

Minutes of the Regular Agenda Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of South Tucson, Arizona, held Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., at the City of South Tucson Council Chambers, 1601 S. 6th Avenue, South Tucson, Arizona.

Staff Present: Veronica Moreno, Interim City Manager
Lourdes Aguirre, Finance Director
Danny Denogean, Public Safety Director and Chief of Police
Josue Licea, Planning Director
Imelda Robles, Housing Director
Michelle Stinson for Jon Paladini, City Attorney

Councilors Present: Mayor Paul Diaz
Vice Mayor Herman Lopez
Acting Mayor Rita Rogers
Councilor Anita Romero (Excused)
Councilor Cesar Aguirre (Excused)
Councilor Brian Flagg
Councilor Roxanna Valenzuela

Others Present: Dancing in the Streets AZ (Joey Rodgers)
J.C. Gonzales, not a resident (Police Dept)
Glenda Avalos, not a resident
Scott Sears, resident
Nick Bruno, not a resident

Mayor Diaz called the Regular Agenda Meeting of June 18, 2024, to order at 6:00 p.m. Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance, and Land Acknowledgment and Mission Statements.

ITEM #03 – LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND MISSION STATEMENT

Vice Mayor Lopez: On behalf of South Tucson residents, we honor the Tribal Nations who have served as caretakers of this land from time immemorial and respectfully acknowledge the ancestral homelands of the Tohono O’odham Nation and the multi-millennial presence of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe within South Tucson. Consistent with the City of South Tucson’s commitment to diversity and inclusion, we strive toward building equal-partner relationships with Arizona’s Tribal Nations.

Acting Mayor Rogers: The Mission of the City of South Tucson is to build up our community through mutual cooperation between we, your public servants, and you our citizens so that jointly we can build a safer and stronger City. Amen.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you.

ITEM #04 – ROLL CALL (By City Manager Moreno):

Vice Mayor Lopez. Here.

Acting Mayor Rogers. Aye.

Mayor, Councilor Romero and Councilor Aguirre request to be excused.

Mayor Diaz. Here.
Councilor Flagg. Yes.
Councilor Valenzuela. Here.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you.

ITEM #05 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Diaz: I would like to do them one at a time, so the Minutes for approval are the Regular Meeting of May 21, 2024. Do I hear a Motion?

Councilor Flagg: So moved.

Vice Mayor Lopez: Second.

Mayor Diaz: Moved and Seconded. Are there any corrections, additions to the Minutes? Hearing none, Roll Call.

Vice Mayor Lopez. Yes.
Acting Mayor Rogers. Aye.
Mayor Diaz. Yes.
Councilor Flagg. Yes.
Councilor Valenzuela. Yes.

Mayor Diaz: The next one is the Regular Meeting of June 4, 2024. Move to approve?

Vice Mayor Lopez: So moved.

Acting Mayor Rogers: Second.

Mayor Diaz: Moved and Seconded. Are there any additions to those Minutes? Corrections? Hearing none, Roll Call.

Vice Mayor Lopez. Yes.
Acting Mayor Rogers. Aye.
Mayor Diaz. Yes.
Councilor Flagg. Yes.
Councilor Valenzuela. Yes.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you.

CALL TO PUBLIC

Mayor Diaz: If you wish to address the Council at this time, please do so. There are cards to fill out.

Ms. Moreno: I have them, Mayor. We have four total cards for Call to Audience. The first is Scott Sears, he is a resident, address is 2301 S. 6th Avenue, the topic is Fire Truck.

Mr. Sears: Council, you guys have been asked about a fire truck several times and we haven't had any update.

Mayor Diaz: Please step up to the microphone.

Mr. Sears: You have been asked about bringing a fire truck in. What's the update?

City Attorney Stinson: This is not on the agenda to do, so we will not be able to discuss.

Mayor Diaz: Excuse me?

City Attorney Stinson: This is not on the agenda to be able to be discussed. This is a call to the public so limit your responses. We can put it on a different agenda if you would like.

Mr. Sears: Are you guys going to put it on the agenda to vote for it or forthcoming? It seems like it keeps getting pushed off and off on the citizens here. We need a new fire truck.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you.

Ms. Moreno: The next card is from Glenda Avalos, not a resident, topic is Accountability.

Ms. Avalos: Good evening, Mayor and Council. My name is Glenda Avalos. Although I am not a resident, I have spent the past 23 years of my life serving South Tucson in different capacities. Right now, currently I am at Casa Maria, and you all know what we do and the community we serve. We serve a different, broad demographic from families who are just simply struggling, to our unsheltered community, and we are constantly looking at different stories of struggles. And as you know, some of the people we come in contact with are individuals who are struggling with some type of addiction. When an individual struggles in that manner, and when people come alongside them, it is very critical. And these people, for me it's not just a regular people. They are my brothers, they are my sisters, they are my mothers, and they are my fathers. Over the weekend there was a situation that occurred at one of the properties of Brian Bowers which you all have a lawsuit against. A passing happened. Whatever the situation was with this passing, it happened. This individual had shared concerns about her security, had shared concerns about her welfare. She was a person that had taken an extra step to move forward in the right direction and happened to be housed at this place. As the City, I am asking that the accountability be measured even more so, because this is not a one-time situation. They will continue to get even worse. The security of your residents, of your constituents, should always be top priority. Whether our back stories are perfect or full of much brokenness like mine is, these are individuals that need to be highlighted in any way or shape possible because if we can learn from every situation that went bad, and fix the ones in the future, that is our responsibility. As constituents, I can't help but they can. All of you need to be held accountable as the City, the lawyers, every single public servant, because these are situations that just shouldn't happen. We can say Brian Bowers is not necessarily accountable for this. Yes, when you are the owner of a property, you are entrusted to have security on your facility. When the security is not provided, when the oversee is not provided, in certain culture as sat there and waited to fester, then it is on us. And if something else was to happen to a different resident, it's going to be on us. If we can move together with more accountability for one another, let's push in that direction so that these situations don't happen again. I want to take a moment to mourn her and her family, so it just doesn't go by like something else happened, to look back and this is what happens when you happen to be struggling with an addiction. I'd like to take a moment of silence for her and her family. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Rogers: Amen.

Ms. Moreno: The next card is from J.C. Gonzales, not a resident, address is 1601 S. 6th Avenue, the topic is Police Department.

Mr. Gonzales: Good evening, Mayor, Council Members. I've been asked here to talk about the Police Department. I started my career here in South Tucson in the 1990's. I specifically used to take Mayor Diaz on ride-alongs. I then got on board with Tucson Police Department where I retired with 22 years, working high-profile investigations. I have now returned back here to South Tucson to assist the Police Department, now with very little officers to work the streets. Things are much different than when it was when I was back here in the 1990's. It is the importance of having law enforcement on the streets to protect the constituents and the public and the people that live in South Tucson because you do have a lot of good people here. Now, the investigations that we have worked, and I've only been here a little over a year and a half, are the homicides. Yes, homicides, and agg assaults, shootings, shots fired, people getting stabbed. These investigations don't get cleared up in about three hours, ok. We had a homicide yesterday. We're still working it. Ongoing. This is what the people of South Tucson is subjected to. It doesn't have to be. The importance of the Police Department is the utmost important thing for the safety of the constituents and the public and the people of South Tucson. You try to eliminate the Police Department; I have seen both sides of the fence. You eliminate and bring in another Police Department, I can guarantee you that you will not get the same service that you get now. You will not get the same response from Police Departments that you get now. You may get the Sheriff's Department which will take precedence over this area, and their response time will be an hour, two hours. That is what you will be providing to the constituents if you were to say the Police Department does not matter. I provide you with the idea that it doesn't take a marketing expert to see that two plus two is four. You bring in another agency, they will take money from you in comparison to the Police Officers you have working now. Thank you.

Vice Mayor Lopez: Thank you.

Acting Mayor Rogers: Thank you.

Ms. Moreno: Next card is from Dancing in the Streets. They are a business in South Tucson. The address is 88 W. 38th Street, the topic is Juneteenth/Cinderella Performance.

Mr. Rodgers: Hello, Mayor and Council. I'm sure you remember who we are. I'm Joseph.

Ms. Lupu: Hi, my name is Soleste Lupu, and we have Dancing in the Streets, 88 W. 38th Street.

Mr. Rodgers: It's a non-profit ballet school and we are here to talk about Juneteenth. I don't know if you know, but as Cinderella, the Juneteenth committee picked us up to start off their Juneteenth week of festivals and yeah, we're very festive.

Ms. Lupu: We were invited by the Juneteenth committee. They were, we had already been doing the Cinderella Ballet in January and it was history making because it was the first time that both of the leading roles were played by African American ballet dancers. One is a guest artist from Ballet Arizona, and the other was our own alumni who is from South Park, and they were doing the leading roles and it seemed a good fit so the Juneteenth committee approached us and they said, hey, everyone is scheduled for June 8th, so they had a week-long of festivities that included our ballet.

Mr. Rodgers: Our ballet, an arts studio, there's an all-black art museum, there was a session at the Loft Theater with youth.

Ms. Lupu: A special jubilee at Pima College West campus.

Mr. Rodgers: My thing is with the Council. I wish the Council would get more involved with the Juneteenth committee. I don't know why you have not reached out to Larry Starks. Larry Starks, he is the President of the Juneteenth committee. He has a big family here, a big black family, the Starks family. I don't see why you all could not involve yourselves in, and I'm going to say it right now, the last Mayor, Mayor Teso, he called me. He said, Joey, I want you to come down because I am going to make Juneteenth a National Holiday in the City of South Tucson. I said, cool, so I came down thinking in my mind, this is what I'm thinking when I'm coming down here, wow, he's doing this? There might be other African Americans that's actually going to be here. Businesses, residents, they're all going to be here and I'm actually going to meet them. I get down here, you guys, guess who was here? Me. Me, just me. So, I'm going like this, I must be the only African American with a business down here, unless you all can prove me wrong. And I'm like this, if you all could, and right then and there, here it is, you all are getting a day off, a paid vacation on Juneteenth. Yes, you are, yes you are, because the Mayor made it that way because I wish I would have what you guys have as a black man. I wish I was paid and have a day off but you all, as a City, you all do. Yes, you do, Veronica, check it, check it. Tomorrow, you get a day off and you get paid for it. That's what the Mayor voted for. I was here, so I am like this, I'm a black man in the City of South Tucson and I need help saving these kids. You know how many times I've been down here, screaming at you all for help.

Ms. Lupu: I think one of the things we want to bring out is that in 17 years, we work with the same population that Casa Maria does.

Mr. Rodgers: Laura Conover came to the show. You know who Laura Conover is, right, Pima County Attorney. Guess what she gives me. It was a total surprise. She said Joey, I'm giving you the Community Safety Award. I was like, wow, that's nice, but it would have been nicer if it came from the City of South Tucson. It would have been nice if it came from you guys because I represent you guys. We are stakeholders in this City like everybody else. I see the fires, I see the shootings, I see the hotel right across from our studio. I see it.

Ms. Lupu: So, in the 17 years that we have been in business, one of the disappointments that we have had is that we have continuously reached out to the City of South Tucson for not only just sponsorship help, financial help, any kind of help at all. We really have not gotten that in 17 years, and yet we are one of the few businesses that's providing positive reinforcement.

