

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of South Tucson, Arizona, held Friday, February 21, 2014, at 6:00 p.m. at the City of South Tucson Council Chambers, 1601 South 6th Avenue, South Tucson, Arizona.

Council Present: Paul Diaz
Mary Soltero
Ildefonso Green
Vanessa Mendoza
Anita Romero

Staff Present: Luis Gonzales, City Manager
Veronica Moreno, City Clerk
Lt. Inorio, Police Dept.
Artemiza Mejia, I.T.
Joel Gastelum, Planner
Marilyn Chico, Housing Director
Andrea de Castillo, City Attorney

Guests: Don Baker, Larsen-Baker

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

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

The following is the transcript the Council meeting of February 22, 2014:

ITEM #05 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES, February 10, 2014

Councilman Green: A statement that I made in regards, after the proposal of renaming South 6th Avenue has been omitted or deleted, request that those be reput and redone, save it for a later date.

Ms. Moreno: Okay. This is the minutes of February 10th. Is that the date that you said that?

Councilman Green: Yeah.

Ms. Moreno: Okay.

Mr. Gonzales: It appears that there is a section of the conversation that took place that's missing from the minutes. There is a conversation regarding a

statute citing. I would suggest that we skip the approval of the minutes and send this back to review and redo the minutes.

Mr. Diaz: Okay. So we need a motion to table the minutes.

Motion by Councilman Green to table the minutes. Seconded by Councilwoman Soltero. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM #06 – RESOLUTION NO. 14-04 OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON, ARIZONA, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON AND THE GREAT SCOTT ENTERPRISE, LLC, CONTRACTOR, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO EXIST

Mr. Gonzales: Thank you, Mr. Mayor and members of the Council. This agreement here is an agreement between Great Scott Enterprises, which is a IT provider, information technology. This is a renewal contract. It's a year to year contract. The contract that is now a month-to-month contract because it has already expired. Mr. Nemuel Cruz is not available today because he has gone on vacation. So I told him he didn't have to cancel his vacation to be here today. What we have here is, it's a contract that last year, this was a contract for \$60,000. This year, we have modified and renegotiated the contract for renewal purposes. And now this contract is showing a \$20,000 reduction for this year. So you're saving, it's for \$40,000. It's a set amount regardless of the time that you receive. So you're seeing, the City is seeing a lesser amount than it was in the past. At this point, he is paid, is being paid the rates of last year so I would recommend that we go ahead with this contract. And I will say that I've been watching very carefully the work and the performance of this contractor and I'm very pleased with the work that he has done, and he continues to do. He's available to us 24/7. There have been situations where we really need somebody here and he's even come in and worked the weekends when needed so I would highly recommend that you approve this contract.

Motion by Councilwoman Mendoza to approve and adopt Resolution No. 14-04 of the Mayor and Council of the City of South Tucson, Arizona, approving and adopting the agreement between the City of South Tucson and the Great Scott Enterprises, LLC, contractor, authorizing the Mayor and/or the City Manager to execute the agreement and declaring an emergency to exist. Seconded by Councilwoman Soltero. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM #07 – ORDINANCE NO. 14-01 OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON
ABANDONING THAT PORTION OF OLD VAIL ROAD WEST OF SOUTH 4TH
AVENUE AND EAST OF SOUTH 5TH AVENUE AND DECLARING AN
EMERGENCY TO EXIST

