

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of South Tucson, Arizona, held Tuesday, June 9, 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
Vanessa Mendoza
Anita Romero
Miguel Rojas
Mary Soltero

Staff Present: Luis Gonzales, City Manager
Veronica Moreno, City Clerk
Denise Valencia, Officer Manager
Marilyn Chico, Housing Director
Chief Lackey, Police Dept.
Sgt. Cajas, Police Dept.
Rey Alvarez, Battalion Chief Fire Dept.
Roy Cuaron, Finance Dept.
Lourdes Aguirre, Finance Dept.
Andrea, City Attorney

Guests:

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

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

ITEM #05 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None available.

ITEM #06 – RESOLUTION NO. 14-16 OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON, ARIZONA, FOR ADOPTION OF THE TENTATIVE BUDGET OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON FOR THE 2014-2015 FISCAL YEAR, ADOPTING THE ESTIMATE AMOUNTS REQUIRED TO MEET THE PUBLIC EXPENSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING PUBLICATION OF STATEMENTS AND SCHEDULES OF THE TENTATIVE BUDGET

Mr. Gonzales: Item number 6 is your annual, part of your annual ritual of beginning to finalize the budgets. You've gone through all the budgets. We've made some recommendations for some changes. Today is a resolution that allows us then to adopt a tentative budget as you continue the public notice process. After that, your budget will then come back in a couple of weeks for final approval. What we have done in the budget, there's a slight change in the budget, what we have actually done now, the direction and concerns that Ms. Romero had regarding Public Works, we have added an amount of money there, total amount to be determined in terms (inaudible). However, it's going to be up to approximately \$18,000. Maybe between 14 and 18,

depending on what it comes down to to provide for some increases in salaries for the people in Public Works. That's the only change since the last budget that you saw. That process will not affect the bottom line. So the amount of cushion, if you will, that you have, a contingency, will remain the same as what you saw in the last budget. So what we'll do now we'll have Mr. Cuaron come on up and explain to you what it is that we've done and where you will see that particular change.

Mr. Cuaron: Mr. Mayor, members of the Council, as Mr. Gonzales indicated, the last budget that we presented to you, the general fund budget showed a surplus of \$90,000. All we've done, you know, over (inaudible) is basically was take the 90,000 put it into contingency and the City Manager budget so we could have a structurally balanced budget, if you will. That contingency, rather than 90,000, the impact of the dollar raise in Public Works to the general fund is about \$3,700. So that ninety-seven hundred, 90,000 dropped from 90,000 by 6,000. So that's really the only change that we've made from the general fund. Again, reflecting that we eliminated secondary property tax. We have in there built in increases in the sales tax rate across all industries. So none of those things, all of those things are embedded in the budget. What you have is three sets of documents. The second set of documents is what you've seen before. This is the line time detail for all general fund departments showing you, you know, how the money is proposed to be spent. The last 3 pages are the personnel roster that has been (inaudible) a little bit as we put salaries in there, or actually pension formulas. So, again, this is all, this is an area you've seen before in prior meetings. And that's the general fund budget. The first set of documents are the auditor general forms. And this is what we will publish. I'm not sure that we're going to publish all the schedules but certainly the summary sheet. It talks about the general fund, special revenue funds and in this case, the capital projects funds. So if you adopt the tentative budget today, we would ask (inaudible) 232, 215, and upon adopting the tentative budget, when you come back and adopt the final budget, you cannot exceed that amount that you adopt today. What you can do is you can shift resources amongst departments or programs, but you cannot increase the budget or adopt a final budget that's greater than what you adopt today. And what we're proposing today is 4.9, basically 5 million, \$4,968,900 in general fund; \$3,432,315 in special revenue funds; \$1,831,000 in your capital projects fund, for a total of \$10,232,215. Then what follows is the summary page on the auditor general forms is just the detail, a little bit more detail, some what you've seen before and a little bit (inaudible). So with that, we'll certainly entertain any questions you might have. When we come back and adopt a final budget, I think the intent is to bring forward the amendments that would affect the change on the code for all the various sales tax increases that are being proposed.

Motion by Councilman Rojas to adopt the tentative budget for \$10,232,215. Seconded by Councilwoman Romero.

Mayor Diaz: It's moved and seconded. Is there any discussion? Do you want to take a few minutes and let us look through the, some of the columns here. I guess it's on schedule F is where we're talking in regards to the Public Works, the HURF fund, for 14, is 376.22 and it's going to go up to 388.130.

Mr. Cuaron: That's correct.

Mayor Diaz: Is that the change that we've made, correct?