Mr. Rodgers: The City is in the media all the time, all the time representing this City in a well-fashioned manner. I don't have nothing bad to say about this City. I try to make this City better with ballet, but you know what? There's something about ballet that's like oil and water around here.

Ms. Lupu: Frankly, I think we are really disappointed with the fact that we continue to not be held in esteem and the work that we do with ballet. If we had soccer or mariachi or folklorico -

Mr. Rodgers: Wait, wait, wait, it's like Glenda said, being held accountable. I'm being held accountable. Why would Laura give me a Safety Award? That was out of the blue. You know why? Because the environment that I provide is safety, even though we've got blah, blah, blah, fire, fire, fire, but I still have parents still believe in me and Soleste to bring their kids into this environment. I've got nothing to say.

Acting Mayor Rogers: Amen. Thank you.

Ms. Lupu: I just want to make the point that we would have liked to have had the City of South Tucson's involvement. We would have liked them to reach out to us. We have had a few times where they have

reached out to us, one day before your meeting. You know, we need time to prepare. I don't know why the Arts is not considered an important value in providing upgrades to the City of South Tucson. We provide everything that a soccer team does, we provide the same value as any other athletic team. We had academic grades that improved. We had a sponsor from a behavioral health organization in Flagstaff because they see the value of what we do. I just feel like we have been preaching for an Arts Center, Cultural, I know housing is important, but you need to do everything side by side. Affordable housing doesn't come; developers don't want to bring it in if they don't see that there's Arts. Businesses don't want to come in if they don't see that there's anything for their residents and families to go ahead and do. We would love to hire students. At this point in time, we have students that want to come back and teach. We don't have the finances, so we are struggling in terms of where do we go for support. The City of Tucson, Paul Cunningham's office, Councilmember Fimbres, they have helped us financially, so we appreciate everyone saying you're doing a great job, but we would like to see more from the City of South Tucson in terms of helping us and acknowledging that we've been a positive influence for 17 years. We are now getting generations of kids that are going to college, that are getting jobs, that are coming from these broken homes, that they are managing to overcome because of our guidance.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you, really appreciate it.

Acting Mayor Rogers: Thank you.

Ms. Aguirre: Mr. Mayor, there is one more card that I was just handed. The person's name is Nick, not a resident, the topic is Bowers Property.

Mr. Bruno: Good evening, Mayor and Council, thank you. My name is Nick Bruno and I am not a resident of South Tucson but I have been working with tenants that are here, specifically at Bowers properties, the Spanish Trail on South 6th Avenue, primarily Spanish Trail. I spoke with you before, and at the prior meeting, the same person that Glenda was referring to also spoke to you all. I believe she was very powerful because she valued not only her own well-being but the well-being of people that she lived with. When I got to know her, I did an interview with her. She was somebody that wasn't afraid, whether there were people on the streets or using drugs, to talk with and find help that they would need, you know, and build a relationship. Building those relationships with people and her neighbors, security was the reason why, as a member of the Tenants' Union, we were working with her trying to get some more support to really bring empowerment to the tenants there, to help also to find solutions for the habitability issues, for the safety issues, for the issues of the illegal and abusive treatment from their landlord, and I am also heartbroken because of her passing this last weekend. I want just you to know that she is somebody that we were looking at for her leadership, for her humanity, who I wish, I shouldn't be somebody who was just getting to know her, who is talking to you about her, but when you hear another person has passed or was killed on one of these properties that Brian Bowers has, you know, a lot of people will just write it off, like that's just the way things are over there. But she is somebody who was a living testament to know, and that she did not deserve to go like that, and when they tell you that he is coming into compliance with the safety, that this stuff is still happening. That is not just something that you can just check a box and it's all better. He needs to be really held to not only the accountability that they have set out in the 20 some types of criteria that were in the lawsuit, but really in terms of safety from a holistic perspective. And that goes to the case workers that are there, the other coordinated entry services and those sorts of things that I know it's not all just you all. It's part of the network with other non-profits. It's part of the neighborhood, but I know you all have the power in terms of your position to be able to call on to these other agencies, these other stakeholders and hold them to the account.

You're not going to be able to really get any sort of budging or empathy or anything like that from the landlord. It's up to the rest of us who actually care about everybody that's living there and knows that it is absolutely unacceptable. The conditions that they are being made to live in, and then to be painted in any type of way, including the man who was killed today coming who was also coming out of his South 6th property. That wasn't even mentioned. That was also a tenant based out of those properties. We just think about if these people were able to get the kind of quality of living and what that can be done based on our resources here, our ability to really implement oversight programs, ability to have coordinated care, those types of things. These things can be transformed, and then we can really try to allow the other opportunities to other richness of experiences that these people have, the ability to have full celebrations of their lives, all the different way from Arts, to work, to service, any of those sorts of things. So, I just wanted to make that case to the Council again and thank you.

Acting Mayor Rogers: Thank you.

Councilor Flagg: Thank you.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you.

ITEM #06 - MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS: REPORTS OF CURRENT EVENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Diaz: Does anybody on the Council have any reports?

Vice Mayor Lopez: Mr. Mayor, I participated in and went on the El Norte Sur event out there at El Pueblo last week which included a bike tour and then a tour of the bus station just to see how it all flows into one place if granted to build El Norte Sur goes down our City. And then there's a party at JVYC on June 30th. They are celebrating their anniversary. That's all I have.

Mayor Diaz: June 30th was what, again?

Unknown: June 20th is the correct date for the John Valenzuela Youth Center across the street.

Acting Mayor Rogers: What's the date?

Mayor Diaz: He said June 30th.

Councilor Flagg: No, he said June 20th.

Councilor Valenzuela: I think it's June 20th and it's to celebrate the 30 years' anniversary. So, June 20th, it's Thursday.

Acting Mayor Rogers: Yeah, that is what I heard from Herman.

Mayor Diaz: Ok, June 20th, thank you. Anymore reports? Any future agenda items? No? Ok, hearing none, we go to Item #07.

ITEM #07 - CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENT HEADS: REPORTS TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Ms. Moreno: Yes, Mayor and Council, we have reports from Police and Fire and from the Planning Department.

Chief Denogean: Good evening, Mayor. Good evening, Council. So, I will start off with the Fire Department. The schedule has been working better with the level of four people per shift. We are still running into small little problems. There's been a couple weekend days where we haven't been able to get to exactly four people, but we have had at least three. One of the other minor issues that comes up, I won't say minor, but remember, all of our firefighters work at other fire departments. And so the problem is, when they come here a lot of times they have to get to their fire department on time, so they are not able to hold over, and then we have people come from other fire departments, so they are getting an hour, an hour and fifteen minutes late. So, during shift change, sometimes we have two people, one person holding on until we get our four people in. It is something we are working around. It hasn't caused major problems at this point, but it's something that we need to start to address in the near future. It's working a lot better. I think in the future we are going to have to look at ways to address those issues, especially when the major holidays come up with Thanksgiving and Christmas. So, we will have to look at addressing the weekend issues and the shift change stuff. Other than that, it is working much better the way it's going right now. We had a fire on the 13th of June over at 314 W. 39th Street. It's an abandoned property. It's right next to kind of the overpass over by 10th Avenue, and there's a wall right there where we have tons of homeless people. The place has been occupied by homeless people. On many, many occasions, my officers have gone there many times and cleared it out. Witnesses told us that people, even when it is boarded up, are climbing through the windows and get in there. It's just what happens with abandoned properties here. I am going to let Captain Luna talk about the response of the Fire Department because they did an awesome job, and he would like to get in and talk about what a great job they did.

Capt. Luna: Thank you, Chief, I appreciate that. He is correct, this fire was at 314 W. 38th Street. It was actually a home that was under construction, so there was a lot of timber that they were dealing with, but nonetheless, it was a pretty big fire. There's video out there on the news if you guys might have seen the video, it was pretty, pretty big, pretty intense. So, our crew, I want to commend our crew. The four guys that were on, I was actually on that day as well, so me and three other guys, and just the fact that there was four people there on scene, it made a world of difference fighting this fire. If you've seen the video, it was pretty big. You could see it from the freeway. You could see it from all over the place so when we got there with four people, we were able to take up two lines. One line goes to the actual site of the fire, the other line goes to the perimeter to protect other houses or exposures that are on the other side. That's the difference between having three guys and four guys. It's obviously different where it was even to the point where Tucson fire units showed up with all their trucks, we didn't need them, but they were already there so we didn't stop it. I was going to cancel them from coming in completely because at the time when they pulled their lines, they joined us, this fire was already 80-90% contained. If we continued that, we would have put out the fire with four guys. We would have put out the fire, so that's the difference between three and four guys. That was awesome, but the crew, I want to commend the crew, I wish they were here. They were invited but they do have other jobs as the Chief mentioned. They are awesome in what they do. They are professional, they are experienced firefighters, so with the crew that we had, we were able to fight this fire very successfully. The Chief is correct. We still have minor issues with staffing when we shift exchange, but just changing from three to four, the percentage of that happening is a lot less. So, just with that we are able to continue operations and operate a way better, lot more efficient than with three people. So, with that, that's all I have, and I commend our firefighters. They did a great job that day. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Rogers: Thank you.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you.

Chief Denogean: Thank you, Capt. Luna. Just a couple other things on the Fire Department, we have a Captain, Elijah Martinez, who has been with us for a while now. He is going to be working with the Tucson Fire Department starting the middle of July. He is one of our Captains. He was one of our most dependable Captains. He came in on many times so we are going to lose him because when they go to work for the City of Tucson, they can't work for us anymore. The City of Tucson does not allow them to do what other fire departments do. That will be a big loss to us because he has a great deal of experience, and he was a Captain. We will miss him and appreciate everything that he has done. I have given you guys all stats, and there's stats for the Police Department and Fire Department. It's just for the month of May. This is a work in progress. I am going to try to make sure we get stats every month and whatever we think we need to add or subtract, we can do. This is a basic one for May of 2024. Basically, what it shows on the Police Department side it shows that we had a total of 1,074 calls for the month of May. Basically, that is an average of 34.6 calls a day. There are some days where you had up to 50 calls and then you have some days where there might have been like 22 calls, so it varies, but the average per day is 34.6 calls. That's a lot of calls for a 1.2 mile city. The number of misdemeanor arrests is 52, the number of felony arrests for the month of May is nine, and the number of traffic citations is 85. When we are talking about calls for service, that's for a 24-hour period. Then on the Fire Department side, we had 164 calls for the month of May. 119 were EMS calls, 20 were fire calls, we had accident calls, a couple, 15 false alarm calls, and about eight public assist calls. And that averages out to about 5.6 calls a day. Any thoughts or questions on that?

Councilor Valenzuela: On the Fire, the EMS calls, how many of those are responded to by AMR?

Chief Denogean: The AMR only usually comes at the request of our Fire Department, isn't that correct Captain Luna?

Capt. Luna: Yes, that is correct. Obviously, we respond to all the calls and AMR does respond if the folks are getting transported to the hospital.

Councilor Valenzuela: Ok. Do you have any idea, like the percentage of times you have called them out for transportation?

Capt. Luna: Every time, every time.

Councilor Valenzuela: Every time, ok.

Capt. Luna: Usually, they get cancelled because there is no medical need for transport, or they come into the scene and transport. Typically, they will respond every single time.