Mr. Gonzales: Mr. Mayor, members of the Council, this agreement here was an agreement that was, that was done by previous Council. It has to do with the Madera Development Company, not company, but the project, industrial project on the south end. What you see before you here is the final piece that needs to be looked at and approved, which is a quitclaim deed to solidify the swap of a piece of property that it owned by the owners of property, the developers here, where the Old Vail Road that used to be the road that used to go through the center of the property. That property has been swapped for another piece where you're going to be building part of the Greenway Project, which has additionally begun in some parts of the City of Tucson and is slated to go all the way through downtown. What occurred here, it's my understanding, I was looking at this project, is that the valuation of the land that was being swapped, it turned out that the property that was evaluated versus the property that was being swapped for the road, that it had a higher value. I believe it was \$58,000 more than the property that you were taking in. Consequently there was some agreements that were made, negotiations were made so that the developer would actually develop and construct the Greenway Project behind the buildings, to the south side of the buildings, to make up for the value of the property that you were basically giving, swapping out. I believe that one of the developers is here to testify on the project. Again, as I mentioned, some of the members who are new didn't come in until June may not have the information that they need to have to make an informed decision on this particular issue. There is a deadline. I believe it's March the 24th, to consummate the swap. Once that is done, then they would be able to meet their obligations with the tenants that are slated to come into the property. So with that, I'll have Mr. Gastelum say a few more words, if there is something that I missed here. And then we will have the developer, who is here, give you testimony as to how this refer, why it needs to be done, and what it means to the City.

Mr. Gastelum: Mr. Mayor, members of the Council, good evening. I think Luis kind of covered the gist of exactly what's going on out there. Pretty much I've been working with developer, probably since February of last year we were initially approached. At that time, just kind of throwing around ideas how to kind of make that more marketable, make it a better development, not having a street run right through it. Chuck kind of explored some options with the developer and previous administration and things. What we have developing is the exchange agreement, which Luis touched on, and making up that exchange agreement, the difference in the amount in value, making that up with the construction of the Greenway, that first portion of the agreement right there. Now the other portion

of the agreement, it's a whole other project which goes from downtown Tucson and it'll shoot through South Tucson, eventually ending up down at the Kino (inaudible) that area. So this is kind of an overall piece of that. This is our first portion. We do have money allocated for the Regional Transportation Authority, RTA, to purchase the additional. That's something we'll bring to you at a later point. But for this, for the purposes here, we're just discussing one swap of roadway for the other one. And that's pretty much it. If you have specific questions for me, if not, I'll bring up the developer and, you know, you can hear his testimony.

Councilman Green: What's the difference between the quitclaim and, you know, or this quitclaim deed ...

Mr. Gastelum: And the exchange?

Councilman Green: ... versus a, yeah, an actual deed itself. Who has, who's, did they do a title search on this?

Mr. Gastelum: Yeah, ...

Councilman Green: (Inaudible).

Mr. Gastelum: ... they, they've done it all. So pretty much with the exchange agreement, that's going to prove, now with that quitclaim deed we have to vacate the roadway and convey to them by quitclaim deed that portion of property. So that's just the process and the overall exchange ...

(Coughing)

Mr. Gastelum: ... (inaudible) this is where, the point we're at now.

Councilman Green: So who was the original owner?

Mr. Gastelum: We were. Old Vail Road, we were, of Old Vail Road. The City of South Tucson because it was a roadway and the developer, they were the private owner of the portion we (inaudible).

Councilman Green: Okay.

Mr. Gastelum: Okay. So I'll ask Mr. Don Baker, of Larsen-Baker Development, to come up and give a few words.

Mr. Baker: My name is Don Baker and I represent my partner and I, Larsen-Baker. We've been in town for, well, this is my 39th year. Also, I'm actually at the

