

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of South Tucson, Arizona, held Monday, December 21, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. at the City of South Tucson Council Chambers, 1601 South 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, South Tucson, Arizona.

Council Present: Miguel Rojas  
Idelfonso Green  
Robert Larribas  
Herman Lopez  
Vanessa Mendoza

Staff Present: Veronica Moreno, Interim City Manager  
Cory Lakosky, Fire Department  
Marilyn Chico, Housing Director  
Lourdes Aguirre, Finance Director  
Chief Ford, Police Department  
Andy Luna, Fire Captain

Mayor Rojas 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 Vice-Mayor Patino and Councilwoman Romero, who were excused.

ITEM #05 – CALL TO THE AUDIENCE - No response from the audience

ITEM #06 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 19, 2015

Motion by Councilman Green to pass the minutes as presented. Seconded by Councilman Lopez. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM #07 – RESOLUTION NO. 15-49 OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON, ARIZONA, RATIFYING, APPROVING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE CONTRACT WITH FESTER & CHAPMAN P.C. FOR THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON ANNUAL INDEPENDENT AUDIT SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015

Councilman Green: Mr. Mayor, these are the same individuals, Miss City Manager?

Ms. Moreno: Right.

Mayor Rojas: Correct.

Ms. Moreno: We will provide you with some history regarding the auditors we have, Fester & Chapman. The original contract was approved for one year of auditing services with the option to renew for two additional years. So the first of the two years was last year, so staff is recommending approval to have them provide auditing services for fiscal year 2015 audit.

Mayor Rojas: Thank you.

Councilman Green: Okay. So last year was one year, with approval of two years?

Ms. Moreno: Right. The first year ...

Councilman Green: Additional?

Ms. Moreno: ... was for '13, for one year contact with two additional years. So two additional years would be 2014 and this current year, 2015.

Councilman Green: Oh, okay. So, no, I was thinking '16, '17.

Ms. Moreno: No, no, no.

Councilman Green: Okay.

Ms. Moreno: This would be the last year of the contract.

Councilman Green: Okay.

Motion by Councilman Green to pass Resolution No. 15-49 of the Mayor and Council of the City of South Tucson, ratifying and approving directing the City Manager to execute a contract. Seconded by Councilman Lopez. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM #08 – RESOLUTION NO. 15-50 OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON, ARIZONA, APPROVING, AMENDING AND ADOPTING THE ARIZONA MUTUAL AID COMPACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON AND THE ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THIS COMPACT

Ms. Moreno: Thank you, Mayor, members of the Council. The current Resolution No. 15-50 is a request on behalf of the Fire Department. And actually, what it is is a current IGA we have in place with the Arizona Mutual Aid Compact which is for 10 years. The request now for this amendment is to include the Fire Districts. So it's still the same contract, nothing that's changed. What Arizona Aid Compact has asked is that they include the Fire District. So it's just that one amendment and then it's going to start the contract again for next, for a 10-year period. So it's that one amendment. If there's any questions, we have ...

Mayor Rojas: Yeah, ...

Ms. Moreno: ... (inaudible).

Mayor Rojas: ... I got a question. Anybody has a question? Yes, Councilman Larribas.

Councilman Larribas: Has this contract that we're entering, is this going to cost the City any more?

Mr. Lakosky: No, sir. This is basically a mutual aid compact for shared resources. Same thing we operate when Tucson Fire comes in here for any of our fires, hazardous materials. We also have Northwest Fire District, Golder Ranch, Green Valley Fire District that respond for hazardous materials, technical response, any kind of major fire, major medical that we need help. It's no charge, free service manpower. And then obviously, we're expected to, in time of need, go and assist them. They know that we're pretty taxed as far as manpower, but during the times that we are available, we will send resources. (Inaudible) is included in the Old Tucson Fire. We were actually the second pumper on the scene. Carl's Junior Fire at Grant and Wilmot, the Bullet Fire, the Aspen Fire, and the Rodeo Fire, so we actually do participate in this. It's not just all South Tucson getting but when we are requested, we do make every attempt to show up.

Councilman Green: Mr. Mayor, I'd like to remind, ...

Mayor Rojas: Yes, Councilman Green.

Councilman Green: ... I'd like to remind the, the Fire Captain over there that he still owes me a picture of that fire ladder.

