

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE ELOY CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ELOY
595 NORTH C STREET
MONDAY, JULY 13, 2020
6:00 P.M.**

Staff Present: Harvey Krauss-City Manager; Stephen R. Cooper-City Attorney; Mary Myers-City Clerk; Jillian Childress-Management Assistant; Regis Reed-Public Works Projects Manager; Christopher Vasquez-Police Chief; Jeff Fairman- Economic Development Specialist; Brian Wright-Finance Director; Brian Jerome – Police Lieutenant

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Joel Belloc called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

II. INVOCATION

Mr. Bob Skier gave the invocation.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Jose Garcia led the Council and the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Mayor Joel Belloc; Vice Mayor Micah Powell; Councilmember Andrew Rodriguez; Councilmember Dan Snyder; Councilmember Jose Garcia; Councilmember J.W. Tidwell; Councilmember George Reuter

Council Members Absent: None

V. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Councilmember Reuter conveyed that he and Councilmember Snyder recently toured the Pinal County Animal Control facility. He praised the staff for their level of professionalism, dedication and compassion towards the animals in the

shelter. Councilmember Reuter said he is 100% convinced that the steps the city is taking to have the county take over its animal control services is the best thing for the city and for the animals. He encouraged other members of the Council to visit the facility.

2. Councilmember Garcia wanted to clarify a statement he made at the last meeting that he found to be slightly ambiguous. He said the newspaper reported that he was in favor of raises for the Council. He wanted to state for the record that he was not in favor of the raises three years ago and not in favor of it now. Councilmember Garcia said this seemed to confuse some citizens in the area as well as one councilmember.
3. Councilmember Tidwell thanked city staff for finishing the flagpole project along Main Street. He thanked Councilmember Garcia and Mr. Krauss for coming out early morning July 4th to help put up the flags. He said they also helped him remove the flags the same day in the afternoon heat. Councilmember Tidwell announced the flags would fly again on Veterans Day, and he hopes there will be more volunteers to help install and remove the flags on that day.
4. Mayor Belloc commended Councilmember Tidwell for taking on the task of putting flags along Main Street during the holidays. He said the flags make Main Street look nice and clean.
5. Mr. Krauss conveyed the following communications:
 - He is in the process of negotiating an IGA with the county for taking over the city's animal control services. He hopes to have the agreement completed within the next 60 days. Mr. Krauss said he asked the county if they would take the animals to their shelter prior to completion of the IGA because the city does not have room at its current shelter. Mr. Krauss said the county has agreed to do this. He said this should greatly reduce the number of euthanasia that goes on at the city's shelter.
 - **Transcribed verbatim:** *I also want to take a moment to talk about the tragic incident that occurred at our holding cell last Thursday evening. There were some accounts in the newspaper that said that we were not communicating with the family and I want to clear some things up. First, we are communicating with Javier Sosa's mother and the family representative. We've gotten a lot of requests from relatives and individuals who want information, but we're giving information to the mother - Javier's mother and a family representative only. Not to all the requests that are coming our way. Just to give you some examples of how we've intervened and given timely information to the family. First, we went to Javier's mother's house that Thursday evening as soon as we were aware of; he was pronounced deceased and indicated to his mother at her house that he had taken his life. Also, then following several days later,*

the next week, Lieutenant Jerome went to his mother's house twice to communicate with her and give her some information about the event and informed her that we had turned over the death investigation to the Pinal County Sheriff's office as well as hiring an independent investigator to do an internal affairs investigation. So they would look at the administrative process that would have occurred – that led up to this incident. Also, at the request of Javier's mother, Lieutenant Jerome contacted the county coroner's office asking; the family wanted to go to Florence and view the body. However, the county coroner refused that request. We intervened on the family's behalf and they released the body over the weekend to a funeral home, which they normally don't do. So the family was able to view the body. Also, later – Lieutenant Jerome also asked the – at the request of Javier's mother to have the coroner's office release photos of the entire autopsy to them, which they did. They normally do not do that as well. Also, the police made arrangements for the mother to come to the police station and view the cell in which the suicide took place. And she came down and viewed the cell. On another day, another relative came down and wanted to take a look at the cell, which we allowed that individual to do. The chief has designated Sergeant Violet Maestas as the department liaison to Javier's mother and we will keep in constant contact with her regarding any questions and inform his mom that the full details in the investigation as well as the autopsy report and all videos and as soon as we finish the full and internal investigation – and the internal affairs investigation, we will turn that over to Javier's mother. So we have transparency; we're letting all the information out, but we're doing it in a timely manner and we're only sending to immediate family members, not to all of the relatives or other requests for information. I just wanted to clear the record up that we have been corresponding and talking to the family member. Thank you mayor.

Mayor Belloc thanked Mr. Krauss for providing the Council and the public with this information. He asked Mr. Krauss if there is a camera in the holding cell.

Mr. Krauss answered, yes.

In reference to the county taking over the animal control services in the city, Mayor Belloc asked Mr. Krauss would the county be responding to calls from residents and would there be a change in employee.