Mr. Cuaron: Right.

Mayor Diaz: Alright.

Councilwoman Mendoza: We don't know how much the actual amount of the, what we're giving them is?

Mr. Cuaron: In the budget, we assume the dollar an hour for, across the board for everybody in the Public Works. So it's 2,080 dollars per employee. If I may, if you look at schedule B and I guess we really haven't talked much about it, this is the property tax worksheet. And we're holding the primary tax rate the same as we did in the prior fiscal year at .2538 per hundred dollars of assessed valuation. That hasn't changed. And I don't know that we've mentioned that in the past.

Mayor Diaz: But also the formula for increasing the primary tax is quite different than what we discussed before. Is that?

Mr. Cuaron: In order, the maximum you can raise it without going into truth in taxation would generate, it's like 27 cents. It would bring in an additional \$4,000. Beyond that, you'd have to go into truth in taxation and that's a little bit more lengthy process.

Mayor Diaz: Okay. Thank you. So we have a motion and a second. All in favor of accepting the budget as presented please signify by saying aye.

All ayes, none opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Diaz: Before you leave, Mr. Cuaron, it has been a, in great appreciation that I write this letter on behalf of myself and the City of South Tucson City Council. A short three months ago we sent out a request to the Tucson City Manager Richard Miranda for some assistance in our financial department. He responded by requesting that you be loaned to us for three months. You did not have to accept. However, you did and how fortunate it is for us. Your expertise and willingness to share with our staff, particularly our finance staff, has allowed us to transform our Finance Department structure, train our employees in the discipline and identify pitfalls and correct deficiencies. You have worked tirelessly to create a budget that works. Thank you for, than you for meeting all our tough challenges before us. I can surely say that you personally, your personality is only surpassed by your professionalism. Your accomplishments are a testament to your dedication as a professional. Thank you, Roy. We want you to know that we appreciate all you have done for the City of South Tucson. We do hope you have enjoyed your stay with us. You will always be welcome. The City of South Tucson is very fortunate to have you. Again, thank you.

Mr. Cuaron: I appreciate it, thank you. Mr. Mayor, members of the Council, Mr. Gonzales, it's been my pleasure. I thoroughly have enjoyed it. It's challenging but very rewarding. And I'm going to help you through the final adoption. So whenever you need me, I gave my number to Mr. Gonzales and Ms. Aguirre. So feel free to call on me, but I do appreciate the kind words and the plaque. And it was very rewarding to me as well.

ITEM #07 – PUBLIC HEARING: NEW LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION OF ACQUISITION OF CONTROL, LICENSE SERIES #10 OF SALES RETAILERS LICENSE TO SELL ALL BEER AND WINE; LA ROCA MARKET; APPLICANT/AGENT AMY ACOSTA; 1600 SOUTH 9TH AVENUE

Mr. Gonzales: Mr. Mayor, members of the Council, this item, as you know, is the application for a new liquor license from Ms. Acosta, La Roca Market, is the applicant. Ms. Acosta, I assume that people are here to testify on it, either for or against. This is the time to have a public hearing on this application

Mayor Diaz: So at this time, I'd like to call Gloria Lopez.

Ms. Lopez: Good evening, Mayor Diaz, Vice-Mayor Romero, City Council members, Mr. Gonzales, thank you for allowing me to speak today. I'm the director the John Valenzuela Youth Center. And within this past month, we were approached by several different residents and they were asking us for help as they had seen a new posting go up for the new liquor license application called La Roca Market, which is at the former business called La Primavera Market place. I did meet with the residents. I went over kind of the whole process of what it takes to, how the liquor license approved or denied by the City and of course what steps are next if it's approved or denied and, you know, how eventually they do have to meet with the State. We really went over a lot of community organizing, getting them to get out there and to get signatures to get some more support for them. We have quite a few residents that were able to help us out and I'm very proud of them. A few of them weren't able to make it here tonight, but I just really wanted to give them a lot of credit for the work that they did. They hit the pavement and they went out and they really did an amazing job so I want to thank them for that. I did compile a packet of some of the letters. Excuse me, not some, of all the letters that were collected from, on our behalf. There are 63 of them. And also (inaudible) signatures that were submitted on our half. I also know that there are other residents in attendance today that do have more supporting documentation so I don't want to speak for them as well as the final total. I'm really proud of their work, as I've said before. We also want to talk about what does it take to have a liquor license application approved. There are several, there's two main criteria that really need to be proven before we can approve one. The first one really has to do with is this a public convenience for your residents to have this liquor license application? The radius of, one can prove whether or not it's a public convenience is a one mile radius. Now that, because of the location of this event, which is on 26th and 9th Street, we did also encompass the City of Tucson's demographics for this report, including the City of South Tucson as well. Within that one mile radius, we found that there are 24 places

