



Sierra Vista City Council
Meeting Summary
January 9, 2020

Mayor Mueller called the January 9, 2020 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 Rick Mueller – present
Mayor Pro Tem Rachel Gray – present
Council Member William Benning – present
Council Member Gwen Calhoun – present
Council Member Sarah Pacheco – present (arrived 5:08 p.m.)
Council Member Carolyn Umphrey - present
Council Member Kristine Wolfe – absent

Others Present:

Chuck Potucek, City Manager
Victoria Yarbrough, Assistant City Manager
Adam Thrasher, Police Chief
Brian Jones, Fire Chief
Laura Wilson, Leisure and Library Services Director
Sharon Flissar, Public Works Director
Matt McLachlan, Community Development Director
Jill Adams, City Clerk
Nathan J. Williams, City Attorney
Tony Boone, Economic Development Manager
Abe Rubio – IT Manager
Judy Hector, Marketing and Public Affairs Manager
Adam Curtis, Public Information Officer
Environmental Affairs Commissioners

Invocation - Reverend Greg Adolf, Saint Andrews Catholic Church, conducted the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance – Council Member Benning led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 1 Acceptance of the Agenda

Council Member Umphrey moved that the Agenda for the Regular City Council Meeting of January 9, 2020 be approved as written. Mayor Pro Tem Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray, Council Members Benning, Calhoun, and Umphrey.

Awards and Presentations

The 2019 Environmental Merit Award was presented to Ken Mete of the Immanuel Lutheran Church for environmental impact improvements in recognition of achievement in energy efficiency or conservation.

Mr. Phillips thanked Council and explained Mr. Mete's tireless efforts to improve the grounds and facilities at the Immanuel Lutheran Church, while reducing its impact on the environment. Mr. Faulkner, Chair, Environmental Affairs Commission stated that this is the third year that the Commission has put out this award, which was initially started by Dennis Ehrenberger. The first Environmental Merit Award recipient was Water Wise and the second was Bryant Sayers. Both Mr. Sayers and Mr. Mette are dedicated to their churches, which speaks to the impact local churches have on the community. Lastly, he voiced his appreciation to the churches' influence and what they're showing the community that will hopefully increase conservation and education.

City Manager's Report: Mr. Potucek announced that City Offices will be closed on Monday, January 20, 2020 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. Therefore, refuse pickup for Monday will be on Tuesday and Tuesday's pickup will be on Wednesday with Thursday and Friday pickups being fine the way that they are.

Mr. Potucek announced that the next regularly scheduled City Council Work Session will be held at 3:00 p.m. in Council Chambers on January 21, 2020 and reported on the following:

- Security Gate Replacement Bid for the South Gate at Pete Castro Center and Police Station closes on January 16, 2020.
- Chip Seal Project Bid for street maintenance closed on January 8, 2020 resulting in the firm of VSS International as the low bidder in the amount of \$637,000. The repair of streets on the West Side and Country Club areas have been included (list of streets is available on the City's web site).

Mr. Potucek also reported on the SEACOM JPA Board Meeting, where dispatch recruiting is still the main topic, and announced that Mr. Eric Duffy is the Interim Town Manager for Huachuca City, replaced Mr. Matthew Williams, who will be greatly missed. This was also the new SEACOM Director's, Allen Smith, first meeting. A prime concern is the emergency medical dispatch software, which was awarded to Priority Dispatch and is almost complete pending signatures. This software will greatly improve/enhance services and it is hoped that grant funding can be acquired to fund most of it since it is about a quarter million dollars. Lastly, he reported that the Skateboard/Bike Shop Rental Bid was awarded to Shapeshifters Skateboards LLC.

Mayor Mueller asked if the road surface will be chip sealed, a small overcoating of tar. Ms. Flissar explained that it is a rock chip and it is put down with a binder material. The binder goes on the bottom and the City usually puts a binder over the top to help pull the rocks down and give it a nice black finish and it is not a complete repaving.

Mayor Mueller stated that there are people that are concerned about the streets in the Country Club area, which were built in the County and then annexed into the City. The County did not follow the substructure standards that the City has and in order to take the street all the way down, the City would have to do half of the streets that are being proposed and it would cost more. Resources are scarce and the City is trying to do the best that it can to cover as much area as possible. Lastly, he added that the streets in Country Club and on the north side of town are areas that have not had significant repairs/upgrades for quite a while.

Council Member Calhoun asked about a timeline. Ms. Flissar stated that the work starts in the spring. There are temperature considerations that need to be worked around at the same time and so the Department does not want to push it too far and potentially get into the monsoon

season. After the contract mobilizes, they usually go through the streets quickly and notice will be provided to residents before the work is started in their immediate area.

Council Member Pacheco asked if the information is published online so that people can look at the maps that were given to Council. Mr. Potucek stated that he just received the list and Council Members are the first to receive it, but this information along with the maps can be posted on the web site.