University of Arizona as a grad student, partly, so I've even turned this project for the University students and they've been on the project a lot. But thank you for allowing me to be here. We are, have absolutely been thrilled with the City of South Tucson, coming here and doing this project. One of the initial things, which was really a collaboration between the City of South Tucson and us is we had the potential of getting Madera Business Park that was virtually abandoned and we were able to purchase it. And with your help, to take the Old Vail Highway that went through the center of the property and utilize it to make a secure campus for a business park. We then added this new additional building here and a front façade here. And if, first of all, have you all been by the property to see it and stuff? So we're working on the fencing right now where it's almost complete; \$108,000 or \$109,000 worth of very artistic fencing. It is multi-purpose. It is one beautification of the site. It is the ability to secure the site for, hopefully, a large number of employment base which the first is we have leased 18,117 square feet of 40,077 square feet of this property. So the total square footage will be 40,077 square feet. There will be 200 parking spaces. The fencing gives a sense of security for the employees. This is the first group is the Department of Youth and Family. And then the Attorney General is looking at bringing and leasing the remaining spaces that we hope to bring that amount of employment. So we think we will have full employment in your City. They're thrilled to be here. The March 24th date is actually the day they're scheduled to do a grand opening. So we sure hope the deeds are in advance of that and, or the quitclaim deed. By the way, a quitclaim deed, if I'm saying this correctly, is because you really don't want to warrant anything but title. Sometimes like general deeds have more impact and liability from the city, where a quitclaim giving it to us, understand we're taking on the liability the, you know, the property and you are quitclaiming, meaning giving us the rights to the property, but not making warranties about other things which generally, like for your own home you want different types of warranties that are far different than simply giving us the street. There is a trade of this Greenway. The fencing, which is nice, is all the paving has been completed. The landscape is not in yet. That is in the process. The \$58,000 difference, we have spent almost double that or actually, I think about \$106,000 or \$107,000. I think we have to submit at least \$58,000 of bills, but as you will see, you ask us maybe why did we spend more money? One of the perfect blends of working with the City of South Tucson and with our company was your Greenway and the idea of having a bicycle path, it, of course, is adjacent to our property. So to really enhance it, this fence is not a straight fence. It jogs in and out. All the plantings and trees are going to go there. That enhancement is a wonderful addition to our property. Of course, I think it's a wonderful addition to the start of your Greenway and bicycle and walking path. And it's a great way to start that didn't cost the City of South Tucson. You ended up with, hopefully, great employment, a building that is not abandoned, but completely occupied, we hope, you know, within about twelve to eighteen months. But it will be occupied with 18,117 square feet of, and that's this building

“A” and the new addition. We actually will finish this. We are working double time, probably six, seven days a week on this project, until we get it finished. They want to get all, they, you know, the Department of Economic Security and this new, actually, flagship program, is a first of its kind and they really want to show it off and they got, I think, maybe even the governor, but quite a bit of fanfare for what we’re doing here. Here you see the evaluations (inaudible). It has been an absolute delight working with all of you. I do realize there was a change of administration. And the reason that I appreciate getting us on the agenda, but again, we do not want to tie up any Certificate of Occupancy and things like that. So our lender, candidly, where there’s been a hardship for us, we’ve actually paid 100% cash for this right now because until you quitclaim the deed to us, the lender can’t close on the loan. So we’ve been under a hardship of having to fund this. Our reputation with our contractors, all local, and our vendors and stuff, we have paid them on every two weeks but, you know, we really could use our loan now to.

Councilman Green: (Inaudible).

Mr. Baker: Yeah, (inaudible) so if there’s any questions, I’m absolutely glad to answer.

Mayor Diaz: Could you cover a little bit about the easement? The easement for Kinder Morgan pipeline.

Mr. Baker: The Kinder Morgan easement, which is something that was, you know, not known to us but there is a pipeline that runs through South Tucson. And it happens to go under here. The interesting thing is, is we were a little bit nervous originally because you don’t want to drill into their pipeline and have any leaks. It ended up that we were only paving on top. The fencing actually is outside. Of course they staked it completely. There was some concern on their part when they actually looked at all of the staking, the surveys, you know, we had all the engineers and survey teams and stuff like that. None of the fencing was actually affecting any of the pipeline whatsoever. The pipeline is absolutely secure. I doubt they would ever have to dig up the main line but there would simply be the paving right that’s over that. There was no actual structures over the easement. Kinder Morgan has simply that they have an easement underneath the ground. They are many, many feet below and there would be no

...

Councilman Green: So there’s not going to be any problems with, if something did happen, we would egress and regress through it?

Mr. Baker: No. Matter of fact, there, you know, there is whole access along this pathway and they can get in there completely and do it. If they ever had to, they

have sensors (inaudible). They would be required to bring back our property to its exact condition. And, candidly, now it would be your property and they would have to do that. But that would be no different than, this pipeline goes through your street. They have to do the same for you. So if they would have to get under your street, you know, they have obviously, an easement that goes under your street. They would have to bring your street back, too.

