



Minutes of MAYOR AND COUNCIL Meeting

Approved by Mayor and Council
on September 9, 2020.

Date of Meeting: March 17, 2020

The Mayor and Council of the City of Tucson met in regular session in the Mayor and Council Chambers in City Hall, 255 West Alameda Street, Tucson, Arizona, at 5:30 p.m., on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, all members having been notified of the time and place thereof.

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Romero and upon roll call, those present and absent were:

Present:

Lane Santa Cruz	Council Member Ward 1
Paul Cunningham	Vice Mayor, Council Member Ward 2
Paul Durham	Council Member Ward 3
Nikki Lee	Council Member Ward 4
Richard G. Fimbres	Council Member Ward 5
Steve Kozachik	Council Member Ward 6
Regina Romero	Mayor

Absent/Excused:

None

Staff Members Present:

Michael J. Ortega	City Manager
Michael Rankin	City Attorney
Roger W. Randolph	City Clerk

2. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

a. INVOCATION

No Invocation was given.

b. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was presented by the entire assembly.

c. PRESENTATIONS:

There are no Presentations/Proclamations.

d. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS

Mayor Romero announced City Manager's communication number 74 dated March 17, 2020, was received into and made part of the record. She asked for a motion to approve the appointments in the report.

It was moved by Council Member Cunningham, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 7 to 0, to approve the appointment(s) of David Stuart Thompson to the Barrio Historico Historic Zone Advisory Board (BHHZAB); D. Grady Scott to the City Magistrates Merit Selection Commission (CMMSC); and Michael Hannley to the Self Insurance Trust Fund Board of Trustees (TRUST).

Mayor Romero asked if there were any personal appointments to be made.

There were none.

10. CITY MAGISTRATES: APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL MAGISTRATE AND FIXING COMPENSATION (CITY WIDE)

(This item was taken out of order.)

Mayor Romero announced City Manager's communication number 88 dated March 17, 2020, was received into and made part of the record. She asked the City Clerk to read Ordinance 11740 by number and title only.

Ordinance No. 11740 relating to City Magistrates; pursuant to Tucson Code § 8-2.2., appointing Jessie M. Pringle as Special City Magistrate to serve upon call by the Presiding Magistrate of the City Court; fixing compensation; and declaring an emergency.

It was moved by Council Member Fimbres, duly seconded, and passed by a roll call vote of 7 to 0, to pass and adopt Ordinance 11740, appointing Jessie M. Pringle as Special City Magistrate.

3. MAYOR AND COUNCIL/CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Mayor Romero announced City Manager's communication number 75, dated March 17, 2020, was received into and made part of the record. She also announced this was the time scheduled to allow members of the Mayor and Council to report on current events and asked if there were any reports.

Current event reports were provided by Vice Mayor Cunningham and Council Member Durham.

A recording of this item is available from the City Clerk's Office for ten years from the date of this meeting.

4. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS (CITY WIDE)

Mayor Romero announced City Manager's communication number 76, dated March 17, 2020, was received into and made part of the record. She also announced this was the time scheduled to allow the City Manager to report on current events and asked for that report.

No report was given.

5. LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATIONS

Mayor Romero announced City Manager's communication number 77, dated March 17, 2020, was received into and made part of the record. He asked the City Clerk to read the Liquor License Agenda.

b. Liquor License Application(s)

New License(s)

NOTE: State law provides that for a new license application "In all proceedings before the governing body of a city...the applicant bears the burden of showing that the public convenience requires and that the best interest of the community would be substantially served by the issuance of a license". (A.R.S. Section 4-201)

1. Bawker Bawker A Cider House, Ward 6
City 8-20, Series 1
400 N. 4th Ave.
Applicant: Donald Lee Rubino
Action must be taken by: March 16, 2020

