

Sierra Vista City Council
Meeting Summary
September 28, 2023

Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey called the September 28, 2023, 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 Clea McCaa II – absent
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
Jill Adams, City Clerk
Nathan J. Williams, City Attorney
Adam Curtis, Public Affairs and Communications Manager
Tony Boone, Economic Development Manager
Dianna Cameron, Management Analyst

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

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

[Item 1](#) Acceptance of the Agenda

Council Member Benning move that the agenda for the Regular City Council Meeting of September 28, 2023, be approved. Council Member Rodriguez seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 6/0. Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey, Council Members Benning, Johnson, Landry, Rodriguez, and Messmer voted in favor.

City Manager's Report: Mr. Potucek reminded that City's offices will be closed in observance of Columbus Day on Monday, October 9, 2023; therefore, the refuse schedule will change to Tuesday and Thursday for the Monday pickups, and Wednesday and Friday for the Tuesday pickups. The next regularly scheduled work session is scheduled for Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, and the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 12, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. He reported that on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 during the work session, he had updated the Council about the situation at the border discussed at the Mayors/Managers Meeting in Wilcox. That meeting was attended by elected officials and managers from the various cities in the County. At that time, everyone was informed of the situation regarding shelters being set up at Bisbee

and Douglas and the request for assistance by those communities and County staff in the event a similar situation was to occur as a couple weekends ago. That situation occurred because the Ajo Station was over capacity and several migrants were then driven to the Naco facility, primarily women and children. At that point, those people were dropped off at the Safeway to be provided transportation through the State to the shelter in Pima County. However, the Pima County shelter that has been set up primarily using the federal dollars and grants was over capacity and no buses were forthcoming for those individuals. The cities of Bisbee and Douglas set up shelters, and so that request was made at that meeting because at that time, it looked like more shelter space might be needed. Since that time, Sierra Vista has not been requested to stand up a shelter, but the City received an e-mail from County staff indicating the need for food, supplies, toiletries, etc. for volunteers that could drop off those at the Salvation Army or at Bisbee City Hall. Currently, no city staff has been assigned to a project like this and the City is not providing any funding assistance to that effort. There has also been no needs requested of the City by the County or the other communities.

Item 2 Consent Agenda

[Item 2.1](#) Discussion and Possible Action of the Work Session Meeting Minutes of September 12, 2023

[Item 2.2](#) Discussion and Possible Action of the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2023

Council Member Johnson moved that the Consent Agenda consisting of the Meeting Minutes of the Work Session of September 12, 2023, and Regular City Council Meeting of September 14, 2023, be approved. Council Member Benning seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 6/0. Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey, Council Members Benning, Johnson, Landry, Rodriguez, and Messmer voted in favor.

Public Hearing

[Item 3](#) Discussion and Possible Action of Resolution 2023-073, Program Year 2022 Community Development Block Grant Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER)

Council Member Landry moved that the Resolution 2023-073, Program Year 2022 Community Development Block Grant Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER), be approved. Council Member Johnson seconded the motion.

Mr. McLachlan stated that the CAPER documents the City's progress in expanding Community Development Block Grant funds during the program year, which coincides with the City's fiscal year ending on June 30, 2023. As stated in the report, the City awarded a total of \$173,636.12 in CDBG funds. This included completing the parking lot and expansion project at Saint Vincent de Paul, replacing the cabinets and countertops in the kitchen at Good Neighbor Alliance Emergency Shelter, carrying out emergency home repairs or improving accessibility to seven low-income homeowners in the City and providing a range of relief distributed by the United Way of Sierra Vista and Cochise County through the Emergency Crisis Fund. Also spent was a small amount on administration to cover expenses associated with legal ads and environmental reviews. The contract for the slide at Soldier Creek Park has been awarded and it is anticipated that the construction will take place during the fall. The report includes demographic information on the beneficiaries from the services provided, another material to address HUD reporting

requirements. With Council's approval, staff will submit the report to HUD for their acceptance on September 29, 2023.

The motion unanimously carried, 6/0. Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey, Council Members Benning, Johnson, Landry, Rodriguez, and Messmer voted in favor.

New Business

[Item 4](#) Discussion and Possible Action of Ordinance 2023-009, Codification of Code of Ordinances

Council Member Messmer moved that Ordinance 2023-009, Codification of Code of Ordinances, be approved. Council Member Landry seconded the motion.

Ms. Adams stated that this item is the final step in the adoption into the City's permanent record of the ordinances passed by Council between July 14, 2022 and August 10, 2023. The ordinances included were a variety of topics, from zoning and building codes to annexations to City department director specifics. All the ordinances that were passed became effective at the time of their passing, after the required waiting period of 30 days. This has absolutely no effect on the effect of these ordinances. This welcomes them into the permanent record, and after 30 days, staff will move on and start building another set for next year.

The motion unanimously carried, 6/0. Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey, Council Members Benning, Johnson, Landry, Rodriguez, and Messmer voted in favor.

[Item 5](#) Discussion and Possible Action of Approval of Resolution 2023-074, Intergovernmental Agreement with Cochise County Community College District for a Joint Program to train Emergency Medical Services and Fire Science Students

Council Member Rodriguez moved that Resolution 2023-074, an Intergovernmental Agreement with Cochise County Community College District for a Joint Program to train Emergency Medical Services and Fire Science Students, be approved. Council Member Johnson seconded the motion.

Fire Chief Jones stated that this resolution is an intergovernmental agreement with Fire and Medical Services and Cochise College to form together a partnership to teach Fire one and two in an expedited fashion, normally it takes a year-long to gather their certifications. However, this will take two months. Once the program is completed, the students will have the ability to take the State's test, be Firefighter One certified, Wildland certified, and have their HAZMAT certification. Currently there will be eight people going through the program.

The motion unanimously carried, 6/0. Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey, Council Members Benning, Johnson, Landry, Rodriguez, and Messmer voted in favor.

Call to the Public

Council Member Johnson called a point of order and suggested limiting the amount of number of speakers.

Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey stated that the number of statements could be limited to three minutes and asked the speakers to not repeat statements.

The following people spoke against supporting/housing illegal aliens/migrants in Sierra Vista: Inga McCord, Radford Hyde, Gwynn Patterson, Marie Blair, Linda Coonts, Kim DePew, David Greenberg, Richard Barr, Jean Guffrida, Daniel LaChance, Lee Chadbourn, Paul Varble, Renata Dany, Bob McCormick, Daniel Bergene Burgante, Randall Limbaca, Ivonne Mayer, Tom Crosby, Joseph Patterson, Allen Brackhahn, Dawna Stewart/Julie Turnaoge, and Katelin Sinclair.

Comments and Requests of the Council:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8PtUpIbkQsixlhSy-jeR_Q/videos on audio at:

Adjournment

Mayor Pro Tem Umphrey adjourned the September 28, 2023, meeting of the Sierra Vista City Council at 6:24 p.m.

A recording of the Council Meeting is available at:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8PtUpIbkQsixlhSy-jeR_Q/videos