

Sierra Vista City Council
Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2024

Mayor McCaa called the May 9, 2024, City Council Regular Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 1011 N. Coronado Drive, Sierra Vista, Arizona.

Roll Call:

Mayor Clea McCaa II – present
Mayor Pro Tem Carolyn Umphrey – present
Council Member William Benning – present (telephonically)
Council Member Gregory Johnson – present
Council Member Angelica Landry – present
Council Member Marta Messmer - present
Council Member Mark Rodriguez – present

Others Present:

Victoria Yarbrough, Assistant City Manager
Chuck Potucek, City Manager
Chris Hiser, Police Chief
Armin Lewis, Deputy Police Chief
Lis Chatham, Police Department Commander
Don Foster, Fire Marshall
Sharon Flissar, Public Works Director
Laura Wilson, Leisure, Parks, and Library Services Director
Matt McLachlan, Community Development Director
Jill Adams, City Clerk
Nathan J. Williams, City Attorney
Kennie Downing, Procurement Chief Officer
Adam Curtis, Marketing and Communications Manager
Elizabeth Wrozek, PIO
Tony Boone, Economic Development Manager

Invocation – Pastor Becky Preiss, Hope and healing Christian Church, led everyone present in prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor McCaa led the Pledge of Allegiance.

[Item 1](#) Acceptance of the Agenda

Council Member Johnson moved that the agenda for the Regular City Council Meeting of May 9, 2024, be approved. Council Member Messmer seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 6/0. Mayor McCaa, Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey, Council Members Johnson, Landry, Messmer, and Rodriguez voted in favor.

City Manager's Report: Mr. Potucek stated that the next scheduled work session is on May 21, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers and the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting is on May 23, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. He reported that the SR90 Sewer Reroute Project bid was awarded and is under review; the Sierra Vista Connectivity Phase Two Project has been awarded to Wilson and Company and their kickoff meeting has been

scheduled; Rounds Consulting was awarded the Needs Assessment RFP for the municipal court; the Impact Fee Study has commenced by TischlerBise and expected to go into Summer 2024; and the Wastewater Masterplan is estimated to be completed at the end of May 2024.

Item 2 Consent Agenda

[Item 2.1](#) Discussion and Possible Action of the Work Session Meeting Minutes of April 23, 2024

[Item 2.2](#) Discussion and Possible Action of the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of April 25, 2024

Council Member Landry moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the Council work session minutes of April 23, 2024, and the regular Council meeting minutes of April 25, 2024, be approved. Council Member Johnson seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 6/0. Mayor McCaa, Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey, Council Members Johnson, Landry, Messmer, and Rodriguez voted in favor.

New Business

[Item 3](#) Discussion and Possible Action of Resolution 2024-029, Donation of two surplus vehicles, 2000 Chevy Silverado 1500 truck, 2005 Ford F250 Truck to Sister City Cananea, Sonora, Mexico

Council Member Messmer moved that Resolution 2024-029, donation of two surplus vehicles, 2000 Chevy Silverado 1500 truck, 2005 Ford F250 Truck to Sister City Cananea, Sonora, Mexico, be approved. Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey seconded the motion.

Ms. Downing stated that staff received direction from the City Council to offer any surplus vehicles that are still worthy of driving to its Sister City of Cananea. Two vehicles have been determined to be surplus by the Fleet Department and have been given to the Procurement Division for surplus. These two vehicles were offered for consideration to the City of Cananea. It is a 2000 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 and a 2005 Ford F-250 pickup truck. The City of Cananea has analyzed the vehicles and determined that they would like to accept them if the City Council agrees to the donation.

Council Member Johnson asked about the value of the vehicles if they were to be put up for auction. Ms. Downing explained that surplus vehicles of this age usually reap between \$1,200 and \$3,500.

The motion unanimously carried, 6/0. Mayor McCaa, Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey, Council Members Johnson, Landry, Messmer, and Rodriguez voted in favor.

[Item 4](#) Discussion and Possible Action of Resolution 2024-030, IGSA with Fort Huachuca to provide Washing Machine and Dryer Maintenance Services

Council Member Rodriguez moved that Resolution 2024-030, an IGSA with Fort Huachuca to provide washing machine and dryer maintenance Services, be approved. Council Member Johnson seconded the motion.