2. Locale, Ward 6
City 9-20, Series 12
60 N. Alvernon Way
Applicant: Deborah Egbert Tenino
Action must be taken by: March 28, 2020
3. Monkey Burger, Ward 6
City 10-20, Series 12
5350 E. Broadway Blvd. #128
Applicant: Kevin Arnold Kramber
Action must be taken by: March 29, 2020
4. Tuxon, Ward 1
City 13-20, Series 11
960 S. Freeway
Applicant: Kevin Arnold Kramber
Action must be taken by: April 4, 2020

Person/Location Transfer(s)

NOTE: State law provides that for a location transfer Mayor and Council may consider whether the public convenience requires and that the best interest of the community would be substantially served by the issuance of a license at that location. (A.R.S. Section 4-203; Rule R19-1-102)

5. Bawker Bawker A Cider House, Ward 6
City 6-20, Series 7
400 N. 4th Ave.
Applicant: Donald Lee Rubino
Action must be taken by: March 16, 2020

c. Special Event(s)

1. Humane Society of Southern Arizona, Ward 3
City T16-20
Event Location: 119 W. Alturas St.
Applicant: Diana Jean Cannon
Date of Event: May 9, 2020
Purpose: Fundraiser for the Humane Society
2. St. Cyril of Alexandria Corporation, Ward 6
City T17-20
Event Location: 4725 E. Pima St.
Applicant: Jason Hartnerbach
Purpose: School fundraiser

3. Museum of Contemporary Art Tucson, Ward 6
City T19-20
Event Location: 265 S. Church Ave.
Applicant: Elizabeth Courtney Johnson
Date of Event: April 18, 2020
Purpose: Moca Local Genius Awards Gala
4. Satori, Inc., Ward 3
City T21-20
Event Location: 3727 N. 1st Ave.
Applicant: Joanna Horton Honea
Date of Event: April 18, 2020
Purpose: Annual Auction Fundraiser
5. Living Streets Alliance, Ward 6
City T22-20
Event Location: 485 S. Stone Ave.
Applicant: Kylie Marlene Walzak
Date of Event: March 29, 2020
Purpose: Non-profit fundraiser for Living Streets Alliance
6. Tucson Sunrise Foundation, Ward 5
City T24-20
Event Location: 331 S. Olsen Ave.
Applicant: Salvador Bennett Lopez
Date of Event: March 28, 2020
Purpose: Fundraiser
7. Kids Unlimited, Ward 6
City T25-20
Event Location: 160 S. Scott Ave.
Applicant: Carol Jean Sottosanti
Date of Event: April 4, 2020
Purpose: Entertainment
8. Chabad of Tucson, Ward 6
City T26-20
Event Location: 2443 E. 4th St.
Applicant: Joseph I. Shemton
Date of Event: March 29, 2020
Purpose: Passover Matza & Wine Event

9. St. Mark's Presbyterian Church (Preschool), Ward 6
City T27-20
Event Location: 3809 E. Third St.
Applicant: Jan S. McCoy
Date of Event: April 3, 2020
Purpose: St. Mark's Preschool & Kindergarten Annual Fundraiser
(St. Mark's Presbyterian Church)
10. University of Arizona Forge, Ward 6
City T28-20
Event Location: 44 N. Stone Ave.
Applicant: Jessica Ann Sueskind
Date of Event: March 26, 2020
Purpose: Grand Open Reception for Forge @ Roy Place
11. Arizona Craft Brewers Guild, Inc., Ward 6
City T29-20
Event Location: 222 S. 5th Ave.
Applicant: Rob James Fullmer
Date of Event: April 4, 2020
Purpose: Baja Beer Festival
12. Local First Arizona Foundation, Ward 6
City T31-20
Event Location: 2221 E. Broadway Blvd.
Applicant: Michael Thomas Peel
Date of Event: March 27, 2020
Purpose: Local First Arizona Roadshow in Partnership with Sunshine Mile
13. St. Michael's School, Ward 2
City T32-20
Event Location: 602 N. Wilmot Rd.
Applicant: Marnie Ackerman
Date of Event: March 28, 2020
Purpose: School Fundraiser & Community Building Event

e. Agent Change/Acquisition of Control/Restructure

NOTE: The local governing body of the city, town or county may protest the acquisition of control within sixty days based on the capability, reliability and qualification of the person acquiring control. (A.R.S. Section 4-203.F)

