



CITY OF SURPRISE
City Council Retreat
16000 N. Civic Center Plaza
Surprise, AZ 85374
Tuesday, February 4, 2025 @ 4:30 PM
Community Room

- A. Call To Order
Mayor Sartor called the City Council Retreat of February 4th, 2025 to order at 4:30 p.m., located at Surprise City Hall, 16000 N. Civic Center Plaza, Surprise, AZ. 85374.
- B. Roll Call
In attendance with Mayor Sartor were Vice Mayor Jack Hastings, Council members Nick Haney, Earle Greenberg, Patrick Duffy, Johnny Melton and Chris Judd.
- C. Pledge of Allegiance
Mayor Sartor led in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- D. Proclamation and Community Acknowledgements
- E. City Manager Report
 - 1. City Manager sub-text
- F. City Clerk Report
- G. Regular City Council Work Session Agenda
 - 1. CONSENT AGENDA:
 - 2. REGULAR AGENDA ITEM - PUBLIC HEARING:
 - 3. REGULAR AGENDA ITEM - NON-PUBLIC HEARING:
 - 1. Discussion pertaining to the City Council Strategic Plan

City Manager, Bob Wigenroth, kicked off the Council Retreat. He talked about constructing a Strategic Plan from scratch, and the willingness of the current council to start something new. He explained the process for the exercise to provide their "top area of focus".

Round 1 - Mayor Sartor talked about prioritizing Public-Safety. Vice-Mayor Hastings prioritized Public-Safety with focus on employees. Councilmember Duffy prioritized Parks & Recreation. Councilmember Melton Prioritized Transportation focus on egress. Councilmember Greenberg prioritized Fiscal Responsibility. Councilmember Judd prioritized outdoor experiences. Councilmember Haney prioritized Transportation.

Round 2 - Vice-Mayor Hastings next priority was Fiscal Responsibility. Councilmember Duffy said Transportation. Councilmember Melton talked about Public Safety specifically wireless coverage. Councilmember Greenberg said Transportation. Councilmember Judd talked said Water. Councilmember Haney talked about proactive planning for Public Safety. Mayor Sartor said his second one would be Transportation.

Round 3 - Councilmember Duffy said Public Safety. Councilmember Melton said Water. Councilmember Greenberg said Public Safety. Councilmember Judd said Economic

Development. Councilmember Haney said Community Experience. Mayor Sartor said Economic Development. Vice-Mayor Hastings said Economic Development - D5 City Center.

Round 4 - Councilmember Melton said Economic Development - Heritage District. Councilmember Greenberg said Community Experience. Councilmember Judd said Public Safety. Councilmember Haney said Government Transparency. Mayor Sartor said Community Experience. Vice-Mayor Hastings said Transportation. Councilmember Duffy said Economic Development.

Round 5 - Councilmember Greenberg said Economic Development. Councilmember Judd said Fiscal Responsibility. Councilmember Haney said Economic Development with emphasis on technology. Mayor Sartor said Veteran's Initiatives. Vice-Mayor Hastings said Community Experience. Councilmember Duffy said Water. Councilmember Melton said Fiscal Responsibility.

Round 6 - Councilmember Judd said Transportation. Councilmember Haney said Water. Mayor Sartor said Government Transparency emphasis on the web services. Vice-Mayor Hastings said education. Councilmember Duffy said Fiscal Responsibility. Councilmember Melton said Community Growth. Councilmember Greenberg said Community Growth. Councilmember Judd added taking care of staff or Employee Retention. Councilmember Haney seconded Employee Retention.

Round 7 - Councilmember Haney said Fiscal Responsibility. Mayor Sartor said Fiscal Responsibility. Vice-Mayor Hastings said Government Transparency. Councilmember Duffy said Government Transparency. Councilmember Melton said Community Experience. Councilmember Greenberg said Public Transportation. Councilmember Judd said Government Transparency - GIS website.

City Manager Wigenroth talked about the groupings of priorities, and engaged in a discussion to streamline results. The top categories were Public Safety, Community Experience, Transportation, Fiscal Responsibility, Economic Development, Government Transparency, and Water. They further talked about the similarities of categories and sub categories.

