

**DOUGLAS CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 24, 2016**

The City of Douglas Mayor and Council met in a Special Meeting on Tuesday, May 24, 2016, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of City Hall – 425 Tenth Street. The Honorable Mayor Ortega Jr. called the meeting to order and Council Member Betancourt led the invocation after the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. ROLL CALL.

	PRESENT	ABSENT
MAYOR, DANNY ORTEGA JR.	X	
COUNCIL MEMBER MARGARET MORALES -WARD ONE	X	
COUNCIL MEMBER KEN NELSON-WARD TWO	X	
COUNCIL MEMBER BEN LA FORGE-WARD THREE	X	
COUNCIL MEMBER PATRICIA LOPEZ – WARD FOUR	X	
COUNCIL MEMBER LUIS GREER - WARD FIVE	X	
COUNCIL MEMBER FERNANDO BETANCOURT – WARD SIX	X	
CITY MANAGER – CARLOS DE LA TORRE	X	
CITY ATTORNEY- JUAN PABLO FLORES	X	
CITY TREASURER – LUIS PEDROZA	X	
CITY CLERK - BRENDA AGUILAR	X	

5. PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL IN WRITING OR VERBALLY ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA.

Mayor Ortega Jr. thanked Council Member La Forge for his service and support in the last four years.

6. DISCUSSION/DECISION ON APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 16-1145, A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DOUGLAS, COCHISE COUNTY, ARIZONA, DECLARING AND ADOPTING THE RESULTS OF THE RUN-OFF MAIL BALLOT ELECTION HELD ON MAY 17, 2016.

Motion by Council Member Greer, **second** by Council Member Lopez to approve Resolution No. 16-1145.

Council Member La Forge inquired if any issues had arisen and if so, what improvements would be made.

Brenda Aguilar stated that the election process had run smoothly as the citizens had already experienced the vote by mail election during the month of March at the Primary Election. The successful result was attributed to voter outreach efforts. However, the issue addressed on Election Day had been concerning the special state election as voters requested to drop off state election ballots at the same location, which was authorized for voter convenience. Thus saving the voters an extra trip to either location.

Council Member La Forge inquired if there had been issues with spoiled ballots and/or issues with duplicate voting and if so, how many.

Brenda Aguilar stated that twenty-six replacement ballots had been issued and the main reason had been due to lost ballots or ballots forgotten at home on Election Day. Furthermore, the Cochise County Recorder's Office had verified voter eligibility before issuing a replacement ballot. Additionally, there were approximately one hundred two ballots dropped off at City Hall and the electorate expressed a great deal of gratitude concerning the change to the election process.

Council Member La Forge stated that due to the exceptional job of the City Clerk in the implementation of the program for the mail in ballots there had not been many questions from the electorate.

Brenda Aguilar reported that there had been a thirty five percent-voter turnout at the runoff election in comparison to twenty-nine percent voter turnout at the March Primary Election resulting in an increase of six percent to voter turnout.

Council Member Nelson requested voter turnout for the 2012 election.

Brenda Aguilar stated that in 2012 the voter turnout had been twenty-one percent.

Mayor Ortega Jr. congratulated Robert Uribe and Luis Greer for their participation and further informed Mr. Uribe that he would be available for the transition process.

Mayor Ortega Jr. congratulated Brenda Aguilar as many residents had expressed satisfaction with the mail ballot election process. However, residents had also expressed a desire to receive all ballots by mail to include state elections and they were informed to sign up in order to receive their ballots at home.

Brenda Aguilar stated that residents interested in the all-mail ballot election process outside of city elections were provided with a registration form on Election Day in order to be added to the permanent voters' registration list.

Resolution No 16-1145 was read into the record by City Clerk, Brenda Aguilar as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 16-1145

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF DOUGLAS, COCHISE COUNTY,
ARIZONA, DECLARING AND ADOPTING THE
RESULTS OF THE RUN-OFF MAIL BALLOT
ELECTION HELD ON MAY 17, 2016.**

WHEREAS, the City of Douglas, Cochise County, Arizona held a Run-Off Mail Ballot Election on the 17th day of May, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the election returns have been certified by the Cochise County Elections/Special Districts Office and the Certification of Election has been presented to the Mayor and Council of the City of Douglas; and

WHEREAS, the votes cast for the candidates for Mayor were as follows:

Robert Uribe	1,149
Luis Greer	1,125

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the City of Douglas, Cochise County, Arizona, as follows:

Section 1. It is hereby found, determined and declared of record, that the following candidate did receive the highest number of all votes cast for the office of Mayor and is hereby issued a certificate of election:

Mayor	
Robert Uribe	1,149

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Douglas, this 24th day of May 2016.

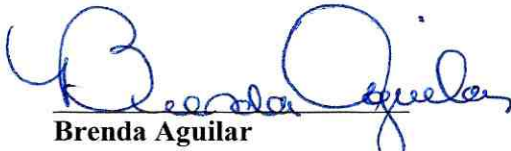
Roll Call: All members voted in favor. **MOTION PASSED**

Mayor Elect Uribe was presented with a certificate of election by Mayor Ortega Jr.

7. **ADJOURNMENT.**

Motion by Council Member Morales, **second** by Council Member Nelson to adjourn the meeting at 4:10 p.m. unanimously passed.

Prepared By:


Brenda Aguilar
City Clerk