Mr. Lakosky: Okay (inaudible).

Councilman Green: It's only been six years.

Mr. Lakosky: That was the Grant and Wilmot Fire.

Councilman Green: Yeah, that, the Carl's Junior.

Motion by Councilwoman Mendoza to approve and adopt Resolution No. 15-50. Seconded by Councilman Green. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM #09 – RESOLUTION NO. 15-51 OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON, PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA, APPROVING THE SOUTH TUCSON HOUSING AUTHORITY'S NEW FAIR MARKET RENTS FOR THE LOW RENT FLAT RATE AND THE SECTION 8 PAYMENT STANDARDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016

Ms. Moreno: Thank you, Mayor, members of the Council. The item you have before you is something that is being brought to you every year during this time where our Housing Executive Director will bring before you the market rates, value market rates for the rentals. So this is a request on behalf of the Executive Director for Mayor and Council to approve these rates based on the information you have before you. She's available here if you have any questions.

Mayor Rojas: Any questions for the Director? I have one. I noticed there is an increase of some sorts. Now when this occurs, does that mean that the budget that HUD provides also adjusts for those increases?

Ms. Chico: Mr. Mayor, it really doesn't affect right now our Section 8 budget and that's the one that always concerns me.

Mayor Rojas: Right.

Ms. Chico: With the fair, you know, with the payment standards. But once these are approved, then HUD will, at a point, readjust our budget.

Mayor Rojas: Okay.

Ms. Chico: So we'll be fine.

Mayor Rojas: All right. Any other questions?

Councilman Green: I have a question.

Mayor Rojas: Yes, Councilman Green.

Councilman Green: Ms. Chico, when they sign the budget, did you guys also receive an increase in certain areas or certain fundings?

Ms. Chico: Councilman Green, that's hard to answer. And the reason for that is we have put in a budget but I have never ever received any type of budget approval from HUD. So right now, ...

Councilman Green: Okay.

Ms. Chico: ... I'm assuming that we have a little increase because we have increased our lease-ups. Time will tell over the next couple of months, and I know that sounds ridiculous but ...

Councilman Green: Oh, no, no, ...

Ms. Chico: ... that's how ...

Councilman Green: ... no, I understand.

Ms. Chico: ... it works.

Councilman Green: Yeah.

Ms. Chico: And depending on our lease-ups, then they will start giving us more money.

Councilman Green: Okay.

Mayor Rojas: Yeah, that's the reason I had asked that question.

Councilman Green: No, because in, with the department that I work with in the City of Tucson our budgets went up. We were fully funded in most areas. And I think like \$3,000,000 more in certain areas. In capital fund and stuff like that, so.

Ms. Chico: Wow. I'm impressed.

Mayor Rojas: Well, you've got a big budget.

Councilman Green: Yeah, we have a big budget, so.

Ms. Chico: I know that Section 8 was, no, I take it back. Our public housing is at almost 90% where historically it's been 80%. So we have received a little more there. Capital fund I won't know until we actually see the papers.

Motion by Councilwoman Mendoza to approve and adopt Resolution No. 15-51 of the Mayor and Council. Seconded by Councilman Lopez. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM #10 – FINANCIAL OVERVIEW FISCAL YEAR 2016 – FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT, UPDATE AND AUTHORIZATION

Ms. Moreno: Thank you, Mayor, members of the Council. Item #10 is a financial overview of fiscal year 2016. Finance Director will provide you with a report, update and authorization. And what you have before you is a 9-year overview of the General Fund Revenue and Expenditures. And what she'll do is provide you with color copies so you can identify those areas which she's going to bring to your attention and she'll provide some reports.

