID markings, sampling plans, procurement packaging development, draft pre qualifications package, axis points being located, PMP, protocols, steady progress, and program tracking.

City Manager Anaya stated that once all of the testing was done, the City would then ask for a request for qualifications to move onto the next phase.

Mayor Romero stated that the community was under the impression that the State had taken over the Water Treatment Plant and asked City Manager Anaya if he could compile information of the City of Las Vegas and the State's agreement to inform the community.

City Manager Anaya asked Finance Director Morris Madrid if he could elaborate on the upcoming audit report.

Finance Director Madrid stated that the Finance department had switched their focus from budget preparation and submission to supplying documents to the external auditors. Finance Director Madrid stated that the Finance department was in the process of determining what level of processing the auditors would utilize. Finance Director Madrid stated that the Finance department was supplying all of the required financial information for claims to FEMA for reimbursement.

Councilor Montoya asked how the City was going to address the billing from the State for the Intergovernmental Agreement.

City Manager Anaya mentioned that the State was going to be in contact with Finance Director Madrid to conduct the process of reimbursement.

Finance Director Madrid stated that there could have been cases where the Finance department had to do direct pay to the State; however, the first payment had not been made yet.

Councilor Montoya asked if any progress had been made with the Sulzer Group regarding past due invoices.

Finance Director Madrid stated that the City was lacking several invoices from the Sulzer group and mentioned that there were other invoices that the Finance department was holding onto but had not paid yet.

Councilor Montoya asked for verification that the City was receiving invoices.

Finance Director Madrid stated yes.

Councilor Montoya asked City Manager Anaya to include the storage of Storrie Lake and the storage of the leased property into his water report that he presents to the Mayor and Council on the first week of every month.

City Manager Anaya asked Gas Director/Interim Solid Waste Director David Marquez if he could give a summary on Amnesty Day.

Gas Director/Interim Solid Waste Director Marquez stated that he would construct a report for each Ward along with having staff present. Gas Director/Interim Solid Waste Director Marquez thanked the Governing Body for contributing their time and effort to help the Solid Waste department conduct a successful Ward Amnesty Day.

City Manager Anaya asked Community Development Director Lucas Marquez if he could summarize Community Development's projects.

Community Development Director Marquez advised that the New Mexico Racquetball Association Tournament was a success and it had brought in people from all over the world and they also extended invitations to all guests to attend the Final Friday Al Fresco event. Community Development Director Marquez stated that there were unexpected challenges that the City had faced for the Final Friday Al Fresco and had spoken with City Manager Anaya to assure that in the future the City would not face those challenges.

City Manager Anaya asked Public Works Director Arnold Lopez to summarize the Public Works department's current projects.

Public Works Director Lopez stated that the heavy rainfall had taken a toll on the City and mentioned that the work had doubled as it continued. Public Works Director Lopez stated that their main focus was vegetation control and pothole repairs and mentioned that their next project was going to be the cleanliness of the alleyways.

City Manager Anaya asked Community Services Director June Tafoya if she could elaborate on the Senior Center and the Carnegie Library.

Community Services Director Tafoya stated that the Senior Center had issues with the menu and food items being changed. Community Services Director Tafoya mentioned that supply had been an issue until City Manager Anaya brought it to her attention and since has been better. Community Services Director Tafoya stated that the annual NM Conference on Aging was coming up and extended an invite to the Governing Body and advised it would be held in Glorieta, NM.

City Manager Anaya asked Community Services Director Tafoya to give a summary on the grant that she was applying for.

Community Services Director Tafoya stated that she had applied for a grant to remodel the face of the Senior Center to include the lobby.

City Manager Anaya asked Water Director Martinez to elaborate on the water quality compliance.

Water Director Martinez stated that the monthly water samples were collected and submitted for testing which resulted in the water not being contaminated and still safe to utilize.

City Manager Anaya asked Police Chief Caleb Marquez and Fire Chief Steve Spann to elaborate on their departments.

Police Chief Marquez stated that speeding was an issue within the community and mentioned that software was being looked into to address the noise complaints. Police Chief Marquez stated that he had received the final draft of a contract that would be presented to the Governing Body at the next council meeting to place speeding cameras within City limits.

