CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minute summary of the regular meeting of the City Council of Sierra Vista held on the 23rd day of September, 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 14th day of October 2021

SEAL

Maria G. Marsh
Deputy City Clerk

Jill Adams
City Clerk
Mayor Mueller called the September 23, 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 – absent
Council Member Angelica Landry – present
Council Member Mark Rodriguez – present
Council Member Carolyn Umphrey – present

Others Present:
Chuck Potucek, City Manager
Victoria Yarbrough, Assistant City Manager
Jon Kosmider, Deputy Police Chief
Brian Jones, Fire Chief
Laura Wilson, Parks, Recreation and Library Director
Sharon Flissar, Public Works Director
Matt McLachlan, Community Development Director
Jeff Pregler, Planner
Tony Boone, Economic Development Manager
Mike Cline, SEACOM Director

Invocation: Council Member Rodriguez conducted the invocation.

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

Item 1 Acceptance of the Agenda

Council Member Landry moved to remove item 2.3 from the Agenda for the Regular City Council Meeting of September 23, 2021, and to approve the agenda as amended. Mayor Pro Tem Gray seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried, 6/0. Mayor Mueller, Mayor Pro Tem Gray and Council Members Benning, Landry, Rodriguez, and Umphrey voting in favor.

City Manager’s Report: There was no discussion.

Item 2 Consent Agenda
Item 2.1 Discussion and Possible Action of the Special City Council Meeting Minutes of September 7, 2021
Item 2.2 Discussion and Possible Action of the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2021
Item 2.3 Discussion and Possible Action of Resolution 2021-063 Acceptance of Sewer Easements for Veritas Christian Community School
Council Member Benning moved that the Consent Agenda consisting of the Special City Council Meeting Minutes of September 7, 2021, and the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of September 9, 2021, 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, Rodriguez, and Umphrey voting in favor.

Public Hearing

*Item 3* Discussion and Possible Action of Resolution 2021-064 Submission of the US Housing and Urban Development (HUD) PY (Program Year) 2020 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER)

Council Member Umphrey moved that Resolution 2021-064, approving submission of the US Housing and Urban Development Program Year 2020 Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report, be approved. Council Member Benning seconded the motion.

Mr. McLachlan stated that this is the annual report that the City submits each year to HUD, describing the City’s use of Community Development Block Grant funds. It contains information on expenditures, relationship between the Consolidated Plan and annual Action Plans, goals and strategies, data and beneficiaries, and accomplishments. The report covers the past program year, which coincides with the City’s fiscal year running July one through June 30th. During this time frame, the City expanded just under $194,006 towards constructing improvements at Soldier Creek Park and Landwehr Plaza. Another $6,000 was spent on preliminary engineering associated with Eddie Cedar Park development, which is scheduled for construction next year. The CAPER also documents the use of Cares Act funds received through the CDBG program to mitigate the impacts of COVID-19. The Emergency Crisis Fund that was stood up last May will be fully expended by the end of September, which meets the schedule laid out in the subrecipient agreement. During the program year $243,385 in assistance was provided to cover basic needs and services. According to that tally financial reports that were submitted by United Way 155 households were helped making rent, 146 households received utility assistance, 376 signed up for employment services, 254 individuals received mental health counseling, 35 homeless individuals were given a hotel or motel voucher, and more than 2,000 persons received a food box from the Dream Center during the multiple drives they carried out, including during the holiday seasons. Three quarters of the households that were helped reported to have extremely low median family income, which matches the federal poverty guideline. In monetary terms, the family income of a household of four persons at or below $26,200.

He further stated that council will be receiving a full report that compiles the program statistics for the closing out of the program by November 1st. Public notice on this item was provided in the Sierra Vista Herald and posted on the City’s website advertising a 15-day public comment period. No comments have been received. Staff is seeking approval of the 2020 CAPER as required by HUD, provided in the resolution.

Mayor Mueller commented that he knows that the City does this every year. This is the first year that there has been a supplemental amount of income due to the COVID emergency. He commended Mr. McLachlan as well as the City’s good friend, United Way for the prompt execution and qualification of people that were eligible for the aid that the City received from the federal government. He added that this has been a good program for the City, and he hopes that people have had, in fact, talked to their landlords and paid their rent, etc. because at the end of September there is not going to be a whole lot of money and once the City gets the
report on November 1st, the program will probably have stopped. There will be some challenges if people in the future need this if this continues.

Mr. McLachlan stated that there are other avenues to pursue. SEAGO is administering a similar program that applies countywide if anybody is interested in taking advantage of those resources.

Mayor Mueller stated that the bottom line is that the City’s program is ending at the end of September, and he knows that there are going to be people that will have rent issues etc. He added that SEAGO is another source, but people need to know that the City’s program has ended; although, the City will help to get them in touch with other organizations, and charities that may not have federal money that can help.

