

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF
THE ELOY CITY COUNCILCITY OF ELOY
595 NORTH C STREET
DECEMBER 9, 2024
6:00 P.M.**

Staff Present: David Malewitz-City Manager, Mackenzie Letcher-Assistant City Manager; Stephen R. Cooper-City Attorney, Mary Myers-City Clerk, Brian Wright-Finance Director, Matt Rencher-Public Works Director/City Engineer, Sergio Banales-Police Chief, Paul Anchondo-Community Services Director, Dan Symer-Community Development Director

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Andrew Sutton called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Mayor Andrew Sutton, Vice Mayor Michelle McKinley-Tarango, Councilmember Sara Curtis, Councilmember Dan Snyder, Councilmember Jose Garcia, Councilmember Michael Vodrazka, Councilmember JoAnne Galindo

Council Members Absent: None

III. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Sutton called for a moment of silence.

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Galindo led the Council and the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

V. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

A. Scheduled

B. Unscheduled

Rodney Crook – 4625 W. Hotts Road, Eloy

Mr. Crook conveyed that he came before the Council two weeks ago to inform them of malicious prosecution from the city regarding his property. At that meeting he asked the Council how the city could do a minor land division on land that is owned by him and without his consent. Mr. Crook claims the city, took his property and gave it to his neighbor without his consent. He received a notice from the city two weeks ago that the city intends to abate his property. Mr. Crook said he is scheduled to go to trial in January on abatement charges, and wanted to know how the city can do this when he hasn't gone to trial yet. He told Mr. Cooper that the two-page warrant he filled out to kick him off his land had several mistakes, and warned Mr. Cooper that if he violates his civil liberties, he would not stop until he (Cooper) has paid the price. Mr. Crook conveyed that he has nothing left, and there is nothing more dangerous than someone who has nothing to lose. He wanted to know how he could get his questions answered.

Mayor Sutton told Mr. Crook that the Council cannot respond to his questions. He suggested he write emails. He thanked Mr. Crook for bringing his concerns to the Council.

VI. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Sutton announced that at the last meeting, he forgot to give Councilmember Galindo and Vodrazka the opportunity to make a statement, which he apologizes for. Albeit late, Mayor Sutton wanted to give them the opportunity tonight to give their comments.

A. Council Member Announcements

1. Councilmember Galindo conveyed that she did convey her sentiments to former Mayor Micah Powell and former Councilmember Sylvia G. Rodriguez via message. However, she wanted to thank her family, friends, and supporters who helped her get elected. She promised the citizens that she would serve with transparency, fiscal responsibility, and always in the best interests of the citizens.
2. Councilmember Vodrazka said his statement was directed to the audience that evening, and his comments are similar to Councilmember Galindo. He appreciated the support from the community, and current Council, and looks forward to serving the community with the best of his abilities.
3. Councilmember Curtis announced that parachuters built a 96 person Guinness World Record and FAI World Record, November 30th at Skydive Arizona. Ninety-six people from 20 countries held hands in a vertical foot to earth orientation. Councilmember Curtis pointed out that this is a very difficult formation.
4. Councilmember Garcia asked Mr. Malewitz to reach out to Union Pacific Railroad about the length of time crossings are blocked. He was stuck at a crossing for 17 minutes, which is way too long and concerning for emergency personnel who are located on the south side of Eloy.

Mr. Malewitz assured Councilmember Garcia that he would look into this.

B. Mayor Announcements

Mayor Sutton conveyed the following announcements:

- December 14th – Council will be participating in the following activities:
 - 10:00 a.m. – Wreaths Across America ceremony at Eloy Memorial Park
 - 12:00 p.m. – Ribbon cutting for the new Eloy Veterans Center located on Main Street
 - 2:00 p.m. – Kick off of the City of Eloy 75th Anniversary and Christmas festivities at Main Street Park
 - 3:00 p.m. – Time capsule sealing and placement event at Main Street Park
 - 6:30 p.m. – Tree lighting ceremony and continuation of the 75th Anniversary festivities
 - 7:00 p.m. – Electric light parade on Main Street

C. City Manager Announcements

Mr. Malewitz announced the following communications:

- City offices will close at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, December 20th, for the annual Employee Appreciation Luncheon, and close all day December 23rd-25th in observance of the Christmas holiday. Mr. Malewitz thanked the Council for allowing city employees the 23rd off. He noted that city offices will reopen on December 26th.
- Emails were sent out to current boards and commission members regarding submitting letters of interest to serve on a larger Planning and Zoning Commission, that will absorb several city boards and commissions next year. A request to form a subcommittee to choose members will come before the Council in January.
- Water customers have received letters about lead pipes - lead galvanized materials or unknown construction water lines. The public works department sent letters out to customers as well, outlining the same information. The department received comments from water customers and if needed, staff has visited customer's homes to inspect the pipes.

