

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of South Tucson, Arizona, held Monday, May 18, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. at the City of South Tucson Council Chambers, 1601 South 6th Avenue, South Tucson, Arizona.

Council Present: Paul Diaz
Anita Romero
Herman Lopez
Vanessa Mendoza
Oscar Patino

Staff Present: Benny Young, City Manager
Veronica Moreno, City Clerk
Marilyn Chico, Housing Director
Ed Machett, City Attorney
Michael Ford, Police Chief
Joel Gastelum, Planner
Rey Alvarez, Fire Chief
Dennis Rankin, Police Dept.

Mayor Diaz called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilman Lopez led the Invocation.

ITEM #04 – ROLL CALL – All members of the Council were present, except for Councilman Green and Councilman Rojas, who were excused.

ITEM #05 – CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

No response from the audience.

ITEM #06 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING MAY 11, 2015

Motion by Councilwoman Mendoza to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 11, 2015. Seconded by Councilman Patino. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM #07 – RESOLUTION NO. 15-20 OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON IN SUPPORT OF DAVIS-MONTHAN AIR FORCE BASE AND THE A-10 MISSION; REQUESTING ADDITIONAL FLYING MISSIONS; SUPPORTING EXPANSION AND EXTENSION OF BASE MILITARY OPERATIONS

Mr. Young: This resolution would simply put South Tucson on the record as being in favor of the retention of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, which as you all know, is very important to the local economy. And it would also support the possible retention of the existing mission of Davis-Monthan, which is the A-10. The resolution is worded in such a way that if the Air Force were to decide to bring another mission in to Davis-Monthan, we still support retention of the base. That's the main objective of this particular resolution with the (inaudible) retention of the base and the A-10 mission. And

members of our congressional delegation (inaudible) as well. So this would put you on the record and the other thing I would mention is that I had asked that this be also scheduled for a near term PAG Regional Council agenda so that the entire region can potentially weigh in on the issue as well as South Tucson. And so the resolution that you have is modeled after one that Pima County adopted. I'd be happy to answer any questions that you might have and the Mayor, if he wants to elaborate, I know that he was very interested in this issue.

Mayor Diaz: Right. As you notice, also, that on our emblem there is the jets indicating that we do support that from the very beginning so I think it goes along with our history and the culture of the City. Are there any more comments, any more questions?

Motion by Councilman Patino to approve Resolution No. 15-20, a resolution of the City of South Tucson in support of Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, and the A-10 Mission, requesting additional flying missions; supporting expansion and extension of base military operations. Seconded by Councilwoman Mendoza. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM #08 – RESOLUTION NO. 15-21 OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON, ARIZONA, AUTHORIZING AND SUPPORTING AN APPLICATION BY THE CITY FOR A SHARE OF THE GAMING REVENUES TO BE DISTRIBUTED BY THE TOHONO O'ODHAM NATION – 12% GAMING DISTRIBUTION FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICES THAT BENEFIT THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Mr. Young: You may recall that this was briefly mentioned at the last Council meeting in the context of the budget preparation for fiscal year 2016. And I'm simply recommending that you authorize that the grant be submitted to the Tohono O'Odham for 12% gaming funds. We're in the process of assembling that now and I would ask Joel to describe, generally, what we would plan on including in this grant subject, of course, to your concurrence, but I think you'll find it's all good. There are a lot of needs here. We focused mainly on Fire, Police, and Public Works for maintenance and even street lights. So Joel, would you mind walking us through that? If you approve this, this will authorize submission of the grant, which is due by June 12th. So, I wanted to give it to you as soon as possible.

Mr. Gastelum: Basically, the City Manager covered it. We're looking, basically, in three areas to submit grant applications for. Roughly, \$150,000 for the Fire Department for respiratory protection equipment. Body cameras, security cameras, and funding portion of Reserve hours for community oriented policing activities for the police department in the amount of roughly \$150,000. Deferred maintenance at City Hall in the amount of roughly \$250,000 and also applying for \$100,000 to upgrade the street light system on our major corridors. With that, I can answer any questions. Like City Manager stated, we're still in the process. We had a meeting last week with all departments and we'll be submitting the applications, with your approval of this resolution.

Mr. Young: Mr. Mayor, I would just add one thing. The resolution has language that's specific to the grant application requirement so that when we submit, there are certain assurances they want from the City, such as we will execute an intergovernmental agreement by September, and I think there was one other thing that they wanted to, well, I think it's important that we (inaudible) saying that Mayor and Council have supported the application. So, that's why we're bringing this item to you. I'd be happy to try to answer any questions you might have.

Mayor Diaz: Are there any questions? I have a couple. In regards to the (inaudible) books, computers, some of them are getting quite old. I've heard that there are not enough to go around. Is there any way that we can at least require a couple of them as far as, and maybe at this point, and maybe a couple at the end of the year, starting next budget year?

Mr. Young: I don't see why we couldn't. I'll talk further to our, I mean thank you for the question, Mr. Mayor, members of the Council. I'll talk further to our IT Department. There may be some of our other IT needs that we could consider including as well so I'll have that discussion ...

Mayor Diaz: Oh, good.

Mr. Young: ... with our IT Department.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you.

Mr. Young: What we're going to do is submit these kind of separately. It's not going to be like an omnibus application from the City because I was worried that that might be intimidating. So, Police will submit one; Fire will submit one; Public Works will submit one. And then there's no reason why we couldn't also have an IT submittal.