Councilor Valenzuela: Can I ask another question on that?

Capt. Luna: Sure.

Councilor Valenzuela: What is the average response time for AMR?

Capt. Luna: Well, it varies. It's anywhere from five minutes to 35 minutes, maybe an hour.

Chief Denogean: The AMR response time can be quite a while many times because they are coming from great distances, so it's not an instance of them getting there very quick a lot of the times.

Capt. Luna: Correct.

Mayor Diaz: Is that a contract issue?

Chief Denogean: It's not a contract issue, it's just the way the system is. It's about staffing, just like every fire department, every police department, AMR, they all have staffing limitations.

Councilor Valenzuela: I have another question.

Chief Denogean: Ok.

Councilor Valenzuela: I don't know if this is appropriate for me to ask, but how many paramedics do we have on staff, or do we have at least one per shift?

Chief Denogean: Well, the average is about 70-80% of the time we have a paramedic on staff. It just depends, I mean, when we are filling our staff, we try to fill it up with driver, Captain, we try to get a paramedic on there, but sometimes it kind of gets, ok, we've got to get four people on there, and so we end up taking who we have to take. There will be times when we have two paramedics on shift.

Councilor Valenzuela: I have another question. So, on the police calls, for the number of felony arrests, for both, a misdemeanor or felony, do you know percentage of those that are actually taken to jail for the misdemeanors, and do we book them overnight?

Chief Denogean: Well, I can tell you that most misdemeanors are cite and release because basically with the jail a great deal of them, like a shoplifting call, we take them over there and they're going to release them right away. They are going to have to find that there are violent reasons or something that is out of the ordinary to hold them, so for a majority of your misdemeanors, not all of them because sometimes they will take misdemeanors, but a majority of them are going to be cited and released.

Councilor Valenzuela: And for the felony, I'm sure they get booked into jail?

Chief Denogean: Felonies are booked, yes.

Councilor Valenzuela: Who covers that bill, is it the City of South Tucson or is it the County?

Councilor Flagg: The County.

Chief Denogean: We cover that bill. We get a bill every month. It's basically, approximately \$107 for every day after the first day. The first day is the most expensive where it's, don't quote me on this, but it's between \$369 and \$389 for that first day. The longer they are in jail, the more it costs.

Councilor Valenzuela: Thank you.

Mayor Diaz: I have a question. Are all of these calls through the 9-1-1 system?

Chief Denogean: Most of the calls are through the 9-1-1 system. Some of them are self-initiated with our officers being out on patrol, sometimes on-site activity or find things before people can call 9-1-1, but the majority of them would be 9-1-1 calls, yes.

Mayor Diaz: And these are the statistics that are issued and sent to the FBI?

Chief Denogean: We send them, it's not the UCR anymore but it's statistics for classification that we send to the FBI.

Councilor Valenzuela: For the number of citations, I have seen an increase in police stops.

Chief Denogean: Yes.

Councilor Valenzuela: I was wondering if you could provide, in your opinion, has that increased, the citations increased, like last year, last month, something you guys are doing differently because I'm seeing a lot more traffic stops.

Chief Denogean: You have to remember, I've been here for two and a half years. When I got here, you only had eight full-time officers. And then you had Covid, and it was a different culture, a different atmosphere at that time. The atmosphere culture was with only two people per shift with no extra coverage at all, they wait for what you would call a big call, so there was not a lot of self-initiated activity. So, my goal all along once I got here was to get more people in to create a lot more self-initiated activity. I know DUI's weren't a thing that was done very often. We've had a couple officers go to DUI training; we've done DUI's. We do DUI's, so we are trying to be more proactive. We have Stonegarden where we get officers that work overtime and one of the big things is to do a lot of traffic and find drugs. So, we are pushing that, but it is always limited, you know, you always have limitations on calls depending on how many people you have out there. Our goal is always try to get to where we have three people out there. We're not able to get there yet. Even when we do have a schedule of three, then something happens where maybe we have sick leave or vacation leave. But I would say half of the time now we get three people out on patrol and when we have that, we can do a lot more. But my stress has always been, hey, we need to be more proactive, we need to do more things out there. We are always out there trying to push people away from the Circle K, people are hanging out. It's complicated and it's difficult at times because we have such a big homeless population. You have a group of population that understands the way the system works. They know if they go and get shoplifting, they are going to get a citation, they will never show up to court and what happens? They know that a lot of time there will be no consequences.

Councilor Valenzuela: Ok.

Mayor Diaz: I have another question. It's in regard to the Fire Department, the difference between the EMT and the paramedic, there's always a distinct difference in it, but can I assume that the EMT can provide the same service as the paramedic?

Chief Denogean: I believe so, but I will let Captain Luna answer that.

Capt. Luna: Yes, Mayor, we provide the same service. The difference between EMT and paramedic is everything is initially the same, with the exception of pushing drugs. So initially, we are all EMT's, all of us and some of us are paramedics, so the difference is like I said, pushing drugs, so with that, if you go off the percentage of times that a paramedic is absolutely necessary on that call, it's a small percentage, because what we do is initiate initial care and we keep these folks basically alive until the ambulance gets there and they transport to the hospital. So, with that, we are all pretty much the same other than pushing drugs. Now, when I say that, it can be complicated to explain it, basically if somebody needs like epinephrine and they are pulseless and they're not breathing and you push this drug, we can help their heart to pump again. But if there was no medic there to keep oxygen going to the brain, we are doing chest compressions. So, that's

comparable in keeping them alive with oxygen going to the brain. I don't mean to get complicated but that keeps them alive. So, the epinephrine, it's either going to be done in the ambulance when they get there or at the hospital anyways. I don't know if that clears that up, it's complicated.

Mayor Diaz: So, AMR has paramedics?

Capt. Luna: Yes, they do. They have EMT trucks, they have paramedic trucks, and just like us, about 70-80% of the time we have paramedics on the fire truck, which obviously has the drug box, so yes.

Mayor Diaz: Ok, thank you.

Chief Denogean: Thank you, Capt. Luna.

Capt. Luna: You're welcome.

Mayor Diaz: Any other questions?

Councilor Valenzuela: No.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you.

Mr. Licea: Good evening, Mayor and Council. I'll be very brief today. Just giving you some updates on some of the projects we are working. We're working on a demolition project that we're working on for a local property owner, 442 W. 30th Street. We got all the clearances from Pima County. It's going to be a Pima County funded the demolition project, a pretty cool project, so we received pretty much all the clearances. We're just buttoning up the scope of work and we will be going out to bid on that demolition project. So, hopefully within the next couple of weeks we will have contractors out there giving us the bid to do the work. I think at the last meeting last week, or the one before that, I invited Rochelle Hornby, she's part of the group from Tucson 2030 District that came and did the audit here, so she had mentioned the possibility of having their students, the class at PCC coming down here and scoping out some projects, either out here at the water fountain or at one of our local parks. We are getting that process going. The class is going to be coming out and meeting with me initially on July 11th. City Manager had mentioned some potential move to start doing a windshield study, given everything going on right now with dilapidated properties, vacant, construction and so on, so just letting you know we are working on a plan to initially do a windshield study to identify any and all properties around the neighborhood, the City, that are vacant, dilapidated or pose some type of nuisance or safety hazard so we could start doing some action on that. Moving on to the Planning and Zoning Commission, we had a hearing on June 5th. That hearing didn't result in a denial or approval recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission. Rather, the Commission decided to have the property owner come over and work with the City and continue the hearing. So, basically, there's some additional details that could be brought into this case but at this moment it was just best for the property owner to continue the case. Again, no decision was made whether to deny or approve the case at that level of the Commission. Also, on the Planning and Zoning Commission, as I mentioned last time, we do have a vacancy. We will be formalizing a recruitment notice. I'll be sure to let you guys know when that happens. We're going to be posting it on the Daily Territorial and on the website so the idea is to give folks some time to be more transparent with this process, so we are going to put it out with the hopes of everybody submitting any applications by July 10th, and have Mayor and Council consider all applicants by July 16th meeting. So, we've got a Council Meeting happening on July 16th, again, just trying to be more transparent and clear with the public and applicants, so just letting you know that is the goal right now. We want the Council to hear or consider the applications on

the Tuesday, July 16th meeting. We were talking about grants last time a little bit, so we submitted a letter of support to the U of A. They are submitting a grant application for some EPA grants, there's a potential opportunity for collaboration there. Without getting too much into the details, if that grant were to be awarded to the U of A, it would provide for the opportunity to conduct baseline foundation data on air quality on the southside and in the City of South Tucson. In the coming weeks I am going to present to you as a proposal for a consultant for us to work together on the grant application, also to the EPA for environment and climate community change grant. It's a Track 2, and I think I mentioned this very briefly. It is something that if funded would bring in anywhere between \$1 - \$3 million to South Tucson and it would prioritize community engagement and governing, and so it would basically provide a lot of funding and programming to get community input from our neighborhood and our residents. The Tucson 2030 District, you might have seen an email coming from me, the report on the water and electrical and facilities audit was completed. We are going to be setting up a meeting with those folks to dive into the report and understand it a little better. Once we have at Staff level a better understanding of the recommendations that are being made on this report, we will be sure to invite the folks out here to come and talk to you guys and see if you guys have any questions on the report. It might open up the opportunity for grant opportunities. PAG/RTA stuff, the 36th Street El Paso Southwestern Greenway, you've got an item today on the agenda to consider an outreach proposal as we have mentioned in the past. So, we plan to move that forward because we have reached out to the PAG/RTA regarding the existing budget. The budget as you will recall was strictly for construction. I did receive a verbal from PAG that we could use those construction monies for outreach. We did have to do an amendment of the budget, so with that verbal I decided to go ahead and consider that outreach proposal. I want your feedback, but we can talk a little more about that during the agenda item. The speed alert monitor signs traffic project for the signs along 6th Avenue, 10th Avenue and 29th Street, that's moving along. Bids were submitted, we have a contractor selected. This week, working with the Public Works staff, we confirmed that all the equipment has been delivered here, so now that we have all the equipment delivered, we are ready to issue a notice to proceed to the contractor. So, that notice to proceed will be happening some time this week. I will give you guys an update when we expect to start the project, and it should be a 30- to 45-day completion to complete this project. And that's about it.

Acting Mayor Rogers: Thank you.

Councilor Flagg: You know those climate EPA grants that you talked about, like, who writes those grants?

Mr. Licea: Who writes those? Actually, we have looked into some of these through other collaborative efforts. One of them recently was through Pima County. This one that I just mentioned today was through the U of A, so they are actually writing these grants. The one I am focusing on right now for the community engagement, we are having a proposal at no cost for consulting. They are actually the Brownsfields contractor; they are actually providing it to us at no cost, pro bono, for the grant application. They have worked with us in the past.

Councilor Flagg: Why would they do that?

Mr. Licea: You know, they have worked here in the past, they are very knowledgeable of the community, they are very familiar with, they have been successful in providing grants for us in the past, so they know our needs.

Councilor Flagg: One other thing, the development you talked about at first at 450 W. 30th.

Mr. Licea: 442 W. 30th, the demolition?

Councilor Flagg: Yeah, what did they demolish?

Mr. Licea: It's a house. Well, they haven't demolished it yet. It's a house, it's a single-family residential structure.

Councilor Flagg: How is South Tucson involved?

