

Sierra Vista City Council  
Meeting Summary  
April 14, 2022

Mayor Mueller called the April 14, 2022, 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 Gregory Johnson - present  
Council Member Angelica Landry – present  
Council Member Mark Rodriguez - present  
Council Member Carolyn Umphrey - present

Others Present:

Chuck Potucek, City Manager  
Victoria Yarbrough, Assistant City Manager  
Adam Thrasher, Police Chief  
Brian Jones, Fire Chief  
Gabriel Squires, Public Works Internal Operations Manager  
Laura Wilson, Parks, Recreation, and Library Director  
Matt McLachlan, Community Development Director  
Tony Boone, Economic Development Manager  
Diana Cameron, Management Analyst  
Jill Adams, City Clerk

Invocation – Justin McPeak, Thunder Mountain Church, led everyone present in prayer.

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

[Item 1](#) Acceptance of the Agenda

Council Member Landry moved that the agenda for the Regular City Council Meeting of April 14, 2022, be approved. Council Member Johnson seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 7/0. Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray, Council Members Benning, Johnson, Landry, Rodriguez, and Umphrey voting in favor.

Presentations and Awards

2021 Fire Fighters Awards – Fire Chief Jones presented the 2021 fire fighter awardees: Shawn Mott, Special Achievement, Jennifer Flemming, EMT of the Year, Hannah Savar-Knox, Paramedic of the Year, and Captain Adam Saathoff, Firefighter of the Year.

2022 Water Wise Youth's Poster Contest Awards – Alex Kosmider, Community Outreach Professional for the Water Wise Youth Program introduced the following awardees:

- Fourth Grade
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place and Grand Prize – Alyson Carillo, Pueblo Del Sol, Ms. Taylor
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Jocelyn Wright, Pueblo Del Sol, Ms. Taylor
- Honorable Mention – Lorelai Faus, Pueblo Del Sol, Ms. Taylor

- Sixth Grade
- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Corynn Haws, Huachuca Mountain, Ms. LaPaglia
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Kyle Flaherty, Huachuca Mountain, Ms. LaPaglia
- Honorable Mention – Marcella Myers, Huachuca Mountain, Ms. LaPaglia

A Proclamation declaring the Month of April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month was presented to Sergeant Jordan Boltinghouse and the Cochise County Family Community Coalition.

A Proclamation declaring the Month of April as Fair Housing Month was presented to Matt McLachlan, Community Development Director.

A Proclamation declaring April 12, 2022 as Education and Sharing Day was presented to Rabbi Benzion Shemtov.

City Manager's Report: Mr. Potucek stated that the next regularly scheduled work session is on April 26, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers that will include the normal updates in preparation for the council meeting as well as the budget work session, which will occur at that time. The next regularly council meeting is scheduled for April 28, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. also in Council Chambers. He reported that the transit system and refuse trucks are getting a couple of upgrades with onboard camera systems along with the cashless fare box ticketing and kiosk system for transit to assist customers there. Those bids were released on April 10, 2022 and are due back on May 11, 2022. The Annual Street Maintenance Project, the Cyr Center parking lot, and the Avenida Escuela and Charleston road improvements have all started and are currently going on; therefore, people should be careful when driving in the area where there is maintenance or street projects being completed. The EMS Substation is proceeding, but there are two outstanding supply issues that the City is waiting for delivery, which includes a backup generator, and the service entrance section as well. Therefore, the project is scheduled to be complete at the end of July. The Garden Avenue Improvements Design from Fry Boulevard to Buffalo Soldier Trail, next phase of improvements on the West Side, has been awarded to J2 Engineering and Environmental Services, and they were given notice to proceed effective May 2, 2022.

#### New Business

[Item 2](#) Discussion and Possible Action of the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of March 24, 2022

Council Member Benning moved that the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of March 24, 2022, be approved. Council Member Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 7/0. Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray, Council Members Benning, Johnson, Landry, Rodriguez, and Umphrey voting in favor.

[Item 3](#) Discussion and Possible Action of Resolution 2022-017, Authorization to Accept Arizona Department of Homeland Security Grant Funding-Operation Stonegarden Grant Program (Agreement #210426-01)

Council Member Johnson moved that Resolution 2022-017, authorization to accept the Arizona Department of Homeland Security Grant Funding-Operation Stonegarden Grant Program, Agreement #210426-01, be approved. Council Member Benning seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 7/0. Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray, Council Members Benning, Johnson, Landry, Rodriguez, and Umphrey voting in favor.

[Item 4](#) Discussion and Possible Action of Resolution 2022-018, Restating the City's Commitment to Fair Housing in Sierra Vista

Council Member Rodriguez moved that Resolution 2022-018, restating the City's commitment to Fair Housing in Sierra Vista, be approved. Council Member Benning seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 7/0. Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray, Council Members Benning, Johnson, Landry, Rodriguez, and Umphrey voting in favor.

