



Sierra Vista City Council
Meeting Minutes
April 22, 2021

Mayor Mueller called the April 22, 2021 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 Sarah Pacheco – present
Council Member Carolyn Umphrey - present

Others Present:

Victoria Yarbrough, Assistant City Manager
Adam Thrasher, Police Chief
Brad Dever, Deputy Fire Chief
Laura Wilson, Leisure and Library Services Director
Matt McLachlan, Community Development Director
Sharon Flissar, Public Works Director
Jill Adams, City Clerk
Nathan J. Williams, City Attorney

Invocation – Father Del McCune, Saint John the Divine Church, conducted the invocation.

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

Item 1 Acceptance of the Agenda

Council Member Johnson moved that the agenda for the Regular City Council Meeting of April 22, 2021 be approved. Council Member Benning seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 7/0. Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray and Council Members Benning, Landry, Johnson, Pacheco, and Umphrey voting in favor.

City Manager's Report:

Assistant City Manager Yarbrough announced that there is one addition to the regular meeting schedule, an executive session scheduled at 1:30 p.m. on May 11, 2021 in the City Manager's Conference Room to discuss the Court Agreement with Cochise County and the potential purchase of the King's Court property. Immediately following that will be the regularly scheduled City Council Work Session at 3:00 p.m. in Council Chambers followed by the regularly scheduled City Council Meeting on May 13, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. also in Council Chambers. She also announced that there are two proposals that are under review. Both are on call lists; one is for Professional Materials Testing Services and the other is for Professional Surveying Services. There is one project that has been awarded which is the Apron and Taxiway J Rehabilitation

Project. The FAA has approved the lowest bidder, J. Banicki Construction Inc., and approval for that grant is on the agenda.

Public Hearing:

[Item 2](#) Consideration of Draft Program Year 2021 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Annual Action Plan - Mr. McLachlan stated that staff is simply looking for public comment on the draft Annual Action Plan for Program Year 2021. This is the first step in the process that is gone through each year to assign the upcoming year's Community Development Block Grant application. Next Year, the City is expected to receive just under \$250,000.

The notice of funding availability resulted in three applications being received that were presented to Council at a public hearing on March 11, 2021. Based on the preliminary direction received, staff has prepared the Annual Action Plan. There appeared to be a consensus at that time to fund the 113-space parking lot at Eddie Cyr Park as a single construction phase to save cost. This will continue the improvements that were being made, which started with the demolition of the blighted buildings back in December 2019. The project provides an area benefit to a target area for CDBG investment.

There also appeared to be agreement on funding the Emergency Home Repair and Disability Modification Program that supports the housing rehabilitation goal in the Consolidated Plan. It is anticipated to assist seven or more low-income homeowners within the city limits, and the amount being proposed is \$50,000 in next year's Plan.

Staff also proposed funding to two out of three outside agency requests. Staff will work with the Public Affairs Office on increasing communications on Fair Housing Law and coordinating with public sector partners to get the word out in that regard. The scope of the parking accessibility improvements that was presented at St. Vincent De Paul has been amended to include six spaces with a 12-foot drive aisle at a reduced cost of approximately \$15,000. St. Vincent De Paul has assured that any overage would be covered by the organization. On a separate but related matter, staff is pursuing FTA grant funding to build sidewalks and add streetlights, and one of the areas that is being looked at is Bartow Drive; therefore, potentially the missing sidewalk segment across their property could be constructed in tandem with this project.

Mayor Mueller asked if it is in the City's right-of-way adjacent to their property. Mr. McLachlan stated that he is correct.

Mr. McLachlan stated that staff is recommending approval of the full requested amount for the kitchen remodel project at Good Neighbor Alliance, the emergency shelter, which involves replacing the counter tops, cabinets, and drawers that are falling apart due to heavy use and age as they are the originals to the building. The project also includes installing a commercial dishwasher and pantry to improve efficiency. The project came in just under \$19,000 and staff will look for ways to maximize that budgeted amount to make sure that it stays within that range.

