

Sierra Vista City Council
Work Session Minutes
August 23, 2022

1. Call to Order

Mayor Mueller called the August 23, 2022, City Council Work Session to order at 3:00 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall, 1011 N. Coronado Drive, Sierra Vista, Arizona.

Mayor Rick Mueller – present
Council Member William Benning – present
Council Member Gregory Johnson – present
Council Member Angelica Landry – present
Council Member Marta Messmer - 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
Chanel Kirkpatrick, Public Works External Service Manager
Irene Zuniga, Engineer
Judy Hector, Marketing and Communications Manager
Matt McLachlan, Community Development Director
Jill Adams, City Clerk
Tony Boone, Economic Development Manager
Dianna Cameron, Management Analyst
Jennifer Dillaha, Budget Officer
Anthony Reed, Executive Director, United Way
Julie Rees, Principal, Triadvocates
Lourdes Pena, Public Affairs Advisor, Triadvocates

2. Presentation and Discussion:

a. [Update on Subrecipient Agreement with United Way for Cares Act](#)

Mr. McLachlan stated that this item relates to the amendments that Council approved last month to the Consolidated Plan. The additional amount of CARES Act funding that the City is expected to receive is \$77,209 that was added to the Emergency Crisis Fund under Public Service Activities primarily for subsistence type payments. The City is expecting HUD to approve the application sometime in the middle of next month as they normally take about 45 days to process those amendments. The goal is to be able to start distributing those funds by October 1, 2022. In connection with the approval, staff is committed to providing an advanced copy of any subrecipient agreement prior to execution. The obvious choice going into this was continuing the relationship with United Wway. The feedback received has generally been positive. On the first two rounds they have a solid track record of performance, they are in a unique position to maintain the continuity with the nonprofit community and have a good understanding of the requirements of the grant. While they are seeking 10 percent of the program budget to administer the next round, the amount is still half of the limit that HUD allows for program administration. The total overall percentage for all three rounds average is six percent which staff thinks is favorable considering what goes into the effort.

Mr. McLachlan stated that Tony Reed learned a lot going through the first two rounds in terms of the man hours involved to check all the boxes and he can elaborate on the information he provided with his agenda item in terms of the day-to-day responsibilities of carrying out the program.

Mayor Mueller thanked Mr. Reed for being present and stated that he appreciates his help in getting the City through the first two phases of trying to appropriately get federal funds distributed in a very short time to the people that needed it. He added that he looks forward to him handling the next phase.

Council Member Umphrey thanked Mr. Reed for the breakdown of the administrative fees because that is what raised the question. She added that Mr. Reed was very thorough in his reports to Council, but the administrative fee.

Mr. Reed stated that when United Way first took on the endeavor, it was new territory, and a lot of people did not understand that he is a one-man office for the entire County. He understands that this grant is only for the City, but at the same time he was doing everything that must be reported to HUD, including the demographic sheet, but somebody must tally all of that up as well.

Council Member Benning concurred with Council Member Umphrey and stated that United Way did a great job. He shared that he had to recuse himself due to his position with United Way.

In response to Council Member Benning, Mr. McLachlan stated that CARES Act funding is pandemic related relief; therefore, there must be a nexus to COVID. Subsistence type payments is an eligible category funding and the City provided economic development assistance using the CARES Act money to micro enterprises. There was an application process, and nine businesses were helped through that endeavor, but given the rent hikes recently and struggles people are having, he believes that there was concurrence on Council to direct it towards public service related activities, the model of the Grombacher Assistance Fund, to help people get by through rent, utility assistance, hotel vouchers through the Good Neighbor Alliance for when the shelter is full, food assistance, and also continuing with the Community Connect proposal, the one-stop center to centralize it all.

b. [Discussion and Legislative Review by Triadvocates](#)

Mayor Mueller stated that Triadvocates have worked very hard for the City for several years. They go over and help the Council understand what the legislature is doing or trying to do, and potentially have an effect where it will come out on a positive note for the City.