Councilmember Snyder conveyed that he and several members of the Council who live at Robson Ranch did not receive the letter because Robson has its own water system. He asked Mr. Malewitz to forward a copy of any future letters to them to keep them informed.

Vice Mayor Tarango said she does not recall receiving a letter.

Mr. Rencher conveyed that letters were sent out about a month ago, to water account customers who have galvanized pipes that may need to be replaced

or a (inaudible) unknown material. He said these are the recommendations through the Environmental Protection Agency.

Mr. Rencher said if a water customer did not receive a letter, it's probably because the service line on the property is not affected and the pipe is safe.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Snyder requested item G removed from the agenda for separate discussion.

- A. Approval of Minutes: 11/25/2024 (Regular & Organizational Meeting of Council-Elect)
- B. Adoption of Resolution No. 24-1606 authorizing officers/agents to deposit, transfer, and withdraw monies with the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP).
- C. Adoption of Resolution No. 24-1604 authorizing officers/agents to deposit, transfer, and withdraw monies with First Interstate Bank.
- D. Adoption of Resolution No. 24-1605 authorizing officers/agents to deposit, transfer, and withdraw monies with First Interstate Bank for the Magistrate Checking Account.
- E. Adoption of Resolution No. 24-1603 authorizing officers/agents to deposit, transfer, and withdraw monies with Western Alliance Bank.
- F. Acceptance of the Grant-in-Aid Agreement with the Ak-Chin Indian Community for \$38,650 to assist in Eloy Fire District's purchase of a washer/extractor and drying cabinet equipment for the fire district building.
- G. ~~Approval of a One-Year Revocable Agreement with Flock Group, Inc., to Install and Maintain Eleven (11) Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) Cameras, four (4) Multipurpose ALPR/Video Cameras, and Establish a Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) at the cost of \$60,500.00, with pricing per the City of Tempe Cooperative Contract # T21-119-01. (removed for discussion/action)~~

A motion was made by Councilmember Garcia and seconded by Vice Mayor Tarango to remove item VII-G from the Consent Agenda, and approve remaining Consent Agenda items as presented, passed unanimously by roll call vote (7-0).

G. APPROVAL OF A ONE-YEAR REVOCABLE AGREEMENT WITH FLOCK GROUP, INC., TO INSTALL AND MAINTAIN ELEVEN (11) AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READER (ALPR) CAMERAS, FOUR (4) MULTIPURPOSE ALPR/VIDEO CAMERAS, AND ESTABLISH A REAL-TIME CRIME CENTER (RTCC) AT THE COST OF \$60,500.00, WITH PRICING PER THE CITY OF TEMPE COOPERATIVE CONTRACT # T21-119-01.

Staff Cover Sheet Report: *Staff recommends that the City Council approve a one-year revocable agreement with Flock Group, Inc., to install and maintain eleven (11) ALPR cameras and four (4) Multipurpose ALPR/Video Cameras and establish a*

Real-Time Crime Center (RTCC) through their cloud-based solution at a cost not to exceed \$60,500.00 utilizing the City of Tempe Cooperative Contract # T21-119-01.

*The Eloy Police Department proposes entering into an agreement with Flock Group, Inc., to deploy **11 ALPR cameras and 4 multipurpose ALPR/video cameras** throughout the City, along with a Flock OS Elite Package subscription. This cloud-based platform will serve as a **Real-Time Crime Center (RTCC)**, providing various options for integrating law enforcement technologies, such as ALPR real-time routing predictability, body-worn camera video, other video sources, and CAD data, into a unified, actionable dashboard.*

Under this agreement, Flock Group, Inc., retains ownership of the cameras, handles their installation and maintenance, and provides access to the system through a subscription service. While Flock owns and maintains the hardware, the Eloy Police Department retains complete ownership of all collected data. This ensures the Department has exclusive control over its use, and the data will not be shared with private entities or unauthorized individuals.