including restaurants, liquor stores, convenience stores, where somebody can go and purchase alcohol. There are 8 within blocks of walking distance where somebody could go and to purchase alcohol as well. In order for this to be a saturation level, and that means that there needs to be about 10 within a square mile, we currently are over double capacity of being saturated of where there are places where people can buy liquor. This is, you know, clear proof that it is not a public convenience, that there are definitely other places where people can go to purchase alcohol. The second thing that we really have to prove is whether or not this is in the best interest of the community. In your packet I put a map of, one of them is a Google map. It kind of talks about how 26th Street is really a corridor for pedestrians. If you notice that on 10th Avenue and 26th, there are bus stops and then on 26th and 6th Avenue, there's another bus stop. For a lot of our residents or even family members or anybody who has to travel into the City of South Tucson whether they attend Ochoa Elementary School, whether they're trying to access our library, whether they are coming home from work, whatever it is, a lot of our residents do use public transportation. So we know that that street is a major corridor. It sees a lot of foot traffic. The fact that La Roca is going to be located on 26th and 9th does pose a pretty big problem. In addition, in your packet I included pictures of, from Google maps. Google maps is pretty extraordinary. They have pictures of businesses and streets and they actually allowed it to go back all the way until 2004. If you go back and you look at some of their pictures of 2004, what you really find is that this establishment historically has not been a grocery store or a market place. It really has been marketed as a liquor store. We know that speaking, I know that personally speaking with a lot of the residents, that's what it was mainly used for. Not many residents went there to purchase groceries. Not many people went there, you know, to buy supplies for the house. In a pinch, people would go there, but they also found out they were paying double so it was really used as that. As you can see in the pictures, there are a lot of liquor signs that were, liquor signs that were posted outside as well, too. Part of this, and my concern with, dating back to 2004, is that this is what they are marketing themselves as. This is what historically has proven to be a money-maker for this establishment. Speaking with a lot of the residents, specifically those that live in front or on 26th Street, their biggest concern was safety. On those Google images, you can really see the physical site of that building. If you notice, there are no windows within that establishment. There are no windows that face 26th Street, no windows that face 9th Street. There is no oversight or security in place to ensure that patrons, if they are behaving appropriately, if they are being intoxicated outside. Some of the, and I apologize for the grossness of this but, you know, if they're defecating or urinating outside of the building, there really is no one there to stop them, other than the residents that have to deal with this issue. The other issue that came up for a lot of our residents was just safety. We know that this is a main corridor again. There is Ochoa Elementary School, which is right down the street on 26th Street. We have a lot of our families who live on the opposite end of 10th and they attend the John Valenzuela Youth Center, they go to the library. What was happening was a lot of our families were actually having to walk out of their way to avoid this specific area. We are very concerned and I have another resident here, Alejandro, who wanted to share his experiences of walking as a youth.

Alejandro: Thank you, Mr. Mayor and Council members, (inaudible) time living in South Tucson, I have noticed a lot of these concerns that not only the residents around La Primavera but everywhere else. My biggest concern is mainly for my family. I, we go to the youth center, the John Valenzuela, all the time and I don't even let my younger brother walk because the experience that I had. I was walking from my house over to the John Valenzuela Youth Center. I got jumped right on the corner of La Primavera. And I had to run into the store. I asked for a phone. And then from there, I just ran straight to the JVYC because the, that was the only place that was the safest. And ever since then, I never walked through the streets again because of the experience that I've had. The, now, things have changed (inaudible) that Primavera isn't there. There's been a lot of less activity through the route that I go to, going to work, going to Explorers. It's just a great, it's just, the view that there's not as much as before. I oppose the liquor license application.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you.