Mr. Licea: Well, these are connections I have through the County. The County had demolition funds, so I know some folks there. South Tucson in the HUD world we are considered a target area which basically means that 50% of the area is low income, so that opens up the door for us to certain types of fundings, you know, if you ask around and poke around, so knowing that the County had demolition funds and then in conversation with community folks, come to find out that there was a need for a family that wanted to rebuild, but they couldn't do the demolition, so that's how it kind of happened, you know, just folks you know who you have connections with.

Councilor Valenzuela: On the Greenway project, the outreach part, you said we can just do an amendment to the budget, and we can use some funding for the outreach instead of the actual build out, right?

Mr. Licea: Correct.

Councilor Valenzuela: I know in past conversations we've talked about just moving money around different projects to complete this Greenway. Did that amendment to the budget apply to this?

Mr. Licea: I think that might be a possibility, but I actually spoke to some of my colleagues on this and what their recommendation was basically, it's not good to rob Peter to pay Paul. It's like moving money from one pocket to another, but it is certainly something that we could consider. We haven't got to that point yet, but we still want to reach out to PAG/RTA about the one percent monies that we feel we are owed, so it's in the neighborhood of millions of dollars. So, with that being said, I know you are speaking of, the intersection projects, that's \$2 million worth of monies there. I was hoping to leave those in place to actually complete those projects at some point, and then for the 36th Street Greenway bike lane project, hopefully use those monies that we think we are owed if we are successful in getting those our way.

Councilor Valenzuela: Have you started that process?

Mr. Licea: Not yet, no. I was hoping to get through this TIP process then work on that request over to the PG/RTA. I know it's been moving, it's just one of those things I haven't gotten around to but hanging around in the back of my head. It will happen so.

Councilor Valenzuela: Ok, that's all.

Mr. Licea: Any other questions?

Acting Mayor Rogers: Thank you, though.

Mr. Licea: Thank you.

Ms. Moreno: No further reports, Mayor.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you. I need a Motion to Adjourn from Regular Session and Convene into South Tucson Housing Governing Board Meeting.

Councilor Flagg: So Moved.

Vice Mayor Lopez: Second.

Mayor Diaz: It's been Moved and Seconded.

City Council Adjourns from Regular Session and Convenes into South Tucson Housing Governing Board Meeting.

CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON HOUSING GOVERNING BOARD MEETING – TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2024

ITEM #01 - CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Diaz: At this time, I will call to order the South Tucson Housing Governing Board Meeting at 6:56 p.m. on June 18, 2024.

ITEM #02 - ROLL CALL

Commissioner Lopez. Here.

Commissioner Rogers. Aye.

Chairman Diaz. Here.

Commissioner Flagg. Here.

Commissioner Valenzuela. Here.

Ms. Moreno: Let the record reflect that we do not have the resident Board Member here, Adele Ochoa.

ITEM #03 - STHA MONTHLY REPORT - MAY 2024

Ms. Robles: Good evening, Mr. Chair, Board Members, Mayor and Council. I will try to be brief. So, the South Tucson Housing Authority update for the month of May 2024, we are moving in a positive direction. We do now have a good update of our available units under the Housing Authority. We have 38 units. This is including our previous fire units, all being combined together. Modernization units, the ones we are keeping offline. They will be down for two years because of extreme remodeling for things that are going to take time to repair. Move outs, we had two evictions for the month of May. We had zero, and we did have two deceased tenants in the month of May. So, when this happened, what has trended in the last few months, as we are leasing up new tenants, we are also losing tenants, whether they have moved out, whether they have been evicted, or passed away. So, even though our actual line is improving, it's also staying the same because of our deceased, our evictions and our move outs, so we're still kind of at a balance but we do see light at the end of the tunnel so I do have good things to report. One of them is our scope of work is complete. I will be bringing it as an agenda item in July and our individual cost estimate. That means we are going to be moving forward by mid-July, end of July to move forward and request for bids to get those moving those four modernization offline units, get a contractor in and then we have a two-year timeline. The scheduled date of completion is going to be the 30th of April, 2026. We've got a lot of good things going with that; we are really excited about it. Staff has worked diligently to get these numbers in a positive way and it's starting to show now in our numbers. To date, from January through May, we have had a total of 14 new tenants moved in, lease-ups. Under the Section 8 program, we have had a total between March, April and May of seven Section 8 vouchers that we have issued. It's not an easy process. It takes a lot of vetting on our part, on our Staff, to make sure that we do get people who qualify into the program, so it's going in a real positive way, and we are happy to report. As you can see, I have previously submitted this spreadsheet, and this just pretty much tells

you everything I just said. The ones on the top are the ones we pretty much have keys for, and we are just waiting for the right person to be able to get leased up. The following section in green are the units being worked on. Finally, on the back, are our four modernization units, the ones that are going to be offline for two years. With that being said, does anybody have any questions on that part? Moving along on the next section of our agenda, is the beginning of our Resolutions.

ITEM #04 - RESOLUTION NO. 24-12 OF THE HOUSING GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON, ARIZONA, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE WRITE-OFF OF \$22,427.15 IN UNCOLLECTIBLE DEBTS FOR THE SOUTH TUCSON HOUSING AUTHORITY ("STHA") AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THIS RESOLUTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON HOUSING AUTHORITY DIRECTOR SUBMIT SAME TO HUD AND ITS FEE ACCOUNTANT

Ms. Robles: This Resolution is for requesting approval for the write-off, our uncollectible debts to the end of our fiscal year which is this month, the end of 2024. The amount has increased compared to last year to \$22,427.15. These are uncollectible debts, and the majority of these monies come from past evicted tenants. It was a process to be able to evict a couple of them due to criminal activity, and while these people were there, they didn't pay any rent, they damaged the units beyond a simple week or two turnover.

Chairman Diaz: I'm sorry, I don't mean to interrupt because that is that your agenda Item #04. So, we would take that as a report for that, please. Can we do that?

Ms. Moreno: If I may, Mayor, after the report she moved on to the next Item, I guess on your behalf, so technically she read it for you, but if you want to say it again for that Item, I think that would be ok, rather than start all over again.

Chairman Diaz: Ok, we'll have a conversation all over again.

Ms. Robles: Ok, that's fine. So, we are at Item #4, Resolution 24-12.

Ms. Moreno: We will make that reflection on the record.

Chairman Diaz: So, for Housing Governing Board, we are reading Item #04. (Mayor Diaz read aloud Resolution No. 24-12 as stated above.) So, that would be the motion.

Commissioner Rogers: I can Move it. I Move that No. 24-12, it's right there, all printed out, and we need a Second.

Commissioner Lopez: Second.

Chairman Diaz: It's been Moved and Seconded. Conversation?

Ms. Robles: I was just trying to explain why it was a high amount, that was pretty much it, due to the evictions.

Chairman Diaz: You had some deaths, also?

Ms. Robles: Well, it was mostly the evictions. The damage, it was real extreme damage and the one person that we did have that passed away also had rents that were due and that's a write-off, too. It would have been, without the evictions, it would have been about \$6,000, but because of the evictions it did add up.

Chairman Diaz: Ok, thank you. Were there any more questions?

Commissioner Rogers: I Moved and he Seconded it.

Chairman Diaz: Right, we're at discussion. Are we ready for the vote? Thank you. Roll Call.

Commissioner Lopez. Yes.

Commissioner Rogers. Aye.

Chairman Diaz. Yes.

Commissioner Flagg. Yes.

Commissioner Valenzuela. Yes.

ITEM #05 - RESOLUTION NO. 24-13 OF THE HOUSING GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON, ARIZONA, APPROVING AND ADOPTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES - ELIGIBILITY FOR THE SOUTH TUCSON HOUSING AUTHORITY ("STHA") AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF THIS RESOLUTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON HOUSING AUTHORITY DIRECTOR TO SUBMIT SAME TO U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD)

Chairman Diaz: (Chairman Diaz read aloud the above Resolution No. 24-13).

Commissioner Rogers: So Moved.

Commissioner Lopez: Second.

Chairman Diaz: It's been Moved and Seconded. Discussion?

Ms. Robles: Does anybody have any questions? It's mainly the procedures. We're just updating outdated procedures and we will have those on a monthly basis going forward.

Chairman Diaz: Ok, Roll Call.

Commissioner Lopez. Yes.

Commissioner Rogers. Aye.

Chairman Diaz. Yes.

Commissioner Flagg. Yes.

Commissioner Valenzuela. Yes.

ITEM #06 - RESOLUTION NO. 24-14 OF THE HOUSING GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON, ARIZONA, REVIEWING AND APPROVING THE SOUTH TUCSON HOUSING AUTHORITY'S FISCAL YEAR 2025 OPERATING BUDGETS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY TO EXIST

Chairman Diaz: (Chairman Diaz read aloud the above-stated Resolution No. 24-14).

Commissioner Rogers: So Moved.

Commissioner Lopez: Second.

Chairman Diaz: Any comments?

Commissioner Rogers: I studied it all.

Ms. Robles: Thank you. Does anybody have any questions?

Chairman Diaz: Any questions?

Commissioner Rogers: No, it's all good.

Chairman Diaz: If there are no questions, Roll Call.

Commissioner Lopez. Yes.

Commissioner Rogers. Aye.

Chairman Diaz. Yes.

Commissioner Flagg. Yes.

Commissioner Valenzuela. Yes

Chairman Diaz: We are still on the South Tucson Housing Governing Board. I would just like, a question, when Betty Villegas was the Housing Administrator, I guess they proposed the purchase of the corner of 26th and 4th Avenue, the property there for housing development through Pima County.

Ms. Robles: I'm sorry, what was the address or location?

Chairman Diaz: The location is 26th and 4th Avenue, the southeast corner.

Ms. Robles: Ok, I could follow up.

Chairman Diaz: Please. Are there any more comments in regard to the Governing Board?

ITEM #07 - ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Diaz: Do I hear a Motion to Adjourn and Reconvene as City Council into Regular Session?

Commissioner Rogers: So Moved.

Commissioner Lopez: Second.

Chairman Diaz: Roll Call.

Commissioner Lopez. Yes.

Commissioner Rogers. Aye.

Chairman Diaz. Yes.

Commissioner Flagg. Yes.

Commissioner Valenzuela. Yes.

The meeting concluded at 7:08 p.m.

Housing Governing Board Convenes as City Council into Regular Session

Mayor Diaz: We are back in Regular Session.

ITEM #08 - PUBLIC HEARING – ALTERNATIVE EXPENDITURE LIMITATION (HOME RULE)

Mayor Diaz: Ms. Aguirre.

Ms. Aguirre: Good evening, Mr. Mayor and Members of the Council. The Item that you have before you is the second of two public hearings. This is the time in which any members of the public are welcome to approach and speak to you all on this topic, the topic of Alternative Expenditure Limitation, otherwise known as Home Rule. As you may have noticed in the Resolution that is attached, this is an item that has gone, I am

referencing the Resolution in the next item, I'm sorry, I apologize for that, but this has gone, approved by the voters of South Tucson for back to the '80's. This is a routine item. It is just allowing the City to utilize all of its incoming revenue, therefore establishing its own limit, budget limit, instead of adhering to the state-imposed limit. As an example, I want to reference here in the official Auditor General forms that are prepared, for instance, the third page. You can see the estimates of the state-imposed limits, just as reference there, as an example, for the very first year, fiscal year 2025-2026, the state-imposed budget limit would be \$4.8 million. However, the City's general fund budget has been adopted in recent years, in about the last five years, at about \$6 million. This would really limit the City from being able to exercise its ability of providing services within this budget, within its true available budget. I think that is all I wanted to mention on that item. There doesn't appear to be anybody in the public.

