



CITY OF SURPRISE
City Council Work Session Minutes
100 North Civic Center Plaza
Surprise, AZ 85374

Tuesday, December 6, 2011 @ 04:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER.

A. Roll Call

Mayor Truitt called the **Special City Council Work Session** to order at 04:00 p.m. Surprise City Hall Council Chamber 16000 North Civic Center Plaza Surprise, Arizona 85374 , on **Tuesday, December 6, 2011.** Also in attendance with Mayor Truitt were Vice Mayor Hall, Council Member Biundo, Council Member Alton, Council Member Williams, Council Member Villanueva, and Council Member Woodard.

Staff Present: Assistant City Manager, Jeff Mihelich, City Attorney, Michael Bailey, and City Clerk, Sherry Aguilar.

Special City Council Work Session Agenda:

REGULAR AGENDA ITEM - NON-PUBLIC HEARING:

#2. Discussion on case FS11-312, a plan to prepare and amend the City of Surprise General Plan - NO ACTION

City Planner, Vineetha Kartha gave an overview of case FS11-312 - Surprise General Plan process update. The timeline was discussed which outlined public hearing process; open house; art shows, etc.

Vice Mayor Hall inquired about attendance.

Council Member Alton commented on the importance of community outreach.

Council Member Villanueva asked if the general plan process includes areas not in Surprise.

#1. Discussion and update from the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC) Executive Board - NO ACTION

Community and Economic Development Director, Jeff Mihelich gave an overview of GPEC Executive Board initiatives. Denise Resnik and Steve Betts (Backgrounds are included in the agenda packet).

Denise Resnik gave an overview of GPEC accomplishments including projects that are currently in Surprise.

Mayor Truitt thanked Steve and Denise for their efforts to support Surprise.

Council Member Alton stated that he asked that GPEC be here, because Council had not heard from them in 4 years. He asked what Steve Betts involvement was in Rio Glass.

Vice Mayor Hall asked if Suncor affiliated with APS.

Council Member Alton stated that we would love to promote the foreign trade zone.

#3. Discussion on COS 12-017 a contract with RK Sanders for the construction of a sidewalk along the South side of Bell Road and Greenway and Grand in an amount not to exceed \$186,654.00 plus an owners contingency of \$19,000. - NO ACTION

Public Works Director, Robert Beckley gave an overview of the contract with RK Sanders for a sidewalk along Grand Avenue and Greenway Road.

Vice Mayor Hall inquired about the low bidder and the specs.

Council Member Woodard asked how this ties in with the budgeting process.

#4. Discussion regarding a Whistle Blower Ordinance - NO ACTION

Council Member Williams gave an overview of the Whistle Blower ordinance.

Community and Economic Development Director, Jeff Mihelich gave an overview of the internal survey. He stated that 82 employees responded to the survey out of 700+ employees.

Council Member Williams stated that it doesn't secure the anonymity of the employees, it contradicts what we are trying to do. He further stated that we need for them to feel comfortable to give their honest opinions.

Council Member Biundo commented on software that protects the anonymity of the person reporting and gives the municipality.

Council Member Williams asked Council what they thought about the policy aspect.

Vice Mayor Hall stated that written and oral would be acceptable.

Mayor Truitt stated that the criteria needs to be clear.

#5. Call for public input regarding agenda items.

Ken Wright - Discussed his past work experience with investigations and Ombudsman. Need to talk about definition and process. Need to be careful with the employees that complain a lot.

Bill Lipscomb - This issue is of great importance. I have been involved in 3 whistleblower cases over the years. I have spoke with many professionals on this subject, and there is so much to cover. Reviewed his experience in the Air Force and policies that were created for employee issues.

Council Member Villanueva made the motion to approve entering into executive session at 5:29 p.m. Council Member Alton seconded the motion. Seven yes votes. Motion carried.

#6. LITIGATION - Discussion/consultation with the City Attorney to receive legal advice, to consider its position, and to provide instruction/direction to the City Attorney regarding Surprise's position in connection with pending or contemplated litigation, or in settlement discussions conducted in order to avoid or resolve litigation (A.R.S. §38-431.03 (A)(3)(4)).

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Truitt adjourned the Special City Council Work Session of December 6, 2011 at 6:27 p.m.

L.E. Truitt, Mayor

ATTEST:

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 Work Session of **Tuesday, December 6, 2011.**

Sherry Ann Aguilar, City Clerk,