

Regular Council Work Session – Tuesday, January 20, 2015

Call to Order: Mayor Wolcott called the Regular Work Session to order at 4:01 p.m. in the Community Room located at the Surprise City Hall – 16000 N. Civic Center Plaza, Surprise, Arizona 85374.

Roll Call: Also in attendance with Mayor Wolcott were Vice-Mayor, John Williams; Councilmembers Roland Winters, Jim Biundo, Skip Hall, Rachel Villanueva and Todd Tande.

Regular Agenda Items:

1. Presentation and discussion to discuss the Grand Avenue/Bell Road Interchange project status and future opportunities. Staff is seeking input from the full City Council – NO ACTION

City Engineer, Karl Zook gave an overview of the Bell/Grand Interchange project. Topics included:

Council Member Tande - asked about pedestrian and bike lane plans?

Mayor Wolcott – How do the sidewalks we are adding in connect with this project? What are the widths of these sidewalks?

Martin Lucero - Removing current sidewalks, but the new ones will be in maintenance easements along Grand Avenue then along bridge.

Council Member Hall – Question regarding rail crossing? Will start January 1, 2016.

Long Range Planning Manager, Lloyd Abrams reviewed the concept design – Architectural Aesthetic Patterns. The Mayor and City have spoken with an artist for a special mural project that is different than the standard for ADOT.

City Manager Wingenroth - commented that there are a total of 8 surfaces that will contain artwork with an estimated cost of \$500,000. There may be a grant opportunity available and ADOT is looking into this.

Council Member Winters - I like the concept but worried about the cost.

Janeen Gaskins – commented on a Bloomberg grant, also looking at a variety of piecemeal grant opportunities to cover the cost of the upgrade project.

Carl Zook – The bid process should come out in April 2015.

Council Member Biundo – Will we be able to get some artistic concepts from the artist? This seems like a really tight timeframe.

Council Member Hall – Would be nice to have a design concept so we can see what we are looking at.

Mayor Wolcott – Will depend on the design build team, may be able to do in sections. ADOT is very excited to see how this may change the concept for highway designs.

Mr. Zook - Design Concept needs to be in RFP process so the vendors clearly understand what we are looking for.

Council Member Villanueva – Concerned that the mural might be distracting for drivers, what areas will be most visible?

Mayor Wolcott – Council consensus was to bring back a model to show Council.

2. Presentation and discussion regarding the progress made and future plans in establishing a Boys & Girls Club to serve the children of our community – NO ACTION

Mr. Wingenroth opened the discussion on the possibility of a Boys and Girls Club.

Paul Bernardo, Youth Coordinator gave an overview of purpose and programs for the Boys & Girls Club. Paul comes to Surprise with experience working with the Boys and Girls Club. He commented that there are 5 key factors that B&G Club concentrates on for their motto.

Mr. Wingenroth introduced CRS Director, Mark Coronado to give a history on discussions for the B&G Club. Topics included location, funding, etc., The City already runs a basketball program through the B&G Club. At some point, we could expand the programs to City owned community centers and Sierra Montana and Countryside.

Mr. Wingenroth spoke about the youth demographics in Surprise that surround these proposed sites and the possibility of working with Chicanos por la Causa to build a center that would include low cost of financing and have both buildings paid for by leasing the commercial building. The Council could consider the 2 million into operating costs and not building a facility.

Vice Mayor Williams – What do you mean by light industrial?

Mr. Wingenroth - the concept is still up for discussion.

Council Member Tande – Would we own the building? Would we be able to require performance bond, etc.?

Mayor Wolcott – Would we be selling the land to Chicanos por la Causa?

City Attorney Leslie said that we are only in beginning discussions and this is listed on E-Session for further discussion.

Vice Mayor Williams – The City is growing and I like the possibility of expanding to different areas of Surprise.

Mayor Wolcott – What is appealing to me is to have programs replicated throughout the City.

Council Member Villanueva – Reminder to everyone that El Mirage is not growing any larger, the El Mirage residents are spending their money here in Surprise.

Council Member Tande – I want to make sure the buildings are being utilized on a daily basis.

Mike Boyle – Surprise resident, a Club Kid back in the 60's in Washington. Served on the Boy's Club boards over the years. Gave an overview of experience serving on the boards and involvement with fundraising, etc. Read list of committee members. 12-18 month process to be accepted by the B&G Club, once accepted, then fundraising can begin.

Mayor Wolcott – Impressive list of national companies that support to B&G Club. How is the funding distributed?

Mr. Wingenroth - Points of consensus – Move forward with concept; shall we continue with concept of Villanueva site in OTS.

Council Member Villanueva - 2 million to fund endowment and jump start fundraising program. City Attorney Leslie advised discussing in E-Session.

Mr. Wingenroth - Consensus to move forward with a concept.

Mayor Wolcott – Would like to see presentation on proposed types of buildings.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Bob Vukanovich - Commented and expressed concern that the City told him prior to the meeting that because there were 4 agenda items that were slated to go into executive session, that we the public would not be allowed to bring them up for discussion. Mr. Vukanovich told Council that “in the call to the public” that other than the consent items we were entitled to talk on all agenda items.

Mayor Wolcott allowed Mr. Vukanovich to speak on #3 which was regarding contract negotiations related to the development of the Original Town Site and asked why this needed to be discussed in executive session and not in open forum.

Council Member Villanueva made the motion to recess into executive session at 5:33 PM. Vice Mayor Williams seconded the motion. Seven yes votes. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

3. Discussion and consultation with the City Attorney for legal advice and to consider its position and instruct its attorneys regarding contract negotiations related to the development of the Original Town Site A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3)and(4)
4. Discussion and consultation with the City Attorney for legal advice, to consider its position, and instruct its attorneys regarding contracts subject to negotiation between the City and developers related to the Verdugo and Altamira developments generally located at 163rd and Pinnacle Peak Road. A.R.S. 38-431.03(3) & (4).
5. Discussion and consultation with the City Attorney for legal advice and to consider its position and instruct its attorneys regarding contract negotiations related to the development in the Southwest Railplex A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3)&(4).
6. Discussion and consultation with City Attorney for legal advice, to consider its position and instruct its attorneys regarding contracts subject to negotiation between the City and developers along Cactus Road, west of the Loop 303. A.R.S. 38-431.03(3) & (4).

Adjournment :

Council Member Tande made the motion to adjourn the Regular Work Session at 6:09 p.m. Vice Mayor Williams seconded the motion. Seven yes votes. Motion carried.

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, January 20, 2015.**

Sherry Ann Aguilar, City Clerk