



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

Tuesday, January 23, 2018 @ 04:00 PM

Call to Order

Roll Call

Mayor Wolcott called the **Special City Council Meeting** to order at 04:00 p.m. Surprise City Hall Council Chamber 16000 North Civic Center Plaza Surprise, Arizona 85374 , on **Tuesday, January 23, 2018**. Also in attendance with Mayor Wolcott were Vice Mayor Tande, Council Member Winters, Council Member Duffy, Council Member Hall, Council Member Remley (excused), and District 2 - vacant.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Call to the Public

Regular Agenda Item - Public Hearing

1 - PUBLIC HEARING - Interviews will take place for the applicants that filed an application for the District 2 Council vacancy. Applicants are as follows: Nancy Hayden, Alyson Cline, Robert Estep, Susan deJong, Wendell V. Fountain and Glenn L. Stark. (Interviews will be conducted in this order) - NO ACTION

Nancy Hayden - Gave an overview of why she wants to serve on Council.

Mayor Wolcott opened up to Council questions.

Council Member Hall - What do you believe are the 3 greatest challenges for the City?

Lack of participation by residents, become active and be part of our City's growth. Two others, with our growth, try and resolve issues with our residents and City Hall.

Council Member Winters - 2018/2019 budget - Have the funds that we need to do all that we need to do.

Council Member Duffy - This position requires a lot of time and energy, it's not part time. Will this be an issue?

I have all the time in the world, this is what I want to do.

Vice Mayor Tande - I have two questions, please discuss two or three initiatives or policies. What have we done right?

You got the bond passed, that was a lot of work. 2) New board members, cohesiveness on Council now, very important. I really enjoy all of you, you have good hearts and have the City's best interest at heart. I want to get the Downtown built.

Mayor Wolcott - I thank you for applying and appreciate your enthusiasm. You know what it's like being on the inside and how important the work is that we do at the City. Currently there is a bill in front of the legislature, to reveal what party you are registered as. What are your thoughts about this?

I think it hurts the growth of the City, if we are labeled with parties, most people will not even talk to you.

Alyson Cline - Gave an overview of qualifications and reasons for wanting to serve.

Council Member Hall - Thank you for applying. I have a lot of respect for people that step forward. What do you think are the 3 greatest challenges and for the City as a whole?

Part of District 2 in Traditions and Bell West Ranch, bringing all of these communities together. SC Grand doesn't have a whole lot of issues, not sure about the other communities.

Council Member Hall - How about the City?

Education levels and test scores in the City schools very low and are unacceptable. School to work program, getting our youth employment in our communities, intern programs, etc. Bringing the entire City together, Relay for Life was a signature event for us.

Council Member Winters - Budget - What do you believe are the most significant challenges of the 2018/19 budget?

New library and Police station, needs to be finished. Block grants such as District 4, positive input with the districts of what they need and how can we make it better. Look at the redevelopment areas.

Council Member Duffy - You are one of the busiest person's I have ever met, as busy as you are, how do you plan to balance this?

I have retired from coaching, use to work 75 hours a week, I am making priorities and adjusting my schedules.

Vice Mayor Tande - 3 Projects/Policies?

See more of what we are doing in District 4 done in other areas of the City. Public Transportation issues, was on DAC and had these discussions many times. Would be the 2nd priority that I would like to address. Working with Dysart schools to see how we can do a better job in collaboration, anything that has to do with education. Chamber of Commerce, I am a business girl, I understand business and how we can bring people to our community.

Mayor Wolcott - Legislative issues every year. Bill to disclose your party identity, how do you think a partisan identity would impact you to do your job.

I Filed as an Independent, because I don't think that anyone has a right to know what party to represent.

Robert Estep - Gave an overview of qualifications and reasons for wanting to be on the City Council.

Council Member Hall - Thank you for throwing your hat in the ring, it takes courage. What are your 3 main challenges about District 2?

Why they moved here, what are they looking for in the City, what type of events. Bringing residents together, staying in contact with them.

Council Member Hall - What 3 challenges for the City?

Lacking entertainment to bring people into our area, need to expand to a convention hall, concerts, shows, programs, etc., to keep them here instead of going to Phoenix, Tempe and other Cities. Organize a plan for a true Downtown. We are losing a lot of people going out of the City to shop. Three, on our way to provide quality education to our youth, so they don't have to leave the City.

Council Member Winters - Budget challenges and concerns?

Getting the downtown up and running and organizing, need to draw people here. New people coming here do not know where the downtown area is.

Council Member Duffy - Thank you for doing this, I know it is not easy. This position does take a lot of time with residents and staff, almost daily.

That is not a problem for me that would be my first priority.

Vice Mayor Tande - Thank you for applying. Please discuss 2 to 3 policies by the Council that you think would be beneficial?

Mayor Wolcott - Legislature question - Partisan elections, your thoughts on this?

