

Sierra Vista City Council
Meeting Summary
July 27, 2023

Mayor McCaa called the July 27, 2023, City Council Special 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
Council Member Gregory Johnson - present
Council Member Angelica Landry – present
Council Member Marta Messmer - present
Council Member Mark Rodriguez – present

Others Present:

Chuck Potucek, City Manager
Victoria Yarbrough, Assistant City Manager
Chris Hiser, Police Chief
Brian Jones, Fire Chief
Laura Wilson, Leisure, Parks, and Library Director
Sharon Flissar, Public Works Director
Matt McLachlan, Community Development Director
Jeff Pregler, Planner
Jill Adams, City Clerk
Nathan J. Williams, City Attorney
Adam Curtis, Marketing and Communications Manager
Tony Boone, Economic Development Manager
Dianna Cameron, Management Analyst
Jennifer Dillaha, Budget Officer
Kennie Downing, Chief Procurement Officer

Invocation – Pastor Greg Rowles, God is Good Church, led everyone present in prayer.

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

[Item 1](#) Acceptance of the Agenda

Council Member Messmer moved that the agenda for the City Council Meeting of July 27, 2023, be approved. Council Member Benning seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 7/0. Mayor McCaa, Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey, Council Members Benning, Johnson, Landry, Rodriguez, and Messmer voted in favor.

City Manager's Report: Mr. Potucek announced that the next regularly scheduled work session is scheduled for Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers and staff has asked the group working on the Veterans Memorial in Veterans Park to come and speak to Council. Also, the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting is on August 10, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. He reported that a pre bid meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 31, 2023, for the commercial pool resurfacing at the Cove in the wave pool, with bids due on August

14, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.; the Roadrunner Park Design Contract with Wheat Design is pending and should be executed shortly; the contract for the land purchase behind the fire station immediately to the north is under review, and expected to close in mid-August time frame; and then the Sierra Vista Municipal Metropolitan Planning Organization-Sierra Vista Pavement Condition Survey has been awarded to the firm of IMS Infrastructure and staff is developing the work schedule. He also reported the promotion of Lawrence Boutte to Police Deputy Chief and noted that there have been other promotions; therefore, the pinning ceremony will be on Friday, August 18, 2023. In closing, he announced that Former Mayor Jay Raschke passed away. He had moved to the Valley and he was mayor from March 1973 to July 1974, and served as mayor a second time from March of 1977 to March of 1979.

Item 2 Consent Agenda

[Item 2.1](#) Approval of the City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of July 13, 2023

[Item 2.2](#) Discussion and Possible Action of Resolution 2023-057, Donation of four surplus Ford Crown Victoria Vehicles to Sister City Cananea, Sonora, Mexico

Council Member Rodriguez moved that the Consent Agenda consisting of the Special Meeting Minutes of July 11, 2023, and Resolution 2023-057, donation of four surplus Ford Crown Victoria vehicles to Sister City, Cananea, Sonora, Mexico, be approved. Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 7/0. Mayor McCaa, Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey, Council Members Benning, Johnson, Landry, Rodriguez, and Messmer voted in favor.

New Business

[Item 3](#) Discussion and Possible Action of Resolution 2023-058, Granting of Public Utility Easements Alleyways between North Avenue and Cyr Center

Council Member Landry moved that Resolution 2023-058, granting two, 20-foot-wide public utility easements between North Avenue and Cyr Center, to allow the utility companies to access and maintain their infrastructure in City-owned alleyways, be approved. Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 7/0. Mayor McCaa, Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey, Council Members Benning, Johnson, Landry, Rodriguez, and Messmer voted in favor.

Public Hearing

[Item 4](#) Discussion and Possible Action of Resolution 2023-059, Alleyway Abandonments located between North Avenue and Cyr Center

Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey moved that Resolution 2023-059, abandonment of public alleyways located in a portion of Section 34, Township 21 South, Range 20 East, of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, be approved. Council Member Benning seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 7/0. Mayor McCaa, Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey, Council Members Benning, Johnson, Landry, Rodriguez, and Messmer voted in favor.

[Item 5](#) Discussion of the Proposed Fiscal Year 2023-2024, Property Tax Levy

Ms. Dillaha stated that in accordance with State Statute, this is the City's public hearing on the property tax levy for Fiscal Year 2024. The rate is proposed at .1056 per \$100.00 of assessed value, which will generate an estimated \$382,261.00 this fiscal year. The slight increase in revenue from the previous fiscal year is due to new construction. The rate was adjusted slightly lower in 2024 due to an increased in valuation of taxable property. The actual dollar amount paid by citizens in fiscal year 2024 will be the same as in fiscal year 2023. For this proposed new rate, the City is not required to publish a truth and taxation notice for the property tax levy.

[Item 6](#) Discussion and Possible Action of Resolution 2023-060, Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2023–2024

Council Member Benning moved that the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 2023–2024, be approved. Council Member Johnson seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 7/0. Mayor McCaa, Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey, Council Members Benning, Johnson, Landry, Rodriguez, and Messmer voted in favor.