Item 2 Consent Agenda

Item 2.1 Approval of the City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2019

Item 2.2 Resolution 2020-001, Reappointment of James Howe to the Environmental Affairs Commission, said term to expire December 31, 2021

Council Member Calhoun moved that the Consent Agenda consisting of the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2019 and Resolution 2020-001, reappointment of James Howe to the Environmental Affairs Commission, said term to expire December 31, 2021, be approved. Council Member Pacheco seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray, Council Members Benning, Calhoun, Pacheco and Umphrey.

New Business

Item 3 Resolution 2020-002, Approval of Interagency Governmental Agreement with the Town of Huachuca City for Traffic Signal Repair and Maintenance

Council Member Pacheco moved that Resolution 2020-002, Interagency Governmental Agreement with the Town of Huachuca City for Traffic Signal Repair and Maintenance, be approved. Council Member Benning seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray, Council Members Benning, Calhoun, Pacheco, and Umphrey.

Call to the Public

Call to the Public

Adele Crouch requested Council to consider a workshop to discuss an additional homeless shelter in the City and suggested that it be located at the Salvation Army's empty building, which used to be their store.

Joan Murphy voiced her concern and opposition to the proposed refuse rate increase and the privatizing of recycling. She added that if the reason that rates are being increased is due to making more landfills, then the City is working against itself. She also added that she has personally seen receptacles that are filled to overflowing and noted that she and her neighbor compost and recycle. Lastly, she stated that climate change must be considered and asked Council how much input they received through the sierravista.gov. The public needs to be retrained because landfills continue to fill at an alarming rate and will continue to cost more.

Janis Benson talked about recycling and suggested public education so that everyone can be a good steward of the earth, water and resources. She added that the people working at the Recycling Center are very helpful and believes that people are throwing their recyclables in the trash because it is no longer a curb side pickup.

Comments and Requests of the Council

Council Member Benning congratulated Mr. Ken Mete on being awarded the Environmental Merit Award and noted that it is always good to see people being good stewards of the community. He explained that he did not recycle until recently and now he is there every Saturday and believes that once people become more educated on what is happening to the earth, people are going to want to start recycling. He thanked Ms. Crouch for her comments and stated that the Council's Strategic Plan addresses homelessness. He congratulated and welcomed back Ms. Dow, and lastly, he shared that people complain a lot, do not complain, talk a lot, etc. in society, but he encourages people to go home and hug their children and let them know that they are loved and that they make you proud. Children should also do the same, they should tell their parents that they love them and not wait until it is too late to make sure to let them know that they are loved. In closing, he stated that he is glad to be back for the New Year and welcomed back Council and staff.

Council Member Umphrey offered condolences to Council Member Benning and voiced her pleasure at seeing Jim Bob back on the Environmental Affairs Commission, congratulated Ken Mete that shows what an impact one person can have when they choose to step up and take initiative. Lastly, she wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Council Member Pacheco thanked everyone in attendance and for the comments at the Call to the Public. She added that Council has had long conversations about recycling and refuse rates for about six months and have not taken decisions lightly. Council is grateful for all the ideas and comments because some of those have been implemented and brought into consideration. Lastly, she wished everyone a Happy new year.

Council Member Calhoun thanked Father Greg for a wonderful prayer to get everyone started off for the New Year and stated that it hit home for her, and she hopes that everyone can have this vision for 2020. She thanked Ken Mete and stated that the Council does not always know about the good things that folks in the community are doing and she is particularly glad for this award to highlight the environmental things that are being done. Lastly, she stated that she would like for Council to have further discussion about the homeless shelter in conjunction with some of the churches or organizations in the community. She added that this is in the Council's Strategic Plan and she would like to see this issue moved forward.

Mayor Pro Tem Gray wished everyone a Happy New Year and stated that she enjoys Father Greg's invocations. She added that he is her second favorite to do the invocation because her father is a minister.

Mayor Mueller announced Law Enforcement and Appreciation Day and thanked Police Chief Thrasher, thanked Father Greg for his invocation, and encouraged people to go and listen to Father Greg. He voiced his appreciation at the comments regarding a homeless shelter and explained that he is a member of the Board for the Salvation Army. There have been discussions on an emergency cold shelter, however, the building where the Salvation Army had its store is a part of the Salvation Army, but not a part of the local group and therefore, they have no control over it. Options have been discussed and one is that the Salvation Army still owns the little building on the other side of where the store used to be located but it does not have adequate restroom facilities for people over night. They could potentially have it in the larger dining room as a warming station-type operation where the facility is a little better, but they are working through questions on how to man cots, health procedures and, etc. that might

provide a temporary solution. He added that Captain Carlos Souza is the lead and hopefully there can be a place where people can shelter, a need that has been identified by the Salvation Army for the community.

Mayor Mueller voiced his appreciation towards all the comments received regarding recycling and noted that Council has looked at a lot of comments and made some changes in the way that the City operates. Lastly, he stated that he is looking forward to a great year in Sierra Vista, wished everyone a Happy New Year and announced the upcoming Martine Luther King, Jr. parade and festivities on January 20, 2020.

Mayor Mueller adjourned the January 9, 2020 meeting of the Sierra Vista City Council at 5:36 p.m.