Ms. Downing stated that the federal legislature allows local governments and the federal government to go into an Intergovernmental Service Agreement (IGSA) for services that are

mutually agreeable and compatible for services. In this case, the City's Public Works Facility staff maintains the City's washer and dryers at the Animal Control Division. Fort Huachuca has approached the City to see if the City could take on the task of maintaining their washers and dryers on Fort Huachuca. They have about 1,100 total washer and dryers. The Procurement Division made a proposal which included hiring two additional staff people and the purchase of one additional work truck. The City would provide the other existing work truck to service this contract and the contract for the first year would be \$259,215 that covers all of the labor, the purchase of the first truck, tools for the first truck to be equipped, with mileage back and forth from the Public Works yard to Fort Huachuca as well as an administrative fee of 10 percent of the cost to cover Procurement and Finance's cost, invoicing and billing services. The contract is for one year with ten options and Fort Huachuca would opt in each year if they would like to continue the contract.

Council Member Johnson asked if the contract includes the parts. Ms. Downing stated that the parts are billable at cost and that was written in the proposal. It is not in this spreadsheet, but whenever Procurement has a part to purchase, Procurement is required to submit a copy of the invoice with the billing to Fort Huachuca so that they can see the cost of the parts that are paid.

The motion unanimously carried, 6/0. Mayor McCaa, Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey, Council Members Johnson, Landry, Messmer, and Rodriguez voted in favor.

Item 5 Discussion and Possible Action of Resolution 2024-031, Renewal of Turf Paradise's Off-track Wagering Permit at PC's Lounge

Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey moved that Resolution 2024-031, renewal of Turf Paradise's Off-track Wagering Permit at PC's Lounge, be approved. Council Member Rodriguez seconded the motion.

Ms. Adams stated that this is a triennial process that Turf Paradise goes through. David Johnson has applied to the Council to renew his businesses permit to continue offering para mutual betting at PC's Lounge for the next three years. The City has received no comment about this application and over the time that they have been doing this, there have been no comments received. The Police Department did an incident check/background on PC's Lounge and found no incidents that seem to be arising out of the betting. If approved, the request will be returned to the Arizona Gaming Department for final approval, and they will be good to go for three years.

The motion unanimously carried, 6/0. Mayor McCaa, Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey, Council Members Johnson, Landry, Messmer, and Rodriguez voted in favor.

Item 6 Discussion and Possible Action of Resolution 2024-032, Intergovernmental Agreement with the Arizona Department of Transportation to approve the exchange of HURF funds for the Martin Luther King Pavement Replacement Project

Council Member Johnson moved that Resolution 2024-032, an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Arizona Department of Transportation to approve the exchange of HURF funds for the Martin Luther King Pavement Replacement Project, be approved. Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey seconded the motion.

Ms. Flissar stated that staff was able to acquire Federal Surface Transportation Block Grant funding through the Sierra Vista Metropolitan Planning Organization for reconstruction of the

Martin Luther King Parkway between the State Route 90 bypass and Avenida Escuela. Federal funding is nice to have but is difficult to use and comes with a variety of additional costs and strings that must be navigated. The Arizona Department of Transportation offers a very popular program called Turf Exchange Highway User Revenue Fund Exchange, which exchanges hard to use federal funds for state funds. This action will approve an intergovernmental agreement with the Arizona Department of Transportation for exchange of those funds.

The motion unanimously carried, 6/0. Mayor McCaa, Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey, Council Members Johnson, Landry, Messmer, and Rodriguez voted in favor.

Call to the Public

Carol Manetta Executive Director of a nonprofit called Reef Goodness stated that they are dedicated to the formation and continuance of a public food forest to take place on City-owned land on East Busby Drive and Sheila Lane in the Sulger Subdivision near the West side. This project is moving along with the help and encouragement of Mr. McLachlan, Director of Community Development. It is his suggestions and permissions that have allowed the progress to continue and evolve at the rapid pace encountered. His suggestions always are to involve the community and that has been the case. The land is designated as uninhabitable by conventional residential needs due to flooding. It is this very trait where waters will be harnessed to water the upcoming food trees, bushes, and lower-level food plants harvestable by the community for free.