City Manager Anaya stated that comments had been made regarding noise complaints and mentioned it was being evaluated.

Fire Chief Spann stated that the Fire department was in the process of completing a state grant that was due that Friday that would give the City 15 additional CBA's for a total of \$185,000.

City Manager Anaya asked City Clerk Casandra Fresquez to elaborate on the City Clerk's department.

City Clerk Fresquez stated that several City departments had been compiling a list of documents for records destruction in accordance with the retention schedule. City Clerk Fresquez advised it was the first round of destruction and the second round would occur when departments had additional boxes that needed to be shredded.

Mayor Romero asked if all departments and documents were in compliance with the state law.

City Clerk Fresquez stated yes.

City Manager Anaya asked IT Manager Adele Ludi to elaborate on the IT department.

IT Manager Adele Ludi stated that they had installed internet at the Solid Waste department and mentioned that they had also fixed their phones issues. IT Manager Ludi stated that they were handling issues as they occurred while keeping track of department needs. IT Manager Ludi stated that they were looking into software that could help the City improve their processes. IT Manager Ludi also stated that the department was cross training so that each IT employee was able to task high level issues.

Councilor Montoya asked if the referendums that the City was trying to pass were on the City's website for public review.

City Manager Anaya stated that meetings were being held and that a marketing plan would be presented in the near future.

City Clerk Fresquez advised that the starting point was a meeting that was scheduled for the next day to go over a strategic plan on how to inform the public of the information.

Councilor Montoya asked if it was going to be on the next City Council agenda for City Council's review.

City Clerk Fresquez advised no, not at this time.

City Manager Anaya stated that a summary of the meeting could be prepared and given to the Governing Body for review.

Councilor Montoya asked if the City was still utilizing the 311 system to make reports anonymously.

City Manager Anaya stated yes and no, that it was then introduced as MyCivic and was being evaluated for proper functionality.

Councilor Martinez asked if there was an outstanding amount of business licenses throughout the City.

City Manager Anaya mentioned that business license renewals and fire inspections were taking place throughout the year.

Community Development Director Marquez advised that they had sent out 38 letters to businesses that had not registered and some consisted of businesses that had not been registered for 2-4 years. Community Development Director Marquez stated that they were in the process of trying to bring businesses into compliance to keep them in operation.

PRESENTATIONS/POSSIBLE DIRECTION

- Presentation by Tim Hagaman with the Economic Development Department speaking on Outdoor Recreation Division.

Tim Hagaman with EDD stated that in a couple of weeks they were launching their pilot school/electric bus program where East Las Vegas City Schools and West Las Vegas City Schools would each be utilizing an electric bus for three weeks. Mr. Hagaman stated that first responders would be attending a training the following week. Mr. Hagaman stated that he had returned from the Outdoor Recreation Conference in Gallup, NM. Mr. Hagaman provided a lengthy discussion regarding all the resources they have to offer. Mr. Hagaman stated that the two programs the EDD offered were the Equity fund and the Outdoor Recreational Trails Grant. Mr. Hagaman stated that the programs targeted the education of the youth within communities. Mr. Hagaman stated that the Outdoor Recreation Trails Grant required a 50% match, job creation component in economic growth, preserved natural and cultural resources, support in design, engineering, construction and maintenance of an outdoor recreational infrastructure. Mr. Hagaman stated that the EDD had over \$7.2 million for grants and mentioned that applications were only being accepted until the end of the month.

City Manager Anaya stated that EDD Secretary Rob Black had requested a follow-up meeting with the City and mentioned he would be in contact with the Governing Body and City Clerk Fresquez to arrange a meeting.

Councilor Montoya stated that EDD Secretary Black mentioned that the City of Las Vegas had an open door policy with EDD. Councilor Montoya stated he would like for City Manager Anaya to set up a meeting with the City of Las Vegas and EDD Secretary Black so the City could apply for funding.

Mayor Romero asked if there was funding through EDD for workforce housing.

Mr. Hagaman stated that he was unsure.

Councilor Montoya stated he had asked EDD Secretary Black if there was any funding for the waterline to the airport. Councilor Montoya asked if there was anything the City could do to be in partnership with EDD to fund the waterline to the airport.