Ms. Rees introduced her colleague, Lourdes Pena, and stated that on behalf of Triadvocates Team, it is wonderful to be present to brief Council on the makeup of the 2022 Arizona State Legislature and what they accomplished in their 166 days of session. She added that they will also provide Council with the political landscape and provide some predictions as they look at the November election coming up.

Ms. Pena provided a quick overview of the makeup of the Capital. There are 90 legislators, 60 at the House, 30 at the Senate and the split between the political parties, which is a very narrow GOP dominated legislature that led to a very lengthy legislative session. Legislation typically ends in May, but it seems to have become a trend in the last two years that they are ending at the end of June. This is putting more pressure for the end of the fiscal year to get a budget passed.

The level of introduction of bills and ideas is high and continues to grow in the last couple of years, but out of those about a fourth became an actual law. Only 388 bills were enacted and there were four vetoes that the Governor issued. A split can be seen as to how many were introduced that were Republican led versus Democratic led, which is not surprising given the fact that Republican are controlling the Legislature. Several of those ideas that passed had a republican sponsor that were run on behalf of their Democratic colleagues. There is some bipartisanship happening as well.

Ms. Rees went over legislative highlights, the tight margins of republicans and democrats resulted in a lot of bipartisan activity. The secret to success for most legislation was republicans-sponsored, but

a lot of the ideas that crossed the finish line did so because they were receiving support from both sides of the aisle. Included in that is the bipartisan budget. The State had a significantly large budget that was the first bipartisan budget in about 15 years. With the two sides coming together, there was some great outcomes particularly related to infrastructure investment, both related to transportation and water infrastructure. There were some intra caucus divisions that resulted in the need for a bipartisan budget and some tension and divisiveness which translated to the primary election as well. This might set some of the tone going into 2023 with the new legislature that is going to be taking office.

The great resignation is a term that gained popularity due to COVID, but that applied to the legislature as well, specifically Sierra Vista's district. The Legislature lost State Representative Becky Nutt, who resigned midterm and gained a new member in the House, Mr. Lupe Diaz. There were 13 total vacancies in the body of 90, which resulted in two folks moving bodies in going from the House to the Senate, and 11 new legislatures coming in mid-term, a big learning curve. There is a lot to get up to speed on the issues that the State is facing along with the unprecedented levels of funding to invest through ARPA that the governor has discretion over, but also through general fund revenues.

The 2020 census resulted in new districts across the State of Arizona which is confusing for everyone because they are playing the numbers game and trying to figure out what the new district numbers are, but it also put incumbents against incumbents in primaries that will result in a lot of new faces in the 2023 legislature.

The election, the campaign and the issue of election integrity and a myriad of COVID-related issues led to 25 legislators not seeking re-election, 14 incumbents lost in the primary, three of those losing to other incumbents that were redistricted into the same district.

The \$5.3 billion budget surplus is incredible. The economy throughout the State of Arizona has been very strong despite COVID and there is an influx of federal dollars that have been flowing as well. There is a bipartisan budget for the first time in 15 years, an \$18 billion budget package which is the largest spending plan in the history of the State of Arizona. It is also the first time that Governor Ducey issued a budget line-item veto. He specifically removed a \$3.6 million dollar earmark for hyperbaric oxygen therapy for veterans. Governor Ducey had issued vetoes before, but not necessarily for ballot referrals. This year he took aim at an infrastructure ballot issue that would have allowed Maricopa County voters to decide whether they wanted to extend a dedicated sales tax for transportation. This was something that had had received a lot of regional support; this will be back in the 2023 legislature.

There was a lot of discussion and even subpoenas related to election fraud at the Arizona State Legislature. There were many members of the legislature ranging from leadership to rank and file members that were called to congress to testify before the January 6, 2022 committee. This issue took a lot of attention throughout the legislative session, and this can be expected to continue for 2023.

There were ethics complaints resulting and tied in some ways to the election fraud issues. There was a very unconventional sine die at the State Legislature due to a protest related to the Supreme Court action on Roe V. Wade.

