

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of South Tucson, Arizona, held Monday, August 29, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. at the City of South Tucson Council Chambers, 1601 South 6th Avenue, South Tucson, Arizona.

Council Present: Miguel Rojas
Idelfonso Green
Robert Larribas
Herman Lopez
Anita Romero

Staff Present: Veronica Moreno, Interim City Manager
Lourdes Aguirre, Finance Director
Michael Ford, Police Chief
Cory Lakosky, Fire Dept.
Joel Gastelum, Planner/Personnel Director

Mayor Rojas called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., 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 Mendoza, who were excused.

ITEM #05 – CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

Mayor Rojas: At this point, we have a gentleman that wants to address the Council. It's a 3-minute limit. Please come forward.

Mr. Luttrell: Good evening, Mayor and Council. Dennis Luttrell, 305 East Benson Highway. Just a minor question I really had and that would be, I looked outside the door, the posting, there's no postings about this meeting. But it really is, makes it, would make it easier is if the agenda was published on the internet, along with the Notice of Meeting. And also, the minutes to the meeting. It was working out pretty good about a year and a half ago or so. (Inaudible) about the, so I just ask if we could have some more transparency on the internet.

Mayor Rojas: On the internet? You said on the internet, the ...

Mr. Luttrell: Yeah, the internet, the posting, the, the City's site.

Mayor Rojas: Okay. Alright.

Mr. Luttrell: That would allow me to be able to research the agendas so that I can be more prepared.

Mayor Rojas: Sure. Thank you.

Mr. Luttrell: Thank you, appreciate it.

Mayor Rojas: Anybody else? Come forward and state your name and your address, please.

Mr. Dosten: Yes. Victor Dosten. My name is Victor (inaudible) Dosten, Jr. I live at 319 East Mohave Drive, apartment 108, Tucson, Arizona, 85705. And I just wanted to let the City Council know that I'm working on a 3-point contest for charity to benefit the House of Neighborly Service. So right now, we're pretty much decided on Sunday, December 18th of this year. I'm going to meet with the House of Neighborly Services at their meeting of September 8th, just to finalize the time schedule itself. But I do have two gentlemen coming from Sinaloa. And they're really good artists. And they want to provide a free workshop and maybe even donate one of their canvasses. And whatever sells, it will go directly to the House of Neighborly Service. And they've asked permission from Horacio Llamas, who was the first Mexican NBA player to the Phoenix Suns, and he said that it was okay for them to draw him and he supports whatever that we're doing, so I've also been communicating with him through Facebook messenger. And he says that he can't be here, but he supports whatever we're doing for a good cause.

Mayor Rojas: Great.

Mr. Dosten: And that's all I have.

Mayor Rojas: Thank you.

ITEM #06 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES: AUGUST 8, 2016 – REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Councilman Green to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 8, 2016. Seconded by Councilman Lopez. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM #07 – EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO A.R.S. SECTION 38-431.03(A)(1)(3)(4)

Ms. Moreno: Thank you, Mayor, members of the Council. We will now convene into Executive Session, so I need a motion to close the Regular Session, please.

Motion by Councilman Green to convene the Special Meeting and enter into Executive Session. Seconded by Councilman Lopez. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Rojas: Thank you very much for your patience. We are now going to return to item, for the Executive Session, we're going to go ahead and instruct the City Manager for the first item as instructed. For the item 8, I'll entertain a motion for the, tabling this item until the September 12th meeting, when we will have a adequate contract written for the Magistrate.

Councilman Green: So moved.

Councilman Lopez: Second.

Mayor Rojas: Motion made and second. All in favor of the motion signify by saying aye.

(All ayes)

Mayor Rojas: Opposed, none noted. Okay.

Ms. Moreno: Could I just clarify how the motion was made? So, Mayor, you gave me direction to move forward with the item discussed ...

Mayor Rojas: Move forward ...

Ms. Moreno: ... in the ...

Mayor Rojas: ... (inaudible) ...

Ms. Moreno: ... Executive Session.

Mayor Rojas: Yeah.

Ms. Moreno: And then with regard to Item #08, allowing me to draft up the, along with the City Attorney, draft up the contract for the City Magistrate ...

Mayor Rojas: A proper ...

Ms. Moreno: ... for the ...

Mayor Rojas: ... contract.

Ms. Moreno: ... next agenda. And Prosecutor.

Councilman Green: Right.

Ms. Moreno: Okay. Thank you.

Mayor Rojas: Okay. So that's good. Item #09.

ITEM #09 – RESOLUTION NO. 16-34 OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON, APPROVING, RATIFYING, AND ADOPTING AMENDMENT OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN PIMA COUNTY AND THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IN THE STATE OF ARIZONA, TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, (HUD), FOR A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN JURISDICTIONS OF AN URBAN COUNTY

Mr. Rojas: The wishes of the Council on this Item #09?

Ms. Moreno: Thank you, Mayor and members of the Council. I'm going to refer this to Finance Director Lourdes Aguirre. She's been working closely with Pima County and what the amendment will entail. It has to do with (inaudible).

Ms. Aguirre: Thank you, City Manager. Mayor and members of the Council, you may recall a couple of weeks ago we brought forward to you the original cooperative agreement which basically just stated what the requirements were for the City and for Pima County as an urban county for the, to receive funds for CDBG and (inaudible). Since that agreement was approved, HUD received the agreement and came back with a couple of suggestions on just language amendment and addition. And so, you probably have a copy of the agreement attached to your summary. And in the summary, I've outlined those 7 changes. I've just broken it down into a simple outline there. Really, there's nothing that would affect ...