City Manager Wigenroth explained how the next steps in the exercise would work more as an open discussion for each area of focus to identify what council wanted to be continued or what could be improved upon beginning with Public Safety.

Vice-Mayor Hastings wanted more Police Officers. Mayor Sartor wanted more training facilities and opportunities. Councilmember Duffy talked about Response Times and maintaining or improving. Councilmember Melton asked how to reduce dead zones for wireless communication for first responders. Councilmember Greenberg asked about identifying an algorithm to match the service level with the City's population. Councilmember Judd said it should be something specific to the community. Mayor Sartor asked if this was something that the Police already had in place? Chief Pina talked about the number of officers per resident. He talked about where they had previously pulled data to justify the levels currently in place. Mayor Sartor talked about preparedness for emergencies. Vice-Mayor Hastings wanted to add employee safety resources. Councilmember Haney talked about being proactive with employee safety ex: investing in cancer initiatives for fire dept. Councilmember Judd talked about increasing traffic enforcement. Mayor Sartor said he wanted to double down on school safety.

City Manager Wigenroth started the next conversation for Transportation. Councilmember Melton asked about egress moving eastward from the city. Councilmember Haney talked about leveraging resources and strategic investment. Mayor Sartor agreed with that, and pursuing other resources and partnerships. They talked about pursuing innovative financial opportunities. Councilmember Duffy talked about Pedestrian Safety - crosswalks. Councilmember Judd talked about shopping center design. Mayor Sartor asked about adding safe routes to school. Councilmember Greenberg talked about electric bicycles. Councilmember Judd talked about strategic long-term planning. Councilmember Haney

asked about continual investment in streets.

City Manager Wingenroth then directed the discussion to Community Experience. Councilmember Judd said he wants more programmable and larger parks. Mayor Sartor asked about working with developers. Councilmember Judd talked about engaging in a conversation with the developers about the type of parks. Mayor Sartor said he agreed. He talked about partnering with private entities. Vice-Mayor Hastings talked about Sports and Tourism and signature events. Councilmember Judd said he would like to see more community events and building upon themed events. Councilmember Duffy talked about partnerships, but asked about keeping up with the City's own demand. Councilmember Judd said previous partnerships have been a disaster. Mayor Sartor said they need to find some way to fund everything. Councilmember Greenberg talked about pursuing the Vista. Mayor Sartor asked about programming McMicken Dam. Councilmember Judd said they have an IGA framework but it was going to be a while, but that they should plan on what to do. Councilmember Haney asked about expanding the programming so as not to turn away residents wanting to participate in programs.

City Manager Wingenroth moved the conversation to Fiscal Responsibility. Mayor Sartor asked what the term means as it's ambiguous. Councilmember Judd said to him it meant growing revenue through sales tax and economic development. Vice-Mayor Hastings asked about lowering property taxes. He asked what percentage of the budget does property tax compose? He gave example of Maricopa County lowering small percentage each year. Councilmember Haney talked about protecting revenue sources that fund services. Councilmember Melton said they have to react whenever legislation does something that catches the City off guard. Mayor Sartor talked about having a review of programs, regularly scheduled to determine value/effectiveness of the program. Vice-Mayor Hastings talked about the balance of services and revenue. Councilmember Judd talked about police and fire services being provided for property tax to justify it. Vice-Mayor Hastings asked about the cost of having to publish the statutory public notices regarding the taxes.

Mayor Sartor thanked the staff.

H. Other Business and Future Agenda Items

I. City Council Reports

J. Executive Session

1. Executive Session Items
2. Executive Disclaimer - Part 1
3. Executive Disclaimer - Part 2
4. Executive Disclaimer - Part 3

K. Adjournment

Motion: To Adjourn
Initiated By: Nick Haney
Seconded By: Jack Hastings

Yes: Jack Hastings, Patrick Duffy, Chris Judd, Nick Haney, Kevin Sartor, Johnny Melton, Earle

Greenberg
No: None
Abstain: None

Vote Result: Passed
Meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM



Kevin Sartor, Mayor

ATTEST:



Kristi Passarelli, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION:

I, Kristi Passarelli, 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, February 4, 2025.**



Kristi Passarelli, City Clerk