The \$8.8 billion historic bipartisan state budget, \$16 billion of that is general fund revenues and \$2 billion is related to TPT transfers and one-time state tax revenues. It is the largest spending plan in state history, and it is significantly larger in the sense that last year's investment was \$12.8 billion.

Over a billion dollars in the budget was dedicated to water infrastructure across the state over the next three years along with significant policy agenda items, which have been outlined and others that are still coming to fruition. There is a billion dollars in new transportation projects across the State, which is fantastic since there is continued growth. The transportation network has become stressed because of that growth. There is also a billion-dollar investment to reduce the State's

pension liability, pay off some of the debt. Border security was a significant topic for the city of Sierra Vista in the region that was prioritized by the legislature as well, with over \$500 million invested in border security and \$335 million for a physical barrier which Governor Ducey has already begun erecting on the international border. Also, almost \$500 million dollars invested in health and welfare and significant investment in the rainy-day fund in preparation if recession continues to be of concern. There is \$387 million for public safety that continues to be a priority of both the executive and the legislature.

In response to Mayor Mueller, Ms. Pena stated that almost a billion dollars was invested in education, which nobody could have imagined when session started that amount of money coming into the K-12 system. The trend being seen is that the State is absorbing more of the costs through the general fund rather than using other revenues like TPT to pay for that or tax collections, specifically in education as they eliminated the State Equalization Tax Rate, about \$330 million a year. The schools will not see a difference in getting those dollars. The difference is that the pot of money rather than coming from property taxes will now come from the State, and if there was to be a recession in the future, the State general fund is then put into more constraints because they are getting more obligations based on this budget.

Ms. Rees stated that water is crucially important to Sierra Vista and Fort Huachuca. Governor Ducey introduced legislation related to the development of a State Water Authority, but the legislature had a different proposal. Out of those negotiations, \$334 million for the first year of a billion dollar plus deposit into the Long-Term Water Augmentation Fund. This fund is set aside for projects that focus on water supply and augmenting water in Arizona throughout both urban and rural areas. In addition to the main investment, the 2023 budget also includes more targeted investments related to eastern Arizona counties, the water quality fee, water needs assessments across the State, DEQ for treated wastewater, water protection fund for cities so that they can improve State streams and riparian environments, and funding for staffing for ADWR. A significant piece of the water infrastructure investment is related to really beefing up the Water Infrastructure Financing Authority (IWIFA), the brainchild of the legislature. Sierra Vista's delegation is very much at the upper center of water issues. Representative Gail Griffin is a tremendous leader within the body when it comes to water and the legislature felt that it was a sager approach to focus on existing roles by expanding those roles and adding up to 10 FTEs to WIFA so that they can take on their expanded mission and play the pivotal role in terms of really taking on these new roles for the State of Arizona.

Mayor Mueller commented that he has had conversations with Gail Griffin, who did a good job on this. WIFA was a loan that had to be paid back in amounts that were too small for the City of Sierra Vista to be able to do any major projects in the City. Now it is a grant where the State picks up 75 percent, which makes it a much more attractive, feasible, and practical.

Ms. Pena stated that the top issues that the legislature spent money on were for water, border security and education. Over \$564 million dollars is for border security, not only for the border wall but for more personnel as well as equipment. It was a combination of increasing dollars for FTEs and increasing dollars for cybersecurity. There is \$20 million to help Cochise County construct a new jail. There was a ton of other legislation that did pass and many that did not regarding local government. Over 700 bills were introduced and out of that over 400 had some impact for local government.

Highlighted were some of the top areas:

Covid-19

- [HB 2107 emergency powers; business closure; repeal](#) (Biasiucci) – **Signed**
- [HB 2453 governmental entities; mask requirement; prohibition](#) (Carter) – **Signed**
- [HB 2498 COVID-19; vaccination requirements; prohibition](#) (Hoffman) – **Signed**
- [HB 2043 employer liability; COVID-19 vaccine requirement](#) (Nguyen) – **Died**
- [SB 1298 government mask mandate; prohibition](#) (Rogers) - **Died**
- [SB 1592 governor's declaration; fiscal impact analysis](#) (Gray) - **Vetoed**