Mayor Rojas: Nothing unus-, okay.

Ms. Aguirre: Nothing unusual.

Mayor Rojas: So the wishes of the Council on Item #09, please?

Councilman Green: Mr. Mayor, I have a question. On Section 3, or it's, I guess, summary number 5, the CDBG Home Funds, are those going to stay within the City or are those going to be allocated out to, like they have in the past? To Pasadera, Prima-, I mean Primavera.

Ms. Aguirre: Well, Mayor, and Councilman Green, my understanding is that the County is the recipient and also the jurisdiction that awards the Home Funds. So they are the ones that receive all the applications for the use of that money. And they distribute it, I believe they try to evenly distribute it amongst all jurisdictions that participate in the HUD award.

Councilman Green: Okay. Well, maybe Planning and Zoning Director can, was, wasn't there a time that everything was going over to them? Where no funds were really available for us? They had to go, they were all, our allocation was going over to Primavera?

Mr. Gastelum: Councilman Green, are you referring to Home Repair Funds ...

Councilman Green: Yes.

Mr. Gastelum: ... or home, okay, so as far as Home Repair Funds go, the way we have previously done it, and that was quite some time ago when the Primavera Foundation was overseeing that project, there was some lags going back probably four or five years. We reallocated the funds and we spent all those funds going back about three, four years ago. What we did is we had County internal CDBG staff, they handled all that. We did receive the applications in-house for Home Repair Funds and then after that, we would go, we would meet with the County, give them the applications and their internal housing specialist would then take over the project. And there would be a direct allocation from our City of South Tucson allocated funds. It would pay directly to their CDBG staff. So they were just running the program and the projects for us.

Councilman Green: Okay. So basically, residents may make application then still? Okay.

Mayor Rojas: Okay. Any other questions?

(No questions)

Motion by Councilman Lopez to approve Resolution No. 16-34. Seconded by Councilwoman Romero. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM #10 – REPORTS

Ms. Moreno: Thank you, Mayor and members of the Council. We have a report regarding our Merit System (inaudible). And I'm going to have Joel, who is our interim Personnel Director, give a report on that.

Mr. Gastelum: Good evening, Mr. Mayor, members of the Council. I'll be pretty brief on this. We do have, we need and we have some openings on the Merit System Commission. Basically, what the commission does is they serve as the objective body to adjudicate appeals of suspension, demotion for disciplinary reasons, reduction in pay for disciplinary reasons, dismissal and termination for permanent employees. So, there's a process. We have a grievance process and one of the steps at the end is the Merit System Commission. That's one process. And there is also the retirement where they need to meet to vote on retirement issues. We do have three pending retirements right now, so time is of the essence. So what I would do today is I will pass out the ordinance, the rules and regulations, basically, to qualify for a member. It's either a resident or business owner within South Tucson. And they cannot hold any City, County, or State elected office. And those are pretty much the requirements. I'll pass out both those things, but if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Again, like I said, time is of the essence and we're looking to replace five members. So hopefully, at the next meeting, you all could possibly have some names.

Councilman Green: How many members are there?

Mr. Gastelum: Five.

Councilman Green: Are we replacing all five?

Mr. Gastelum: Yes. With that, do you have any questions right now?

Mayor Rojas: No.

Councilman Larribas: They don't have to be a City resident?

Mr. Gastelum: Yes, they do. They have to be a City of South resident or a City of South Tucson business owner.

Councilman Larribas: Okay. But if they're a business owner and they're not a resident, they can still?

Councilman Green: Yeah.

Mr. Gastelum: A South Tucson business owner.

Mayor Rojas: Yeah.

Councilman Larribas: Okay.

Ms. Moreno: Which means they have to have an actual business license.

Councilman Green: And pay taxes.

(Simultaneous conversation)

Mayor Rojas: Any other reports, City Manager?

Ms. Moreno: No, not right now, Mayor. Thank you. I know that all of you know this by now, of course. Tomorrow is election day for primaries here in the City of South Tucson and throughout Pima County. So I just want to make sure that everybody votes. (Inaudible) Mayor and Council for, again, inviting me to be your interim City Manager for the last, I feel like it's been two ...

Mayor Rojas: Two years.

Ms. Moreno: ... years or twenty years, but it's been over a year, so thank you.

Mayor Rojas: Thank you very much. If there's no other ...

Councilman Lopez: I have an issue that I'd like to bring up. I have a journalist professor that she writes the El Independiente and her students are the ones that write articles for that published magazine that's done, I think it's quarterly through the university in the Journalism Department. Well, they requested sort of like an interview and then they also requested sort of like a tour of the City Complex and get to meet Department Heads and stuff like that, just to be able to write an article of the existence of South Tucson. The date and the time of this visitation hasn't been decided yet, but I will keep you posted so that at least we have some information and also, they also want to include the library. And I already contacted them and they said it was okay to just take the students over there, too.

Mayor Rojas: Good.

Councilman Lopez: Thank you.

Mayor Rojas: Anything else? Any other business?

(No response)

ITEM #16 - ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilman Green to adjourn the Special Meeting. Seconded by Councilman Lopez. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at _____.

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 Special Meeting of the City Council of South Tucson, Arizona, held on the 29th day of August, 2016. I further certify the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2016.

Veronica Moreno, City Clerk