Councilman Green: Okay.

Mayor Diaz: Is the fencing on the easement or is it on your property?

Mr. Gastelum: I can kind of piggyback (inaudible) I'll help you. It's some on their property, the fence line. There are, there's a total of three lines from Kinder Morgan; two of them are abandoned. There's only one active line. And that's to the southernmost portion, not anywhere close to where that new wrought iron is. Also, I'd like to mention the Kinder Morgan review process is super extensive. Just to have pretty much the paving down out there, have any of their workers on site, their contractors, Kinder Morgan requires to submit plans to review what type of plantings were going in, what type of trees were going in so they could see what type of root system it would be if they wrecked the plants. So, I mean it's pretty extensive. And there was a gentleman, they had a couple on-site meetings with their kind of journeyman out there, so he was on-site also, pretty much all the time out there. So it's a pretty extensive review process with Kinder Morgan. Paving, curbing, things of that sort, they are (inaudible). They also provided us, which we'll, like how Mr. Baker said, they were granted an easement. And we're the grantor now. Once we get that property, within that there's some language in that easement allowing us to put paving, planting, things of that sort on that property, on that easement, I should say.

Mayor Diaz: Any more questions from the Council?

Councilman Green: I have one. On the actual Greenway pathway, are you going to have benches and areas to stop and rest or?

Mr. Baker: The actual passage right here is a passageway. There are V-shaped design in the fence where it goes in a few feet, probably about, maybe up to 4 feet where there will be trees and shading and stuff. People will be able to walk there. We understand that there are some benches that you have designed for the entry up here. Is that correct?

Mr. Gastelum: There will be some entry benches kind of along 4th Avenue, there will kind of like be an entryway feel. There will be some benches there. And we're still contemplating benches along that route. Again, it's coming to a pricing issue and also safety issue on how wide we can put things in there.

Councilman Green: Yeah, no, my concern is the same thing that happened on 4th Avenue when they put the benches in. You had individuals that would sit there all day long and we legally couldn't tell them to move. Okay? I mean, the police department couldn't tell them to move. We knew that they were doing things they shouldn't do, illegal things. So that's why a lot of the benches on 4th Avenue were, and tables were removed from 4th Avenue. I'm just afraid that, because the Greenway goes into a neighborhood, that you're going to have the same, it's going to attract the same element in there and it's going to be real hard to try to get these people to move.

Mr. Baker: The passageway is simply a passageway. The benches that are really at your, so if, if the Council's wishes are not to have benches, they're not in our contract and ...

Councilman Green: Okay.

Mr. Baker: ... from our standpoint, you know, whatever other beautification, I mean we were given, the plans that we gave you that we are doing and what's nice is actually being before the City Council today and saying the fencing is done and the paving is done, so beyond the trees that will be done after all the paving is done, you really could drive by today and get a very good feel of the way, and what we've done so far.

Mayor Diaz: I have another question. Does it allow for walk-in traffic in regards to 5th Avenue entrance to the complex?

Mr. Baker: There is a gate here that goes completely through and I'm not quite sure. I know it's a panic gate out. And right now, I think there is no entry here. There are doors here for entry into Building "A". The main entrance will be through the entrance here, and part of that was control for both agencies that they wanted evening, 'cause there are some operations that go later in the evening, and for the employees they wanted protection where people just couldn't wonder in. So we won't be in charge of the gating system. The tenant will be. And so they'll kind of dictate, but I think this is a panic out gate here and this is a control gate at the entrance. So it will be secure where that you won't have people wondering in and out of there. It is a high fence. We hope that will eliminate or reduce any vandalism also.

Mayor Diaz: Are there any more questions?

Mr. Gonzales: I have a question, going back to the Kinder Morgan pipeline easement. Have you submitted the documents that detail out the liabilities, who is liable for that pipeline? How does that work in relationship to the City taking

over that piece of property? Who is liable? Are there any documents that actually detail out the liability that may be involved in case there is a rupture?