Ms. Lopez: Thank you, Alejandro. It's really difficult for him to share that story. Alejandro is, he's an example of a really great kid from South Tucson who just wants to stay away from negativity. He was actively involved in the police Explorer post, so this is a guy who was physically able to fight off people. But when you encounter these situations where people are intoxicated or panhandling, and they become aggressive, it becomes a really dangerous situation for our youth. As I mentioned before, we were approached by residents because we have done quite a bit of research, along with the University of Arizona, specifically in relationship to alcohol use in South Tucson, alcohol availability, and the effects on children. The national average for youth, when they get their first experience of alcohol, which is where they take their first sip, the national average is 11. When we did our research where we actually went and we polled residents, and we polled youths, specifically, the median age was 9 for South Tucson, which is very shocking. You know, I know a lot of 9 year olds and the fact that they're being exposed to that at a young age is very scary. But part of this really kind of exemplifies that when you have so many places available with liquor it becomes part of your norm where you see constant liquor signs outside of these market stores, where you walk into the store and you're bombarded with marketing, where you're bombarded with people just passed out. You know, we know that we have a lot of our kids that are now jaded to see somebody passed out on the floor is nothing. It's the same as if you saw a tree. We know that that is something that has to change. We have to really change of what is acceptable in our community. And we know that we are no longer wanting to accept more liquor licenses in the City of South Tucson and our general community, which does include and borders the City of Tucson. As the director of JVYC, you know, we really have seen how alcohol has negatively transformed a lot of the lives of our kids. And it's devastating. It's devastating to meet with our families. It's devastating to hear those stories from their peers. And we know that we have to also take a stance. So that's part of why we're involved at this point and why we were asked to kind of help, come and help them organize a lot of their letters and stuff. I do realize that the City of South Tucson is really actively recruiting new businesses. And it's vital to our economic development here in South Tucson. However, you know, as, your responsibility is also to look at what's the cost of that, you know. Are we going to bring

in new taxes from this store, but how much are we going to put out in police? How much are we going to put out in reports? How much are we going to put out in residents who are not feeling safe within their own community? As I've mentioned before, speaking with the residents, they have been relieved that this business has gone. We see a lot of our families back out. They sit outside in front of their yard, having a barbecue, which to some people is normal. But you have to understand within this street, on 26th Street, that was not normal. It was not normal to be out in your front yard because you would have people coming up to you asking you for money, or you would see people urinating. It's a huge issue so I do urge you to please consider the letters that are in your packet today. And to really, to give a denial for this liquor license application. Thank you.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you. Is Amy Acosta, is, will you be representing, or do you want to speak? Okay. And I guess, state your name and address for the record.

Ms. Acosta: Okay. I'm Amy Acosta. And well, we (inaudible) at the apartment, at the store, 1600 South 9th Avenue.

Mayor Diaz: Okay. And your name?

Mr. Gluck: My name is Gluck. Amy's my sister.

Ms. Acosta: Well, we're the new owners of the market. And our goal is to have it as a neighborhood grocery store. We have some information that we put out there. You know, we're excited to be a part of the neighborhood. We've been living there for a little while now. And to bring in products that people would want to purchase, different kind of groceries and local items that we can have in the store. And so the focus is on the groceries and items that our neighbors would like to purchase. Even possibly some ready made food. And then once we're established, you know, we'd like to have other kinds of items there. Maybe a coffee shop and other food items that, because the building is big and we hope to be able to expand. And in that expansion, of course, hire people from the neighborhood to work there. We've already had two people come in and ask us about employment and wanting to help us out getting the store, we're doing as much of a cleanup as we can. And there are windows over there. I mean, you know, we found some windows in there to just brighten up the store, make it clean and inviting. So that's our, you know, our goal is to have it as a good business and, and a lot of room for expansion. We're really excited. We think we can really have a good size store and be a real plus for the neighborhood. We live there so of course safety is our concern also. So we certainly have that in mind as we're doing our remodeling and making our plans for operating the store. Like I said, since, you know, we live in, on that also. And of course with the sales brings in our taxes for the groceries and, you know, we want to have the, it's not a liquor store license. We're asking for the beer wine off-site license. So we'd like to have wines and beer, but not single items. Not, you know, single bottles. And as part of the license application, I've taken the course for both the main liquor license course and the management course. And so, you know, I've learned all about all the regulations and the checking for ID's and also who you sell alcohol to and when to turn customers away.

Mayor Diaz: Is this the vision of what you plan to remodel?

Mr. Gluck: I just wanted to put that (inaudible) compare it to (inaudible) just a liquor store. So, you know, our focus is groceries and grocery market. And like Amy just said, you know, we want to have the beer and alcohol available as part of a complete package. But, you know, right away, for the neighborhood, we won't sell any singles, any quarts, any forties, anything like that. So it's more just a, you know, it's going to be a section in the store. Most of the store is going to be groceries and household items. So, you know, that, I put also on there, you know, different phases for the business. Right now, we're in phase I, which is cleaning up the property. You can't really tell much from the outside. On the inside we've done a lot of work. Still a lot to go. And then the phase II will be a kind of limited operation. It's basically just me and my sister and hopefully, one, maybe two employees. And then after that, once we establish and the business is vital there, then we would actually shut down and do a major remodel that would look like more like the picture. You know, it was mentioned windows, you know, we don't want this like closed off, closed building.