The proposed projects are consistent with the goals and objectives provided in the Consolidated Plan, and the feedback that was received to-date. Following the hearing there will be a 30-day public review period and those comments will be provided to Council at the final draft stage on May 27, 2021.

Mayor Mueller opened the public hearing to which there was no response. Mayor Mueller stated

that the public can still reach Council through electronic means and provide input on this decision as well.

New Business

Item 3 Approval of the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of April 8, 2021

Council Member Umphrey moved that the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of April 8, 2021, be approved. Council Member Benning seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 7/0. Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray and Council Members Benning, Landry, Johnson, Pacheco, and Umphrey voting in favor.

Item 4 Resolution 2021-024, Accepting a Grant from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for CARES Act Funding

Council Member Landry moved that Resolution 2021-024, accepting a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration for CARES Act Funding, be approved. Council Member Umphrey seconded the motion.

Ms. Flissar stated that in response to COVID-19, the federal government has issued a variety of relief measures known collectively as the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act. As it applies to airports, the CRRSA Act is intended to address operational impacts from COVID-19, primarily increased expenses from heightened sanitation measures. The value of the grant offer to specific airports is derived by legislative formula, which considers items i.e., airport's size and the number of operations.

The Sierra Vista Municipal Airport (SVMA) has been offered \$13,000. This is the second round of COVID-related funding which has been offered to SVMA as a \$30,000 offer was accepted in May 2020. The purpose of the grant is to maintain safe and efficient airport operations. Funds provided under the grant agreement can only be used for purposes directly related to the airport, i.e., reimbursement of an airport's operational and maintenance expenses or debt service payments. New airport development projects are not eligible under this grant.

The motion unanimously carried, 7/0. Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray and Council Members Benning, Landry, Johnson, Pacheco, and Umphrey voting in favor.

Item 5 Resolution 2021-025, Accepting a Grant from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for the Apron and Taxiway Rehabilitation Project

Council Member Pacheco moved that Resolution 2021-025, accepting a grant from the Federal Aviation Administration for the Apron and Taxiway Rehabilitation Project, be approved. Council Member Benning seconded the motion.

Ms. Flissar stated that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) operates the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) that provides funding assistance to airport operators for various capital improvements. Projects are prioritized for funding based on eligibility criteria which considers the project location and overall need. In addition, only projects with a direct general aviation or commercial benefit are eligible for AIP funding.

The City of Sierra Vista has identified a need for pavement rehabilitation work on an apron area adjacent to the terminal and on a nearby taxiway. The need for the project was further

substantiated by a pavement study performed by the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), which recorded relatively low pavement conditions scores for the apron. The FAA has accepted the project as eligible for AIP funding and is offering the City a construction grant in the amount of \$839,469. The construction grant is 100 percent federally funded with no required state or local match. The percentage of federal funding differs from typical AIP projects which are 91 percent federally funded with a 4.5 percent match from both local government and ADOT. However, due to Coronavirus relief funds, the FAA can provide 100 percent funding for this project.

Council Member Pacheco asked about the timeline and if operations would be affected because the apron is used during fire season. Ms. Flissar stated that the FAA is ready to begin the project as soon as the City is ready. She explained that when staff thought that there would be a match required on the project, it was going to be budgeted in the next fiscal year but since no match is required for the project, the project will likely begin sometime in the summer. The other thing to consider is the arrival of the monsoons; therefore, it will likely be in the August/September timeframe when the project begins and from there it has a relatively short construction time. It is expected to be done by the end of the calendar year.

Ms. Flissar stated that the project is just east of the apron that is used for the Forest Service parking. It is a concrete apron, and this is the asphalt area immediately adjacent to the terminal.

In response to Council Member Pacheco, Ms. Flissar stated that the Airport Commission is aware of the project.

The motion unanimously carried, 7/0. Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray and Council Members Benning, Landry, Johnson, Pacheco, and Umphrey voting in favor.

