



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

Tuesday, March 1, 2016 @ 06:00 PM

Call to Order

Roll Call

Mayor Wolcott called the **Regular City Council Meeting** to order at 06:00 p.m. Surprise City Hall Council Chamber 16000 North Civic Center Plaza Surprise, Arizona 85374 , on **Tuesday, March 1, 2016**. Also in attendance with Mayor Wolcott were Vice Mayor Biundo, Council Member Winters, Council Member Williams, Council Member Hall, and Council Member Tande.

Staff Present: City Manager, Bob Wingenroth, City Attorney, Robert Wingo, and Deputy City Clerk, Linda Stevens.

Pledge of Allegiance

Proclamation and Community Acknowledgements

A proclamation recognizing March 2016 as Brain Injury Awareness Month. Mayor Wolcott will present the proclamation to Ms. Sharon Noe, Chief Executive Officer of Cobalt Rehabilitation Hospital and to Carrie Collins-Fadell, Executive Director of the Brain Injury Alliance of Arizona.

City Manager Report

**Rancho Gabriela 5th Graders/
Police Department - Rose the Therapy Dog - rescheduled for a later date**

City Attorney Report

City Clerk Report

Call to the Public

Susan DeJong: Arts in Surprise, need to do more, plan more and do it now. Luncheon Theatre, Public Arts Bus Tour and innovative arts place.

Gwen Wisner: recent loss of husband, wants everyone to know about the Firefighters and Engine House 306. A-shift - Doug Hamrick; Janessa Dobrinski, Warren Abraham, Chris Culligan. B-Shift - Matt

Clark, David Hackett, Melissa King, Aaron Lehr. C-Shift - David Zimmerman, David Anderson, Trevor Cagle and Matt Morris.

Consent Agenda

1 - Consideration and action declaring Council's intention to create a lighting improvement district pursuant to A.R.S. 48-616 for the purpose of purchasing facilities and energy for lighting the public streets for the Dysart Mini Storage #145 Street Lighting Improvement District; Resolution # 2016-23 - APPROVED

2 - Consideration and action pertaining to approval of the final plat entitled "Final Plat of W Ranch" a 10.47 acres property generally located north of Waddell Road and 2,100 feet east of Bullard Avenue - APPROVED

3 - Consideration and action pertaining to approval of the final plat entitled "Amended Plat of 'a Resubdivision of a Portion of Martin Acres' "a 2.36 acre property generally located at the northwest corner of Norwich Drive and Grand Avenue frontage Road - APPROVED

4 - Consideration and action pertaining to acceptance of a Victim of Crime Act grant and a Fiscal Year 2016 budget amendment reallocating appropriations of \$47,000.00 to account for increased grant funding; Resolution # 2016-26 - APPROVED

5 - Consideration and action on the minutes of February 16, 2016 Regular City Council Work Session and Regular City Council Meeting and the February 18, 2016 Special City Council Meeting Minutes - APPROVED

6 - Consideration and action pertaining to an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of El Mirage for Emergency Water Service - APPROVED

7 - Consideration and action pertaining to acceptance of a Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) victims assistance grant and amendment of the fiscal year 2016 budget by reallocating appropriations of \$42,100 to account for an increase in grant award; Resolution # 2016-35 - APPROVED

Council Member Winters made the motion to approve the consent agenda. Council Member Hall seconded the motion. Six yes votes. Motion carried.

Regular Agenda Item - Public Hearing

8 - Consideration and action pertaining to a proposed Text Amendment to Chapter 113 of the Surprise Municipal Code regarding Political Signs; Ordinance # 2016-01 - APPROVED

City Planner, Robert Kuhfuss reported on the proposed Text Amendment to Chapter 113 to SMC.

No public comments were made.

Council Member Winters made the motion to approve Ordinance 2016-01. Council Member Tande seconded the motion. Six yes votes. Motion carried.

Regular Agenda Item - Non-Public Hearing

9 - Presentation and discussion pertaining to Bell and Grand Phasing including a project update - NO ACTION

Karl Zook introduced the item and Mr. Barnhart.

Brock Barnhart of ADOT walked Council through the individual phases of the project.

Mayor Wolcott - question regarding driveways and temporary closures.

Council Member Tande: at what time does the signal go up on Bell Rd?

Mr. Barnhart - upon completion of the other projects.

Council Member Hall - left hand turn at Applebee's

Economic Development Director, Jeanine Jerkovic gave a presentation regarding the ADOT Technical update.

Mayor Wolcott thanked Ms. Jerkovic and commented that their success is our success.

Council Member Hall - Progress magazine will be highlighting Bell/Grand - as part of it, I think we should have one page donated to the shopping center layout.

Ms. Jerkovic - access points during construction 6 page spread where to get shop local campaign.

Council Member Hall - referred to Reno, Nevada "the littlest big town" banner. Commented on adding a banner at Litchfield and Bell for east bound traffic "don't take the detour" and hi-light what's open.

