



Sierra Vista
A R I Z O N A

EXTRAORDINARY SKIES.
UNCOMMON GROUND.

CERTIFICATION

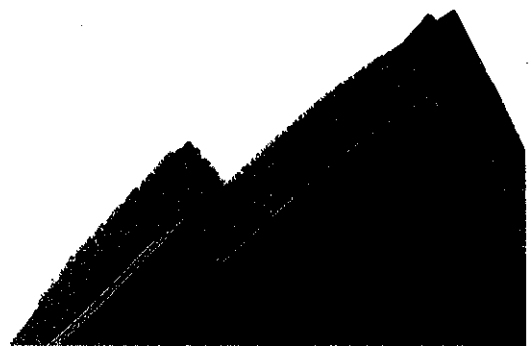
I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minute summary of the regular meeting of the City Council of Sierra Vista held on the 23rd day of April, 2020. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 14th day of May 2020

SEAL

Maria G. Marsh
Deputy City Clerk

Jill Adams
City Clerk





Sierra Vista City Council
Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2020

1. Mayor Mueller called the April 23, 2020 City Council Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall, 1011 N. Coronado Drive, Sierra Vista, AZ

Roll Call (Due to health concerns related to COVID-19, the meeting was held remotely)

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
Council Member Carolyn Umphrey - present
Council Member Kristine Wolfe – present

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 Fiissar, Public Works Director
Matt McLachlan, Community Development Director
Tony Boone, Economic Development Manager
Nathan Williams, City Attorney
Jill Adams, City Clerk

Invocation – Council Member Benning requested a moment of silence.

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

Item 1 Acceptance of the Agenda

Council Member Pacheco moved that the Agenda for the Regular City Council Meeting of April 23, 2020 be approved as written. 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, Umphrey and Wolfe.

Awards and Presentations

Mayor Mueller read for the record proclamations declaring the month of April as Fair Housing Month and City of Sierra Vista Second Chance Month.

Council Member Calhoun suggested placing the proclamations in the weekly newsletter that is sent out through Facebook. There was no objection from the Mayor and Council Members.

City Manager's Report: Mr. Potucek announced that hopefully the next regularly scheduled City Council Work Session will be held on May 12, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. in Council Chambers as well as the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting on May 14, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. He reported that the City received the February sales tax report, which was up a robust 5.39 percent this year over last year. This was the second highest month for sales tax revenues, but this is expected to start declining with March and April figures. Those will lag, the March figures will be received in May and the April figures will be received in June. Adjustments will be made accordingly to the budget as the figures come in. The Joint Powers Authority SEACOM Board met primarily to go over the SEACOM budget. There are still some budget issues to resolve; therefore, there will be a work session on May 6, 2020 to discuss those issues. He added that he plans to present this budget to Council at the May 12, 2020 work session.

He further stated that the Governor started providing guidance on the relaxation of COVID-19 Executive Orders starting with opening the health care system to elective procedures on May 1, 2020. There has not been any other guidance received. As the Governor provides guidance, the City can look forward to a series of press conferences by the Governor, where it is hoped to get further guidance on opening things up at which case, the City will move swiftly to implement those orders as they come up. Lastly, he reported that the County has 31 cases, nine of those are out of isolation and 22 active cases.

In response to Mayor Mueller, Mr. Potucek stated that under the CARES Act \$2.8 Million was allocated to the State of Arizona for COVID-related costs. A large amount of that is slated to be taken by the State and then the cities and counties, over 500,000 population of which there are only five entities in the State, can apply for the funds directly. The City has been waiting for guidance in terms of how smaller entities can apply for the funds and for what they can be used for. The Treasury Department did provide guidance – any of those costs must be related to COVID activities. However, the City is still waiting for State guidance in terms on how to apply for those funds. The City has been keeping track of the costs incurred as a result of this and will make application as soon guidance is received on how to do that. There is a lot of discussion on the part of various entities around the State regarding revenue replacement funds, but those are not included in the CARES Act. Discussion is taking place in Congress as to whether those funds will be made available in the next package.