Housing

- [HB 2674 NOW: housing supply study committee](#) (Kaiser) – **Signed**

- [HB 2862 general appropriations act 2022-2023](#) (Cobb) – **Signed**
- \$60M Housing Trust Fund and \$10M homeless Service Grants
- [SB 1168 vacation rentals; short-term rentals; enforcement](#) (Mesnard) – **Signed**
 - [SB 1116 NOW: municipal tax exemption; residential lease](#) (Livingston) – **Failed**
 - [SB 1581 NOW: housing; grants; homelessness; camping; appropriation](#) (Livingston) – **Died**

Public Infrastructure

- [HB 2858 capital outlay; appropriations: 2022-2023](#) (Cobb) – **Signed**
- \$1B in public roads and \$20M for State Aviation Fund
- [SB 1239 appropriation; widening I-10](#) (Shope) – **Signed**

Public Safety

- [SB 1268 PSPRS; DROP](#) (Livingston) – **Signed**
- [HB 2063 PSPRS; CORP; reemployment; time period](#) (Blackman) – **Signed**
- [HB 2860 criminal justice; 2022-2023](#) (Cobb) – **Signed**

Creates the Major Incident Division for independent investigations of critical force incidents, effective 2025

- [SB 1515 municipal firefighters; cancer fund; distributions](#) (Boyer) – **Signed**
- [HB 2344 military affairs commission; continuation](#) (Payne) – **Signed**

Miscellaneous

- [HB 2099 municipalities; membership dues; limit](#) (Cobb) – **Died**
- [HB 2156 NOW: tax credits; motion picture credits](#) (Cobb) – **Enacted without Gov Signature**
- [HB 2316 misconduct involving weapons; public places](#) (Kavanagh) – **Died**
- [HB 2749 TPT; prime contracting; exemption; alterations](#) (Cobb) – **Failed**
- [HB 2482 municipality; general plan; adoption; amendment](#) (Martinez) – **Signed**
- [SB 1067 cities; water infrastructure finance authority](#) (Shope) – **Signed**
- [SB 1133 schools; cities; all mail prohibited](#) (Rogers) – **Failed**
- [SB 1166 public employers; union contracts](#) (Leach) – **Signed**
- [SB 1198 local governments; lobbying; prohibition](#) (Petersen) – **Failed**

Ms. Pena stated that although COVID-19 was two years ago, it is still at the forefront for some legislation at the State Capitol and a lot of activity early on January/February regarding regulations impacting COVID. Housing has been a top issue across the State, not only for urban but also for rural communities.

Senate Bill 1116, the residential lease, failed. This bill would have gotten rid of the residential tax and had the bill passed it would have created a loss of revenue about \$200 million for 71 cities. For Sierra Vista it was about \$500,000 that would have been lost. This bill had a lot of bipartisan support. Folks feel that it is a regressive tax and there is an appetite to bring this back next session. Therefore, cities and towns that have and use this tax may want to start thinking about how to supplement or supplant that revenue. There seems to be this misconception that because now cities and towns can get wayfair tax, maybe they no longer need the residential tax. There is a lot of education that needs to be put in place as there are new members coming to the legislature who may or may not have any familiarity with this topic.

House Bill 2674 is a study committee that is currently meeting at the State Capitol and talking about housing supply at the State level. The residential tax issue is going to continue to come up during those conversations and possibly have another legislation introduced next year.

Mayor Mueller stated that the League of Cities and Towns is aware of the issue and there are only 92 cities, and it makes sense that they would protect that as well.

Council Member Johnson asked Ms. Pena to expand on House Bill 2453. Ms. Pena stated that this bill passed, and it prohibits any local government from requiring the mask of any employee or any visitors to public sites. It was bipartisan support at the end of the day, and it reemphasize what most cities were already doing, but codified that practice and put it into State Law.

Mayor Mueller stated that Council should be aware that Council declared an emergency before this

was done. This takes away the Council's emergency powers, and they can no longer declare an emergency.

Ms. Pena stated that the COVID-related bills is the same, taking more of that local control and setting it up at the State level rather than allowing the local elected officials to take those decisions based on their community needs.

