

Sierra Vista City Council
Meeting Summary
[May 27, 2021](#)

Mayor Mueller called the May 27, 2021, City Council Regular Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 1011 N. Coronado Drive, Sierra Vista, Arizona.

Roll Call:

Mayor Rick Mueller – present
Mayor Pro Tem Rachel Gray – present
Council Member William Benning – present
Council Member Gregory Johnson - present
Council Member Angelica Landry – present
Council Member Carolyn Umphrey - present

Others Present:

Chuck Potucek, City Manager
Victoria Yarbrough, Assistant City Manager
Adam Thrasher, Police Chief
Dever, Deputy Fire Chief
Laura Wilson, Leisure and Library Services Director
Matt McLachlan, Community Development Director
Sharon Flissar, Public Works Director
Jill Adams, City Clerk
Tony Boone, Economic Development Manager
Nathan J. Williams, City Attorney

Invocation – Reverend Greg Adolf, St. Andrews Catholic Church, led everyone present in prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance – Council Member Benning led the Pledge of Allegiance.

[Item 1](#) Acceptance of the Agenda

Council Member Johnson moved that the agenda for the Regular City Council Meeting of May 27, 2021, be approved. Council Member Umphrey seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 6/0. Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray and Council Members Benning, Landry, Johnson, and Umphrey voting in favor.

City Manager's Report: Mr. Potucek announced that the regularly City Council Work Session is scheduled at 3:00 p.m. on June 8, 2021, in Council Chambers, and the regularly scheduled City Council Meeting is on June 10, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. also in Council Chambers. The annual budget work sessions will begin on June 14, 2021, at 3:00 p.m. in Council Chambers as well other scheduled meetings if needed. He noted that June will be a busy month primarily focused on the budget. He reported that the rebid for the North Garden Avenue/Fry Boulevard Improvements Phase I was posted on May 26, 2021, with a due date of June 14, 2021; the new lighted airport entrance sign's bid was posted on May 25, 2021, with a due date of June 9, 2021; and the five-year capital financing for FY21 refuse trucks' bid was posted on May 23, 2021, with a due date of June 8, 2021. Also, the Taxiway J Rehab Project is projected to begin in late July or early August and work around the rainy season, the street maintenance by KE&G for

pavement patching and crack and seal is currently ongoing and expected to be completed by June 15, 2021.

Awards and Presentations

Mayor Mueller presented a Certificate of Appreciation to former Council Member Pacheco for service to the City of Sierra Vista. Ms. Pacheco thanked Council and stated that it has been a pleasure.

Item 2 Consent Agenda

[Item 2.1](#) Approval of the Special City Council Meeting Minutes of May 11, 2021

[Item 2.2](#) Approval of the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2021

[Item 2.3](#) Resolution 2021-036, Electrical Utility Easement for the Veteran's Memorial Park Sports Complex Sports Division Building

[Item 2.4](#) Resolution 2021-040, Appointment of Gregory Johnson to the Sierra Vista Metropolitan Planning Organization Board of Directors

Council Member Umphrey moved that the Consent Agenda consisting of the Special City Council Meeting Minutes of May 11, 2021, the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2021, Resolution 2021-036, an electrical utility easement for the Veteran's Memorial Park Sports Complex Sports Division Building, and Resolution 2021-040, appointment of Gregory Johnson to the Sierra Vista Metropolitan Planning Organization Board of Directors, be approved. Council Member Benning seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 5/0. Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray and Council Members Benning, Landry, and Umphrey voting in favor. Council Member Johnson abstained.

New Business

[Item 3](#) Resolution 2021-037, Authorizing the Submission of the Program Year 2021 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Mayor Pro Tem Gray moved that Resolution 2021-037, submission of the Program Year 2021 Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, be approved. Council Member Umphrey seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 6/0. Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray and Council Members Benning, Landry, Johnson, and Umphrey voting in favor.

[Item 4](#) Resolution 2021-038, Approval of FY 2022-2023 Strategic Plan

Council Member Landry moved that Resolution 2021-038, FY 2022-2023 Strategic Plan, be approved. Council Member Benning seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 6/0. Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray and Council Members Benning, Landry, Johnson, and Umphrey voting in favor.

[Item 5](#) Resolution 2021-039, Ratifying the Sale of the City Property Located at 3514 King's Court Drive

Council Member Johnson moved that Resolution 2021-039, ratifying the sale of the City property located at 3514 King's Court Drive, be approved. Mayor Pro Tem Gray seconded the

motion. The motion unanimously carried, 6/0. Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray and Council Members Benning, Landry, Johnson, and Umphrey voting in favor.

Call to the Public – There was no response.