Ms. Aguirre: Mayor and Council, first of all, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to present this information, and also for taking the time to review this report. I don't believe Mayor and Council have ever been presented with a report like this, but given that it's pretty necessary given our financial position. As we move forward in the budget and planning process, not only is it necessary to look at the City's current finances, but it is equally beneficial to look at the City's finances for the last two years. Because those numbers tell a story of where the City's been, what measures the City has taken, and what the result has been. If you follow me to Exhibit 1, you will see a side-by-side comparison of revenue and expenditures for the last 9 years. For those who have been here that long or who have been able to track along, it may be easy to identify some of the changes that have occurred in these different line items from one year to the next, but we really want to focus on the bottom line. And of the 9 years, 7 of those have ended in an operating deficit. And that is despite many cost-saving measures like the elimination of solid waste services in 2011, the reduction in staff, salary freezes, (inaudible) freezes, furloughs, unpaid holidays, etc., although some of those have already been reversed in recent years. The accumulative balance of those deficits reaches \$800,000, approximately. And had it not been for a bond refinance opportunity in 2007, that accumulative deficit would have reached \$1,000,000. So allow me to explain a little more about the operating deficit. It doesn't mean that these numbers in red are just on paper. They actually represent bills that still needed to be paid at the end of the fiscal year because that fiscal year did not have enough cash or revenue to pay for those bills. So then the following year not only has to pay for its own expenditures, but also those unpaid bills rolling forward from the last year. And that's really a

problem when the following year may not even have enough cash or revenue to cover its own expenses. For example, our current General Fund AP is currently at about \$210,000 and that is not including the bills with Waste Management for \$235,000, nor is it including a combined total of \$147,000 due to Pima County for incarceration in Animal Control, which we hope to see resolved through the transaction of the library. So you can imagine how difficult it can be to manage cash and pay for all the City's obligations, including payroll. For those of you who do better with images, I've included Exhibit number 2, which is a visual representation of the table and the information on Exhibit 1. Going on to Exhibit 3, fiscal 2016 will not be the exception. If we look at this information here, we see the bottom line. The projected deficit is \$264,000 for this fiscal year, but that is before the sale of the library by the end of fiscal year. Still, the City may wind up with a deficit due to the increased costs associated with the delivery of some services. It is pretty clear the City's current budget structure is not sustainable and needs to change. It is for that reason that we seek your authorization to engage the services of a financial advisor whose role will be to focus on the City's current bond indebtedness and see whether restructuring it can give us any savings when it comes to the year to year payment. While engaged in this process, staff will also have to work on a 5-year model as well as a menu of cost-saving options to bring back for your consideration.

Mayor Rojas: Okay. Any questions?

Councilman Green: No, I have a couple. When you're saying you're going back to the bond, you're going to the initial bond that we tried to rework two years ago?

Ms. Aguirre: That is correct, Mayor and Council. In fact, it's callable date is coming up and we have to start the process in January of 2017. However, in just a general overview, there may be a possibility of doing something with it a year early. If the ...

Councilman Green: Something ...

Ms. Aguirre: ... need is ...

Councilman Green: ... as in?

Ms. Aguirre: Restructuring it, refinancing it.

Councilman Green: I was under the impression during the previous City Manager that they tried that or attempted to do that and it couldn't be done because of the way that the funding source was taken off the top for the bondholders. Are you talking restructuring the whole thing again?

Ms. Aguirre: Simply looking to see, and I apologize, Mayor, ...

Councilman Green: No, no, that's ...

Ms. Aguirre: ... (inaudible) ...

Councilman Green: ... quite all right.

Ms. Aguirre: ... this would be mainly to see whether the possibility is there to reduce the rate, extend it out further, and reduce our payment.

Councilman Green: Okay.

Ms. Aguirre: Currently, we pay \$600,000 a year for the 2007 bond.

Councilman Green: Yeah, so I, I don't, it, it's, your job is just outrageous right now. I mean you're, you're being bombarded from every side and everything, and I don't mean to add any more pressure. But it's basically due to what you're saying, an over-inflated budget. Over, the predictions, the revenues coming in were severely over-inflated.

Captain Andy Luna: Stated.

Councilman Green: Hm?

Captain Andy Luna: Overstated.

Councilman Green: Oh, yeah, they were overstated. The increase in the tax base or revenue that was voted in really didn't accomplish what it, is that basically one of the items that you're saying was a problem?

Ms. Aguirre: Mayor and Councilman, over the course of the last few months, we've realized, we've noticed that a few of the revenue line items have not materialized and some of them will not materialize. And yes, certainly I do recall the process in which we went through to increase sales tax rates. Not all that has come in at the projected amount.

Councilman Green: So, okay. One of the, okay, so basically, what we have to do as a Council and you as the Finance Director is oversee, you know, basically, the overinflated budget, look at cost saving measures to the General Fund. Am I correct?

Ms. Aguirre: That's correct.