Public infrastructure was a top issue, a lot of funding. Bill 2058 that included over \$1 billion for different projects across the State. Typically, infrastructure dollars are given to the state agency in this case the Department of Transportation, and they would decide where to go with those dollars based on their five-year plans. There were a lot of specific projects that were appropriated or earmark ahead of time through this process, including \$20 million for the State Aviation Fund. Those dollars would go through the agency and ADOT will take care of distributing that money to all the local airports based on their need and shovel ready projects.

Public safety is a top concern and top issue not only from the funding perspective but also some legislation to address some of the retention recruitment issues. Senate Bill 1268 regarding the Public Safety Retirement Plan allows members of PSPRS to expand their drop account, their deferred retirement plan for two more years in collaboration with their employer. However, the employer must approve this as it is not just the member that decides. This expands the window of time for those folks that are on the payroll to give the employer time to recruit new folks and get them ready to be on the workforce.

There are several bills impacting local government. One of the bills that passed regarding housing and development allows for the general plan to be amended more than once a year, if there are major changes to the general plan, and in thinking of how to be more flexible and working with the development partners to make sure that those projects get through.


Mayor Mueller noted that the Military Affairs Commission was approved for continuation, which is good. He shared that that as a member of that commission, they have not met in three years. He added that he hopes that the new governor can realize that the commission can be a very effective economic development driver as well as conservation driver with central landscapes and other things going on. Ms. Pena added that it was expanded until 2030.

From the election perspective, there were some bills that were introduced that would have impacted local government significantly but failed. It took a lot of time and energy from local governments and school districts because this bill would have gotten rid of the mail elections; however, this is the trend in the election policy, to make that one same day voting only one vote. There were over 130 bills impacting elections that were introduced and many of them got committee hearings.


Ms. Pena stated that the Primary Election provided indicators as to what the makeup of the legislature will be, but forthcoming is the General Election in November, and a lot of information will continue to be pushed out until November.

Ms. Rees stated that the Senate race is expected to be the most expensive political contest in the history of the State. Senator Mark Kelly is referred to as the \$50 man given that he has fundraised that amount. There also a tremendous amount of funding coming in to support Blake Masters in the Senate race as well. There was a 35 percent voter turnout in the Primary election and of that 58 percent republicans voted, and 40 percent democrats voted. There was a lot of discussion about early voting in the legislative body, 83 percent of republicans voted early, and 94 percent of democrats voted early in the Primary Election. In terms of the Primary races themselves, 43 of the 90 legislative seats have been decided through the Primary Election. Of those 43, 36 are returning; therefore, 40 percent of the body that is known by Triadvocates and that they can work with will be coming into January; but there a lot of races to be determined. There are 39 incumbents that will not be returning and three lost to other incumbents because of the redistricting issues. There will be at least 36 new legislators, which is a 40 percent turnover. However, Sierra Vista's race is clearer cut.


The following slide was shown of the congressional makeups:



U.S. Senate



Blake Masters (R)



Mark Kelly** (D)

	R	D
CD 1	David Schweikert**	Jevin Hodge
CD 2	Eli Crane	Tom O'Halleran**
CD 3	Jeff Zink	Ruben Gallego**
CD 4	Kelly Cooper	Greg Stanton**
CD 5	Andy Biggs**	Javier Ramos
CD 6	Juan Ciscomani	Kirsten Engel
CD 7	Luis Pozzolo	Raúl Grijalva**
CD 8	Debbie Lesko**	
CD 9	Paul Gosar**	

Sierra Vista is in an interesting position in that there is an open seat with the retirement of Representative Kirkpatrick. Juan Ciscomani is facing off against Kirsten Engel, but the other seats have incumbents who are favored.

As it relates to the General Election, there is Kari Lake versus Katie Hobbs for Governor. There are opportunities that exist with the new gubernatorial administration coming in. There are also a lot of turnovers as it relates to state agencies and executive appointments, but that creates new opportunities as it relates to prioritization to issues like the military and how the military can be supported.