Comments and Requests of the Council

Council Member Benning stated that he will not talk about the Summit Challenge and the wine festival because he is sure that other Council Members will do that, but the white fences are looking good, and he believes that it was one of the best things done. He announced that movies in the park are coming back this year. June 12, 2021 is the first movie, *Playing with Fire* followed by June 26, 2021, *Wonder Woman 1984*. He stated that he will see everyone out at the Wine, Beer and Spirits Festival, but not at the Summit Challenge, and noted that Father Greg said it the best, he wants everyone to have a great Memorial Day Weekend and to remember that some gave all, sacrificing so that others could enjoy themselves. As a Veteran, he is honored when someone says Happy Memorial Day to him, but these are young men and women that gave all and did not come home for defending everyone's freedom. He encouraged people to say a prayer or remembering those people and their families in mind. Lastly, he stated that he is glad that King's Court was sold, and that the city gets to keep it as tennis courts.

Council Member Johnson mirrored Council Member Benning's sentiments regarding Memorial Day. He shared that as a Veteran, he appreciates the sacrifices that some people made, who he went to boot camp with, that did not come back from Vietnam. In closing, he stated that he had the pleasure of sitting in as an observer at the Sierra Vista Metropolitan Planning Organization Meeting that was conducted by Mayor Pro Tem Gray. He noted that he has a lot of learning to do with respect to the help and support of all these organizations that are combined to keep transportation and roads in good repair.

Council Member Umphrey stated that she is happy that Council Member Johnson has agreed to join the SVMPO because it is a lot, congratulated all students, graduates who finished school. She added that for the District May 27, 2021, was the last day, and she is now a mother to a middle schooler now and a fourth grader, whom she is super proud of as they both made honor roll for the first time.

Council Member Landry stated that Memorial Day is a day that is set aside to remember with gratitude and pride all of those who served and died for the country and freedom. She announced that on Fort Huachuca, they will honor America's veterans and salute fallen service members during their annual Memorial Day ceremony at 11:00 a.m. on May 31, 2021, at the Post cemetery. The event is open to the public for folks that have access to Fort Huachuca, but since there is limited parking at the cemetery, they will have a shuttle service in the parking lots of Christy and Chips Avenues and Hines and Andrews Roads. Lastly, she stated that she hopes to see everyone at Sips and Skies during the weekend on Saturday from noon to 7:00 p.m. and have a good time, have some drinks, see the vendors, have some food, and get out there.

Mayor Pro Tem Gray thanked Mr. McLachlan, Ms. Wilson, Ms. Flissar and all the people on the Parks Master Plan. She is aware that it has been a lot of hard work and Council appreciates all the ideas. She is also aware that it is a stretch, but she knows that it can be done. It is a good solid Plan and a lot of things for Council to consider. She announced that the Senate and the House adjourned until June 10, 2021, and no budget was passed, but the good news is that it looks like when they come back, they have a plan in place to hold cities harmless from the flat tax. This was a big stress and deal to the city and the legislators are working hard and trying to

make deals and come up with ways to keep everybody happy, which is impossible but as far as cities/municipalities are concerned, it is looking like it is good news.

Mayor Mueller stated that they have been working on this issue together at the Legislature. He thanked Mayor Pro Tem Gray for her efforts and noted folks may not realize that it would be at least \$1.6 million income tax that the city normally receives that the city would not receive, but the latest numbers state that it is a little over \$2 million and that kind of revenue is very hard to make up and still be able to provide roads and all the other services that is provided to the citizens. This is something that Council has been very concerned about and will continue to watch. He shared a story about a republican legislator that decided that he was going to go hide for the day. The houses are relatively even with maybe just a little republic lead, so basically, he was showing that he was not ready to decide and pulled a shenanigan, but it got the Governor's attention and the leadership of the republican's side as well. He added that it is interesting what is seen at the different levels of government and what can be learned from it. In closing, he stated that Memorial Day Weekend has already been mentioned and it is a solemn weekend, but it is also a weekend where a lot of people travel and everyone is coming out of COVID, people are going to want to travel more this weekend and it is very important to keep safety in mind. The city is having an event where there will be wine and beer at the park, and alcohol and travel do not mix. He asked people to make sure that they have designated drivers and if they are going long distances to take breaks so that they are not overtired in getting back to work on Tuesday morning. The city will be closed on Monday with trash moved back a day for the first two days of pickup. He highly recommended that everyone goes out and enjoy the weekend, go out to Sips and Skies, and do the Summitt Challenge. Lastly, he stated that Council met in Executive Session, which he cannot talk about, but there were 22 applicants, and it was a very interesting and productive session. They have come up with people to be interviewed and they will be notified shortly as to when and where before deciding. Council is meeting all the statutory requirements and there will be more information forthcoming.

Adjournment

Mayor Mueller adjourned the May 27, 2019, meeting of the Sierra Vista City Council at 5:29 p.m.