Mr. Baker: The liabilities and the entire description was pre-negotiated with Kinder Morgan and their development. And it probably is pretty consistent whether it's on our property or literally one foot on your property, meaning the street right here where the pipeline is. And it would be the same obligation that they would be responsible for for the maintenance of the pipeline. The easement, though, does provide that you can't rupture their pipeline, which would be, you know, and it would be really no different than you can't (inaudible) cut US West or, you know, Century Link or somebody's, you can't, you know, you have to blue stake and all that. Kinder Morgan, as you had pointed out, they were there every single day. You know, if you want to get their attention, simply say that you're (inaudible) and, you know, they're going to be there making sure we're doing exactly the way, we like that because when they watch us do it, they're accepting responsibility because they, they're signing off that all this was done properly. So, again, the liability is something that they have (inaudible) easement they've taken on the liability, the liability to any private owner or the City. It's no different (inaudible) your street now. It now runs under (inaudible) street here. So it doesn't, the liability wouldn't change from this point to this point. And those are already a part of the entire master package. And there was no altercation whatsoever of any of the language.

Mr. Gonzales: So if I understand you correctly, at this point you don't know whether it's under your land or our land. Is that what you said?

Mr. Baker: Currently, it is under, currently, the pipeline goes under two places; it is, well, it's kind of under Morgan, this Council, or the City's land and our land. It goes under many places. They have an easement that crosses a large section of South Tucson. And currently, it does go under our current land and no different that we have Tucson Electric Power, telephone, not, the electric poles. And what we had to do is ask for permission because to make the site better, you had poles that were in the air and we decided to make a better looking site. We put the poles underground. So the same liability if I'm trying to give you an analogy, when we accept to put the easement and put their electric lines underground, I can't go and cut them or I would be liable. However, I ask permission so we can sink their lines. They, again, watch us. You know, and they pull their lines and they do the work. Like Kinder Morgan takes care of their pipeline. This is a non-maintenance. This isn't something that they dig up and out. You, I doubt you had any streets removed at all for this. And I don't know what a lifeline on a pipeline is but it's long. You know, it is out of any of the elements. It is underground and it is well protected with sensors.

Mr. Gonzales: I was trying, just trying to figure out whether or not that easement is actually owned by under the, you know, agreement here, whether it's actually owned by the City of South Tucson or by your folks.

Mr. Baker: City of South Tucson ...

Mr. Gonzales: Given the ...

Mr. Baker: ... when, ...

Mr. Gonzales: ... location ...

Mr. Baker: ... when it's complete, it will be the City of South Tucson. And the Greenway will be the City of South Tucson. And that's 16 feet, if I'm correct.

Mr. Gonzales: You answered my question.

Councilman Green: When you say 16 feet, you mean 16 feet to the center or is it overall 16 feet?

Mr. Baker: Sixteen feet wide and it's the entire length from the entry point of our ...

(Conversation in background)

Mr. Baker: ... (inaudible) headline to the ending point. It starts off at roughly 19 feet and then it narrows down to 16. At the corners it widens up a little bit and that's where it's about 19. So I'll just show you (inaudible). Here's the Greenway. Sixteen feet kind of, their fence property line to the southernmost property line. And then 10 feet in here is actually where the paving is 10 feet wide. The overall width is 16. Up here it's about 19 as well as down there. That's where it widens up.

Councilman Green: Then the line runs?

Mr. Baker: The line runs, this is one of the utilities, and into right here. There's one other easements right along this area (inaudible) ...

Councilman Green: Okay. So that's Kinder Morgan utility easement.

Mr. Baker: Right.

Councilman Green: And what exactly is that carrying? Is that oil or is it gas or natural gas or do we know?

Mr. Baker: I believe it's gas. I believe ...

Councilman Green: Okay. So it's ...

Mr. Baker: ... (inaudible) ...

Councilman Green: ... (inaudible) El Paso?

Mr. Baker: I believe so. I'm not too ...

Councilman Green: Okay.

Mr. Baker: ... sure though. I'm not too sure. And the design there, you see that ...