Mr. Krauss said yes, the city has one animal control officer who plans to retire by the end of the year. He said the county would take over all animal control services and enforce the city's leash laws and county ordinance. They will also enforce the city's tethering requirements; however, it is not applicable to Pinal County.

Vice Mayor Powell announced that he works for the Pinal County Examiner's office. He requested his supervisor remove him from receiving all communications or participating in anyway with the Sosa case as an employee and elected official for the City of Eloy. Vice Mayor Powell said he did this to prevent any conflict of interest.

6. Mr. Krauss conveyed that tonight is the first night the city is live video streaming the council meetings.

Mayor Belloc reminded Council that they would need recognition from him before speaking.

VI. APPEARANCES FROM THE FLOOR

None.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Belloc moved Executive Session after item IX-A.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes: 6/22/2020 (regular)
- B. Authorize the sale of service weapon Sig Sauer P229, Serial # AM33977 to retiring Lieutenant Michelle Tarango.
- C. Authorization to enter into a contract with Fluoresco Services to replace approximately 167 existing street lights with LED lights.
- D. Authorization to purchase a 3D scanner and drone in the amount of \$79,628.98 to document crime scenes and reconstruct fatal vehicle collisions.
- E. Authorization to purchase furniture from Interior Solutions in an amount of \$132,174.15 for Phase 2 of the new Public Safety Facility.
- F. Approve conveyance of a utility easement to Arizona Public Service (APS) for the electrical line extension to provide power for the new Public Safety Facility.

Motion by Councilmember Garcia, seconded by Vice Mayor Powell to approved the Consent Agenda items as presented, passed unanimously by roll call vote.

IX. BUSINESS

- A. **ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE NO.: 20-896, LEVYING UPON THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF**

ELOY, SUBJECT TO TAXATION A CERTAIN SUM UPON EACH ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100) OF VALUATION SUFFICIENT TO RAISE THE AMOUNT ESTIMATED TO BE REQUIRED IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET, LESS THE AMOUNT ESTIMATED TO BE RECEIVED FROM OTHER SOURCES OF REVENUE; PROVIDING FUNDS FOR VARIOUS BOND REDEMPTIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING INTEREST UPON BONDED INDEBTEDNESS AND PROVIDING FOR FUNDS FOR GENERAL MUNICIPAL EXPENSES; ALL FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING THE 30TH DAY OF JUNE, 2021.

Staff Cover Sheet Report: *Council adopt Ordinance No.: 20-896 setting the estimated property tax levy at \$1.0566 per \$100 of primary assessed valuation which will generate a total of \$1,158,050 of revenue for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.*

This is the final step in the process for adoption of the fiscal year 2020-2021 budget. On June 29, 2020, a public hearing was held on the property tax levy. No comments were made at this public hearing. Upon approval of Ordinance No. 20-896, staff will send the adopted ordinance to the Pinal County Board of Supervisors for their approval. The estimated tax levy is \$1.0566 per \$100 primary assessed valuation.

FISCAL IMPACT: *The total amount of annual revenue generated from a primary tax rate of \$1.0566 will be \$1,158,050.*

Mr. Krauss provided the Council with a brief overview of the proposed ordinance that would set the property tax levy for FY 2020-2021.

Motion by Councilmember Tidwell, seconded by Councilmember Garcia to read Ordinance No. 20-896 by title only, passed unanimously.

The city clerk read the ordinance title into the record.

There being no questions, Mayor Belloc called for a motion.

Motion by Vice Mayor Powell, seconded by Councilmember Snyder to adopt Ordinance No. 20-896, passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Vice Mayor Powell, seconded by Councilmember Snyder to hold an executive session at approximately 6:22 p.m., for approximately one hour with the city attorney, city manager, economic development specialist (item A) and city clerk (transcription) for:

- A. Discussion of legal matters/consultation with City Attorney, City Staff and/or the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its attorneys regarding the

public body's position regarding contracts that are the subject of negotiations, pursuant to A.R.S. '38-431.03 (A) (3) and (4).

- B. Discussions or consultations with designated representatives of the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations for the purchase, sale or lease of real property pursuant to A.R.S. '38-431.03 (A) (3), (4) and (7).

Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Belloc reconvened the public meeting at approximately 7:23 p.m.

X. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. June Check Register

There were no questions or comments from the Council.

Councilmember Snyder reminded the Council and the public of the candidate forum on Thursday, July 16th at city hall. Candidates running for councilmember (not mayor) would be participating. He said the event would be live streamed on Zoom.

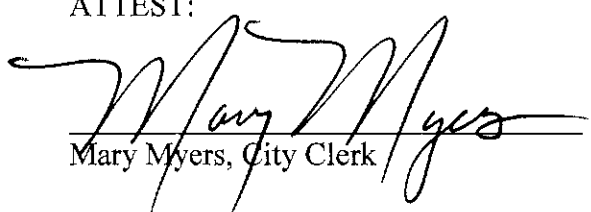
XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Belloc adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:24 p.m.



Joel G. Belloc, Mayor

ATTEST:



Mary Myers, City Clerk