Mayor Diaz: Okay. Thank you.

Councilwoman Mendoza: I have a question, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Diaz: Yes, Councilwoman.

Councilwoman Mendoza: Where exactly does the Public Works portion of this fit into it? I mean it states here that there's priority areas that the Tohono O'odham Nation has considered as priority areas, obviously, but where would that fit into? The economic development and cultural? Are we just hoping that it fits in there somewhere?

Mr. Gastelum: Mr. Mayor, Councilwoman Mendoza, we are hoping that this would fall not only into the Public Safety, but also to fall into the Economic Development as well as the Cultural and Environmental Protection. You know, when people are coming in here, a big key component is having a facility that's, you know, up to standards in, you know, new painting, you know, new roof and things of that sort. So it's a matter of also Economic Development, you know, as we track people coming in. So, there's a way that we're going to try and twist it and sell it in some of these different areas.

Councilwoman Mendoza: Okay. I just wanted to make sure we're ...

Mr. Young: Thank you ...

Councilwoman Mendoza: ... hitting one ...

Mr. Young: ... for your question.

Councilwoman Mendoza: ... of those priority areas.

Mr. Young: Mr. Mayor, if I may, I received a letter today from the Pima Council on Aging, asking us to also support a grant application for the same funds that they will be applying for to continue the Meals on Wheels Program for seniors. And I intend to indicate that we will support their application as well because I think it would be good for the community, unless Council feels differently.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you.

Motion by Councilwoman Mendoza to approve and adopt Resolution No. 15-21 of the Mayor and Council. Seconded by Councilman Lopez. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM #09 - REPORTS

Mr. Young: Three things. First of all, last Friday, there was a Power Walk. That was the term for it here in South Tucson, a partnership of Tucson Electric Power and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and the City of South Tucson. Six teams went out through the community and interacted. There was at least three members on each team, one from the City, one from the Chamber of Commerce, and one from TEP, and talked to, I think we estimated about 100 businesses within South Tucson. I thought it was a very good event, and a nice way for us to reach out to the community. And there was a bag of goodies handed out, most of which were courtesy of TEP, light bulbs, and there were a couple of things that we included; one was a Save the Date card for our 75th anniversary that we're planning right now in September, and the other was a card inviting business people to attend a business forum that we have planned for this coming Thursday. So I thought it was very good, and I thought the Council might wish to be aware of it. Council member Lopez was on the walk and may wish to share some observations. If not, we'll move on.

Councilman Lopez: Mr. Mayor and the Council, it was kind of nice to walk around through all the businesses that we walked through, and just to see the friendly faces, you know, that are out there and think that I would like this program just to continue to encourage us to try to engage the businesses as well as they are trying to engage us for the same commonality of just communicating, so, but it was a wonderful day to go on that walk last Friday.

Mr. Young: Thank you, Mr. Lopez. Secondly, I already mentioned it, but there is a business forum, just to remind the Council, this coming Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at the John Valenzuela Youth Center. And the objectives of that are kind of two fold; one is to listen to the business community, what are their concerns, start to get a list of those concerns, and get them to help us prioritize what we can work on here in the near term; and then secondly, I plan to talk a little bit about the emerging economic vitality vision for South Tucson that we presented in Study Session a few weeks ago, and start to get some reaction to that. Finally, well, two more things, there is a Save the Date card in your box, if you haven't seen it yet, for our 75th anniversary party, you might say, currently being planned for September the 13th, and it's going to be kind of a music and art festival. What all that includes, we don't know for sure yet. We're still working out the details, but there is a very enthusiastic team working on this. A lady from the City, retired from the City of Tucson, is spending a few hours a week helping us organize this named Renee Ochoa. And also, I have reached out to Raul Aguirre and he

has indicated a willingness to help us work on sponsorships and publicity for this event for the 13th of September. And I think it's going to be a wonderful event and I just wanted to make the Council aware of that. At some point, we will come to you in Study Session and have a more detailed presentation with regards to the planning that's taking place. We have two members of the Council that are kind of on the committee and attend some, if not all, the meetings, Mr. Lopez and Mr. Patino. Finally, next, I think we probably ought to schedule a Special Meeting for a week from tomorrow, Tuesday, the 26th, and I would suggest that we would do two things at that meeting. I want to make the Council aware of it. First of all, we would canvass the election results. The election is tomorrow. The County Elections has indicated that they will have their canvass completed by the end of the week, and so the Council needs to approve the elections canvass. And secondly, we need to do that as soon as possible, in my view, because whomever is elected through the election tomorrow, would take office the minute that the election results are canvassed and approved by the City. Secondly, I would like to, on that same meeting, bring you an item to authorize me to pursue the possible lease purchase of a fire truck for our Fire Department. I mentioned this in our budget meeting a couple of weeks ago as well. I'm very concerned about the need for additional equipment, but before I get too far along, I want to make sure the Council authorizes us, as your staff, to pursue a lease purchase option. So you don't have to decide that now, but that would be the business item, the second business item that I would bring on this special agenda for next Tuesday. So that's all my report, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you. Any reports from the Council?

No reports from Council.

ITEM #10 - ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilwoman Mendoza to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Seconded by Councilman Patino. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Paul Diaz, Mayor

ATTEST:

Veronica Moreno, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council of South Tucson, Arizona, held on the 18th day of May, 2015. I further certify the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2015.

Veronica Moreno, City Clerk