Councilman Green: Okay. Basically, are we going to look at every line item in every department to see where cuts can be made? Yeah, and then identify those, bring those up to the Council and identify, yeah, measures on, I don't want to say it but, you know, it may mean that, you know, well, we'll get to that when, when we get something back from you.

Ms. Moreno: Thank you. I, I see where you're coming from. And that is the whole purpose of why this item was brought to you. And this is the first step towards cost saving measures. So the first step here is to work with this financial advisor so he can look into the bonds and see if we are able to have any options in regards to that step. The second step would be, is to look at a menu of options and cost savings, and this is, most specifically as it pertains to the general budget, or the General Fund budget, I'm sorry.

Councilman Green: Right.

Ms. Moreno: So, we are definitely going to be looking at line item by line item, see what we can do as far as any cost savings before we get to the budget process because we don't want to be put in the same position where we have to carry (inaudible) moving forward, knowing what we have now already on our plate, so we are definitely going to come back to you with a menu of options and with your approval, we're hoping to seek some advise from a financial advisor.

Councilman Green: Yeah, it's a big job that you have, young lady, and I'll tell you what, I don't envy you at all because trying to cut these to go in, you know, these funds going into the next year, yeah, it's scary.

Mayor Rojas: Councilwoman Mendoza and then Larribas.

Councilwoman Mendoza: Yes, I just, okay, so what I'm hearing you asking from us tonight, because I hear what Councilman Green is saying, however that's what the budget process is ...

Councilman Green: Yeah.

Councilwoman Mendoza: ... for, of us going through, and even if we need to start that a little bit earlier in order to do that, then we need to ...

Ms. Moreno: Right.

Councilwoman Mendoza: ... look at that, in starting earlier. What I hear you asking from us tonight is just the approval of seeking a financial advisor who is, I want to say, whose primary duties and responsibilities, and obviously their professional background is going to be in bonds because I want to know that they have that experience to be able to determine the best possible solutions that we can get out of a finance advisor who specializes, I guess was the word I was looking for, in bond indebtedness. And also, how much will that cost us?

Ms. Aguirre: Mayor and Councilwoman Mendoza, thank you so much for your question. The name of the firm is Stifle (ph). And the contact I have is actually the Managing Director. His name is Mark Reider (ph). And in doing this research on our financing options, I received three different unrelated leads and references all pointing to this firm. What I'm going to go ahead and pass around is just a sample of the diverse transactions that they've been involved in this year alone. So they do have a lot of experience, they're professionals, they are experts in Public Finance.

Councilman Green: Thank you.

Ms. Aguirre: And in fact, as relates to the cost of engaging their services, there won't be any immediate budget impact this year or next year simply, and typically what they do is in the restructuring and refinancing of the bond, they imbed the cost of their service and then, of course, that's extended out in the bond.

Mayor Rojas: Is that what you were going to ask?

Councilman Larribas: Yeah, pretty much what I was going to ask.

Mayor Rojas: Any other questions?

(No questions from Council)

Councilman Green: I have one question before ...

Mayor Rojas: Councilman Green.

Councilman Green: Okay. So before they actually start and we contract them, they're going to give us a pretty good indication, a pretty good idea, I mean this is not the drop dead hour that we have to make the decision?

Mayor Rojas: Oh, no.

Councilman Green: We're just giving you permission to go and enter into talks with them, right?

Ms. Aguirre: Yes, Mayor and Council, that's ...

Councilman Green: Okay.

Ms. Aguirre: ... exactly what will happen. Hopefully within the next couple of weeks we can make arrangements to bring him down and meet with you all.

Councilman Green: Okay.

Ms. Aguirre: Hopefully by then, he will have reviewed our current bond and look at some options for you all to consider.

Councilman Green: Okay.

Mayor Rojas: Okay?

Councilman Green: No, that's what I was worried about.

Mayor Rojas: Yeah.

Motion by Councilman Green that Mayor and Council allow staff to make contact with the financial advisor and enter into agreements to see if they can help the City. Seconded by Councilwoman Mendoza. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Moreno: Thank you Mayor, members of the Council. I just want to put on the record I appreciate all the work that Lourdes has done behind this. You know, as long as I've been here, more than half my life, I don't think I've seen something as thorough as to trying to show us an analysis of where we've been. I know the story 'cause I've lived it. But I think it's good to see, ...

Mayor Rojas: To see it.