[Item 5](#) Discussion and Possible Action of Resolution 2022-019, Accepting Warranty Deed for needed public right-of-way along the eastern side of Judd Street – Los Arcos Estates, LLC

Council Member Umphrey moved that Resolution 2022-019, accepting a warranty deed for needed public right-of-way along the eastern side of Judd Street – Los Arcos Estates, LLC, be approved. Mayor Pro Tem Gray seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 7/0. Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray, Council Members Benning, Johnson, Landry, Rodriguez, and Umphrey voting in favor.

Call to the Public – There was no response.

Comments and Requests of the Council

Council Member Umphrey congratulated the firefighter and medical service award winners, the waterwise poster contest winners, who did a great job. She reported that she attended the Police Department Volunteer Luncheon and noted that one of the volunteers is Council Member Johnson. There was over 200,000 hours that these volunteers have given, which saved money and for which she is extremely appreciative. She added that that it was great to see all of them get recognized for their hard work. Lastly, she announced that the City is putting on a trivia night at the Horned Toad on April 19, 2022, and the theme is the West End. In closing, she wished everyone who celebrates, a Happy Passover and Happy Easter.

Council Member Landry stated that there are going to be a lot of things going on this weekend, and encouraged people to check those out on Sunday, April 17, 2022. There is an Easter egg hunt at Veterans Memorial Park that starts at 2:00 p.m. There will be a mini hunt for ages one through ten in front of the stage, and at 2:30 p.m., there is going to be the big easter hunt for all ages. There are going to be special things there along with the Easter Bunny. In closing, she stated that mental health matters, and sometimes what is seen externally, is not necessarily what is going on internally. She encouraged everybody to reach out to one another and noted that it is not being weak when asking for help because it is being very strong.

Council Member Johnson stated that he had the pleasure of attending the Volunteer Luncheon put on by the Police Department. He thanked Police Chief Thrasher, the Command staff, and Lee Perry, who put it together. He reported that volunteer hours at the local Police Department totaled 8,132 hours of volunteer time in 2021 that resulted in saving the City \$139,388.76. In closing, he stated that he has had the pleasure of volunteering at the Police Department for eight years, and he feels that he is giving back to the community, helping his friends, and is very proud to be part of the organization.

Council Member Benning thanked Justin McPeak for his blessing, reported that Kids World had 78 participants, and on Splishy Splashy Storytime for young kids who cannot swim. He also reminded everyone about the West Fest coming up on April 30, 2022 along Fry Boulevard

between North Garden Avenue and North Avenue, and the local Chamber of Commerce's Annual Gala scheduled for April 29, 2022, from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Council Member Rodriguez shared that there was a Salt River Fire Department firefighter death in Mesa, Arizona on April 8, 2022. Brendan Besse was a part of the City of Sierra Vista's Fire Department for a while. The other firefighter Tyler Packer, who was also involved in the incident was critically injured, and there is a go Fund Me Page for him. He thanked the local firefighters that are going out to support them during the weekend as they are doing the watch. He also congratulated them for getting their awards, noted that it was an honor to attend their banquet, and voiced his appreciation to the students participating and being awarded waterwise awards. He also thanked the local firefighters who assisted during the Middle March wildfire on Sunday, April 10, 2022, north of Tombstone, that affected 455 acres. In closing he mentioned that a local company got an award recently from the Small Business Development, which the Chamber of Commerce does a lot of good things with. He also voiced his appreciation at Village Meadows School because he is being able to go on a field trip with them.

Mayor Pro Tem Gray congratulated the firefighter award recipients and voiced her appreciation for their service, thanked Corporal Borgstadt, who took her out in the morning to show her the lay of the land on the homeless population. She stated that they made contact with people, and she got to see some areas that had homeless camps that have been cleaned up and moved. She added that she was impressed with the cleanup and noted that the police officers contact the homeless in a humane way and never fail to treat the people that they meet exceptionally well. In closing she reported that she attended the West End Commission Meeting and noted that this group of people are the most enthusiastic commissioners that she has ever seen. They are very enthusiastic about the West Fest, and she left the meeting very excited about the West End and West Fest.

Mayor Mueller mentioned that not only the police officer work with the homeless, but also the Community Development Department, which is involved with the cleanup of the homeless camps. He thanked the Police Department and the Community Development Department for their work. He also thanked Benzion Shemtov, who reminded everyone that it is Passover and then Easter this weekend. He announced that there is a 6:00 a.m. sunrise service on Sunday, April 17, 2022 at Veterans Memorial Park for Easter. In closing, he cautioned everyone traveling over the weekend and in closing thanked the staff for their work in preparation of the Council Meeting.

Adjournment

Mayor Mueller adjourned the April 14, 2022 meeting of the Sierra Vista City Council at 5:55 p.m.