Mr. McLachlan also engaged the Neighborhoods Commission to be aware of the progress and make useful suggestions on fruit tree planting and local suppliers. He also engaged the Streets Division to clear the land of unwanted plants and trash for the work to go forward. He continues to engage with the Sierra Vista Sunrise Rotary Club which has undertaken this food forest as their next annual local project. Reef Goodness has engaged a wide variety of citizens in the community to volunteer expertise to shape what is to be their pride and joy. Once completed and maintained with the help of Echoing Hope Ranch and with donations from the Sierra Vista Rotary Club, the Silver Springs Valley Electrical Cooperative and through the Sierra Vista Sunrise Rotary Annual Project, this food forest will be featured in the newly forming Arizona Food Forest Atlas. This work has gained international attention to-date with the formal membership with the Conscious Food Systems Alliance convened by the United Nations Development Program. Significant discussions sharing expertise have taken place with members of that alliance from Brazil, Wales, France, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, and the island of Cyprus.

In closing, Ms. Manetta thanked Council Member Landry for inviting her to speak to the Council and in upcoming meetings when checkpoints of progress are deemed appropriate for information. She also thanked Mr. McLachlan for opening and supporting this opportunity to share food with each other in a place where citizens have less than others.

Steven Casteel expressed concerns with the local transit system and serious safety hazards because of the way that the current routes are being allocated. He explained that the pink line that connects the West End of town to the East End of town is used principally for people to go and get their groceries, conduct their day-to-day lives, and to go to and from work. However, that bus only runs once per hour. Although, he has heard that there is a study forthcoming to rectify any of these issues, the problem is that the bus is severely overcrowded to the point that quite frequently people are left standing in the aisle ways. The West End needs this service, but it has resulted over the course of time in a great deal of extra travel expense for him to be able

to get to and from work. He suggested reallocation of the drivers and the buses to the Pink Line to relieve the overcrowding on the bus. In closing, he stated that over the course of the middle of 2002 and 2003, while he was working at Lowe's, this has resulted in him having to deal with an additional transportation expense of \$240 each month to get to work because he was unable to take the bus due to the schedules that those buses run.

Comments and Requests of Council

Council Member Johnson had nothing to report.

Council Member Landry wished a Happy Mother's Day to all and encouraged people to reach out to neighbors and friends that may need help because Mother's Day is not always a happy day for everybody. This may be the first year that they may experience Mother's Day without their mother or a mother figure in their life.

Council Member Messmer reported on the tour by the American Heritage Girls Troop AZ 1464 that took place on Monday, May 6, 2024 at City Hall and announced that Janet Strange, a great volunteer, passed away on April 26, 2024. Ms. Strange volunteered at the City's Visitor Center for many years, the Sierra Vista Historical Society gift shop, and many other places.

Council Member Rodriguez voiced his appreciation to the people that came to Call to the Public and noted that it is always good to hear from the public. He announced that it is Teacher's Appreciation Week and voiced his appreciation to all the teachers that have affected everyone and shared that his mother and wife are both educators and thanked them. He wished all mothers, his mother, sister, and wife a Happy Mother's Day. He reported on Vinny's Pizza fundraiser to help 143 Tacos who recently had an unfortunate fire. In closing, he congratulated Don Foster on completing his Arson Investigation Program.

Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey had nothing to report.

Mayor McCaa congratulated Detective Matthew Quinn, Police Officer of the Year, recognized Commander Lis Chatham, and commented on the Torch Run. He also congratulated La Casita on their 35th anniversary, wished all moms a Happy Mother's day as well as his mother, wife, and sister, and thanked Mr. Steven Casteel for his comments and asked Ms. Flissar to address his concerns. Lastly, he thanked Ms. Carol Manetta and noted that he will get out to the food garden and looks forward to seeing it.

Adjournment

Mayor McCaa adjourned the May 9, 2024, meeting of the Sierra Vista City Council at 5:26 p.m.

Clea McCaa II, Mayor

Minutes prepared by:

Attest:

Maria G. Marsh, Deputy Clerk

Jill Adams, City Clerk

A recording of the Council Meeting is available at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8PtUpIbkQsixlhSy-jeR_Q/videos