Ms. Arthur - sign, shop here today is constantly rotated.

Council Member Tande: likes the idea of special events.

10 - Presentation and discussion to review operating programs - NO ACTION

City Manager, Bob Wingenroth opened this item with some background related to this item.

Budget Manager, Jared Askelson reported on the two main focuses: revenue update and revisit the Public Safety discussion.

Council Member Hall - revenue enhancements is a tough subject - last retail leakage study takes the propensity to consume automotive, restaurant, etc.

Council Member Hall - emergency management - tough to justify there are some grant opportunities to lessen the load on the general fund.

Mr. Wingenroth - we have done some research in those areas and we have found that it might be difficult to fund those positions with grants.

Council Member Williams - in 8 years that we have had this discussion this is the first time where our staff has come forward revenue increase. For me it has to be a steady reliable source so we know it's there. At the max levy, what is the impact to the average household?

Mr. Askelson - 200,000 assess valuation = 50.06

Council Member Williams - food tax - the true/positive impact is providing two or three police officers. 50/50 split or three-way split makes a lot of sense.

Council Member Winters - this is a tough time, but we all know that Public Safety has to be number one. Does not like grocery tax on food it's a regressive tax. I would rather have a slight increase in property taxes.

Council Member Tande: break it up in two sessions, public safety, enhancement, Police, Fire and taking care of what we have.

Vice Mayor Biundo: we all agree that Public Safety is a priority, holding the rate steady, I lean more toward decisions to consume and consumers make the decision.

Council Member Hall - we are the only city that doesn't have a food tax.

Mayor Wolcott - one of the first things that hit me is that the sales tax is the single most overworked tax in the state of Arizona, it underperforms. Food tax and where we consume and come to spend. One of the reasons people come to buy here is because there's no tax. The food take is one of the most regressive things we can do.

Council Member Williams - referred to the .15% increase on the slide, corner food stores, feels it's out of convenience. He stated that he needs to see the stats, stated that we have leakage going to Arrowhead Mall.

Council Member Hall - I'm for blending, maybe there is a blending formula. He referred to property taxes, HOA dues, Marley Park and a formula that is sustainable.

Council Member Tande: question regarding maximum rate, what happens if we go to Bond?

Mr. Askelson - it would go on top of that.

Council Member Tande - the residents are we being good stewards, are we getting good results. What does the rate do and how does it compare to others? What would the property tax rate have to be 2.15 for general sales and food tax?

Council Member Tande - If you drop it to 2.15, it's about a 900,000 drop in the General, 3.6 for the food tax bringing us to 2.7 for Public Safety, that would allow us to go to 75.

Vice Mayor Biundo - that concept Council Member Tande was talking about has some promise, it's a very creative concept.

City Manager Wingenroth summarized Council's discussion.

11 - Discussion and action pertaining to in-house administration of public utilities billing - APPROVED

City Attorney Wingo explained that an executive session is needed before moving on to number 11.

Council Member Tande made the motion to recess into executive session at 7:55 PM. Council Member Hall seconded the motion. Six yes votes. Motion carried.

Executive Session

Discussion and action to enter executive session for discussion and consultation with the City Attorney in order to consider its position and provide instruction regarding American Water Operations and Maintenance Inc. contracts pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03A(3) and (4).

Mayor Wolcott reconvened the Regular Meeting at 8:11 PM.

Finance Director, Lindsey Duncan gave a powerpoint presentation regarding item 11.

Council Member Winters: thank you for giving us options, it has been a nightmare.

Council Member Tande - high level customer service experience?

Council Member Tande made the motion to approve directing staff in appropriation of the FY17 budget, to include appropriations for continuation of American Water Operations and Maintenance, Inc. contract only through the period necessary to implement in-house public utilities billing. Council Member Hall seconded the motion. Six yes votes. Motion carried.

Other Business and Mayor/Council reports:

Council Member Williams - future agenda item - pool facility capacity. Mayor Wolcott is second signer.

Council Member Tande - referred to pool situation and gave an update on infrastructure and projects.

Council Member Hall - future agenda item - revisit public art funding. Mayor Wolcott is the second signer.

Vice Mayor Biundo - Chamber Memorial Luncheon, Grand View Terrace. Future agenda item - Steve Yamamori, Vice President of Veteran's Initiatives request a work session on this item.

Mayor Wolcott - thanked our residents for speaking up and thanked Mrs. Wisner.

Mayor Wolcott also commended Council for reaching out to residents she also spoke of the importance of discussion regarding taxes and acknowledged the work being done by Paul Bernardo and our youth.

Adjournment

Council Member Williams made the motion to adjourn the Regular City Council Meeting of March 1, 2016 at 8:30 PM. Council Member Hall seconded the motion. Six 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 Meeting of **Tuesday, March 1, 2016.**

Sherry Ann Aguilar, City Clerk,