Ms. Acosta: We're really excited about the history of the building also. I have, my daughter-in-law is working on a social network presence for the store and highlighting the area. We're looking at, you know, specific South Tucson itself with all the artwork and murals that it's famous for. And then the store itself, its history, that it, you know, started in 1915 as a Chinese market, and really getting some of that background and history and getting that out to the public and generating interest in the area and in our particular building, but in the general City also.

Mayor Diaz: So in regards to the beer and wine, how, you know, if the license is opposed, can you still go ahead and do your planning as far as the rest or is that going to be ...

Mr. Gluck: I'm sorry, ...

Mayor Diaz: ... detrimental ...

Ms. Acosta: We can still have the store without the ...

Mr. Gluck: Oh, without the license? I do not, I'd say it's going to be pretty tough, you know, to have a destination for, for, you know, a lot of shoppers to come in. Now, I'm glad to hear that, you know, 26th Street has a lot of traffic. I've noticed that, too, when we're out there working on the place. You know, people come by, "Is it open?" I've had people walk right in thinking it's open. To go without the liquor license, I'd say that's going to be a tough, tough road, honestly.

Ms. Acosta: We, we don't, you know, we're just starting out. We just saw this property and got excited about it. And so we're really depending on our beginning sales as to help us to get to phase II.

Mr. Gluck: Yeah, once we clean it up and get it to, you know, we're not going to go overboard. It's going to be pretty basic inside to begin with. But once we see this as a business and we can prove it financially through statements, then we can look for more funding to do a major remodel. So in that beginning phase, you know, whether it's 3 months or 6 months, you know, we really gotta see it be a vital business (inaudible). To, to not be able to offer a full range, it would be the same thing if, you know, if you say we couldn't sell dairy or we couldn't sell any (inaudible) products. You know, I think it would be a, make the business succeed is a lot tougher.

Mayor Diaz: And to address the safety concerns, are you more or less some of these places hire security guards. Some have cameras. Some have lots of lights.

Mr. Gluck: It's a big concern ...

Mayor Diaz: (Inaudible) ...

Mr. Gluck: ... of ours, ...

Mayor Diaz: ... (inaudible).

Mr. Gluck: ... of course, 'cause you know, we see so many other stores in the neighborhood and, you know, me and my sister (inaudible) we can't run a successful business having derelict people hanging out, having people afraid to go in the store, having an atmosphere around us that's negative. So one thing in the beginning phase, we're not going to be open all that late. I'd say 8 o'clock. Maybe 9 o'clock on a weekend, on Friday and Saturday. You know, from the beginning I think we need to (inaudible) on the vagrancy issue. I mean it's just, again, I can't have a successful business with people hanging out drinking or drunk or anything, so it's in our interest as much as it is in the neighborhood's to keep that place under control and clean.

Mayor Diaz: Okay.

Ms. Acosta: Yeah, I've been, I haven't met face-to-face yet, but I've contacted the police that, you know, want to meet and talk about what we can do proactively and all the rules and those kinds of things.

Mr. Gluck: And, you know, we've been in the neighborhood a few months now. You know, I've been in Tucson since, you know, the early '80's, and all over town so, you know, I don't consider myself new to the neighborhood. But I'm new to South Tucson and living there, and I can say I think that that element is pretty limited. You know, I think there's a handful of people that need to be kept under control. And I think from the beginning if that's not allowed, I don't see it as being, it's not a problem to keep that place clean.

Mayor Diaz: Are there any other questions from the Council?

Councilwoman Mendoza: I do have one. The liquor license application states that the distance to the nearest school is 1,100 feet, which is Ochoa Elementary School and the nearest church is 500 feet, which is Community Church of the Nazarene. But in our records, we show that the church is actually only 120 feet and Ochoa is only 580 feet from this store. I'd like just maybe clarification as to which one is accurate.

Mr. Gluck: It's not the easiest thing to determine, where you take the measurements from. I mean the church is facing 27th so you take from their front gate, you know. I don't (inaudible).

Ms. Acosta: I kind of went based on the old liquor license. I was given that from the State and I kind of based my measurements on what they had on the other liquor licenses. Yeah, that church, well, there was a different church that was listed. So I estimated that as best I could. Like I said, you're not really sure where to take the measurements.

Mr. Gluck: Yeah, if it's front door, front door, it's probably over that distance, but if it's property line to property line, it's, yeah, it's a lot closer.