1. Iron John's Brewing Company - 245 S. Plumer Ave., Ward 6
City AC4-20, Series 3
245 S. Plumer Ave.
Applicant: Kevin Arnold Kramber
Action must be taken by: March 23, 2020

2. Iron John's Brewing Company - 222 E. Congress St., Ward 6
City AC5-20, Series 7
222 E. Congress St.
Applicant: Kevin Arnold Kramber
Action must be taken by: March 23, 2020

Roger W. Randolph, City Clerk, announced the Special Event applications 5c1, 5c9, 5c10, and 5c13 were withdrawn by the applicant:

It was moved by Vice Mayor Cunningham, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 7 to 0, to forward Items 5b1 through 5b5, 5c2 through 5c8, 5c11 through 5c12, and 5d1 through 5d2 to the State Liquor Board with a recommendation for approval.

6. CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

Mayor Romero announced Call to the Audience was canceled for this meeting. She asked that the public be aware that these measures were being put into place to limit the need for members of the public to participate in a large public gathering, while ensuring that the discussions, deliberations and actions of the Mayor and Council were transparent and conducted openly.

7. CONSENT AGENDA – ITEMS A THROUGH J

Mayor Romero announced the reports and recommendations from the City Manager on the Consent Agenda were received into and made part of the record. He asked the City Clerk to read the Consent Agenda.

- a. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (CITY WIDE) MAR17-20-78
- b. MAYOR AND COUNCIL: AMENDING THE 2020 MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE (CITY WIDE) MAR17-20-86

Ordinance No. 11739 relating to Administration; amending the Mayor and Council's 2020 meeting schedule by scheduling a new regular meeting for Tuesday, April 14, 2020; and declaring an emergency.

- c. REAL PROPERTY: FORTH AMENDMENT TO THE TEMPLE OF MUSIC AND ART MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT (CITY WIDE) MAR17-20-83

Resolution No. 23151 relating to Real Property; authorizing and approving the Fourth Amendment to the Management Agreement dated February 1, 1988, by between the City of Tucson and Arizona Theatre Company; and declaring an emergency.

- d. INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT: WITH PIMA COUNTY AND THE PIMA COUNTY REGIONAL FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PARK IN THE BRIDGES (WARD 5) MAR17-20-81

Resolution No. 23150 relating to Intergovernmental Agreements (IGA); approving an IGA between Pima County Regional Flood Control District (RFCD) and the City of Tucson (City) for the Development of a Park in The Bridges; and setting an effective date.

- e. INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN PIMA COUNTY AND CITY OF TUCSON FOR NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT KIT INITIATIVE GRANT PROGRAM (CITY WIDE) MAR17-20-87

Resolution No. 23153 relating to Intergovernmental Agreements (IGA); approving and authorizing the execution of an IGA between the City of Tucson (City) and Pima County for Nation Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Grant; and declaring an emergency.

- f. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING: WITH THE TUCSON MEDICAL CENTER FOUNDATION FOR THE TUCSON COLLABORATIVE CARE PROGRAM (CITY WIDE) MAR17-20-80

Resolution No. 23154 relating to Employee Relations; authorizing and approving the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Tucson Fire Department and the Tucson Medical Center Foundation regarding the Collaborative Care program; and declaring an emergency.

- g. GRANT AGREEMENT: WITH THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY OF PIMA COUNTY FOR FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION GRANT AZ-2019-002 (CITY WIDE) MAR17-20-84

Resolution No. 23152 relating to Transportation and Mass Transit; authorizing and approving the Grant Agreement between the City of Tucson (City) and the Regional Transportation Authority of Pima County (RTA) for Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Grant AZ-2019-002 allowing the RTA to spend FTA funding for vehicle replacements; and declaring an emergency.

- h. FINAL PLAT: (S19-076) GEMATOS AGAPI, LOTS 1 THROUGH 3 (WARD 4) MAR17-20-79

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council approve the plat as presented. The applicant was advised that building/occupancy permits are subject to the availability of water/sewer capacity at the time of actual application.

