



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

Tuesday, June 21, 2016 @ 06:06 PM

Call to Order

Roll Call

Mayor Wolcott called the **Special City Council Meeting** to order at 06:06 p.m. Surprise City Hall Council Chamber 16000 North Civic Center Plaza Surprise, Arizona 85374 , on **Tuesday, June 21, 2016**. Also in attendance with Mayor Wolcott were Vice Mayor Biundo, Council Member Winters, Council Member Villanueva, Council Member Hall, and Council Member Tande.

Staff Present: City Manager, Bob Wingenroth, City Attorney, Robert Wingo, and City Clerk, Sherry Ann Aguilar.

Pledge of Allegiance

Proclamation and community acknowledgements

Mayor read aloud the proclamation regarding July and August as Drowning Awareness Month.

Regular Agenda Item - Public Hearing

1 - Conduct a public hearing, which will include, and be combined with, the "truth in taxation" hearing per A.R.S. 42-17104, pertaining to the proposed FY2017 final budget and levy of property taxes.

Consideration and action setting forth the intention to levy primary property taxes in the amount of \$0.8059 per one hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed valuation and set the property tax levy adoption for August 2, 2016; Resolution # 2016-79 - APPROVED \$.7591.

Finance Director, Lindsey Duncan gave an overview of this item.

Council Member Winters - I really have a problem with this property tax for our first responders.

City Manager Wingenroth - When we had the discussion at a previous meeting with choices for Council to select with different options without a tax increase.

Vice Mayor Biundo commented on statements made on our tax options. I have confidence in our City Manager to not put us in a financial situation.

Public Comments:

James Angelopoulos - property tax increase - a lot of our citizens are retired and fixed income and can't afford another increase. I think we are getting into that tax and spend like the mid-west. You have a bond issue coming up, now you are going to ask for more money.

Council Member Tande - I am proud that we are one of the lowest tax Cities but we can do better. We have discussed this issue for several months now, with various options made available to us by our City Manager. If this is not approved, we will be possibly laying off employees, and not able to hire the public safety personnel that we decided on previously.

Council Member Winters - For me personally, this would not be a problem. It's a very small increase, I have to take into account our residents receiving increases from APS, water, etc., This would make a big difference.

Council Member Villanueva - I see the crime that is going on in our communities that is so unnecessary, I see that our police force is trying really hard to cover our City, more homes and developments coming in. What are we going to do, if we don't approve this? Will our police not be able to cover our neighborhoods. We need to hire more officers.

Council Member Tande - There will be impacts to services, and there will be layoffs.

Council Member Villanueva - If more development comes in, will the property tax go down?

Council Member Hall - Economic development incentives being reduced in previous discussions.

Mayor Wolcott - What is happening right now puts the City in a place where we will have to borrow savings, and that is terrible public policy.

Vice Mayor Biundo - There are other options, positions that have been vacant for a year or more. An overall average increase by 10.5% increase instead of 11.5%. There are other options than laying off employees.

Council Member Tande - My opinion this change makes us closer to the edge. This causes me concern.

Council Member Villanueva - I don't want to see employees laid off again, our City is doing well and it would be devastating.

Council Member Hall - This is a small amount and I think some are over reacting about being on the edge. I am for putting out a bond issue for a vote, but I am against this.

First motion: Council Member Tande, Second by Council Member Villanueva.

Roll call vote: Mayor Wolcott - yes; Council Member Villanueva - yes and Council Member Tande - yes. Vice Mayor Biundo - no; Council Member Hall - no and Council Member Winters - no. Motion failed.

Vice Mayor Biundo made the motion to approve Resolution 2016-79 with the stipulation to leave the primary property tax rate at \$.7591 per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation. Council Member Hall seconded the motion.

Roll call votes: Mayor Wolcott -yes; Vice Mayor Biundo - yes; Council Member Tande - yes; Council Member Hall - yes; Council Member Villanueva - yes and Council Member Winters - yes. Six yes votes. Motion carried.

2 - Consideration and action pertaining to adoption of the final expenditure limitation budget for FY2017 in the amount of \$271,901,700; Resolution # 2016-81 - APPROVED AS AMENDED

Council Member Tande made the motion to approve Resolution 2016-81 as amended. Council Member Hall seconded the motion.
Six yes votes. Motion carried.

3 - Consideration and action declaring the City's intention to adopt Street Light Improvement District (SLID) property tax levies up to the maximum rate of \$1.20 for each one hundred dollars (\$100) of assessed valuation, pursuant to A.R.S. 48-616; Resolution # 2016-80 - APPROVED

Finance Director, Lindsey Duncan gave an overview for this item.

Council Member Tande made the motion to approve Resolution 2016-80. Council Member Hall seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Mayor Wolcott -yes; Vice Mayor Biundo - yes; Council Member Tande - yes; Council Member Hall - yes; Council Member Villanueva - yes and Council Member Winters - yes. Six yes votes. Motion carried.

Executive Session

Adjournment

Council Member Tande made the motion to adjourn the Special City Council Meeting of June 21, 2016 at 7:14 PM. Council Member Villanueva 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 Special City Council Meeting of **Tuesday, June 21, 2016.**

Sherry Ann Aguilar, City Clerk,