Councilman Rojas: Mr. Mayor, I have a question. Who has a mailing address at Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia? (Inaudible) 4601 Fairfax Drive, Arlington Virginia.

Mr. Gluck: What's the name again?

Ms. Acosta: That's (inaudible).

Mr. Gluck: (Inaudible). That's the, that's the mortgage company.

Councilman Rojas: Oh, that's the mortgage company?

Mr. Gluck: Yeah.

Councilman Rojas: (Inaudible) address. They didn't say mortgage company. It seems like (inaudible). Is that Title Security of Arizona?

Mr. Gluck: Yeah. Well, ...

Ms. Acosta: It's the financier of ...

Mr. Gluck: There is Title Security and there's (inaudible). So they're the mortgage people.

Councilman Rojas: Okay. That's it.

Mayor Diaz: Any more questions?

(No response).

Mayor Diaz: Okay, thank you. Gallego.

Ms. Lopez: Oh, he already went.

Councilman Rojas: Oh, he did. That's the young man.

Mayor Diaz: I'm sorry. Ramon Beltran.

Mr. Beltran: Hello. My name is Raymond Beltran. I'm at 2423 South 4th Avenue. (Inaudible). I'm 70 years old. I've been in the community of South Tucson for over 50 years. I see it's ups and downs. I was in the last recall. And I know the things that have occurred throughout the years. A lot of suffering. A lot of good times. A lot of inconveniences. A lot of everything. I'm a resident of the City of South Tucson. There's a lot, some newcomers that come in. They just recently moved in. You know, they can't be (inaudible) because they (inaudible). Well, I do have, I had proven to have the interest of South Tucson because of my length of time that I've been here. And my interest that I have here, I have a business. And I work hard for the community. I was in, I helped the last administration. I was very involved for them to get voted. In fact, they ran, they ran under community safety and they promised that they would (inaudible) and I hope, I'm sure that they're doing it and I hope they continue to do it. And I have faith it will continue. And that's our main concern, our safety. Our children's safety. Our family's safety. It's about a block on the east side there's Ochoa's school. It's only one block. How long does it take to walk to that store? It's a very old building. I think it could be demolished even though it's historical. It doesn't have the architectural historical building. I think it's worth it for the City to think about demolishing it. Because it's a lot of repairs that need to be done, a lot of violations. It's not safe. Another thing, the newcomer or new owners, they're here, might not have the money to remodel it, it might not be worth it. And also, there are homes around, there are families. There's also the school, the church. There's a mission, rescue on the south side of the, a block away from there. Where do you think (inaudible)? There's people that are trying to get away from alcohol. No, (inaudible). And they'll be there. Are we going to waste our limited resources taking care of the store and the people that go there? We have enough problems over here with the mental health, mental center. We're going to have our hands full, liabilities. We don't want more liabilities. We want positive things in the City of South Tucson. And we can't let newcomers here come in and, and mislead us and make a lot of promises like this. The real issue is our liability and our safety. That comes first. In fact, let me express (inaudible) and that's why they won. That's a big major reason why they won. And we need to stand together and work together and not work divided. And not blame anybody but work with our faults and what we have, our resources and work together as a family. We need to go forward not backward. Thank you very much.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you. And Leticia.

Leticia: Good afternoon, Mayor and Council, City Manager, people in attendance. I'm going to talk a little bit and then Ally will be speaking as well. As a member of the

Primavera Community Primero, Community First, we are here to express our opposition to this liquor license and ask that Mayor and Council reject the liquor license. Based on what Gloria had mentioned we are echoing what Gloria said. Mission View, that's mainly, as Ramon also said, the safety for our children. It's 550 feet from the school. (Inaudible) very negative impact, I'm sorry, that's my phone.

Councilman Rojas: Could we turn it off or walk it outside?

Leticia: The safety for the children. That's our main concern. And there is a park on 25th and 9th, which the children congregate in. Very, very negative to have another liquor license where we can have panhandlers loitering, people passing out where it's visible for the children. And we just finished with the budget. We know where the deficit, a million dollar deficit, we don't need another additional drain on the City's resources. Every time somebody passes out in front of that store, police have to go there. The firefighters have to go, etc., draining our limited resources. And what will the new owners do when they have people passed out in front of the store? Of course they're going to call the City of South Tucson police. And the firefighters are there. They are, I'm sure they're not going to get them out of the street themselves. So they have to, again, drain our resources. If it's a grocery store, why do you need a liquor store? I mean I think everything they mentioned, coffee and groceries, everything sounds really great, except the liquor license. You want to be a plus for the community. I'm telling the new owners, you will not be a plus by having a liquor license. You will be a negative, a sore, to the City of South Tucson. And in concluding, I'm going to say we don't need more liquor license. We don't need any more rehabs. Enough is enough. Basta. And now I'll pass the podium to Ally.