Ms. Moreno: ... see it here, you know, on paper and graphs and things like that. Because it does tell a story as to where we've been and where we're headed, and moving forward, what we want to do. And this information and the guidance from a well-acclaimed financial advisor, I think, would be in the City's best interest. So I thank all of you for agreeing to go with that motion. Thank you.

Councilwoman Mendoza: Absolutely. Thank you.

Mayor Rojas: Thank you very much.

#### ITEM #11 – REPORTS

Ms. Moreno: I have just a couple brief reports, Mayor, if I may.

Mayor Rojas: Sure.

Ms. Moreno: My first report is, I'll let the Captain talk about it more in detail. However, the Fire Department, talking about cost saving measures and things like that, the Fire Department, Mr. Cory Lakosky, our Captain, and Captain Luna proposed to both myself and Lourdes a new fire schedule. And this schedule is actually going to be beneficial all around. The new schedule will actually take them from a 48-9-6 schedule to a 5-6 schedule which is a schedule that every department around the State is working on. And there's a lot of perks to this schedule. I'll go ahead and let him take it from here.

Captain Lakosky: Mr. Mayor, members of the Council, for quite some time we've been looking at risk reduction in the City as far as liability, stuff like that. New year, new (inaudible) all that stuff, we're receiving the stuff so now it's time to turn to our other operations, which is our shift schedule. Basically, we do a 48-9-6, which means we're on a truck for two days in a row, two 24-hour shifts in a row, and then we get four days off. The problem with that is the liability comes down, if you're running calls all night long, and then you're up again the next day, there's a lot of stuff we have going on throughout the day and the sleep deprivation, the actual sleep-related deprivation on the same level of intoxication. So we're going out in the middle of the night and we hit somebody, even if it wasn't our fault, we're still taking the liability because of just the business of our department. Ever since we've moved over to the Citycom dispatch by Tucson Fire, they can't believe how busy our one truck is. So there's a lot of times our guys are up and they're tired and they're running calls. Over 80% of motor vehicle accidents happen on the last 12 hours of a 24 hour shift, let alone a 48 hour shift. So we're trying to shift some of the liability off of the City. (Inaudible) has a chance to have 24 hours off. It's still the same 10 days a month and with Ms. Aguirre's help, we've been able to determine there should be, hopefully, some cost savings as well in regards to the overtime. It just kind of flattens everything out too. With that, it also puts us in line with Tucson Fire. So they're, now that we're on the same dispatch, they're kind of banging on our back door to want to come play with us more, drill with us more, get involved in their continuing education, to the point of our goal is automatic (inaudible) so when our fire truck goes out of service, respond (inaudible) now, we're automatically covered by the City of Tucson for any medical call and then vice-versa for them. If we're closer, a Santa Rita Park call, whatever, we just take it. It's a just a share of resources. It's very good. It also helps out our ISO reading, for the insurance for our businesses, personal houses, all that stuff because we can count their resources as South Tucson resources and vice-versa. So

this is hopefully going to do nothing but good. Like I said, the training, if we have a training schedule that can be set up on every shift, then we can just press down service button, we drive to the training site, City of Tucson Fire covers it as their area, and vice-versa. So nothing, I can see nothing but really positive. Again, on my side, I come in and the person (inaudible) "Hey, how was your night?" and the whole rest of the day I'm, you know, please don't anybody, please don't do anything, so it's time we kind of (inaudible). This is one of the last major issues we have.

Mayor Rojas: That's great. Thank you. Any questions?

(No questions from Council)

Mayor Rojas: Sure appreciate it.

Captain Lakosky: You bet.

Mayor Rojas: Any other items, any other reports?

Ms. Moreno: Right, I just wanted to report to you guys if you guys have noticed here in the evening hours the lights along 29<sup>th</sup> Street are now on, up and working. I know they were out for several months so from along South 6<sup>th</sup> and, so from 29<sup>th</sup> all the way up to the City limit here off the freeway, our lights are all on now. So I think it looks really (inaudible).

Mayor Rojas: Mm hm, yeah. I saw the guys working on it the other day, the ANS.

Councilman Green: Are they looking at working on 10<sup>th</sup>?

Ms. Moreno: That's the next one ...

(Simultaneous conversation)

Ms. Moreno: ... (inaudible) the wires, the little rats like to get into there. They eat 'em up.

Councilman Green: Or they pull 'em out?