Councilman Green: There's (inaudible) ...

Mr. Baker: ... (inaudible).

Councilman Green: ... the fence line.

Mr. Baker: The fence line. And ...

(Simultaneous conversation)

Mr. Baker: ... you see the trees in there. It will be a very (inaudible).

(Simultaneous conversation)

Councilman Green: (Inaudible).

Mr. Baker: Well, I didn't know if you, when you said is there access from the south side, we purposely secured the property so it was a very secure site. Larsen-Baker, one of my mandates with, we have 46 centers that are, wherever we see our sign, we're actually the owner of the, but I have a crew that go out every morning and we have little to no graffiti on any single property. And it's not to say we've never been tagged, but the police department has worked with us many times where they realize is before the kids even get to school, if, our morning crew at 6:00 a.m. gets the graffiti down from the night before, and they don't get to show it off, and we photograph it, send it in, but if we get it down before anybody gets to see it, we have found that it is not repeated because somebody may spend two to four hours doing their artwork and it's gone the next day. We keep five gallon buckets. Morning crew, before they do any other thing

on every single property, and I can tell you out of our 46 centers, which is about 2.4 million feet in this town, we have low graffiti. And it is this common, you know, management style that has, and it really, in the long run even though, you know, it may seem like a lot of work every day, but being on the property every day, it makes a big difference.

Mayor Diaz: Great. Thank you.

Mr. Baker: You're welcome. Thank you. And I really, again, I appreciate, this was probably one of the most unique things to actually be given a street to make a development happen. And I hope it'll make you proud so thank you.

Councilwoman Mendoza: So the proposed Greenway then, the Greenway after it's completed, is going to belong to the City?

Mr. Baker: Yes, it will be.

Councilwoman Mendoza: So are, we are responsible for the maintenance of that?

Mr. Baker: Yes. And we had guidelines to put in irrigation and all of the things that were required, and we've met all of those requirements, per your standards. And hopefully we've exceeded, you know, (inaudible).

Mayor Diaz: Okay. Any more questions? Okay. Mr. Gonzales.

Mr. Gonzales: Mr. Mayor, I have one suggestion regarding, you have an ordinance here that talks about the quitclaim deed (inaudible). But that language does not appear in Item #07 of the ordinance that you're about to vote on. So I would recommend that you add some language to the actual agenda item so it will be consistent with the resolution. You can fix that just by basically adding after "avenues, avenue and South 6th, South 5th," after the word "avenue" to add "and approving the execution of the quitclaim deed." If you add that language in, it will be consistent with your resolution that you're going to be voting on.

Mayor Diaz: Councilwoman Mendoza, did you write that down?

Councilwoman Mendoza: Can you repeat that? After "avenue" and approving on the?

Mr. Gonzales: After "avenue", insert ...

(Conversation in background)

Mr. Gonzales: ... “and approving the execution of the quitclaim deed.” And then the rest of the language you can say, “and declaring an emergency.”

Councilman Green: Do we have, does it have to be voted on tonight? Or can we table it to the next meeting?

Mr. Gonzales: Well, it doesn't need to be voted on tonight. I would ask ...

Councilman Green: That would ...

Mr. Gonzales: ... (inaudible) ...

Councilman Green: ... give us a little bit more, yeah, I mean for us who ...

Mr. Gonzales: How that would affect his deadline and whether or not we have council meeting scheduled before the deadline. Right?

Mr. Baker: Well, the other thing is the loan portion. You can understand that a lender can't give a loan if they don't own the property and even though we own both sides, the lender looks at one whole package. And so this delay is causing an enormous hardship to us. And we are committed to get this project done, but I will tell you paying cash for a project is not what I expected to be doing.

Mr. Gonzales: If it's the pleasure of the Council to approve it, I don't see any reason why you wouldn't be able to amend this, and go ahead and vote on it today. Our next scheduled meeting, I believe, is March 10th. We're not going to have a meeting this coming Monday because we really don't have any business to, so ...

Councilman Green: (Inaudible) ...