Benefits of ALPR Systems:

ALPR systems automatically scan license plates and compare them to databases, alerting officers and dispatch of potential matches associated with:

- *Stolen Vehicles*
- *Active Warrants*
- *Amber Alerts, Silver Alerts, or Missing Persons*
- *Vehicles connected to violent crimes or drug trafficking*

Additional benefits include:

- ***Faster Investigations:*** *ALPR can capture thousands of license plates daily, far exceeding any human capacity*
- ***Hit-and-Run Investigation Support:*** *Detailed vehicle data (e.g. make, model, and condition) aids in identifying vehicles involved in serious or fatal collisions*
- ***Crime Deterrence:*** *Visible ALPR cameras may discourage criminal activity*

Strategic Applications

The system's capabilities include:

Real-time alerts for crimes in progress or vehicles near sensitive areas (e.g., a vehicle registered to a sex offender scanned near a school or playground)

*Collaboration with regional law enforcement for multi-jurisdictional cases - currently, the Eloy Police Department is one of only two law enforcement agencies in Pinal County that **do not** already utilize Flock ALPR technology*

Analyzing crime trends and correlations to improve resource allocation

The ability to enter into existing Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with other law enforcement agencies using Flock. This will notify the Department immediately if a vehicle suspected of a crime enters another jurisdiction and is detected by a Flock ALPR system.

The Department currently deploys other types of camera technology, but not to the degree or capability of ALPR technology. The Criminal Investigations Unit utilizes a limited number of mobile camera systems, referred to as "pole cameras," that have already proven tremendously effective in combating and solving crime.

Recently, a shooting occurred over a holiday weekend. A pole camera system deployed in the area captured video of a suspect's vehicle entering the area just prior to the shooting. The camera system recorded the sounds of gunfire, and officers later stopped the suspect's vehicle and made an arrest. Shell casings consistent with the number of gunshot sounds recorded by the camera system and weapons were recovered inside the suspect's vehicle, and officers were able to make an arrest.

Benefits of a Real-Time Crime Center (RTCC)

The RTCC will centralize intelligence gathering and operational coordination, offering:

- ***Enhanced Public Safety:*** *Faster response times, proactive crime prevention, and real-time situational awareness for officer safety*
- ***Streamlined Operations:*** *Integration of various video feed sources, providing critical, real-time updates to officers in the field*
- ***Cost-Efficiency:*** *Cloud-based infrastructure minimizes upfront costs while providing scalability for future needs and community expectations*
- ***Community Trust:*** *Transparent, auditable use of data ensures accountability and builds public confidence in the Department*

Privacy Protections:

This proposal includes robust safeguards to protect community privacy, including:

- ***Limited Data Collection:*** *ALPR only captures license plates and vehicle images, not drivers or passengers*
- ***Data Retention:*** *Stored for no more than 30 days, unless needed for an investigation*

- ***Restricted Access:*** *Controlled by the Eloy Police Department; no sharing of data with private entities or unauthorized individuals*
- ***Audit Trails:*** *All system access is logged indefinitely for oversight and policy compliance*

Funding

Though not budgeted, the \$60,500.00 cost will be covered through existing funding sources, including any combination of:

Proposition 207 Funds: \$73,000 available

Police Impound Fees: \$21,162.80 available

Police Safety Equipment Funds: \$14,445.95 available

Additionally, vacancy savings from unfilled positions will supplement costs. Flock Group, Inc. has waived installation fees and access fees for the RTCC software solution, saving the City approximately \$25,750.00. If funding is no longer available, there is no obligation to continue this agreement after one year. The estimated cost of year two, if the agreement were extended, is \$75,500.00.

Implementation Plan:

The Eloy Police Department will:

- 1. Identify deployment locations based on crime trends, traffic flow, and community needs.*
- 2. Collaborate with Flock Group to install city-approved poles and public rights-of-way.*
- 3. Integrate existing departmental video and data systems into the RTCC platform.*
- 4. Engage local businesses and residents to voluntarily register their cameras on a camera registry website to alert officers of the existence of cameras in the area, which may aid in criminal investigations.*

Flock will install cameras where directed on specific City-owned streetlight poles or traffic signal poles if authorized by the City in its sole discretion and use of the public highways, public streets, public rights-of-way, and public utility easements in the City to provide Flock Services pursuant to the terms of this Service Agreement. The equipment to be installed consists of the aforementioned ALPR cameras and may include the pole, clamps, solar panels, installation components, and any other physical elements needed to accomplish the installation. All installations shall comply with City construction and engineering standards and will be installed and constructed only at sites approved by the Eloy Police Department and the City of Eloy.

A quarterly progress report highlighting successes and operational insights will be provided to the City Manager for distribution to the City Council.

