



CITY OF SURPRISE
City Council Work Session
16000 N. Civic Center Plaza
Surprise, AZ 85374
Tuesday, February 18, 2025 @ 4:30 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

A. Call To Order

Mayor Sartor called the City Council Work Session of February 18th, 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 Chris Judd, Earle Greenberg, Patrick Duffy, Johnny Melton and Nick Haney.

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. Presentation and discussion pertaining to budget overview

Chief Financial Officer, Andrea Davis, and Budget Manager, Sandy Simmons, came to present this item. Andrea talked about the Strategic Budget, Budget Breakdown, Fund Types, Expenses, Citywide Budget, Citywide Expenses, Operating Expenses, General Fund Expenses, Category, Function, Expenditures per 1K Residents, number of FTE's per 1K Residents.

Sandy Simmons, talked about Revenues, Governmental, Enterprise, Revenues by category, General Fund Revenues, Sales Tax / Transaction Privilege Tax, Intergovernmental Sources. Andrea talked about Property Tax, City Tax Rates, and Primary Property Tax Breakdown.

Councilmember Judd, said he liked the breakdown of the property tax. He asked possibility of lowering the property tax? Andrea talked about the growth of the City and how that impacts the revenue. Councilmember Judd talked about how he prefers sales tax over property tax, and maintaining an appropriate rate for residents.

Vice-Mayor Hastings, talked about cuttings costs for residents, and trying to keep a flat amount of property tax.

Councilmember Melton, asked for clarification about the rate established last year versus the

current rate.

Councilmember Greenberg, talked about potential legislative that could negatively impact the budget, and to wait and see what happens there before taking action on the City's Budget.

Councilmember Duffy, talked about taking action now versus waiting for the state. He talked about his preference for Levy and Growth.

Councilmember Haney, talked about the potential impact from the state, and the services provided by the City. He expressed a desire to support residents with relief, but to also maintain levels of service throughout the City.

Mayor Sartor, asked about the Food Tax and other funds being considered to be cut on the State Level? Jodi Tas, talked about other pending reductions being looked at. Councilmember Judd asked about the state's potential surplus? Jodi said that if there was a surplus in the budget it would go back to the taxpayer through income tax rate reduction. Councilmember Judd asked if they wouldn't use the surplus to replace the income tax not brought in? Andrea said it was correct. Jodi said that just because the bills are moving could mean that they are a negotiation tactic with the governor and the state budget.

Vice-Mayor Hastings talked about keeping the money to the tax payers.

Councilmember Haney, asked about prioritizing funding to critical funding if they decide to proceed with the levy option. Andrea said that they could always post a rate high then lower it, but not the other way around. She also talked about levels of service, and prioritization.

Councilmember Judd, asked how sales tax was doing? Andrea said they were doing about 8% over budget. Councilmember Judd asked about state legislation and the timeline of their impact? Andrea said its typically been a year or two.

Councilmember Greenberg, talked about the ease of lowering versus raising it. He talked about waiting to see what happens with the state first.

Mayor Sartor, said he prefers to lower the property tax if possible.

Andrea asked if the majority of council wanted to keep the levy and growth to lower the tax rate? Mayor Sartor said it was.

2. Citywide Transportation Update

Transportation Director, Eric Boyles, came to present this item. He talked about the Transportation Capital Improvement Plan, Transportation by the Numbers, CIP Project Establishment, City Construction Projects, Cactus Road (Cotton Lane to Reems), Cactus Road (Litchfield to BNSF Crossing), Cactus and Perryville Intersection Improvement, and Elm Street.

Mayor Sartor asked where the Elm Street project was exactly? Eric said it was by the Raising Canes near Bell Rd.

Eric continued to talk about 163rd Ave Improvement Project, and Dale Lane Improvements. He also talked about planning for Cactus Road Widening, Happy Valley Road Widening Project, Waddell Road Widening, and Other Design / Study Projects.

Councilmember Judd, asked about the 60 & 74 Studies and the potential impact the BNSF development could have? Eric said it was to study that. Councilmember Judd asked the costs for 1 mile of roadway? Eric said for a 1/4 mile it costs about \$2 Million.

Mayor Sartor asked about the corridor study and it was a part of the MAG study? Eric said it was

and talked about resident engagement and getting feedback to how the road network should look like in the future.

Councilmember Haney, thanked staff for expediting the work especially in his district. He talked about the scale of work and challenges staff has to face.

Eric went on to talk about Traffic Signal Improvements, Signal Projects, Signal Operation & Maintenance, Payment Preservation Improvements, Sidewalk / Concrete Improvements, and Traffic Signs. Eric also talked about Regional Improvements, SR303 / US60 Improvements, Future Improvements, Prop 479 Improvements, Pedestrian & School Safety, School Zones, Overarching Standards & Guidelines, School Zones, and Crossing Improvements.

Councilmember Duffy, asked about Cholla and Reems and if they have crossing guards on top of the units there already? Eric said it was not staffed by the school. He talked about trying to make the process safer for children who have to cross busy streets. Eric said this was the first step to that, and future potential HAWKS.

Mayor Sartor asked about safe routes to school grants, and who could apply for them? Eric said it could be a combination of the City and the Schools.

Councilmember Judd, asked if the City was engaged with Dysart about having crossing guards? Eric said they haven't talked to Dysart about manning certain locations, but they could.

Mayor Sartor thanked staff for all their hard work and dedication.

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: Earle Greenberg

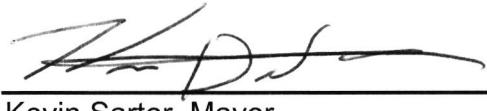
Yes: Jack Hastings, Patrick Duffy, Chris Judd, Nick Haney, Kevin Sartor, Johnny Melton, Earle Greenberg

No: None

Abstain: None

Vote Result: Passed

Meeting Adjourned at 6:00 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 18, 2025.**



Kristi Passarelli, City Clerk