Council Member Calhoun asked if the funds could help with the fact that the City's bus service is losing a lot of riders. Mr. Potucek stated that the Federal Transit Administration is receiving funds through their agency, which will help address issues with regards to transit funding, both this year and next year.

Council Member Umphrey asked if it was confirmed that Council will be meeting on May 5, 2020. Ms. Adams stated that she is waiting on rsvp's from the rest of Council on their availability.

Council Member Wolfe asked for clarification that Council will hold a public meeting on May 12, 2020. She asked if meeting publicly is based on direction from the Governor, and not something that the City has decided upon. Mayor Mueller stated that meeting publicly is tentative. It is hoped that Council will be able to assemble because the problem is that the presentation does not lend itself to the current format. However, Council Members may read the presentation early if they choose not to attend in order to keep to social distancing.

Council Member Wolfe stated that she wants to make sure that the community understands. Mayor Mueller stated that meeting publicly is pending the Governor's actions. He added that the Governor is being cautious and will probably dribble out each change – the pertinent thing to do.

Public Hearing – There were no responses on items two and three.

Item 2 Consideration of Draft Program Year 2020 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Annual Action Plan

Mr. McLachlan stated that this is the second/third time that the Council has heard this presentation. The City is seeking comment on the Draft Annual Action Plan for the 2020 Program Year. Based on the initial guidance received at the March 12, 2020 Council Meeting, the proposed Annual Action Plan allocates the entire \$271,810 that was slated to be received toward implementing the final phase of the Eddie Cyr Park Master Plan. No applications were received this year from public service providers and the City is in its second year of the Five-Year Consolidated Plan period hearing out infrastructure and public facility projects in the low to moderate income target areas, rated as the top priority in the Plan, and where 2/3 of the program funds would be allocated.

In terms of process, the City will be making the Draft Annual Action Plan available for public comment through May 11, 2020. Staff will then bring the Plan back to Council with any input received for final consideration at the Council's Regular Meeting on May 14, 2020.

The final Plan which is essentially the City's application to HUD will be uploaded to the federal system and from there HUD will have 60 days to review and approve.

Mr. McLachlan stated that he is asking Council to release the Draft Annual Action Plan for public comment. The comment period runs through May 11, 2020 and the final approval with any edits resulting from those comments will occur at the City Council Meeting on May 14, 2020.

In response to Mayor Mueller, Mr. McLachlan stated that the Draft Annual Action Plan has not been put out for public comment. This was continued at the Council's prior meeting and this is the actual public hearing. The Draft Annual Action Plan will then be put out for public comment.

Mr. McLachlan stated that the draft has been available, but the official comment period was not started. The final vote authorizing the City to submit the Plan to HUD will occur at the next regular Council Meeting on May 14, 2020.

Item 3 Resolution 2020-016, a Location/Owner Transfer Series 6 Liquor License for Nicholas Dominic Politi on behalf of Southwest Hospitality Services Group, 161A E Wilcox Drive, Sierra Vista, Arizona

Council Member Wolfe moved that Resolution 2020-016, a Location/Owner Transfer Series 6 Liquor License for Nicholas Dominic Politi on behalf of Southwest Hospitality Services Group, 161A E Wilcox Drive, Sierra Vista, Arizona, be approved. Council Member Benning seconded the motion.

Ms. Adams stated that this is an application for a location owner transfer of a Series 6, a whole bar liquor license, submitted by Mr. Nicholas Politi. The notice of the public hearing was posted on the facility in excess of the required 20 days and no comments from the public have been received either pro or con. The Police Department performed their background check and have

no objection to the application moving forward. If approved, it will be returned to the State Liquor Board for final action.

Ms. Adams noted that Mr. Politi was virtually attending the meeting.

The motion passed by a unanimous vote of Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray, Council Members Benning, Calhoun, Pacheco, Umphrey and Wolfe.

New Business

Item 4 Approval of the City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2020

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

Item 5 Resolution 2020-017, Restating the City's Commitment to Fair Housing in Sierra Vista

Council Member Calhoun moved that Resolution 2020-017, restating the City's Commitment to Fair Housing in Sierra Vista, be approved. Mayor Pro Tem Gray seconded the motion.