FISCAL IMPACT: *The fiscal impact of this agreement is \$60,500.00, which includes applicable sales tax. Funds are available through a combination of several sources, including Proposition 207 funds, Police Impound Fees, Police Safety Equipment Funds, and vacancy savings from unfilled positions in the Department.*

Councilmember Snyder conveyed that he supports the purchase of these items, however, is concerned with the maintenance costs, which can end of costing more than the system. He pointed out a fee of \$60,000 for the first year of the contract, that increases to \$70,000 the following year.

Chief Banales conveyed that the first year will be paid through salary savings and several other resources. He pointed out that the department will always have salary savings due to attrition or unfilled positions that can be applied for future maintenance cost and effective management of the department's budget to ensure funds are available. Chief Banales stated the value of the system will have the capability of doing the work of several officers, in terms of gathering data and live view cameras. He asserted that the system would be a valuable asset to the department, which currently is being used by over 3,000 law enforcement agencies in the United States and over 70 agencies in Arizona.

Mayor Sutton asked Chief Banales a series of questions pertaining to:

- Surrounding cities currently using the system
- Cost to relocate cameras, if needed
- Additional equipment to support the system
- Cameras power source
- Visibility of cameras to drivers

Vice Mayor Tarango expressed her full support for the cameras for the department. She said this system will be a game-changer when it comes to fighting crime.

Councilmember Galindo wanted to know the difference between real-time and still photo to catch speeders.

Chief Banales said the cameras would not be used for writing tickets. The license plate readers will constantly take photos that will be retained for up to 30 days before purging, unless directed to be stored for investigation purposes. Live cameras will have the capability of tracking vehicles involved in crimes entering or leaving the city's jurisdiction. He said they will not be used for writing tickets or issuing citations.

Councilmember Snyder recommended this item be a line item in next year's budget.

There being no further questions, Mayor Sutton called for direction from the Council.

A motion was made by Councilmember Snyder and seconded by Councilmember Garcia to approve a one-year Revocable Agreement with Flock Group, Inc., to install and maintain eleven (11) Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) cameras, four (4) multipurpose ALPR/Video cameras, and establish a Real-Time Crime Center (RTCC) at the cost of \$60,500.00, with pricing per the City of Tempe Cooperative Contract # t21-119-01, passed unanimously by roll call vote (7-0).

VIII. BUSINESS

A. APPROVAL OF A PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY SUNLAND ASPHALT AND CONSTRUCTION, LLC FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,200,000 FOR MILL AND OVERLAY PAVEMENT PRESERVATION PROJECTS ON MAIN STREET AND SUNSHINE BOULEVARD; AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE NECESSARY AGREEMENTS.

Staff Cover Sheet Report: *Council accepts and approves a contract with Sunland Asphalt and Construction, LLC, for an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000, to conduct mill and overlay pavement preservation projects on Main Street and Sunshine Boulevard.*

The City Council has allocated \$1 million of the annual budget to support pavement preservation projects, emphasizing the City's commitment to maintaining and improving critical infrastructure. For FY 2025, Sunshine Boulevard and Main Street have been identified as priority areas in the Pavement Preservation Plan due to their strategic importance as primary gateways to downtown Eloy and the central business district. Preserving these key corridors ensures safe and efficient access for residents, businesses, and visitors, fostering economic activity and community connectivity. This project addresses immediate roadway maintenance needs and represents an investment in the long-term sustainability and functionality of Eloy's transportation network, reinforcing the City's commitment to quality infrastructure and community well-being.

This year's pavement preservation program has received a combined investment of \$1.8 million, with \$1 million allocated from the annual budget and \$800,000 provided through the Streets' one-time capital projects fund. The project will focus on key transportation corridors that serve as primary entrances to downtown Eloy and the city's central business district.

The streets selected for this year's improvements include:

- ***Sunshine Blvd from Frontier to Battaglia Rd.***
- ***Main Street from Frontier to Battaglia Rd.***

These routes are critical for local traffic flow and provide access to businesses, residential areas, and essential services. The selected areas are in need of surface rehabilitation but remain structurally sound beneath the surface, making them ideal candidates for the "Mill and Fill" method.

What is a Mill and Fill?

The "Mill and Fill" process is a cost-effective pavement preservation technique that involves milling (removing) the top 1.5 inches of asphalt and replacing it with new, fresh asphalt. This treatment helps to extend the life of the road by addressing surface cracking and wear, without the need for a full reconstruction, which can be much more expensive and disruptive.