Mayor Diaz: Is there anybody in the public that would like to address the Council in regard to the Home Rule option? Seeing none, the public hearing is closed, and we go to Item #09.

ITEM #09 - RESOLUTION NO. 24-15 OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON PROPOSING AN EXTENSION OF THE ALTERNATIVE LOCAL EXPENDITURE LIMITATION

Mayor Diaz: (Mayor Diaz read aloud the above Resolution No. 24-15). Is that correct?

Ms. Aguirre: That is correct, Mr. Mayor, and attached to this item is exactly what constituents, or the voters, will receive in the public city pamphlet. Everything that is included in here is both in Spanish and in English.

Mayor Diaz: It has been posted?

Ms. Aguirre: Mr. Mayor, it has not been posted yet. What was posted was the Notice of Public Hearings, so now this item is before you for approval. Should Mayor and Council approve this Resolution, what we turn around and do, this is the next step per State statute, is post the results of that vote. We would do that in the Daily Territorial as well. So, we would post the results and following that, then that is when we start working with the County to get these items printed for distribution.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you.

Ms. Moreno: May I add really quick, Mr. Mayor, this will be on the ballot for the general election.

Ms. Aguirre: That is correct.

Ms. Moreno: So this question will be on the ballot for the November general election.

Ms. Aguirre: Thank you, City Manager.

Mayor Diaz: Any questions? No? Motion and Second, please.

Vice Mayor Lopez: Mr. Mayor, I'd like to make a Motion that we approve Resolution No. 24-15.

Councilor Valenzuela: I'll Second it.

Mayor Diaz: It's been Moved and Seconded. Roll Call.

Vice Mayor Lopez. Yes.

Acting Mayor Rogers. Aye.

Mayor Diaz. Yes.

Councilor Flagg. Yes.
Councilor Valenzuela. Yes.

ITEM #10 - STUDY SESSION: FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 GENERAL FUND & RESTRICTED BUDGET OVERVIEW

Mayor Diaz: Ms. Aguirre.

Ms. Aguirre: Mayor and Members of the Council. At the last two meetings we have gone over general funds in detail, the general fund budget sitting at, I believe it was \$6.8 million in revenues, and \$7.4 million in expenditures. Now, what I have included in your packets is the restricted budget for a total of \$24.8 million. The very first three pages of this restricted budget pertain to Housing, so Section 8, what we have proposed is \$906,000 for expenditures with matching revenues. For low rent, otherwise known as low-income public housing, expenditures at about \$1.3 million, and the capital fund projects at \$1.2 million, and all these with matching revenues. This is what Mayor and Council just approved in the Board of Commissioners meeting. So, moving on to page 5. This is the HURF fund. This is the state-shared revenue, and we are anticipating a drop of about \$15,000 in that fund. As you can see, expenditures have been reduced proportionally as well. This means that there is less money as we see the funding decrease year over year from state-shared revenues for this particular line item, there is going to be less funding for street repairs and things of that nature. The next item there, RTA, we put in what is currently published on the 5-year TIPS of \$2.2 million. That does not include some of the current projects that either have been completed or are currently in the works. The next item on page 5 is the youth operations fund. The youth operations funds are utilized for the operations of the JVYC Center. The City received \$113,000 from the County, and as you can tell, the majority of it, \$90,000, goes straight to program delivery. On page 6, we have accounted for a total of approximately \$90,000 currently, that is the current balance of the anti-racketeering fund. These funds are restricted only for specific eligible purchases for police use. There are three line items. There is a state RICO fund and two federal funds, the Justice and the Treasury funds.

Mayor Diaz: I have a question. Were we pulling out of the RICO fund or not?

Ms. Aguirre: Mr. Mayor, we have not pulled out of the RICO fund, but I know that the Chief has pulled his officer out of the OCDEF duty aid agreement.

Mayor Diaz: Ok.

Ms. Aguirre: Which generates funding into RICO. However, there are pending cases so to pull out from the RICO account, I'm not sure if that would disqualify the City from current funding cases.

Chief Denogean: I don't think it would. If there are cases when our detective was still there, then we are still eligible for any funds that would come from that.

Ms. Aguirre: But we can still receive the money.

Chief Denogean: Yeah, we can still receive the money and the money that we have there is still there. Right now it is approximately \$92,000. In talking with the Finance Director, she believes we are about \$13,000 short from that so it's probably about \$79,000. When we had pulled money out here in the last year or two, it has been to help, we've used grants to get cars. Sometimes those cars go over budget so then we use RICO funds to come out and pay for the rest of the balance of the cars or for equipment. We have only used RICO for

equipment and cars, basically. It hasn't been a lot of money. When I first got here, I believe two and a half years ago, it was about \$164,000 and now we are down to about \$79-\$80,000.

Councilor Flagg: Why would that be? Can you talk about it?

Chief Denogean: Talk about like what?

Councilor Flagg: I mean, how come it go down so much, the RICO?

Chief Denogean: Well, we used it for cars and equipment. It's only gone down about \$8,000. It's not like that is a tremendous amount. The money hasn't been coming into the account. We really haven't been receiving a lot of money into that account at all, which is why the decision was made to remove our guy from the DEA because I could not justify in my mind having someone assigned out there when we are getting nothing in return. It's a combination of not a lot of cases being worked here, if any at all, and not any money, and it's hard for me to justify when we have all the situations going on in the City of South Tucson. I do strongly believe in the mission of what they are doing over there but we can't afford to have a support person in that situation.

Councilor Flagg: We have a whole lot of need in that Department, so how do we get the short end of the stick? Is it just politics?

Chief Denogean: It's just the way it works, Sir.

Councilor Flagg: So along those lines, I saw \$17,000 -

City Attorney Stinson: This is not really on the agenda and it's off topic.

Councilor Flagg: Ok, well, I'll get to the topic. I saw in the budget there is supposedly \$17,000 going to the DEA. So, can we re-route that money into other needs, or did I get it wrong?

Ms. Aguirre: No, Mr. Mayor, Councilor Flagg, you are correct. That money was appropriated there. There is a contract and I know that even though the individual was pulled, officially they stopped working a couple months ago.

Chief Denogean: A couple months ago, well, we pulled him back in December of 2023. So, he's been gone; there's still things that need to be followed up on, cases that he had worked on. It took a couple months to close but he has not been doing any work there. We did agree with the DEA that we would still be until September, their financial go-through system where they use where they use us as a City where they can order stuff and they give us the money, but we have to pay for it somehow. How does that work, Lourdes?

Ms. Aguirre: It basically acts as their fiduciary.

Chief Denogean: Correct.

Councilor Valenzuela: And there's benefits to the City for doing that, right?

Chief Denogean: Well, that's what we are waiting to see if there will be benefits. There's no promises made, but the idea would be, hopefully there would be some benefits out of it. We will wait and see and then that would determine if we want to continue to do anything in the future with them.

Councilor Valenzuela: Ok.

Councilor Flagg: Because I can think of ways to spent that \$17,000 that you and me would both agree on, I bet. We can use \$17,000. That's out of the question?

Chief Denogean: Are you talking about, because we still have approximately \$79,000 in the RICO account, is that what you are talking about?

Councilor Flagg: No, I'm talking about the DEA.

Councilor Valenzuela: This expenditure right here for \$17,000 that we are still paying to them.

Councilor Flagg: In the upcoming budget.

Councilor Valenzuela: Yes, in this budget, so the question is, why are we paying them? Do we owe them from when the previous officer was there or why are we paying the \$17,000 for this budget?

Ms. Aguirre: Mr. Mayor and Councilor Valenzuela, what expenditure are you referring to? Was it page 1 of the general fund budget?

Councilor Flagg: It was under cops.

Councilor Valenzuela: Was is OCDEF?

Ms. Aguirre: Yes, because we do have a section under Police that adds up to the \$19,000 award, so that will be scratched off both on the revenues and the expenditures.

Acting Mayor Rogers: Ok.

Ms. Aguirre: And it will go down proportionally on both ends. Thank you for bringing that to our attention.

Councilor Valenzuela: She said scratch it off.

Councilor Flagg: Yeah, but that's \$17,000 we can use for something else.

Ms. Aguirre: It's \$17,000 in federal funds, federal funds. It's a reimbursement type account for overtime. It goes to offset the overtime, but it will be a very strict strings attached to that contract. It's an actual contract, and the City has not received it all, and again, it's a reimbursement fund.

Mayor Diaz: I would like to go back to the RTA projects on restricted funds. Do we not have a, I thought last time the figure was \$75,000 money set aside for art programs for the youth. Is that on here some place or is that general budget?

Ms. Aguirre: No, Mr. Mayor, it's basically lumped in there as well because the \$75,000 for art, it still appears in the TIP projects, the 5-year TIP, which expires, Josue, is it the 5-year TIP?

Mr. Licea: I honestly don't know. I think it's an application-based process. It's competitive, I don't think we get that \$75,000.

Ms. Aguirre: It's allocated to the City.

Mr. Licea: I think it's competitive, though, just because we don't get it automatically. We have to apply for it and other projects in a plan and then we compete with them. You're right, it is in some way dedicated to the

City, but we need to apply for it to secure it. They don't just give it to us as an automatic IGA, as far as I understand. In my history here in two years, I have not seen that money come in.

Ms. Aguirre: So, Mr. Mayor, just like any other road project, I think what we are trying to say is that there would have to be an actual project scope of work, a proposal showing what type of art we would fund for the \$75,000.

Mayor Diaz: Well, isn't that also funded each year with more money into that pot?

Ms. Aguirre: No, I think it is capped. It is capped at \$75,000. That's what I have been told.

Mayor Diaz: Ok. So, it would have to be an application then to use that money, is that what I'm hearing?

Ms. Aguirre: Yes.

Mr. Licea: Yes, yes, with a proposal of some type of project identified.

Ms. Aguirre: A proposal.

Ms. Moreno: If I may, Mayor, Lourdes and Josue, if the Council decided to go that direction, we would go through a formal bidding process and then Mayor and Council would identify the scope of work, then it would have to be specific to art, to use art. So again, we're not really on the topic of doing that, but in the future if Council wants to have that as a consideration, there's \$75,000 in the pot, so to speak, if the Council wishes to go out and just go to work on it.

Mayor Diaz: So, at what point can we, the Council, give consensus to make a project for Joey, or Dancing in the Streets?

Ms. Aguirre: Mr. Mayor, it would be restricted to street art.

Mayor Diaz: Isn't that street art?

Mr. Licea: No, it has to be something physical; some type of construction where you can visualize it. I don't think it's for performing arts. It's got to be somehow tied to roadway or some type of, it's got to be a physical or visual.

Mayor Diaz: Ok, so it would be more or less like fixing the murals?

Ms. Moreno: I don't know if you could do repair or alteration. I would have to look at the specifics on that but it would have to be physical or along major corridors or any park. I don't have that condition, but it would not be like arts, like the way you are seeing it, like performing arts. It would be like art, physical art like when you go paint a (inaudible) or a sculpture, of that sort.

