



**CITY OF SURPRISE**  
**City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**100 North Civic Center Plaza**  
**Surprise, AZ 85374**

Thursday, August 13, 2009 @ 05:45 PM

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**CALL TO ORDER.**

**A. Roll Call**

Mayor Truitt called the **Special City Council Meeting** to order at 05:45 p.m. Surprise City Hall Council Chamber 16000 North Civic Center Plaza Surprise, Arizona 85374 , on **Thursday, August 13, 2009**. Also in attendance with Mayor Truitt were Vice Mayor Johnson, Council Member Longabaugh, Council Member Alton, Council Member Williams, Council Member Villanueva, and Council Member Hall.

**Staff Present:** City Manager, Randy Oliver, City Attorney, Michael Bailey, Assistant City Manager, Doug Sandstrom, City Clerk, Sherry Aguilar, and Linda Stevens, Deputy City Clerk.

**B. Pledge of Allegiance**

**Special City Council Meeting Agenda:**

**REGULAR AGENDA ITEM - NON-PUBLIC HEARING:**

**#1. Consideration and action regarding the review of allegations of the unethical conduct of Vice Mayor Johnson as it relates to the interaction with City of Surprise employees - NO ACTION TAKEN**

Mayor Truitt commented on the purpose of the Special Meeting.

City Manager Oliver stated that he has asked staff to provide information pertaining to conversations, timeframes and events.

Director of Community Development, Jeff Mihelich reported on the event, flex time and overtime.

Code Enforcement Manager, Chris Boyd reported on the sign violation and phone conversation with employee.

Vice Mayor Johnson asked Mr. Mihelich the following: if he was commanding, was the campaign sign violation valid, not different from any other violations that are called in.

Vice Mayor Johnson stated that he feels that it is political gainsmanship and that everyone has heard

the facts.

Council Member Hall inquired about dispatching a code enforcer that late in the day.

Council Member Alton asked Mr. Mihelich for the exact wording of the conversation between Vice Mayor Johnson and himself.

Council Member Villanueva commented on getting the facts, that a complaint wasn't filed and that there was no intent on Vice Mayor Johnson's part.

Council Member Longabaugh inquired about the written statement.

Council Member Hall read the following statement:

It's been brought to the attention of the Council that on April 17, 2009 a Code Enforcement Officer was dispatched to enforce a campaign sign violation based upon a phone call to the Community Development Director from Vice Mayor Johnson. I believe that it is appropriate to publically address this matter, while an independent ethics review may be allowable under this circumstance. I believe that this body the Council has the ability to make an ethical determination without any recommendation by any independent ethics officer. In that regard I believe explanations and clarifications need to be addressed and if warranted the Council consider discipline under the Council approved Ethics Policy.

After hearing all of the facts from Mr. Boyd and Mr. Mihelich I don't think there was a violation of ethics.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: NONE**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Truitt adjourned the Special City Council Meeting at 5:59 p.m.

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L.E. Truitt, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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Sherry Ann Aguilar, City Clerk,

**CERTIFICATION:**

I, Sherry Ann Aguilar, City Clerk for the City of Surprise, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby verify that these are the true and correct minutes of the Special City Council Meeting of **Thursday, August 13, 2009.**

Sherry Ann Aguilar, City Clerk,