

**CITY OF GRANTS
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, August 23, 2023
6:00 PM
MINUTES**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mayor Erik Garcia at

ROLL CALL

Present:

Mayor Erik Garcia

Councilor George Garcia

Councilor Beverly Michael

Absent:

Councilor Zachery Gutierrez

Councilor Fred Rodarte

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Approval of the Agenda

Motion: George Garcia Second: Beverly Michael Ayes: 2 Nays: 0

*Note the Meeting was canceled during Charter Compliance by a unanimous Motion.

DISCUSSION OF CHARTER COMPLIANCE

Mayor Garcia addressed the Council on Charter Compliance, citing Section 5.03, Article C, of the City of Grants Charter, "(in which the Council should not) ...control or demand that the City Manager discipline or recommend the termination of ... director...but may state... recollective views" he went on to repeat an article from the August 2023 edition of the *Cibola Citizen* in which he stated was quoted by Councilor Garcia's interview, "People have to be accountable, especially in the area of finance, it was not personal and was a very hard decision. People need to look at the past meetings, especially the ones regarding the pantry and the memorial...". Mayor Garcia then read a statement from the previously fired City Manager Donald Jaramillo's published article in the *Cibola Citizen*, stating, "A majority of the Council wanted someone to pay for the error even though they were a part of it by not noticing it on the final statement when they unanimously approved it, despite the fact that Council should not get involved in operations, one of three who voted me out wanted me to terminate the staff member, I told him no, and that if anyone was to pay for the error it would be me...".

The Mayor stated this made it apparent that these actions violated Section 5.03, Article A of the Grants City Charter. He recited a statement from the recently passed Code of Ethics Ordinance Article 1, Section 4, "Do nothing to violate the trust of the governing body of the City of Grants," stating Councilor Michael, Garcia, and Rodarte have violated this trust and the Code of Conduct requires

that the Council be respectful to others during public meetings but in July 2023, the Council violated the Ordinance by disrupting the City Managers Appreciation Award, by rolling quorums which violated integrity, and by reducing the Managers Contract payout months before his termination.

The Mayor started to speak of an ongoing litigation.

Councilor Garcia then stated the Mayor was speaking of an ongoing litigation, which was not part of the Agenda.

Councilor Michael also stated the Mayor was speaking on a pending litigation case and asked City Attorney Jessica Nixon for assistance.

Attorney Nixon called point of order, due to the Mayor relaying pending litigation information, not about Charter Compliance.

The Mayor replied, stating it was about Charter Compliance due to the incident being "a personal attack", and then continued to speak of the pending litigation incident.

Councilor Garcia commented to the Mayor, "You are making unsubstantiated allegations."

Attorney Nixon stated, "Mayor, I'm going to encourage you to move on."

Mayor Garcia proceeded to speak of the pending litigation and Charter Violations in which he requested an investigation, starting with the Ex-City Manager's Contract, and for the contract to be placed on the Agenda for reinstatement.

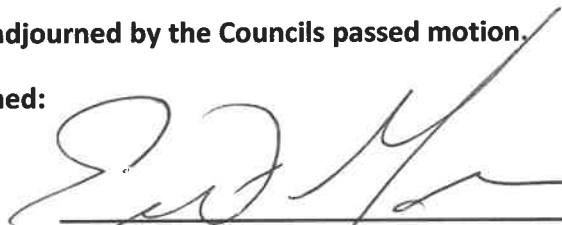
Councilor Garcia stated, "Again, this is not Charter Compliance. I make a motion to adjourn the meeting to lack of Agenda Compliance.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting to lack of Agenda Compliance.

Motion: George Garcia Second: Beverly Michael Ayes: 2 Nays: 0


***Meeting was adjourned by the Councils passed motion.**

APPROVED Signed:



Mayor Erik Garcia

ATTEST:



City Clerk