[Item 7](#) Discussion and Possible Action of Ordinance 2023-006, Rezoning of Tax Parcel 106-62-056, located on the southeast corner of W. Kayetan Drive and Elledge Drive from Neighborhood Convenience (NC) to Manufactured Home Residence (MHR)

Council Member Johnson moved that Ordinance 2023-006, rezoning of Tax Parcel 106-62-056, located on the southeast corner of W. Kayetan Drive and Elledge Drive from Neighborhood Convenience to Manufactured Home Residence, be approved. Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 7/0. Mayor McCaa, Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey, Council Members Benning, Johnson, Landry, Rodriguez, and Messmer voted in favor.

Call to the Public - There was no response.

Comments and Requests of the Council

Council Member Johnson announced that that the City's new Economic Development Commission is alive and working very hard. The Chairman is Dean Packard from the U of A, and he has done an excellent job. Additionally, with the help of staff, hats off to Tony Boone and Diana Cameron, there have been solicited awards and recognition for individual businesses during the Minority Enterprise Development Week, which takes place in September, the Women's Business Week that will take place in October, Veterans Small Business Week that will take place in November, and the National Small Business Week, an overall award that will take place in May 2024. There were quite a few different businesses that applied. Some were self-nominated; others were nominated with numerous nominations. Lastly, he stated that this was well thought out and in looking at the diversity of the businesses that are in town, makes him very proud to be part of the City of Sierra Vista.

Council Member Messmer announced that on Saturday, July 29, 2023, the Council will have a Meet and Greet at the Sierra Vista Mall in conjunction with the Back-to-School event from 9:00 a.m. until 10:30. The Back-to-School event is from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. She also announced that the Sierra Vista Historical Society got their sign up on Fry and 7th Street, which looks great, and on August 5, 2023, there will be a Camp Naco Open House from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon where Buffalo Soldiers Day will also be celebrated.

Council Member Rodriguez stated that it is back to school season and shared that educators are near and dear to him as his mother is an educator as well as his wife. He announced that there are a lot of things going on during the weekend, the Back-to-School event that Council Member Messmer mentioned, but there is also another Back-to-School event on the same day at Julie and Sammy's from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. followed by another Back-to-School event on Sunday, July 30, 2023, at the Salvation Army from 12:00 noon until 8:00 p.m. on Wilcox. Then on Tuesday, August 1, 2023, at Buena High School there is a Welcome Back Assembly with staff from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. He thanked everybody who donates to all these Back-to-School events, whether it is backpacks, clothes, shoes, etc. so that the kids get a good start off. He noted that last year there were people paying for lunches, a nationwide trend so that no kid can go hungry. He also announced that the Little League sports for Wilcox and Douglas, Arizona teams are out traveling doing big things right for the county. In closing, he stated that the Youth Commission had their meeting on Tuesday, July 25, 2023, and elected officers. They are planning on doing more, holding more meetings and work sessions. He thanked Ms. Wilson, Ms. Chatham, Ms. Adams, and staff at the Sports Division, who made it happen when the commissioners showed up.

Council Member Landry gave a shout out to all the teachers and state that it is always an exciting time when school starts for the teachers and the students. Teachers have such a positive effect; therefore, she has always been so appreciative of her teachers and what they have done for her. She cautioned everyone to be on the lookout in the morning and after school for all those students that are out there walking to or from school and not paying attention. She also encouraged people to give the teachers some extra love because even though it is an exciting time, it is also a very stressful time too for all that they do. Lastly, she announced that on Saturday, July 30, 2023, at the Nancy J Brewer Animal Care Center, there is a rummage sale. There are going to be a lot of different things for people and for pets from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon, with the proceeds going to the Friends of the Animal Shelter, who do so many great things for the community and for the animals. Also, donations may be made, whether it is cash or supplies for the animals.

Council Member Benning thanked Pastor Rowles for the invocation, announced that the Miss Sierra Vista Pageant is on Saturday, July 29, 2023, starting at 6:00 p.m. with four contestants for Miss. Sierra Vista and four contestants for Miss Sierra Vista's Team. He encouraged people to buy tickets that may be purchased at the door to support the Miss Sierra Vista Pageant because about \$20,000 in scholarships are given out every year to help the young ladies from the community go to college. He thanked the ladies from the Women Army Corps that were in the audience and announced that they are going to be back to lead the Pledge. He then announced that one of the thousands that watch the Council Meeting on YouTube has come out to see the meeting live and proceeded to thank him. He voiced his appreciation at the Economic Development Commission and the Youth Commission.

Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey voiced her excitement for the parents because as a parent, she is very excited for the kids to go back to school. She stated that she too is grateful for the teachers and staff, announced that Buena High School is hosting the Colt Walkabout, which is for students who are going to Buena High School to get familiar with their schedules, their classrooms, and the school on Saturday, July 29, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m., and lastly announced that this is the last weekend to catch the play, She Kills Monsters at the Sierra Vista Community Theater, and tickets are available online, google Sierra Vista Community Theaters presents.

Mayor McCaa thanked Police Chief Hiser for being at the Governor's Roundtable, who was on the big stage behind the Governor on TV. He announced that there is a Welcome Back-to-School event on Wednesday, August 2, 2023, at Buena High School, sponsoring 100 men in suits at 6:45 a.m. to welcome the students back to another fantastic school year. He announced the concert in the park following the Council Meeting at 6:00 p.m., and in closing announced the Spotlight Breakfast on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 7:00 a.m. at Cochise College.

Adjournment

Mayor McCaa adjourned the July 27, 2023, meeting of the Sierra Vista City Council at 5:36 p.m.