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

New Business

Item 4 Discussion and Possible Action of Ordinance 2021-008, Adoption of Development Code Amendments to Section 151.02.004, Definitions; Section 151.06.008, Communications Facilities Section; and 151.20.002, Architectural and Design Review Applicability

Mayor Pro Tem Gray moved that Ordinance 2021-008, amending City Code Title XV, Chapter 151, Development Code Section 151.02.004, Definitions; Section 151.06.008, Communications Facilities; and 151.20.002, Architectural and Design Review Applicability, be approved. Council Member Benning seconded the motion.

Mr. Pregler stated that the first proposed amendment would change the measurement of building height for sloped roofs, which will now be measured from the finish grade to the average height of the building that is the vertical distance between the eaves and the ridgeline. The second proposed amendment changes the definition of finish grade, which will be defined as the highest grade of joining the building. The third proposed amendment would exempt essential communication facilities for emergency police and medical service dispatch, located on public property from the Development Code requirements in the Communication Facility Section of the Development Code. The final amendment would exempt accessory structures that have a wall or walls that can be viewed from a public right of way, 30 linear feet, or less from the Architectural and Design Standards.

The Planning and Zoning Commission heard the amendments on August 3, 2021 and unanimously recommended them to City Council. Council approved a 30-day public comment period on August 12, 2021, and to-date the City has not received any additional comments from the public.

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

Call to the Public – There was no response.

Comments and Requests of Council
Council Member Rodriguez announced that he attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for a new church in town, New Jerusalem Community Church, on Wilcox. He relayed that there is a great story about the church because the building was a gift, and it has community space in the back that could be possibly used for future engagements. He also asked that the local youth be supported and announced that the Buena High School Swim Team is currently swimming it out against Cienega High School over at the Cove, and that the Buena High School Varsity Football Team will be traveling on Friday, September 24, 2021 to Tucson to play against Sunnyside. He announced that the 9th annual Oktoberfest is on Saturday, September 25, 2021, a fundraiser that helps that Sister Cities. He reported that he attended a Redistricting Meeting hosted by the Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission where they discussed legislative districts and congressional districts and recommended that people investigate it at https://maps.azredistricting.gov/redistricting because this affects everybody in the county. He also announced that the fencing is up for the new fire station, which can be seen if travelling down Seventh Street and BST. Lastly, he stated that there are new paramedics that recently graduated. He congratulated them and wished them luck on their final test.

In response to Mayor Mueller, Council Member Rodriguez stated that the Oktoberfest will take place at 2243 E Sapling Lane with taps opening at 4:30 p.m. followed by the toast at 5:30 p.m. He noted that Oktoberfest is a wedding ceremony, and if people would like to get married for cheap, they should go to Oktoberfest.

Council Member Umphrey had nothing to report.

Council Member Benning had nothing to report.

Council Member Landry announced that it is the midst of National Hispanic Heritage Month, which started on September 15 and goes through October 15. On Tuesday, September 28, 2021, there will be a National Hispanic Heritage Month observance on Post. The doors will open at 11:00 a.m., with the event starting at 11:30 a.m. at the Murr Community Center, where there will be a display from the Henry Hauser Museum. She also announced that next weekend there are a lot of things going on, i.e., the Sky Island Tour that will take place on October 2, 2021 that will have a lot of different options for miles, 5, 20, 30, 44 and 62 miles. Registration is open until September 30, 2021 and people can register at https://skyislandtour.com. The proceeds benefit the National Alliance on Mental Illness, the Southeastern Arizona Programs. The fund's goal is towards the continuation of programs for those that are affected by mental illness and to increase awareness of the advances that are made in mental health. They provide free programs and workshops to educate, support, and advocate for those affected by mental illness because mental health matters. Also, on this same day, there is Art in the Park and Vineyards in the Park.

In response to Mayor Mueller, Council Member Landry stated that she will be speaking at the National Hispanic Heritage Month observance.

Mayor Pro Tem Gray had nothing to report.

Mayor Mueller mentioned that the carnival is still in the park, and it will be there during the weekend to support the event by the Morale, Welfare and Recreation for the Post, an organization that uses the profits to help with programs for soldiers and their families on Fort Huachuca. He stated that the City welcomes them to come down and hold the event at the park because this way they can get more folks to participate than they would if they did it on Post. He
encouraged people to attend because this helps the soldiers. Lastly, he asked people to prepare themselves for all the other great events that are coming up in the next several weeks.

Adjournment

Mayor Mueller adjourned the September 9, 2021 meeting of the Sierra Vista City Council at 5:18 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Maria G. Marsh, Deputy Clerk

Attest: Jill Adams, City Clerk