For the Secretary of State there is Mark Finchem against Adrian Fontes and for the Attorney General's race there is Abe Hamadeh against Kris Mayes. Legislative District 19, based upon the registration, Triadvocates is predicting a return of the incumbents Mr. Gowan, Ms. Griffin, and Mr. Diaz. However, there is a democratic challenger on the ballot who is actively campaigning.

Ms. Pena stated that some of the trends that can be expected to from that was seen from the Primary Election is that voters want new faces and that is why a lot of incumbents were not successful. A good number of legislators that served years ago ran to make a return to the Capital and most of them were successful except for two.

Ms. Rees stated that within Sierra Vista's Legislative District, state representatives and state senator have been very influential in the body. The current State Senator David Gowan, who does not have an issue with being reelected in November is the current Appropriations Chairman in the State Senate. He is actively being considered for Senate President with the retirement of Karen Fan. Representative Gail Griffin is a powerhouse when it comes to issues of water and someone who is well respected by her colleagues. Mr. Diaz has been very positively received in the body as well. The City of Sierra Vista's delegation has a lot of influence within the 90-member body.

Ms. Pena stated that there are issues that are going to be coming up as Arizona tends to be the focus for citizen-run initiatives. Some of these are facing general legal challenges, but three citizen initiatives could possibly appear in the State ballot. One of them is the repriced billing regarding medical billing. Another is by Arizonans for Fair and Free Elections which is about changes to the election system, but allowing for same day voter registration, which is facing a legal challenge as well. Also, the Voters Rights to Know Act, a proposal that was introduced for several years by former Attorney General Terry Goddard because he wants there to be more transparency when it comes to campaign finance.

There are also legislative referendums and during this cycle between last year's session and this session, there are a total of eight referendums that the legislature approved. This means that they are going to put it out for the voters to decide whether to pass these at the General Election:

Proposition 128 – [Voter Protection Act, Court Determinations \(SCR1034\)](#)

- Establishes an additional way in which the Legislature may supersede a voter protected act. Authorizes the legislature to amend/repeal some voter-approved ballot measures if the Arizona Supreme Court or U.S. Supreme Court rules they are unconstitutional or invalid. [Fiscal Note \\$](#)

Proposition 129 – [Initiatives Single Subject \(HCR2001\)](#)

- Requires initiative measures to only cover one subject and matters relating to that single subject. [Fiscal Note \\$](#)

Proposition 130 – [Constitutional Property Tax Exemptions \(SCR1011\)](#)

- Authorizes the legislature to set certain property tax exemption amounts and qualifications rather than determining details in the constitution. [Fiscal Note \\$](#)

Proposition 131 – [Lieutenant Governor \(SCR1024\)](#)

- Creates the office of Lieutenant Governor for the term of office that starts in 2027, elected on a joint ticket with the governor and succeeding the governor in case of vacancy. Currently the Secretary of State succeeds the Governor in case of vacancy. [Fiscal Note \\$](#)

Proposition 132 – [Initiatives Supermajority Voter Requirement \(HCR2015\)](#)

- Requires 60% of voters at a statewide election, rather than a majority of voters, to approve an initiative or referendum for taxes. [Fiscal Note \\$](#)

Proposition 308 – [Arizona In-state Tuition \(SCR1044\)](#)

- Allows in-state tuition for a person without lawful immigration status if specified criteria are met and repeals provisions from Proposition 300 passed in 2006. [Fiscal Note \\$](#)

Proposition 309 – [Voter Identification \(SCR1012\)](#)

- Increases voter identification requirements for mail-in ballots and removes the two-document alternative to photo ID for in-person voting. [Fiscal Note \\$](#)

Proposition 310 – [Arizona Fire District Safety Act \(SCR1049\)](#)

- Establishes an additional 0.1% sales tax for 20 years to fund Arizona fire districts. [Fiscal Note \\$](#)



Some of these are very much in tune to election reform.

Proposition 132 would need a 60 percent vote to pass. A 60 percent vote is needed for any citizen initiative to pass. Currently it is a 50 percent majority vote. This would make it more difficult for those citizen initiatives to pass.