I think this would slow things down.

Susan deJong - Gave an overview of her qualifications and reasons for wanting to serve on the City Council.

Council Member Hall - 3 challenges question.

Concern on property taxes in the City, speeding on streets in District, Bell West Ranch would like to have signs within their community; SC Grand we have electric street signs. Transportation is a big issue for a lot of residents citywide.

Council Member Winters - 2018/19 budget challenges?

Property taxes are staying the same, we have to find ways to get more money into the City to pay for other things we need. Revenues are up, so we have to find ways to get money into the City perhaps

through Tourism, bring more businesses, create more jobs. Obviously we are not raising salaries.

Council Member Duffy - Time commitments for this job - Are you willing to give your energy to City staff and residents? How will you balance?

I absolutely can and will give the time. I would not be doing to Arts Commission if I did this. I would give that time plus more to do this.

Vice Mayor Tande - Challenges?

City working on master plans and issue to purchase the water company is very beneficial to the City.

Mayor Wolcott - Legislature bill on partisan elections - I would be representing the people of Surprise, not by party affiliation. Local politics are a whole different thing.

Wendell Fountain - Gave an overview of qualifications and reasons of why he wants to serve on Council.

Council Member Hall - Thank you for stepping up and putting your hat in the ring. I know you care about the city and this is the reason you are doing this. Specific to District 2 as a challenge?

More than likely related to actual traffic patterns, rapid transit is a big challenge, can't solve quickly, need patience.

Council Member Winters - Budget question

This place is easy compared to other states, but still need to be dealt with. Need to look out for large pieces of parcels, and how will they be developed.

Council Member Duffy - Time commitments for this job?

Teaching at Grand Canyon University, but I will see if I will continue that, I don't know. I have lots of discretionary time, I spend an enormous amount of time writing and can do this at my leisure. When I was on the board we were really busy, sometime we had 3 board meetings per week.

Vice Mayor Tande - 2 part question, discuss 2 or 3 initiatives or policies beneficial to the City, and 2 or 3 policies the City could do more on or the City could champion.

Transportation is a really big deal, going to take patience. Raw land development, what is the nature purpose? Is it going to bring a nice balance?

Mayor Wolcott - Legislative bill - Partisan bill, what are your thoughts on this?

I personally feel if we can stay in a non partisan way it will be healthier for us, we are divided enough and we don't need this.

Glenn Stark - Gave an overview of qualifications and reasons for wanting to serve on City Council.

Council Member Hall - Thank you for applying and thank you for your service to our country. 2 part question, 3 greatest challenges for District 2 and 3 greatest challenges for the City?

Not much room to grow in District 2, want people to stay in Surprise, how do we maintain our communities, good job now with HOA's, Surprise is general, we have room to grow but it needs to be done in the right way. We need to have the growth in check, but controls. Other challenges in the District, I need to get out and talk to people before I can say what the issues are. The biggest City issue is traffic, do we need to look at public transportation systems.

Council Member Winters - Challenges with 2018/2019 budget?

I have not looked at the budget, however there are things I would like to see. Police and fire equipment, training, infrastructure, roads, water, etc.

Council Member Duffy - Time commitments - Very active candidates that are applying.

Busy schedule but understands the time commitment and no issues.

Vice Mayor Tande - discuss 2 to 3 policy issues

Initiatives, I haven't spent as much time as I should have, new public safety facilities being built, taking over the water in Surprise, passport office very beneficial, I send people here all the time. Most people are complaining, I say got up and get involved, let the Council know what your issues are.

Mayor Wolcott - Legislative bill - partisan - what are your thoughts on this?

I don't think it would impact that much, there are no straight lines anymore, a little bit of everything. I wouldn't mind it.

Public Comments:

Carol Woodard - Spoke on behalf of her husband, Mike Woodard to support Alyson Cline for District 2 Council. Speaking for myself, I was impressed with my first meeting with Aly Cline at the Relay of Life Meeting. Very supportive and a great listener.

Galen Miler - Spoke in support of Wendell Fountain for District 2 councilmember. The Fountains did their research before moving here and did his research on the history of Surprise. Wendell has already found some consistency on District 2 on the many issues that the residents.

Stephen DeSena - Spoke in support of Nancy Hayden, she is the only one in this whole group that has had an internship on what you do as a Councilmember from her husband. She did enormous amounts of work with her husband in the communities. She knows how the sausage is made, she knows how to jump in and swim. She has more internal; and core values for the job and the mission than the other people. She's been there and done that and she has worked with all of you people.

Executive Session

Adjournment

Vice Mayor Tande made the motion to adjourn the Special City Council Meeting of January 23, 2018 at 6:10 PM. Council Member Hall seconded the motion. Five yes votes, one excused (Remley), one vacancy (D2), 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, January 23, 2018.**

Sherry Ann Aguilar, City Clerk,