Mr. McLachlan stated that the resolution reaffirms the City's commitment to the principal of fair housing, which is memorialized each year by the City proclaiming April to be Fair Housing Month in Sierra Vista. This is a federal requirement intended to illuminate the community on the rights and responsibilities under the Civil Rights Act of 1968, commonly known as the Federal Fair Housing Act.

He added that as the Mayor reiterated during the reading of the proclamation, this act prohibits discrimination of the sale, rental and financing of dwellings on the basis of race, color, national origin and religion, sex and familial status and disability. Victims of housing discrimination can seek recourse through the Southwest Fair Housing Council. The web site includes a landlord and tenant resource on commonly asked landlord/tenant questions and information regarding fair housing rights. The City has fair housing brochures available at the City facilities.

Council Member Calhoun asked if referrals are being made in Sierra Vista. Mr. McLachlan stated that there are few and far in between, maybe one every six months. This is not a prevalent problem in Sierra Vista.

The motion passed by a unanimous vote of Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray, Council Members Benning, Calhoun, Pacheco, Umphrey and Wolfe.

Comments and Requests of the Council

Council Member Benning thanked everyone in Sierra Vista for doing what they are supposed to do and noted that the light is at the end of the tunnel and the community will get there. He also thanked Council and staff.

Council Member Umphrey wished her mother a Happy Birthday and stated that a celebration is not taking place the way that they normally do, but they will make up for it when the pandemic is behind.

Council Member Pacheco stated that this week is National Volunteer Appreciation Week and noted that the City has a lot of devoted volunteers, who do a ton of work in keeping the City going. She thanked the volunteers throughout the City and noted that there has been a big outpouring of service and giving during this tough time. The whole community has stepped up and come together to make sure that everyone is taken care of. Lastly, she shared her favorite volunteer quote, "Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy, you vote in elections just once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community that you want to live in."

Council Member Wolfe stated that she knows that the small businesses are hurting, everyone is currently hurting, but there is a light at the end of the tunnel, and she believes that it is coming and the business community can do it. She added that there are resources out there and encouraged people to reach out to the Small Business Development Center, Sierra Vista Chamber of Commerce or to her.

Mayor Mueller thanked Council Member Wolfe for reminding him during his call to Senator Sinema, who stated that the additional PPP money was passed. He encouraged the filing of applications and getting in touch with the bank so that funds may be received. He added that he was told that there is also a certain amount of money held for smaller banking institutions so that the Wall Street Giants could not get the first cut just like it happened during the first round.

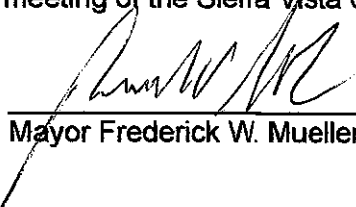
Council Member Calhoun thanked Council Member Umphrey for reminding her about the School Board Meeting. She announced that the new School Superintendent, Eric Holmes, has been chosen and she looks forward to welcoming him to the community and working with him.

Mayor Pro Tem Gray had nothing to report.

Mayor Mueller reminded the community of the Census and encouraged people to fill out their forms. He stated that he hopes everyone had a good Earth Day and noted that he was unable to dig up the nonnative mesquite in his yard. He added that it looks like the Governor is going to gradually start opening things up, but there is no specific time schedule. Lastly, he stated that he agrees with Council Member Pacheco in that the volunteers keep the community together whether it is in a time of crisis or every day. He encouraged everyone to look for a way to help their neighbors and to watch out for one another, especially at current times.

Adjournment

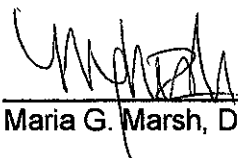
Mayor Mueller adjourned the April 23, 2020 meeting of the Sierra Vista City Council at 5:29 p.m.




Mayor Frederick W. Mueller

MINUTES PREPARED BY:

ATTEST:



Maria G. Marsh, Deputy Clerk



Jill Adams, City Clerk