Why This Project Matters

- ***Cost Efficiency:*** *The "Mill and Fill" method provides a significant cost-saving alternative to full road reconstruction while still addressing surface deterioration.*
- ***Improved Road Conditions:*** *The project will reduce cracking, improve the smoothness of the driving surface, and enhance safety for both motorists and pedestrians.*
- ***Support for Downtown Eloy:*** *These key streets serve as vital entry points to the heart of Eloy, supporting local businesses and economic growth in the central business district.*
- ***Long-Term Durability:*** *By investing in preventive maintenance, the city is helping to extend the lifespan of these roads and reduce the need for more costly repairs in the future.*

Project Timeline and Traffic Impact

The pavement preservation work is expected to be completed by the end of June 2025. During construction, motorists may experience lane closures, reduced speed limits, or temporary detours. The City of Eloy is committed to minimizing disruptions and will work closely with local businesses to ensure continued access during construction. The Public Works Department recommends a mill and overlay approach to address the pavement needs on these corridors. This project offers a durable and cost-effective alternative to full roadway reconstruction. Both streets are well-suited for this treatment as their roadway bases remain structurally sound despite surface-level cracking. This approach maximizes the lifespan of the roads while optimizing budgetary resources.

As part of the mill and overlay project on Main Street, the existing brick crosswalks at the old Dustbowl Theater location and the 5th Street intersection will be removed.

This decision is due to several factors, including the deterioration of the concrete border, the inability to clean the bricks effectively, the unavailability of replacement bricks (as the style is no longer in production), and the non-compliance of the crosswalks with ADA standards due to their current condition. Staff research indicated the brick crosswalks were installed sometime in the eighties as part of the downtown facades upgrade and have since surpassed their useful life expectancy. In place of the brick crosswalks, newly painted pedestrian crosswalks will be installed, consistent with others along Main Street within the project area. Additionally, staff will evaluate alternative crosswalk design options as part of the Main Streetscaping Project, outlined in the Capital Improvement Plan's 5-year Budget.

In compliance with the City of Eloy's Purchasing Policy and with the authorization of the Finance Director, the Public Works Department leveraged Contract #22-15P-04: Asphalt Products and Services, awarded on March June 28, 2024, through the Pinal County School Office to Sunland Asphalt & Construction LLC. This contract was procured through the Governmental Procurement Alliance (IGPA), which solicited competitive quotes from qualified contractors as part of the State of Arizona Cooperative Program. This program enables local governments to access state contracts for goods and services, streamlining procurement processes by eliminating the need for a separate request for proposal (RFP).

FISCAL IMPACT: *The total cost of the project will not exceed \$1,200,000. \$1M of the funding will be allocated from the Streets Preservation line item within the Public Works Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF), with the remaining \$200,000 allocated from the Streets One-Time capital fund.*

Mr. Rencher provided the Council with a brief overview of a proposal from Sunland Asphalt for mill and overlay pavement road work for Main Street and Sunshine Blvd.

Vice Mayor Tarango conveyed to Mr. Rencher that he mentioned considering stamping concrete to replace the brick crosswalk on Main Street. She said she would like the Council to review the information before a decision is made. Vice Mayor Tarango said she understands the bricks cannot be saved due to their age and cost to replace, however, she wants assurances that the city will preserve the look of old downtown as much as possible.

Mr. Rencher assured Vice Mayor Tarango and the Council that staff would bring this and alternatives for the crosswalk to the Council for approval.

Mayor Sutton asked about the lead time for the project.

Mr. Rencher said he anticipates work to begin sometime in February or March with a six-week completion time.

Councilmember Galindo conveyed that she consulted with Mr. Cooper regarding voting on this item because she lives on Sunshine Boulevard. and the project would benefit her. Mr. Cooper told her there would not be a conflict of interest by voting on this item.

There being no further questions, Mayor Sutton called for direction from Council.

A motion was made by Councilmember Garcia, seconded by Councilmember Curtis to approve a proposal by Sunland Asphalt and Construction, for an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000 for mill and overlay pavement preservation projects on Main Street and Sunshine Blvd; and authorizing the mayor to execute the necessary agreements, passed unanimously by roll call vote (7-0).

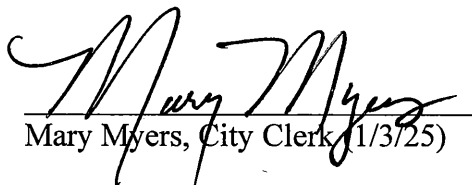
X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Sutton adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:39 p.m.



Andrew Sutton, Mayor

ATTEST:



Mary Myers, City Clerk (1/3/25)