Mayor Rojas: Yeah.

Councilman Green: Sell 'em.

Ms. Moreno: Right. That's fine. Go ahead.

Captain Andy Luna: Mr. Mayor, members of the Council, thank you once again for letting us speak about what we're doing and what I just want to touch base on is a little bit in the last couple weeks what we've been doing, especially around the Christmastime. We have a lot of events going on, everything positive for the community and it's actually spreading out a little further than South Tucson. And what happened all, everybody within South Tucson, the kids and the families, but people are hearing more about us and what we're doing, so people outside the community want to help South Tucson, specifically, which is great. A couple examples is GABA, which stands for the Greater

Arizona Bicycle Association, came down. They contacted me and they wanted to donate toys. And what they are is a retired group of people that ride bicycles. And they have those unique kind of bikes and stuff, and so what they do is they have fundraisers and they help a lot of people. And they heard about us through, I don't know how they heard, but they did. They contacted me, they came down one day about a week and a half ago, and donated a whole big box of toys and a couple of bikes and, which is a great thing. The other thing that we did was, I don't know if anybody is familiar with Rincon Country West, which is out on Mission and Ajo area. Last year, we made contact with them. And this is their second year donating to specifically South Tucson, the families, the kids. So we went down there, it was last week, and with the trailer, and loaded up bikes and toys and they gave us donuts. It was a great thing that they did as well. So this past Saturday, what we did with all this, oh, before I forget, the union also, we have every year the chili cook-off that we do every year, well, it specifically goes to adopt a family. And we're a part of all that, as you guys probably know, the chili cook-off, so all the money goes to the families in their own respective areas. So, of course, South Tucson is involved in that so we got food boxes on Thanksgiving for the families. And what we do is we go down to our Firefighters Union Hall, get all these boxes together, the whole City basically, and then go to our respective areas and donate that. So we did that over Thanksgiving. We donated approximately twenty boxes to different families. And for Christmas, we do the same thing. With that now, the union also gives us toys. They shop for toys. They also do food boxes again. So that's what we did this past Saturday is we got a lot of toys. We got food boxes. We contacted YVYC and Mission View, Ochoa Elementary. You know, we have a list of families that we're going to give food boxes to again. And this is actually going to be tomorrow. But I'll touch base a little bit on that in a second. So they gave us the opportunity to do that. And of course, we participated with that so that's what we're going to do tomorrow. The other thing, there's a lady by the name of Mary McDonald and she's an EMS Coordinator for the City of Tucson Fire Department. She's down here downtown at Fire Central. And one of the things that Mr. Lakosky was talking about is the unification of Tucson Fire and South Tucson. They're doing a lot of, we're starting to come together with all these things that we're doing. And so one of the good things about her, she's (inaudible) expert. She's been around for a lot of years. She was down at the Union Hall when we were doing these food boxes and she wanted to come specifically to South Tucson, ride along with us, to go along to help us or just observe, to take pictures of us, you know, doing this kind gesture for the families here. So she did. She rode along. And not only did she do that, she wanted to stop at the store because she felt the food boxes weren't big enough. They were pretty good size boxes. They were about maybe half filled. She said, "This is not enough." She, out of her own pocket, stopped, we stopped at Food City and we went in there and filled up two shopping carts full of fruits and more potatoes and canned goods and vegetables and we tried to get donuts in there. She wasn't having that. So we loaded up all these baskets and she spent a good amount of money, I imagine, 'cause two baskets were filled. So we came back, filled up those boxes full and delivered to these families. So it was an awesome day. So she rode around with us that day, and did that. So that was a great thing. So tomorrow, I think an email got sent out. I'm not sure if it did or not, but tomorrow we're going to have Santa Claus here. Oh, the other thing, I'm sorry, is in the front we, the toy drive that was out here, we got some toys with that as well. So that was slow at the beginning but we got a couple bikes and some toys so that was great as well. Window Depot down the street here, this is the second year that they donated. They had a huge box. I don't know if anybody seen that big box that was sitting out there, full of toys. And then there was more. There was a couple of bikes there, too. And they're doing this, apparently, they're trying to get an annual thing. They have a car show that they just did over there. And that whole thing is a toy drive for South Tucson. So that was a great thing, too, so I wanted to mention them. Another couple of things that we did on Saturday is we delivered Santas all

over town. And we were busy that day. The food boxes got delivered. One of the trucks delivered Santa to the Pascua, the Yaqui event down here. Another one was delivered to the Tucson Marine Corps League. And another one was the Primavera down by Food City. So they were busy all day and people were running around. And it was great.

