



CITY OF SURPRISE
Regular City Council Work Session
16000 N. Civic Center Plaza
Surprise, AZ 85374
Tuesday, March 4, 2025 @ 5:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

A. Call To Order

Mayor Sartor called the Regular Council Work Session of March 4th, 2025 to order at 5:00 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 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 on Open Meeting Law

Senior Assistant City Attorney, Hobie Winegart, came to present this item. He talked about Open Meeting Law, Arizona State Law, the Purpose of Open Meeting Law, State Policy, What a Meeting Is, the Various Meeting Mediums, Different Types of Communication, Special Kinds of Meetings i.e. Executive Session.

Vice-Mayor Hastings, talked about the merits of public meeting law. He asked about limitations about speaking to other members? Hobie said to would be case by case. Vice-Mayor Hastings asked about talking to other outside attorneys and other third parties who would relay the intentions of other councilmembers? Hobie, there is a recent legal opinion and he would further research it.

Hobie further talked about Penalties for Violations, Conflicts of Interest, as well as Gifts.

Vice-Mayor Hastings, asked about getting tickets for events sponsored from the City? Hobie said it would be best to approach on a case by case scenario, he encouraged council to reach out when in doubt.

Councilmember Greenberg asked Hobie to explain the Supreme Court case Snyder V U.S. Hobie

talked about the case and the implications of bribery versus accepting gifts. Councilmember Greenberg asked about events where meals are provided? Vice-Mayor Hastings talked about his previous experiences of learning the nuances. Hobie said meals are typically a non-issue but to reach out to his office whenever in doubt.

Vice-Mayor Hastings talked about the upcoming Rules Committee meeting, and potential impact that could have on further council conduct.

Councilmember Haney, talked about importance of debating in public, and his experience with open meeting law. He asked about social media and the best practice when dealing with comments online? Hobie talked about being wary of creating a quorum but each situation being case by case. Councilmember Haney asked about the conflict of interest and best practices for that? Hobie said it was case by case.

Mayor Sartor, talked about getting a contribution from a developer and if they brought an item forward if it would be best to excuse themselves for said item? Hobie said it would be likely the best practice to recuse in that instance but he would further research it.

Mayor Sartor talked about the importance of having quarterly updates.

2. Presentation and update regarding Crime Statistics

Chief Pina, came to present this item. He talked about National Incident Based Reporting System, Violent Crimes.

Councilmember Haney, asked about the trafficking and Commercial Sex and if it was increased because the department was being more aggressive? Chief Pina said they had increased training and enforcement.

Mayor Sartor asked about arrests in other jurisdictions as a result of our investigation, and whose stats does it fall under? Chief Pina said it would count as under the City's investigation.

Vice-Mayor Hastings asked about the increase in Homicides and how council can help? Chief Pina said he would explain the specific incidents.

Chief Pina further talked about, Clearance Rates, and Homicide Analysis.

Councilmember Melton, asked why officer involved shooting is part of a homicide statistic? Chief Pina said that it counts because someone did die by the hands of another, regardless of circumstance.

Chief Pina went on to talk about, Crimes Against Property, and Crimes Against Society.

Councilmember Melton, asked it was 164 cars stolen within the City? Chief confirmed that it was the correct.

Councilmember Haney, asked about the arson stats? Chief Pina talked about the incidents and the definitions of arson.

Councilmember Judd, asked if there was a certain area of town that had more vehicle thefts? Chief Pina said it was spread around town. He talked about unlocked cars potentially contributing to the thefts.

Chief Pina talked about Drug Offenses and Alcohol, Crimes Against Persons in January, Crimes Against Property in January, Collision Information, and Top Collision Locations in 2024.

Vice-Mayor Hastings asked about homicides and if there were resources for people going

through Domestic Violence? Chief Pina said they have resources on their website, he also said he works closely with other departments and entities for additional resources. Vice-Mayor Hastings, talked about Bell Road and the accidents. He talked about implementing solutions that could help with it.

Councilmember Haney, asked about 163rd and Grand and if there is a way to break down the data to show the causes of the incidents? Chief Pina talked about the dangers of making left turns. Councilmember Haney asked what classifies collisions as an injury? Chief Pina said it was any possible injury.

Mayor Sartor talked about getting calls about this topic, he asked what the strategic plan was to reduce crime? Chief Pina said public messaging has been key. He said regionally he has talked about enforcement efforts.

Chief Pina further talked about the Calls for Service, and Customer Service.

Councilmember Duffy, talked about the increase of events within the City. He talked about the increase of homicides and what they hear as council. He asked what the message the Chief has for the City? Chief Pina talked about the growth of the City and the increase in public events and visitors. He talked about the dangers of social media spreading misinformation, and impact that has on citizens.

Mayor Sartor, talked about educating residents about appropriate ways to contact the Police Department. He also asked about highlighting the support resources the City offers.

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: Patrick Duffy
Seconded By: Nick Haney

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 6:06 PM



Kevin D. 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, March 4, 2025.**



Kristi Passarelli, City Clerk