Mayor Diaz: Ok, thank you.

Ms. Aguirre: Mr. Mayor, so continuing, we have already gone over the budget for youth operations, RTA, RICO, and now we are on JAG and Governor's Office of Highway Safety. For the current fiscal year, we didn't have anything appropriated in that budget line item. However, Police staff did apply for these grants and they did receive them. I went ahead and I included the same budget levels in case they wish to apply for them once again. OCDETF, page 6, this is an agreement that has been entered into with the City for \$119,000, the City acting as a fiduciary for DEA, basically performing the (inaudible) functions then being reimbursed. Next

page, page 7, Arizona Department of Highway Safety Stonegarden grant, the Police Department has been awarded about \$150,000 for Stonegarden, of which they have already begun to use some of that funding actively. And so, for next fiscal year we are estimating \$140,000 that we can continue to use.

Councilor Flagg: Can I ask a question about that? Isn't there strings to that saying it has to be used in conjunction with immigration efforts?

Chief Denogean: No, Sir, the way we use it is basically, we don't go out anywhere besides the City of South Tucson. We use it here, there has to be a nexus to drugs and violent crime and criminal activity, and that's the way we use it here. So, all of our deployments are done along South 6th, S. 10th Avenue, with traffic in trying to work the high drug problem areas, like 3020 S. 6th and 305 E. Benson Highway. That's the way we use it. We don't go out looking for illegal aliens. We don't go out with Border Patrol and do the blockade stops or whatever you want to call them, we don't do those. We use it here. It is all in the City of South Tucson and as long as there is a drug nexus or a violent crime nexus, you could use it that way.

Councilor Flagg: You're doing traffic stops and tying that to it?

Chief Denogean: These roads are connected to go on to the border, you know what I'm saying. You are going to find a lot of drug activity in traffic stops.

Councilor Flagg: Do you ever worry about legal challenges on that?

Chief Denogean: When we pull a vehicle over, we have to pull it over for a reason. It's either speeding, running a stop sign. They are committing some type of traffic violation even before we can pull the vehicle over. We are not going to violate the law to do anything like that. We stay in line with the law and go out there and what this really does for the City of South Tucson, it helps us provide a higher degree of presence out there. That's what we are really looking at. We also have to show that we are doing it within a nexus. So, we are enforcing the laws in the City of South Tucson, and if there is a nexus there to drug crimes and violent crimes, South 6th Avenue has a high degree of violent crime. Us being out there and being visible with our police cars and doing traffic stops basically provides a presence which deters a lot of traffic. I think you are reading too much into it and we don't want to make it into something that it's not. In the City of Tucson, the politics were always about, you know, we don't want this being to find illegal aliens.

Councilor Flagg: And the County, too.

Chief Denogean: And the County, too, and when I was with the City of Tucson, I was in charge of Stonegarden and I can tell you, it was a big political issue, but in the five years I was doing it, we maybe arrested three illegal aliens and the only reason we arrested them was because they were doing criminal activity and we just happened to run across them. It was just luck, you know what I'm saying. We're not out there looking for illegal aliens. We are never doing that. It is something we are using to our advantage in this City.

Councilor Flagg: Yeah. It's federal money, Department of Justice money?

Chief Denogean: Yes, Department of Justice money. It goes through Pinal County. They are our go-through and then they distribute it to us.

Mayor Diaz: Just as information, I think the City of South Tucson was the first city to go into a joint agreement with the ACLU and all those other places with regard to the immigrant issues and so forth.

Councilor Flagg: Yeah, Lackey was the Chief then.

Mayor Diaz: Yeah.

Chief Denogean: What I can tell you, my direction is, we don't want to get anywhere near that and we don't want to be involved. We're not immigration police.

Acting Mayor Rogers: No, we're not.

Chief Denogean: And we don't want to be doing that. We're here to enforce the crimes. Guys, you look at S. 6th Avenue, 10th Avenue, 4th Avenue, we need presence out there. And if we can get money and we can use it to our advantage, that's what we need to do. Now, we have to also show a nexus. We are fighting violent crime, we're fighting drug crimes, we have to be out there and be proactive and be present. I know that's something you guys want us to be is proactive and out there working that, so that's what we are doing.

Acting Mayor Rogers: Yep.

Chief Denogean: We are staying away from all the illegal immigrant stuff. We stay away from that. Since I've been here, I don't think we have arrested anyone for that type of situation.

Mayor Diaz: Continue.

Ms. Aguirre: Continuing, next fund is CDBG contracts. Appropriated for next fiscal year is \$175,000, which is the typical amount the City is awarded through the County. The breakdown of that you can see there in the detail, with the majority of it going to South Tucson youth programs, followed then by Police and Fire. This year, we are actually going to be requesting a budget modification.

Mayor Diaz: Back to the CDBG grant. On page 5 you have a Youth Center operation fund. That's not JVYC?

Ms. Aguirre: Yes, it is, it is as well. So, the City utilizes two separate different funding sources to afford, yes, the operation budget.

Mayor Diaz: Yes, but CDBG, wasn't that the award of \$113,000?

Ms. Aguirre: No, that's typically at \$100,000. And the JVYC one, the funding that we saw on the previous page, that is actually for \$90,000, because \$23,000 of that money is utilized to cover the expense of utilities.

Mayor Diaz: Ok.

Ms. Aguirre: One of the things I was mentioning is that this year we are actually going to be performing an original application as we do as we have done in other years, to transfer CDBG funding from Police to Fire. This will help them to purchase turnouts, I believe. Next page, page 8 is the grant opportunity account fund. What we are accounting for in this specific fund is any upcoming applications that might be submitted for 12% funding from the Tribes, either from Public Works, Police, I know Police already submitted a grant application for multiple vehicles from multiple agencies. Hopefully we will receive an award. Next is Smart and Safe funds. The first one is for Fire Department. This is another state-shared revenue, and Smart and Safe monies are proceeds of I believe it was Prop 207 which goes hand-in-hand with marijuana dollars. So, this is a state-shared fund created from that Proposition that is distributed based on population to fire departments and police departments. As you can see where we noticed in year over year for the last maybe three or four years is about \$3,000 for Fire and it's been an average of \$25,000 a year for Police. By the end of next fiscal year

through this fund we anticipate that the Police Department will have \$105,000 in this specific fund, and Fire Department will have about \$19,000 in the next fiscal year. The next item is the Corona Virus Relief fund. This will actually be year three. These are ARPA dollars or otherwise known as the SLFRF Relief Fund. \$477,000 is appropriated toward operating expenses related to personnel in Public Safety. Again, this is the third year or fourth year. This is an offset to the general fund. Next, page 9, we have the Explorer Program which is funded through donations. The kids that participate in this program go out and they do various events, they work events, they obtain donations, that's how they generate their funding for their trips. The next item is EPA grant, so in this specific area, what we have accounted for here is a total of \$300,000 in upcoming potential Brownsfield applications and I also want to mention the opportunity of \$1 to 3 million application for an EPA community grant. I've accounted for \$1 million. I think that is what we discussed. There is still a little bit of funding left in their current EPA grant which ends in September, is that correct?

Mr. Licea: Yes.

Ms. Aguirre: It was extended until September. Next page, page 10. What you see here on page 10 is a number of small funds related to Courts restricted. What you see here on the report here, fair revenues, (inaudible) revenues, municipal fill the gap, DGS scheduling fees; these are funds that come through in small amounts, \$500, \$1,500, \$500, \$1,400.

Councilor Flagg: What page are you on?

Ms. Aguirre: Page 10. Next fund will be the Vehicle Impound fund. This specific item here, we are estimating to have \$2,500 generated for next fiscal year with its matching expenditure. This fund had been allowed to grow, and it grew to about \$30,000 or so, Chief, did that help you fund -

Chief Denogean: We basically bought, that was used to buy, we ended up buying 12 computers and most of it was used to buy computers in the last year or so, the last year or two.

Ms. Aguirre: Police computers, the laptops that are carried in their vehicles, so that was a really nice little pot of money there. The next item, pension bonds, we continue to insert \$15 million in here just in case that opportunity comes up and the City is in a better position and/or interests rates are there to generate a savings for the City to sell pension bonds. I know that some of you guys have tracked along in the past with Mark, but that is one of our goals. Finally, the Firemen's Relief Pension Fund. This is pretty much made up of volunteer or reserve firefighter contributions. The City does provide a match, not for the firefighters, but to be able to help maintain that fund sustainable. It currently pays about \$7,000 to recipients of that pension a year.

Mayor Diaz: I guess I saw something like a \$12 million bond or pension fund for the Police Department. Is that anywhere on this restricted fund?

Ms. Aguirre: Mr. Mayor, the pension expense that is associated with payroll is in your general fund budget, but the \$12 million liability, unfunded liability for Police, that along with the almost \$3 million unfunded liability for Fire, is the total of \$15 million in pension bonds. We have not sold pension bonds but that is what our goal would be in order to task for pension debt from public safety retirement system over to pension bonds.

Mayor Diaz: This is in regard to the bond that is pending to pass?

Ms. Aguirre: No, no, Mr. Mayor, it is not. This is something completely different.

Mayor Diaz: Ok, thank you.

Ms. Aguirre: So, pretty much this concludes our review of the restricted. Again, this was a total of \$24.8 million. One of the things that is not included in here and I will have to consult with Mark, is the initiative that will be included on the November ballot that was approved by all of you for fire services, and how to specifically account for those in here because it was a total of about \$6 million over the course of about fifteen to twenty years, something like that. We need to account for that as well. So, this could potentially go to \$30 million because we want to make sure we account for everything in October. The next item here -

Councilor Valenzuela: Excuse me, sorry, can we get a five-minute break?

Ms. Aguirre: Absolutely. Mr. Mayor, five-minute break?

Mayor Diaz: You're asking me for a recess?

Councilor Valenzuela: I would like to use the restroom.

Ms. Aguirre: Five-minute break?

Mayor Diaz: I guess.

Five-minute break taken.

Mayor Diaz: Ok, we are back from the recess. We are back at the Study Session; now we are at the the preliminary draft of the baseline budget, is that correct?

Ms. Aguirre: That is correct. Mr. Mayor, Members of the Council, just resuming, one of the last things that I did mention is that this restricted budget could potentially increase from \$24 million to \$30 million to be able to account for the initiative that will be on the ballot in November. I am going to check with legal and with Mark Reader on this as well because I want to account for everything correctly.

Ms. Moreno: Lourdes, if I may, since you mentioned that out loud, would this allow for the Mayor and Council to revisit this item for discussion since he is not present here for tonight?

Ms. Aguirre: It could.

Ms. Moreno: I'm just making sure that since it is not be presented with the figures here, to bring it back to have the figure presented to the Council so they could have that, or have it officially on the record. A question for legal.

City Attorney Stinson: I think that's fine. It should be included or there will be clarification by the time we get to the tentative budget.

Ms. Moreno: So, should we give them the opportunity to discuss this again to make sure.

City Attorney Stinson: I think it's up to the Council whether they want to because it is up to them.

Mayor Diaz: Ok.