And so with that, my last thing is that a lot of our guys, the Fire guys that we have, they ended up coming down and volunteering their own time, they didn't get paid, they came down 'cause they wanted to and they helped us out in going to the store, delivering Santas, driving the trucks where they needed to go. And so we didn't have, nobody was left unattended. You know, we got everything done even though it was crazy. They really saw each other on the road, passing each other, one Santa and then another one, so it was just a chaotic day. But it was a good day. At the end of the day, everybody was happy. So I'd like to thank our guys, the guys that came down and volunteered. It's just been tremendous. It was a great time so all this has been happening within the last two weeks. We've been really busy but everybody's been happy about doing that. So, again, tomorrow Santa is going to be here in the back. We have families that are already coming down with Mission View and Ochoa, JVYC. They have these golden tickets, they have this program about like they want to recognize their kids and their families so they have these really neat little golden tickets so they're going to come down. I'm thinking it's like a Willie Wonka chocolate bar type of thing. And they're going to come down and they're going to get gifts. And we have like fifteen bikes back there so this year, it's just getting bigger and bigger, so it's going to be great. So I invite you all and everybody else you can send us out to, to just stop by, you know, if you can. It's going to be between 10:00 and 12:00 and I imagine there's going to be a ton of families there. So you're more than welcome. We'd love to see you down there and take a look at what we're doing. So, in a nutshell, even though that was longer than I wanted to, thank you very much.

Mayor Rojas: Great job. Thank you. And I hear the Chief over there is participating, too, so I don't know if I should let him play toy too much, getting bicycles, right, Chief?

Chief Ford: We're working on that. We're working on the bicycles, Mr. Mayor. We did have a lot of help from City employees for the shoe and jacket drive.

Mayor Rojas: Great.

Chief Ford: And, so we're actually able to deliver, there were sixty kids that were in the program; thirty from Mission View, thirty from Ochoa. Fifty-four, actually fifty-six showed up. So we took all the kids on a bus and we took them over to Famous Footwear. We got them all sized for shoes with volunteers, Sgt. Cajas, and Officer Paul South, took the kids back after they got their jackets and their shoes, and went to McDonald's where Nancy put on a free meal for them. So they were able to have lunch and Ronald McDonald came and did a magic show for them. It was almost kind of a Vegas-style McDonald's magic show that lasted about 45 minutes. So the kids were really happy. And it was nice to be able to spend time with that many kids because that means we also reached out to that many families. So the past two weeks have kind of been really busy for us, including (inaudible) events, things that remind us why we do this.

Mayor Rojas: I was just ...

Chief Ford: I just wanted to make sure that everyone knew that there were some non-profits and NGO's but it was City employees that really picked up the slack and sponsored kids, averaged about

\$70 a piece for each kid to make sure that each kid had shoes and jackets. So City employees, sometimes the people who have the least give the most.

Mayor Rojas: Beautiful. You know, I was going to say now this, we did take a lot of pictures to put on that bulletin for the flier that we put out, right?

Captain Andy Luna: Yes, we have pictures.

Mayor Rojas: Great. Beautiful.

Councilman Green: One thing, Mr. Mayor. I will not be able to attend tomorrow because I will be playing Santa Claus tomorrow.

Mayor Rojas: You can come and give us toys.

(Simultaneous conversation)

Councilman Green: And it's going to be, right now there's about 15 kids that I need to have taken down to 31<sup>st</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, right by the jewelry store. We're going to have probably over 100 kids fed and gifts and Santa Claus.

(Simultaneous conversation)

Councilman Green: If each one can bring three kids that they know of that need presents and please, three different ones from here so we don't ...

Mayor Rojas: Get the ...

Councilman Green: ... yeah, don't get the same ones. That way we can spread the wealth.

Mayor Rojas: Great. Okay. Any other items on the agenda? Council, what is your wishes before I wish you a Happy Christmas and New Year?

Councilman Green: That we convene.

#### ITEM #12 - ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilman Green to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Seconded by Councilman Lopez. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:41p.m.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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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 21<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2015. I further certify the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

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Veronica Moreno, City Clerk