



CITY OF SURPRISE

City Council Work Session Minutes

100 North Civic Center Plaza

Surprise, AZ 85374

Tuesday, April 21, 2015 @ 04:00 PM

Call to Order

Roll Call

Mayor Wolcott called the **Regular 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, April 21, 2015**. Also in attendance with Mayor Wolcott were Vice Mayor Williams, Council Member Winters, Council Member Villanueva, Council Member Biundo, Council Member Tande, and Council Member Hall.

Staff Present: City Manager, Bob Wingenroth, City Attorney, Misty Leslie, and City Clerk, Sherry Ann Aguilar.

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

Regular Agenda Item - Non-Public Hearing

1 - Presentation and discussion by the new Human Service & Community Vitality staff regarding the department assessment, immediate needs, and future goals - NO ACTION

City Manager Wingenroth gave an introduction to Michael Celaya, the new Director for the Human Service & Community Vitality Department.

Mr. Celaya thanked the Mayor and Council and the City Manager for allowing his department to present today and introduced his staff by name and position.

Topics of discussion included (Powerpoint):

New department logo

Mission/vision & philosophy

Why a new department?

Increase community engagement - goal of 50% increase in participation

Facilities not being used to full potential

Expanding Services

Diverse age community/Veteran's Outreach - Janeen Gaskins presented.

Senior Programs and Services - Joe Gladieux presented.

Social Activities - Knitting, sewing, bingo, fitness gym, etc.

Aging Facility - Not a lot of large space area, moving walls, set-up throughout each day.

Neighborhood and Family Services - Christina Ramirez presented.

CDBG, HOME & NSP; Fair Housing Awareness; Neighborhood Engagement & Reinvestment; Community Cleanups; Block Party Trailer; Summer Youth Employment Program.

Grants and Community Relations Services - Janeen Gaskins presented.

Council Member Villanueva spoke of preserving Gaines Park, it is the heart of Surprise and the residents feel the same.

Council Member Winters inquired about Title 5 Employees.

It is a job skills training program for 55 and older.

Council Member Tande commented on the possibility of needing an additional senior center in Surprise as we grow.

Council Member Tande inquired about grant options.

Grants Administrator, Janeen Gaskins explained the grant submission process and that this is a concept for a visual.

Mayor Wolcott spoke of the OTS Stakeholder's group; leveraging some of the grants and the priority of grants.

Mr. Wingenroth spoke of the photo of Neighborhood and Family Services Team; over 50 years of professional services and is a team that says they are here for you.

2 - Presentation and discussion regarding possible text amendment to the Surprise Municipal Code, Chapter 113 - Signs - NO ACTION

Robert Kuhfuss, Community Development Department staff gave an overview regarding possible text amendment to the Surprise Municipal Code, Chapter 113 - Signs.

Vice Mayor Williams commented that there isn't a powerpoint presentation; that there was a lot of information thrown out there; he would like to slow it down and that he would like to have something in writing to review and discuss.

Council Member Hall commented on the following: this is an overwhelming subject; we need to have

information as a visual for examples; he's concerned about open house signs on the streets and we need to look at limiting the amount; the sign walker ordinance specifies a certain zoning, but where exactly can they be located. He further commented that he is very business friendly and that we made exceptions but thinks it is getting to be a bit much and we need to take a look at this.

Mayor Wolcott commented that when we reconfigure the Bell/Grand Interchange, this will give us an opportunity to look at new signage and will set the tone for other areas as well. She further commented that she feels that most of the current signage is very ineffective.

Council Member Tande commented that the visual would be very helpful and it would be nice to see the comments from the businesses in the area of what they would like as well; this is an opportunity to upgrade current signage; he agrees with directional signs example for builders, etc., and it shows that we have higher quality standards.

Council Member Biundo commented that this is an opportune time to review and look at digital signs, do we want to give exceptions or not. He further commented that for the record he does not like billboards.

Council Member Winters commented on sandwich boards; possible ways for small businesses to advertise. He further commented that he would like to see a big monument sign at 134th and Bell Road to show what businesses are located there.

Council Member Villanueva commented that she does not like the large billboards.

3 - Presentation and discussion of updates to the City's land use plan and additional General Plan elements and proposed changes to the City's street and roadway designations, and outlining corresponding speed limits - NO ACTION

Martin Lucero, Community Development staff gave a powerpoint presentation relating to updates to the City's land use plan and additional General Plan elements and proposed changes to the City's street and roadway designations, and outlining corresponding speed limits.

Topics Included:

Surprise Transportation Plan
Proposed Speed Limit Map
Speed Limit Enforcement

Bullard Avenue - Unique roadway - General Plan was identified as an electric vehicle roadway. Propose a new designation, eliminate one striping lane and restripe for electric vehicle use only and can be used for bicyclists as well.

Vice Mayor Williams questioned map 1 and commented on his concerns such as Bullard at Ashton Ranch, kids crossing streets to get to school and asked why the speed limits vary.

Council Member Hall referred to information that he received from the Police Department regarding Northwest Ranch Parkway, specifically 6 accidents. He asked for the specifics of the accidents.

Dana Owsiany reported on the accidents.

Council Member Hall referred to the truck route and asked for clarification.

Mr. Lucero explained the route.

Mayor Wolcott inquired about the parking issue at the hotel.

Mr. Lucero explained some of the concepts.

Council Member Tande referenced Indianapolis and stated that it worked out really well. He commented that he likes the plan for Bullard Avenue. He also commented on the truck routes and a long range plan.

Council Member Winters asked what type of effect will this have on the hotels.

Mr. Lucero commented that visitors want to find alternate ways to get around our communities.

Council Member Winters commented that the roadway has issues and needs to be addressed.

Council Member Villanueva commented on the truck route on Dysart Road, 2 schools, sidewalk from El Mirage Road to the river and the speed limit on 303 to El Mirage Road.

Mayor Wolcott commented that we need to work collaboratively with ADOT & MCDOT.

Council Member Winters inquired about the sidewalk issue, specifically Grand to Golden Corral.

Council Member Tande spoke of coordinating with the 5 schools in advance of the new school year and reaching out to the HOA's as well.

Public Comments:

Christine Baker - Expressed concerns pertaining to Northwest Ranch speed limit issue. I feel better about this situation more than 2 days ago. Notified Mike Gent and he will be coming out to the HOA meeting in May. Concerned about the tot lot, children crossing, new developments coming in such as Prasada. Possibly find grants. Would like to see increased patrolling on this issue.

Gary Johnson - Not an engineer, but there was one slide that caught my eye, a family with children riding bikes. Keep this slide in mind for Northwest Ranch. If you want to enjoy the walking paths and go to tot lot, you have to use the crosswalk in a dangerous parkway. VM Williams was very helpful, but the problem still continues. The parkway is attracting people to see if they can make the curves. I ask the Council to take this issue seriously.

Executive Session

Adjournment

Vice Mayor Williams adjourned the Regular City Council Work Session of April 20, 2015 at 6:03 PM. Council Member Biundo seconded the motion. Seven yes votes. Motion adjourned.

Sharon R. Wolcott, 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 Regular City Council Work Session of **Tuesday, April 21, 2015.**

Sherry Ann Aguilar, City Clerk,