Councilor Flagg: I learn a lot, and I feel like I learn that much, and I need to learn that much when I'm here with the budget stuff and I especially like, want to look into how we fund the cops, you know. So, like we've got time if I'm not mistaken, so if we could do a Special Meeting just like be able to ask those questions and

then pick up on the stuff that's there right this minute, that might be helpful. So, I would even make a motion to that effect.

Mayor Diaz: No, I don't think that requires a motion in regard to, I don't understand your question, really.

Councilor Flagg: I want to have a Special Meeting to deal with this budget issue, a bunch of other budget issues, and especially cop funding. You know how we've got five scenarios, and I would just like to talk about it, because we have time. I don't, let's do the budget with real conscious, informed.

Ms. Moreno: Mr. Mayor and Councilor Flagg, what you are asking for is another meeting to go over the same exact item which would be discussion and direction of fiscal year 2024-2025 general fund option. We looked at the calendar while you guys were talking about it. Technically, we already had our first and second meetings of the month, and any meeting after today would be a Special Meeting. If you would like, we could have a Special Meeting next Tuesday, June 25th, to have this one item on the agenda.

Councilor Valenzuela: I just have a question. Until when do we have to pass the tentative budget? How much time do we have?

Ms. Aguirre: Well, I think a better question is, when do we have to have the final approved by.

Councilor Valenzuela: Oh, ok.

Ms. Aguirre: So, the deadline by state statute for the final is the 29th of July, but do remember that before the approval of the final, there are requirements where the City must post the tentative budget for two consecutive weeks prior to approval of the final. So by then, the tentative should have already been approved.

Councilor Flagg: I think that would be a reason to have a Special Meeting so the meeting after that we can move things forward.

Councilor Valenzuela: Can we do it next week?

Councilor Flagg: What did you say, did you have a date in mind?

Ms. Moreno: I was recommending next Tuesday.

Councilor Flagg: That's fine, that's fine with me.

Ms. Moreno: For the Council to discuss this particular item. So we can include the amounts that are going to be dedicated to what is going to be on the ballot and then Councilor Flagg mentioned conversation and discussion regarding the Police Department's budget.

Mayor Diaz: But again, if we are going to discuss the budget again, are you including the scenarios as far as how that's funded? I don't understand that. If you believe it will change the preliminary budget figures, I guess that is my question.

Councilor Flagg: Yeah, the cops want a raise, you heard the Commander last, two weeks ago.

Councilor Valenzuela: If I may, I think what Paul is asking is, is it going to increase or decrease that line item on the preliminary budget, right?

Mayor Diaz: Correct.

Councilor Valenzuela: Because there's a preliminary budget and then there's this that we do separately. I think it might because we need to discuss it, but I don't know.

Councilor Flagg: What do you think?

Councilor Valenzuela: We need to discuss it, so we need that.

Mayor Diaz: I don't know about the rest,

Acting Mayor Rogers: I'm not interested.

Vice Mayor Lopez: I agree.

Councilor Flagg: And if people have more questions.

Mayor Diaz: Ok, so I guess the Special Meeting that we would have would be in regard to the funding sources, is that it?

Councilor Valenzuela: So what, sorry Mayor, it would be the same item that we have here, discussion and direction fiscal year 2024-2025 general budget fund options. Same item, is just we are going to have more discussion, we are going to be more prepared and hopefully by then make a decision on the request from the Departments.

Mayor Diaz: But they still need direction as to what kind of information that they are going to present to us.

Councilor Valenzuela: We will get them that, yeah, we will get them that. Right now, it is just the item. It will be discussion at the meeting.

Mayor Diaz: What items are they going to bring in? To say that you have a list of, and again, I'm trying to get it clarified. You have a proposed budget was made with everything else on there, as far as who is getting paid what and everything, and all of those items are on the budget that was presented in the beginning. Again, and I agree, maybe those have to be looked at, but again, they need direction as to what to bring so if we ask a question, they will be able to answer it.

Ms. Moreno: If I may, Mayor, from what I am taking back from Councilor Flagg and Councilor Valenzuela, so what we will bring back to Mayor and Council are the scenarios that were presented at the last meeting which broke down the costs that could potentially be charged the City for the Police Department, and if I recall, Lourdes broke it down in increments of 50 cents, so for 50 cents, it would be able to charge the City of South Tucson \$40,000, \$1.00 is \$80,000, so any variation there, Mayor and Council could discuss. If you wanted to factor in an additional stipend or an additional bonus, or an initial retention, whatever it is that the Council wishes to discuss, we will have those figures back to Mayor and Council exactly how we presented it, and then we will do the math at that point.

Mayor Diaz: Ok, that's fine. We will schedule a Special Meeting for Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. in regard to the budget for discussion and direction.

Ms. Moreno: Is there a Motion for that?

Councilor Valenzuela: Brian made a Motion for that already.

Ms. Moreno: Is there a Second?

Councilor Valenzuela: Second.

Ms. Moreno: I'll do Roll Call, Mr. Mayor.

Vice Mayor Lopez. Yes.

Acting Mayor Rogers. Aye.

Mayor Diaz. Yes.

Councilor Flagg. Yes.

Councilor Valenzuela. Yes.

Ms. Moreno: So, we will be having a Special Meeting on Tuesday, June 25th, and we will have this item on the agenda that we went over right now, Item #10, for discussion and direction on fiscal year '24-'25 general fund options. Are we done with this item, and go on to the next Item now?

Mayor Diaz: Ms. Aguirre?

Ms. Aguirre: I have nothing else to add, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Diaz: That was Item #10. Now we are on Item #11.

ITEM #11 - DISCUSSION & DIRECTION: FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025 GENERAL FUND OPTIONS

Councilor Valenzuela: I thought we were just on that.

Mayor Diaz: Ms. Aguirre.

Ms. Aguirre: Mr. Mayor and Members of the Council, I believe we had a little bit of, I think it started with the general fund budget presentation and it spun off onto this topic so I think there's a Motion that you all just made under Study Session with consensus for the Special Meeting next week to discuss and direct, or discuss this a little more is actually for this Item.

Councilor Valenzuela: Yeah.

City Attorney Stinson: I think we can move on to Item #12.

Ms. Aguirre: Thank you, Michelle.

Mayor Diaz: Say again?

City Attorney Stinson: We can move on to Item #12.

ITEM #12 - CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT FOR OUTREACH ACTIVITIES BY KIMLEY HORN FOR THE 36TH STREET EL PASO SOUTHWESTERN GREENWAY BIKE PEDESTRIAN LANE PROJECT

Acting Mayor Rogers: So moved.

Mr. Licea: I just want to just touch base real quick and bring this to light again. You know, in the past several meetings we had discussed outreach activities for this collaborative effort of extending the Greenway from the existing where it is at, 36th and 6th Avenue, which have jurisdictional boundaries at the railroad crossing

along 36th Street. This proposal was developed by Kimley Horn who is the consultant currently doing the design of the bike and pedestrian path along 36th Street. So, as directed in previous meetings, this outreach process is detailed here. I wanted to propose it to you guys, see what you guys thought about it and have an opportunity to review it. I will say this, per my memo, sorry, the agenda item report, there's three tasks in this proposal, the first two are pretty much non-negotiable. It's just part of management and coordination that has to happen. There has to be coordination between the consultant and the City. The consultant would produce a public involvement plan and a final summary report. Then task 3 is really what I need your input right now in order to finalize any type of agreement with the consultant as to how as a City we want them to do the community engagement and public participation for this project. So, you have three options and they are on a spreadsheet here on page 4 over the proposal. It's 3A, City Council engagement; 3B, door-to-door resident engagement; and 3C, a community event. My personal recommendation we should just do all three. It's up to the Council. We can do one or a combination of two or three or do all three. My recommendation would just to do all three. That way we make sure to cover all bases with the outreach efforts.

Councilor Flagg: That's \$14, 15,000?

Mr. Licea: Yes, Sir.

Mayor Diaz: No, \$18, 19 or \$20,000.

Councilor Flagg: \$20,000 for that?

Mayor Diaz: \$6,000 and \$10,000 and \$3,000.

Mr. Licea: It's around \$15,000 more or less for tasks 3A, 3B and 3C, yes, roughly \$15,000.

Councilor Valenzuela: And is this the money that is going to come out of the modification of RTA money?

Mr. Licea: Yes, yes. Just to reach that part, there is \$150,000 for this project but they are dedicated for construction as I mentioned a little bit earlier. We did get a verbal from the Staff at PAG/RTA that RTA is amenable to us completing a budget modification in order to move some of those monies over to the outreach process.

Councilor Flagg: See that first thing on top of page 4 where it says they will be billed on an hourly basis, see the very top?

Mr. Licea: Yes.

Councilor Flagg: What's up with that? That could turn into a lot of money, right?

Mr. Licea: Well, no, we are getting a proposal here.

Councilor Flagg: So, you are saying it's the \$20,000 or \$15,000, or whatever?

Mr. Licea: Yes, just let me back up, so right now we are using a contract, we are piggy backing off the City contract for these services. We haven't done our own procurement, so these are already negotiated rates. So, with those rates this is a proposal that they come up with so these rates here are what they estimated. I haven't done any specific calculations but the proposal that they have given us is taking into account those hours that they are estimating to put into this project. Now, if they run into any overages or underages, we would probably see some type of change order. If there was cost savings, they obviously would not bill us for

it. If there's a proposed overage unexpected, we should see some type of request to the City in the form of a change order that we would have to approve to go over this amount.

Councilor Flagg: Is there any way we can do, like, take this \$20,000 and put it into something else and do a community engagement in house?

Mr. Licea: Well, that's -

Councilor Flagg: Herman could get a lot of people out.

Mr. Licea: I see that here, but it really takes a lot of coordination and a lot of Staff time to do this process, and nobody here is an expert at community engagement, that's why we use these consultants. I'm not necessarily a community engagement person, we need to develop material that we can mail out, something we can take out to the folks. We have to also show them the plans and the design. If you recall, some of the previous conversations, the City of Tucson has actually been doing us a solid on this that they are actually putting on the whole design for this project. So, that is a cost that we are not seeing right now. We are saving right there. All of these things with the Staff would be very difficult for us to carry out, and honestly, almost quite impossible.

Councilor Valenzuela: I'm sorry, you said that the City would do the planning, but that is after we have the engagement.

Mr. Licea: The design.

Councilor Valenzuela: The design, sorry.

Mr. Licea: The design, yes.

Councilor Valenzuela: So, once we have (inaudible) then the City will do the design for us. What's the order?

Mr. Licea: So, the design has already been happening. If you recall, there were some public meetings that already happened. There was a pop-up session at Pico de Gallo, and then, two at Pico de Gallo, then one at the HUD office at 36th and Park. All this time there has been consideration and public input into the design. The design is currently at 60% phase. On the South Tucson portion there have been no updates since we put a halt to this project, so when this outreach process commences again, we will bring those project plans wherever they left off and that's when the community will be brought in and see how they feel about the design up until there for the South Tucson portion. Obviously, any recommendations at that moment from the public or the residents will be taken into account into that design going forward. Right now, I will just give you an update on that. Right now the plans are at about a 60% phase, so again, should we continue with this, if you guys like this proposal, it is important to get your voice and the community voice, make sure that is being heard and that those concerns or recommendations as far as the design goes, are made aware to the designers, that they consider them in the design.