Mr. Hagaman stated that the EDD infrastructure fund was open and was dependent on when the community was ready to move forward with the City's Utility department to crossshare the waterline.

Councilor Montoya stated he was seeking ways to generate revenue for the City of Las Vegas.

- Presentation by Scott Zunker, City Planner regarding potential housing.

Mayor Romero stated that the North Central Economic Development had set aside funding for housing.

City Planner Scott Zunker stated that the proposal targeted the middle class income individuals that did not qualify for government assistance. City Planner Zunker stated that the homes would be for home ownership and not for rent. City Planner Zunker stated that Monica Abeyta with North Central Economic Development had requested funding for housing from the New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority. City Planner Zunker stated that Ms. Abeyta mentioned she had extra funding remaining and committed it to the City of Las Vegas. City Planner Zunker stated that the suggested sales price of the homes would be between \$250,000 - \$325,000. City Planner Zunker stated that there were two proposed sites for the homes to be built which included a lot on the West side of the City on Sapello St. and Montezuma St., which the City had owned since 2021. City Planner Zunker stated if the City had moved forward with the lot, the property would need to be rezoned to an R2 and it would allow for 13 homes. City Planner Zunker explained that all of the homes would include a 1 car garage, 6 homes would be 2 bedrooms, 7 homes would be 3 bedrooms, 2 story and each with 2 baths. City Planner Zunker stated that the other proposed site was located on the East side of the City on 2nd St., and the property had been owned since 1985 or longer. City Planner Zunker stated that the property had 2 lots and would have to be turned into 5 lots. City Planner Zunker stated that the proposal of the homes would be 2 homes with 2 bedrooms and 3 homes with 3 bedrooms each with 2 baths and a 2 car garage.

Councilor Casey asked if each home consisted of 2 separate parts that were combined into 1.

City Planner Zunker advised yes, that it was only a concept to provide to North Central Economic Development to provide an estimate of how many homes could fit into each lot.

Councilor Casey asked what the proposed outcome of the townhomes being close in proximity would be.

City Planner Zunker stated it was similar to the townhomes on Douglas Avenue and 12th St., where each home is connected but each one was individually owned.

Councilor Montoya stated that funding had been given to the New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority that had not been utilized in over 4 years. Councilor Montoya stated that he was in favor of approving the proposed homes and mentioned that there were other sources and programs to assist the City with funding.

Mayor Romero thanked Community Development Director Lucas Marquez and City Planner Scott Zunker for taking the lead in the housing development.

City Manager Anaya stated that he was in support to assist Community Development Director Marquez and City Planner Zunker in the process of acquiring resources. City Manager Anaya stated that City Planner Zunker would be attending a Housing Authority Conference in the near future.

Mayor Romero stated that the two lots that were chosen were the only big lots the City of Las Vegas had owned and could fit multiple homes.

Councilor Martinez stated that he was in favor of the proposed housing and mentioned that the Community was in need of housing.

Councilor Montoya stated that City Manager Anaya had made his intentions clear to move forward with the housing project.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve the minutes from August 13 and August 20, 2025 with minor corrections. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked if all were in favor. All were in favor.

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Request for permission to destroy records included on the attached lists from the following departments: Police, Community Development, City Clerk's, City Attorney's, Executive, Library, Human Resource, Public Works, and Municipal Court.

Mayor Romero stated that the retention schedule followed the State Statute and asked if all of the documents that were presented to the Governing Body were in compliance.

City Clerk Casandra Fresquez stated that was correct.

Councilor Casey made a motion to grant permission to destroy records included on the attached lists from the following departments: Police, Community Development, City Clerk's, City Attorney's, Executive, Library, Human Resource, Public Works, and Municipal Court. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion.

Councilor Montoya asked if microfiche was included.

City Clerk Fresquez stated yes it was included as well as emails and older tapes.

Councilor Montoya asked if the microfiche film was scanned online for records.

City Clerk Fresquez stated that the microfiche film and tapes had been destroyed years prior according to the retention guidelines.

Councilor Montoya asked if the meeting minutes from the Governing Body were being held for record.

City Clerk Fresquez stated all meeting minutes were backed up in Laserfiche.

Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Marvin Martinez	Yes	Michael Montoya	Yes
Barbara Casey	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

2. Request to accept appropriated grant funding from the Department of Finance Administration in the amount of \$164,000 for the Las Vegas Communication System.

Police Chief Caleb Marquez stated that in 2023, \$100,000 was granted to the Police department however, it was not enough funding to bring their Communication System up to date. Police Chief Marquez stated that the given funding would complete the project from start to finish and would benefit the Police department, Fire department, and AMR.

Councilor Montoya made a motion to accept appropriated grant funding from the Department of Finance Administration in the amount of \$164,000 for the Las Vegas Communication System. Councilor Casey seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Michael Montoya	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
Marvin Martinez	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

3. Request approval of Resolution 25-47, a budget adjustment in the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year.

Finance Director Morris Madrid advised that the Department of Finance Administration required a resolution to be approved before it could be incorporated into the budget.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve Resolution 25-47, a budget adjustment in the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year. Councilor Montoya seconded the motion.

Resolution No. 25-47 was presented as follows: *Due to the length of the document a copy may be obtained from the City of Las Vegas, City Clerk's Office.*

Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Barbara Casey	Yes	Marvin Martinez	Yes
Michael Montoya	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

4. Request approval of Resolution No. 25-48 A&B to accept a grant offer administered by New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) through the Transportation Fund Program (TPF) and to apply for a match waiver for fiscal year 25/26.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve Resolution No. 25-48 A&B to accept a grant offer administered by New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) through the Transportation Fund Program (TPF) and to apply for a match waiver for fiscal year 25/26 in the amount of \$1,557,905.01 the City's match of \$77,895.25. Councilor Montoya seconded the motion.

Resolution No. 25-48 A&B was presented as follows: *Due to the length of the document a copy may be obtained from the City of Las Vegas, City Clerk's Office.*

Councilor Montoya asked how much of the project it would cover.

Public Works Director Lopez advised that it was not going to cover it in its entirety and it would have to be done in phases. Public Works Director Lopez advised that he had planned to start on the northern end and finish on the southern end. Public Works Director Lopez advised that the proposed plan was to engineer the project in its entirety so the project was shovel ready for the next phase.

Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Marvin Martinez	Yes	Barbara Casey	Yes
Michael Montoya	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilor Casey made a motion to convene into executive session as permitted by New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(2) for the purpose of discussing limited personnel matters: Discussion of hiring, promotion, demotion, dismissal, assignment or resignation of or the investigation or consideration of complaints or charges against any individual public employee: Discussion on salary increase for the Police Chief and City Clerk. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Michael Montoya	Yes	Marvin Martinez	Yes
Barbara Casey	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

Councilor Casey made a motion to exit executive session and reconvene into regular session after being in executive session as permitted by New Mexico Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, Section 10-15-1(H)(2) for the purpose of discussing limited personnel matters: Discussion of hiring, promotion, demotion, dismissal, assignment or resignation of or the investigation or consideration of complaints or charges against any individual public employee: Discussion on salary increase for the Police Chief and City Clerk, no action was taken. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Michael Montoya	Yes	Marvin Martinez	Yes
Barbara Casey	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ACTION ITEMS

1. Consideration to increase the salary for Caleb Marquez, Police Chief.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve to increase the salary for Caleb Marquez, Police Chief by \$3.00 an hour for additional duties. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Barbara Casey	Yes	Michael Montoya	Yes
Marvin Martinez	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

2. Consideration to increase the salary for Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk.

Councilor Casey made a motion to approve to increase the salary for Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk to \$95,000 annually. Councilor Martinez seconded the

motion. Mayor Romero asked for roll call. Roll Call Vote was taken and reflected the following:

Marvin Martinez	Yes	Michael Montoya	Yes
Barbara Casey	Yes		

City Clerk Fresquez advised the motion carried.

ADJOURN

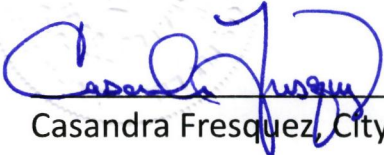
Councilor Casey made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Martinez seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.



Mayor David Romero

ATTEST:

 10/8/25

Casandra Fresquez, City Clerk