Ally: Hi. My name is Ally Felix and I live at 1443 South 9th Avenue. And I'm from the other spectrum of I do not live in South Tucson. But I do live on 29th and, I mean on 9th and 25th. I am not, I'm just a block away from this store. I didn't know that this letter had gone out. We did not get notified. It says, the State law says that we should be notified if we're within one square mile. None of us were notified. A resident from South Tucson went around our neighborhood and I went around our neighborhood and I collected ten letters from residents who have been directly affected. You people should have a copy of it. The park is the biggest influence and I know that the new owners are saying they will not have these people around their area. But they all go over to that little park. And that park is mainly children's and adults. Because I have a big yard, I see a lot of things that go in the park. And many times, if an elder is walking I'll go outside. If there's kids playing there, I'll go outside. But we have had, in the previous with the other owner, a lot of people that went there and they bought their liquor and they went there and that's where they, they drank it. And it says there "No Liquor". And so we would go out there and say, "There's no liquor in here," because we knew the kids were going to come before school or after school. And they, you can imagine what they yelled at us. And we would call the police. I did call the City of Tucson police 'cause that is my area. And although they couldn't pinpoint a lot of statistics, they were able to tell me that there has been a decrease of officers called of 28% since La Primavera closed in September. That's a significant amount. And so now we're seeing the kids back there. And they're playing and they're, it has a place, it has a place and,

but there's where they congregate, or they go on the slide and that's where they drink. We see that. We seem them all the time. So, and they do go to the people's houses around the neighborhood. And we're all being affected. So we strongly urge that, we wish them well on the market. We hope they can sell a lot of stuff in there, but we're opposed to the liquor. Thank you very much.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you. Is there anyone else in the audience?

Arlene Lopez: Mayor Diaz, members of the Council, Mr. Gonzales, my name is Arlene Lopez, and I live at 240 West 34th. I'm a resident. I've lived here all my life in South Tucson. And in the past, I have helped the Council and the community to oppose liquor licenses, even so far as going up to the State Liquor Board. My concern is the alcoholism that is very prevalent here in our community. We have, it's only one square mile but we have a lot of bars and we have a lot of non-profit agencies where a lot of the drug addicts and alcoholics go and seek help. And people who are chronically mentally ill. But some of the, that is caused by an imbalance in the brain or alcohol and drugs. The Gospel Rescue Mission is just down the street. And I have challenged Pastor Tomlin from the Gospel Rescue Mission to live in our neighborhood and see what his clients are doing after dark. And there's a three-page letter that I sent him. I also spoke to Primavera, telling them about the concerns that I have. Unfortunately, last week we had another agency moving in that stated that they were going to move in any way, no matter if we protested. So, you know, I challenge the people to let's communicate with these agencies and let them know our concerns and our needs in this community because something has to change. Okay? When Walgreen's wanted to get a liquor license, we protested that. And I go to Walgreen's quite a bit, right there on 29th and 6th, and the poor security guard has to deal with all kinds of issues out there. And a lot of them are people who are inebriated and get a little rowdy at times. I really would like to see something positive in South Tucson. I know the liquor generates a lot of money for the owners and for South Tucson. But we really need to find something that's a little bit more positive than alcohol which causes a lot of problems; domestic violence, accidents, liver problems. The alcohol is, is, I think, the worst enemy of the human race but that's my own opinion. Okay. Downtown, they have all kinds of bars and restaurants, but that's downtown. And they have very few residents. The Primavera is right in the middle of a residential area, especially with a lot of children. And I feel that this is a big negative to the community. I am happy to hear that they want to do a coffee shop. Maybe have aguas frescas or something else there for the community. But not more liquor. We have the T & T, Valencia Market, Food City, Circle K, all the restaurants. You, you know, you name it. And it's quite a saturation for just one square mile. I'm sorry if I'm repeating myself but I just wanted to let you know my concern. Thank you.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you. Okay. We'll go ahead and close the hearing and move to Item #08.

WINE; LA ROCA MARKET; APPLICANT/AGENT AMY ACOSTA; 1600 SOUTH 9TH AVENUE

Councilman Rojas: Mr. Mayor, in view of the testimony presented, and the letters that were presented to us in writing, I move that a negative vote or a rejection of the liquor license be forwarded to the Liquor License Board of the State of Arizona.