Councilor Valenzuela: Is there any way we can talk to Kimley Horn, have a presentation? Maybe, I see the money concern and the process of engagement could be an issue, you know, if they have a formula they have done somewhere else that may not work for us. Could we have a meeting, discussion or presentation from them before we approve this?

Mr. Licea: I can certainly ask. They are consultants and they are charging us any time they come out and stepping out of something that's not under contract, you know, that's not time they are getting reimbursed for, so I will certainly ask. I think they would be amenable to it but I just don't want to say there's a possibility that they may not want to. Also, because one of the items in the proposal is Council engagement.

Councilor Flagg: What the hell, I mean, what's that, Council engagement?

Mr. Licea: Just what you are asking right now. They could come and get your direct input, your thoughts on the project, and as I believe, it might, let me read a little further.

Councilor Flagg: I don't know, man. We should do our own.

Ms. Moreno: Mr. Mayor, may I make a comment, just if the amount of the RTA is \$20,000 for construction, the total for these tasks which will be \$27,786 for this proposal.

Mr. Licea: Ok.

Ms. Moreno: So, what does the difference come out of, the \$7,000? So if Mayor and Council would want to move forward with this proposal, could they have a not to exceed amount of \$20,000 since that is all we have in construction?

Mr. Licea: The budget right now is \$150,000 for construction and we have not discussed the actual budget amendment, so that is to be determined.

Councilor Valenzuela. So, it could technically be covered.

Mr. Licea: All of this is going to be covered. When we get to the point of doing the budget amendment, moving the monies from the construction over to the outreach, we will be sure to put in a little buffer in case unforeseen events happen. You know, I'll just put this out there, maybe once the outreach happens, it might spur conversation and we say, hey, come back, we need more work on this and that and we get a change order, and we work that in. So, yeah, there is always a possibility that budgets would increase so we want to work a little extra budget on here.

Councilor Flagg: I'd rather use \$20,000 for something else, like I personally would commit to taking on that 3C, which is doing a community event.

Councilor Valenzuela: The door knocking.

Councilor Flagg: To us, that's part and parcel of a community event is doing door-to-door resident engagement.

Mr. Licea: As much as I like your enthusiasm on that, I will be honest with you, sometime I feel we do need these third-party folks in the middle. They do collect the data, they produce reports for us and you know, they are neutral.

Councilor Valenzuela: The only problem with that is there is a huge distrust in the community and the way they do the engagement, it normally doesn't get a lot of people involved in participating, like the surveys they do, and they won't open the door for people they don't know, so I think that community part, we can take a lot of that on. So, maybe there is a way to do a hybrid partnership here, but let's discuss it.

Councilor Flagg: Yeah, we differ on this one.

Mr. Licea: No, that's ok, I get that, but I think it's important to have a third party doing some of these things because at the end of the day, let me just put this out there, you feel something about the project a certain way, it needs to be reported and brought into the design. But who is actually going to be doing all that data collection and then making sure it is being incorporated into the design? They are the ones that actually are engineers, they are the drafters, they are the ones that are actually creating the design with sophisticated software.

Councilor Valenzuela: Yeah, that would be great if they could do that for us.

Mr. Licea: But again, I do think it is, they are needed, I will say that, and we could meet in the middle and figure something out. We will certainly ask them, and what I am hearing is, let's ask them to come over here and maybe work on it.

Councilor Valenzuela: Maybe a Zoom call.

Councilor Flagg: Yeah, if they won't come, they won't come, but we could ask them.

Mr. Licea: How would we do a Zoom call, I'm just trying to think about logistics. I would just say do it in the open public setting.

Councilor Valenzuela: Sure, why not.

Mayor Diaz: So, we're delaying the project for another two weeks?

Mr. Licea: Yeah, definitely, yeah. There's no rush but City of Tucson is moving with their whole design, so again, our portion of that design that we're not paying for is being held up right now, that's ok, but the goal is long term, at least on my end, is for us to be able to go out to bid at the same time that the City of Tucson bids their portion to save on mobilization costs. But by that point, we need to get our funding for the actual construction lined up. That's where that 1% question to the RTA has to come into play and make sure that we do have the monies there to complete the project. So, direction is I will invite them to the next meeting and see if they are available.

Mayor Diaz: Ok, I guess the request would be to put this on the agenda for the next regular agenda.

Mr. Licea: Yes.

Councilor Flagg: Yeah, Josue is going to invite somebody from there.

Mr. Licea: Yeah, I will invite their representative.

Councilor Flagg: Yeah, great.

Councilor Valenzuela: Thank you.

Councilor Flagg: Thank you.

Acting Mayor Rogers: Thank you.

ITEM #13 - RESOLUTION NO. 24-16 OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON, ARIZONA, APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT [IGA] FOR ASSISTANCE IN THE PREPARATION AND CONDUCT OF PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTIONS BETWEEN THE CITY OF

SOUTH TUCSON, ARIZONA [CITY] AND PIMA COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICE THROUGH THE DIVISION OF ELECTIONS [COUNTY RECORDER] PURSUANT TO GOVERNOR HOBBS HB 2785, AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THIS RESOLUTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON

Mayor Diaz read aloud the above Resolution.

Ms. Moreno: Yes, Mayor and Members of the Council. I am going to put on my City Clerk hat and the item request is the Primary Election for 2024 be changed and therefore the amendment to this existing IGA for Pima County for election services is expired. On February 9, 2024, Governor Hobbs signed House Resolution No. 2785 and this emergency law changed the date of the 2024 primary election to July 30th, so this IGA will amend the previous Pima County election services to change the date from I think it was August 5th, if I am not mistaken, to July 30th.

Councilor Flagg: I would move to accept this IGA.

Councilor Valenzuela: Second.

Mayor Diaz: A Motion and a Second. Roll Call, or excuse me, is there any more discussion? Hearing no discussion, Roll Call.

Vice Mayor Lopez. Yes.

Acting Mayor Rogers. Aye.

Mayor Diaz. Yes.

Councilor Flagg. Yes.

Councilor Valenzuela. Yes.

ITEM #14 - DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPOINTMENT TO THE PIMA COUNTY REGIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Mayor Diaz: Ms. Moreno.

Ms. Moreno: Yes, Mayor, an announcement to Mayor Diaz from County Manager Jan Leshar basically is requesting Mayor and Council appoint a member to the Regional Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee. As in reference, this item is Mayor and Council appointment to the Regional Opioid Settlement Committee. In 2020, the City of South Tucson Mayor and Council approved the City's participation in the One Arizona Opioid Settlement Memorandum of Understanding to jointly approach settlement negotiations with and through the State and other participating jurisdictions. As detailed in the One Arizona Settlement, Pima County is one of the many signatory jurisdictions. Jurisdictions have had the option to receive their prescribed allocation amount as detailed in the settlement or partner with the County to manage their portion of the funds. The County, specifically the Pima County Health Department, will administer the funds and the facilitation of payments to jurisdictions that have opted to receive and manage their allocated funding. The other option for jurisdictions is to opt to pool their jurisdictional allocation with the County. The jurisdictions that have opted to pool their funding allocations with the Health Department enables the County to lead the direction of those funds with support and input from those partners. As of May 7, 2024, the County has three jurisdictional partners that have agreed to pool their funds with the County. To assure input from those municipalities and in alignment with broader goals for the Region, it is essential to create an advisory committee to review the programmatic investment for these funds with representatives from the participating municipalities, in

addition to subject matter experts to assure these funds are invested in the most comprehensive, data-driven, and impactful solutions to address opioid misuse across the region. So, this is a time where Mayor and Council will make an appointment to this Committee.

Mayor Diaz: Thank you. Discussion?

Councilor Valenzuela: I just want to make a nomination. We can do discussion first.

Mayor Diaz: Discussion then I guess we will have to nominations.

Ms. Moreno: Do we need a Motion and a Second for discussion first?

Mayor Diaz: I need a Motion for discussion for the appointment to Pima County Regional Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee.

Councilor Valenzuela: Moved.

Vice Mayor Lopez: Second.

Mayor Diaz: Motion and Second. Roll Call.

Ms. Moreno: Do we need a Roll Call for this?

Councilor Flagg: We don't need a motion.

City Attorney Stinson: We can just move on to discussion.

Mayor Diaz: Discuss, ok.

Councilor Valenzuela: I think that we need strong representation on this committee. Our community has been disproportionately impacted by the opioid crisis, and I believe that the best person to represent us is my colleague Brian Flagg, who every day sees the effects of this opioid crisis at the soup kitchen. I think he would be best at representing us on this committee.

Mayor Diaz: I also have a recommendation. Amy Bass has really been into the drug business, per se, but her long history, she has received numerous grants, numerous applications for grants, and she has worked diligently, especially in the City of South Tucson. She coordinated a great big effort in regard to just about everything in regard to drinking, drug use, just about all things to do. It is amazing the way she has coordinated numerous, numerous projects in South Tucson. She also has a staff member associated with South Tucson in regard to a StopIt Committee, and that person is responsible for all kinds of, especially community involvements, and they have had meetings at the House of Neighborly Service, numerous times in regard to prevention, especially prevention, and she is well known in the community in that respect, and she is quite a leader. The Chief also knows her and has worked with her in regard to some of the proposed grants she knows about, and I think there is one grant that is being applied for at this time in regard to the opioid crisis. So I really believe that Amy Bass is way beyond expertise and especially the fact that she is committed to South Tucson. That's really the important part. The person that knows South Tucson backward and forward, she's done all kinds of visits, knocks on doors, she does everything herself. I just can't praise her for all of the efforts that she puts in here in South Tucson. There's a community, I don't know if anybody else has anymore recommendations, but Amy Bass is way, way beyond.

Councilor Flagg: Well, I believe that it ideally would be one of us on the Council, you know, to go to these meetings and bring back what they are saying because this destroys lives in front of my very eyes, the whole community's eyes, and I would just think somebody from this Council should be the one to be on it.

Mayor Diaz: I really believe that Amy Bass is part of South Tucson really, and all the meetings that are held in South Tucson by her and she brings so much to South Tucson. It really is amazing that her expertise with that, and if it is a Councilmember, it just biases everybody else as far as what the community wants. Amy Bass has the community interests and, in those respects of the drug use, the alcohol use, just about everything. It's just amazing and if you want her here for every meeting we have, she will be here. She does that. She works 24-hours a day on nothing but her job as staff person and also drives everything else. She does the drop-off your drugs, she does that, and on and on, it's just amazing. Amy Bass, yeah. So I guess we will have a vote?

Councilor Valenzuela: Do I make a motion? I move to appoint Councilmember Flagg to the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee.

Vice Mayor Lopez: I Second it.

Ms. Moreno: Roll Call.

Vice Mayor Lopez. Yes.

Acting Mayor Rogers. No.

Mayor Diaz. No.

Councilor Flagg. Yes.

Councilor Valenzuela. Yes.

Mayor Diaz: Appointment is Brian Flagg. Thank you.

Acting Mayor Rogers: Thank you.

ITEM #15 - ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Diaz: Adjournment.

Councilor Valenzuela: Second.

Mayor Diaz: So, we stand adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.



Mayor

ATTEST:




Veronica Moreno, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Agenda Meeting of the City Council of South Tucson, Arizona, held on the 18th day of June, 2024. I further certify the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Dated this 23rd day of July, 2024.


Veronica Moreno, City Clerk