Item 6 Resolution 2021-026, Acceptance of a 20-foot-wide sewer easement for the Plaza Vista Mall

Mayor Pro Tem Gray moved that Resolution 2021-026, acceptance of a 20-foot-wide sewer easement for the Plaza Vista Mall, be approved. Council Member Benning seconded the motion.

Mr. McLachlan stated that staff is seeking the Council's acceptance of a 20-foot-wide sewer easement as depicted and described in Exhibit A of the resolution. The easement fulfills a requirement of site plan approval associated with the development of the two parcels on the west side of Plaza Vista Mall, south of the driveway entrance off Highway 90. The northern out parcel will be occupied by Dutch Brothers, which is currently under construction. The southern out parcel will be used by Popeye's Chicken. This is a standard requirement to reserve the City's right to access the easement area for future repairs and maintenance of the public sewer main.

The motion unanimously carried, 7/0. Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray and Council Members Benning, Landry, Johnson, Pacheco, and Umphrey voting in favor.

Call to the Public: There was no response.

Comments and Requests of the Council:

Council Member Benning stated that on Saturday, April 17, 2021, the Cochise County Superintendent Office in conjunction with the Cochise County Education Foundation hosted the 2020-2021 Teacher of the Year competition results. He thanked and congratulated Krystaline Kimble from Carmichael Elementary School as the Teacher of the Year for the County, along with the rest of the winners for each school, who did an excellent year with everything going on with COVID. He announced that on May 1, 2021, United Way in conjunction with Dillards is hosting a Mother's Day Sale, where 10 percent of the proceeds will go back to United Way, which comes back to the community.

Council Member Johnson had nothing to report.

Council Member Umphrey mentioned that there are new murals behind the Library and on the wall facing east on Desert Inn. She added that the same artist who did the hummingbirds is doing a big one with hawks and barn owls. She encouraged everyone to go out while celebrating Earth Day and look at them, take selfies with them as artists like when these go online, and appreciation is shown. Lastly, she wished her mother a happy birthday.

Council Member Landry announced that on Saturday, April 24, 2021 at the Animal Shelter they are having a celebration of animals from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. There will be a petting zoo, food, various booths, and a rummage sale. Lastly, she stated that teachers have a difficult job, especially over the past year with being virtual. A lot of the reward in part of being a teacher is being able to make those relationships and interact with students. She encouraged people to reach out to them and show them love, encouragement, and let them know that they do something very special.

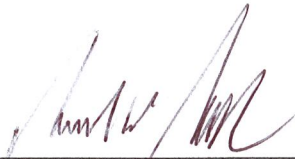
Council Member Pacheco had nothing to report.

Mayor Pro Tem Gray announced that Ms. Patricia Olson who was on the Planning and Zoning Commission has submitted her resignation; therefore, there is one vacancy on the Planning and Zoning Commission. She thanked her for her hard work and dedication and noted that she was an asset to the Planning and Zoning Commission. She further announced that the City is taking in applications for consideration and noted that the application can be found on the City's website. Lastly, she encouraged people to fill out the application and submit it to the City Clerk, who will pass them along for interviews, selection, and approval by Council.

Mayor Mueller thanked Ms. Yarbrough, Assistant City Manager, for providing a couple of lovely bouquets to the administrative assistants on Administrative Assistants Day on behalf of Council. He added that the ladies work hard, and they need to be shown a little love once a while. He also announced Earth Day and encouraged people to do something to make the environment better in celebration of Earth Day.

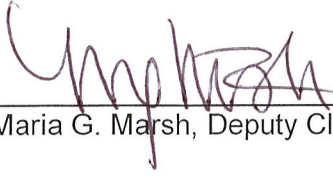
Adjournment:

Mayor Mueller adjourned the April 22, 2021 meeting of the Sierra Vista City Council at 5:21 p.m.



Mayor Frederick W. Mueller

MINUTES PREPARED BY:



Maria G. Marsh, Deputy Clerk

ATTEST:



Jill Adams, City Clerk