Another proposition that is not a new idea, which was on the ballot several years ago and failed, is to have a lieutenant governor. Arizona is one of the few states that does not have a lieutenant governor. The State has faced issues where the acting governor either moves on to better and bigger things and the secretary of state is who takes on that role. The sentiment with the lieutenant governor is moving forward. The governor would pick their running mate from the same party, and they would run together as a ticket. If there was a vacancy at the governor's seat that lieutenant government governor would fill that vacancy. This referendum was one of those staples for bipartisanship. Senator J.D. Mesnard and Senator Sean Bowi worked together on the referendum language and the bill ended up passing by strong bipartisan support, and now it would be up to the voters to decide if that is something they want, starting on the next governor cycle.

Mayor Mueller asked about the daily duties of the lieutenant governor. Ms. Pena stated that this was what was asked constantly during committee. It does give them a duty and the lieutenant governor would be responsible for ADOA and essentially be the director of the Department of Administration and have administrative duties in that role. Senator Mesnard made a big point about not creating a new job and new government spending. He wanted to be thoughtful in that the lieutenant governor

would have a role but would not have the authority to be that 51 first vote or in this case a 16 vote at the Senate. The lieutenant governor would have no role at the legislature. Those branches will remain separate.

A public safety related proposition is the Arizona Fire District Safety Act. This would create a sales tax to fund fire districts to make sure that they have sustainable sources of revenue for fire districts for twenty years if the voters approve it. It is a tenth of a cent.

Mayor Mueller asked if this is for all people and not just people who live in the fire districts. Ms. Pena stated that he is correct. Mayor Mueller noted that the City of Sierra Vista would be subsidizing Fry and all the others correct.

Ms. Pena reminded everyone that if they are not registered to vote for the General Election, they have until September 11, 2022 to register and early voting will begin on October 12, 2022. The General Election will take place on November 8, 2022, and on January 9, 2023, Triadvocates will be back at the State Capitol with the first day of the legislative session. She added that they will bring the City's legislative delegation to meet with Council and share a meal with them and talk about the City's priorities, their priorities, and it sets a great sentiment for starting the legislative session.

Mayor Mueller stated that Triadvocates always does a great job and Council appreciates that. He added that when there is committee work, Triadvocates always get back to Council and provides information as to what is going on as they are aware of the City's priorities so that Council can be effective in trying to make sure that they are not paying an additional one percent for the fire departments.

c. Report on Recent Trips, Meetings and Future Meetings

Mayor Mueller announced the Executive Session on Thursday, August 25, 2022, where Council will hold the evaluation of the City Manager.

In response to Mayor Mueller, Ms. Yarbrough stated that the update on commissions is scheduled for September 6, 2022. Also added the One-Year Strategic Plan update to that work session and noted that in talking with Mr. McLachlan, an update on the general planning process and plans has been scheduled for October 11, 2022.

d. Future Discussion Items and Council Requests

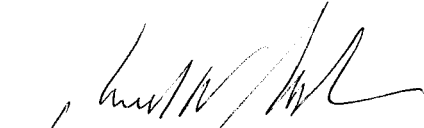
Mr. Potucek stated that staff needs to add an item about Fab Avenue to a work session in October.

Mayor Mueller added that he recently discussed with Mr. Potucek the property on Fab Avenue and the fact that this probably should be an item on next year's Strategic Plan. However, Council needs to understand what is there, whether there are possibilities and Council's feelings as to what to do that with that piece of property.

Council Member Johnson stated that he thought that there were two concepts that were presented to Council. Mayor Mueller stated that he believes that a more in-depth discussion is needed.

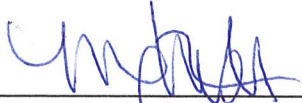
3. Adjourn

Mayor Mueller adjourned the August 23, 2022, work session of the Sierra Vista City Council at 3:44 p.m.




Frederick W. Mueller, Mayor

Minutes prepared by:



Maria G. Marsh, Deputy Clerk

Attest:



Jill Adams, City Clerk