Mr. Gonzales: ... it's causing a hardship.

Councilman Green: Yeah, I'll go ahead and withdraw my motion.

Mr. Gonzales: And perhaps the best thing to do is to just make the amendment. It's not a very serious amendment. It's just for consistency to make sure that when you document this stuff in the future, you have both of them being consistent.

Councilwoman Mendoza: Okay. Mayor, I move that we approve and adopt the Ordinance 14-01, of the City of South Tucson, abandoning that portion of Old Vail Road west of South 4th Avenue and east of South 5th Avenue, and approving the execution of the quitclaim deed, and declaring an emergency to exist.

Councilwoman Soltero: Second.

Mayor Diaz: It has been moved and seconded. Is there any more discussion? Hearing no more discussion, all those in favor of the motion, please signify by saying aye.

(All ayes)

Mayor Diaz: Oppose?

(No response)

Mayor Diaz: Hearing none, so moved.

ITEM #08 - REPORTS – none at this time.

ITEM #09 – CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

Mayor Diaz: Would anybody in the audience, I do have a card from Mr. Victor Dousten.

Mr. Larsen: Good evening, Mr. Mayor and council members. My name is Victor Dousten, and I just wanted to say that I'm currently volunteering a lot in the City of South Tucson. I'm very active in the community. I went the other day and got a straw broom and I decided to just clean the sidewalk on the corner of 26th and 3rd, in front of Casa Maria. I'm going to start sweeping 15 yards to the east on 26th and 15 yards to the south on 3rd as my personal contribution to make the community look nice and honor the staff of Casa Maria. I ended up picking about five grocery size bags of trash, put it in my car, kind of made the corner look nice. I'm also in the process of requesting tables and chairs to be provided through Rise, the recycling center that's part of COPE. I requested, this morning, I've left a letter, donations so that I can try to improve the dining facility at Casa Maria. I had spoken to Brian Flagg a few days ago and asked him if it was okay, with his permission, if I could kind of improve the chairs and the tables there. And he said it was okay. Also, I have ideas for, you know, maybe a volunteer community improvement projects. I don't know if that's something the City is already doing. I don't know how actively involved the community is in that. If there is something like that, I'd like to be attached to it or maybe start a process to maybe get people involved. Me, personally, I would expect a minimum of 100 people. And that's why I initially calculated labor hours for 100 volunteers at 2 hours per event. Then I set a goal of 50 volunteers, it might be attainable and realistically, I would

expect about 10 volunteers at most for something like this. If I had my own resources, I would actually pay people to come out and beautify the City because I know that that's more realistic. But, you know, at least for now I'm an army of one. And at least I'm contributing. I have friends that (inaudible) family. They're willing to, you know, participate. They like the idea. I've talked to a lot of people around the community. I told them what I'm doing, and they look for other things. I went to Pio Decimo not too long ago and one of the ladies that does the gardening there, I told her a little bit about what I was doing, and she said she's tired of just gardening all the time and wants to be more involved in the community. So I told her well, just do it. Just go out, meet people, or help wherever there is, help is needed. So that's kind of what I'd like to do with my limited time and resources, is to start kind of like baby steps and one thing that I was talking to the City Clerk earlier is that I live on Oracle and Roger. And everywhere I walk, walking distance, there is beautiful things. There's the mall. I have a super Target. There are these wonderful things that I don't see in the City and I wish they were here, too, so other people had access to 'em and I'm really glad for this new project, and this Greenway. I didn't really know about it until tonight so I'm looking forward to that. And just, you know, small things, contributions that I can do day to day, and hopefully it will add up. That's all I have.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you. We sure do appreciate all your work. Thank you. Is there anybody else that would like to address the Council?

(No response)

ITEM #10 – ADJOURNMENT - Motion by Councilman Green to adjourn the Special Meeting. Seconded by Councilwoman Mendoza. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:43 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 Special Meeting of the City Council of South Tucson, Arizona, held on the 21st day of February, 2014. I further certify the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2014.

Veronica Moreno, City Clerk