Councilwoman Mendoza: Second.

Mayor Diaz: It has been moved and second. Are there any more questions:

(No response).

Mayor Diaz: Hearing none, all in favor of the motion signify by saying ay.

All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM #09 – REPORTS

Mr. Gonzales: Next door to McDonald's, as you will recall, there were a couple of murals on the walls that belonged to the former owner of McDonald's (inaudible). He has donated those two murals to the City. Those couple of murals that probably (inaudible) or 6 x 7. They are now over at Public Works building so if anybody wants to go see them, you may go see them there. They wanted us to maybe put them up somewhere. So we received them. They're over there now. Perhaps you can think about where you might want to put them. They're pretty nice murals. They were painted by Gonzal Espinoza, a Yaqui artist, who has assisted in doing murals around town. And most of the murals you see at the Pascua Yaqui reservation are some of his work. So we have accepted them. And they're over there so if anyone wants to go and see them, please do and then maybe you can think of some place that we may be able to hang them.

Sgt. Cajas directed the swearing-in ceremony of Clara Diaz, new police officer in the South Tucson Police Department. He read the following statement:

On May 23rd, 2014, police recruit Clara Y. Diaz graduated from the Pima Community College Public Safety and Emergency Services Institute Academy. She began her journey in Public Safety in the spring of 2006, when she joined the South Tucson Explorer Post 317. Throughout her time in the Explorer Post, Clara achieved the ranks of corporal, sergeant, lieutenant, and captain. She finished her Explorer career at age 21 in 2012. While in the Explorer Post, she traveled to California, Washington, D.C., and Colorado and probably several other places I forgot. She attended Police Explorer Academy with the Sahuarita Police Department, Oro Valley Police Department, U.S. Border Patrol Federal Academy, and the South Tucson Police Department. She was awarded Explorer of the Year in 2006 and again in 2009. She has won numerous trophies and medals while competing in Explorer competition. She accumulated

hundreds of hours of peer advising and youth mentoring, as well as hundreds of hours of police training, community service, and fundraising. She's a person of good character and a role model to all young people in her state of law enforcement. When I first met Clara in 2006, she was very, very quiet. I could barely get a peep out of her. Now I can't keep her mouth shut. She is everything that we had hoped she would become here in South Tucson. She is an incredible representation of what you can do if you put your mind to it. Clara does not come from a rich family. She was not born with a silver spoon in her mouth. Everything she has achieved in her life has been through struggle, through strain, through animosity, but she's done it regardless. When she came to this department many, many, many years ago, she had overcome her shyness. She had overcome many physical issues, meaning she wasn't very strong, she wasn't very fast. I couldn't get a push-up or a sit-up out of her. And now she can do all of that and more. I think the City of South Tucson is lucky, damn lucky to have her here. She's going to be a fantastic representative of our police department and what we can put out. I'm very grateful to Chief Lackey said that it would be okay to put her in the academy. I'm glad that our City Manager, Mr. Gonzales, approved it, and I'm glad that you folks allowed it to happen. It speaks volumes of your character and we really, really appreciate it. She is going to do some magnificent things here in South Tucson, and she's going to have a lot of high expectations from everybody here in this room. Me too, you know.

Chief Lackey: Mayor, City Council, I just want to put this in the proper perspective. She's here because of you guys and because of the City Manager. If it wasn't for you guys, she wouldn't be here. But over the last fourteen months since I've been here, we've done some incredible things with Public Safety. It's unbelievable. For example, the Fire Department exceeds all my expectations. I'm very, very proud of the City of South Tucson Fire Department and Police Department. But it all pales to compare with what's going on right here. Seven years ago, we had a fourteen-year old girl come into our Explorer program which was brand new, stayed with the Explorer program, we trained her for 7 years. She's a product of the City of South Tucson. We sent her to the academy; five hundred and eighty some hours. It's a 10-month academy. She excelled in the academy. And now, right now, she's a police officer with the City of South Tucson. I am more proud of this than everything else we have done with the police department, with fire department, anything within the City of South Tucson. I just want everybody to know that so thank you very much.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you.

Clara Diaz was sworn-in as a South Tucson police officer.

ITEM #10 – CALL TO THE AUDIENCE – No response from the audience.

ITEM #11 – ADJOURNMENT - Motion by Councilman Rojas to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Seconded by Councilwoman Soltero. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:03 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 9th day of June, 2014. I further certify the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2014.

Veronica Moreno, City Clerk