- i. FINAL PLAT: (S19-084) VALENZUELA, LOTS 1 THROUGH 5 (WARD 3) MAR17-20-82

Staff recommends that the Mayor and Council approve the plat as presented. The applicant is advised that building/occupancy permits are subject to the availability of water/sewer capacity at the time of actual application.

- j. ORDINANCE: REGULATING PET STORES AS PROVIDED IN STATE LAW (CITY WIDE) MAR17-20-85

Ordinance No. 11741 relating to Businesses Regulated; regulating Pet Stores and Pet Dealers as provided under Arizona Law; amending Chapter 7 of the Tucson Code by adding a new Article XXV, Section 7-505; and declaring an emergency.

It was moved by Council Member Durham, duly seconded, to approve the matters on the Consent Agenda.

Mayor Romero stated there was a question regarding the change in the meeting schedule for the Mayor and Council. She said the meeting scheduled for April 7th was being changed to April 14th. She asked now that since April 7th was available to meet, was the change necessary.

Roger Randolph, City Clerk, stated the Mayor and Council did not have to approve the ordinance and just have the meeting on the April 7th or approve the ordinance and have the meeting on the 14th as a contingency provided that the 7th still needed to be cancelled.

Mayor Romero reiterated that the meeting on April 7th was required by law which was the first Tuesday of every month that a Mayor and Council meeting be held. She asked if they were eliminating the 7th and moving it to the 14th.

Mr. Randolph responded that the ordinance kept the meeting of the 7th as required by the Charter and if that meeting was not held, it would be cancelled due to a lack of quorum and the 14th would be scheduled.

Vice Mayor Cunningham requested more clarification and asked if the public was able to come out on the 7th and there was a quorum, the meeting would be held. If not, then a meeting was scheduled for the 14th.

Mr. Randolph responded in the affirmative.

The motion to pass and adopt Consent Agenda Items a – j was passed by a roll call vote of 7 to 0, and the proper action taken.

8. PUBLIC HEARING: ZONING (C9-19-18) HOUGHTON RESERVE - HOUGHTON AND BROADWAY, SR TO R-1 AND C-1, CITY MANAGER'S REPORT (WARD 2)

Roger W. Randolph, City Clerk, announced this item was being continued to the Regular Meeting of April 7, 2020.

Vice Mayor Cunningham asked if under the recent amendment to the Mayor and Council meeting schedule, if the April 7, 2020, meeting was not held, did the public hearing need to be opened and then closed, as a matter of statute, to stay within the number of days required or could they properly delay the item and still ensure everyone was working in good faith.

Mike Rankin, City Attorney, replied the item could be continued as a whole to the date certain as long as it was announced, which the City Clerk just did. He said Mayor and Council should ask if there was anyone in attendance wishing to speak on the item to make sure that they knew.

Vice Mayor Cunningham asked if there was anyone in the announced present to speak on this item.

There was no one.

Vice Mayor Cunningham said the item was being moved to the April 7, 2020 meeting, but if this was not an available date, then the item would be considered at the April 14, 2020 meeting.

9. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES: ADOPTING THE DEVELOPMENT (IMPACT) FEE LAND USE ASSUMPTIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PLANS FOR STREETS, PARKS AND RECREATION, POLICE, AND FIRE (CITY WIDE)

Mayor Romero announced City Manager's communication number 89, dated March 17, 2020, was received into and made part of the record. She asked the City Clerk to read Resolution 23155 by number and title only.

Resolution No. 23155 relating to Development Impact Fees; adopting the Land Use Assumptions and the Infrastructure Improvements Plans for Fire Facilities, Parks and Recreational Facilities, Police Facilities and Streets Facilities for the City of Tucson; declaring intent to assess the proposed development impact fees.

Mayor Romero specified this was a necessary step to continue the process based on all the work that had been done with stake holders and the community. She said what the Mayor and Council were looking at was the Infrastructure Improvements Plans (IIP) and being able to move the process forward. She said they were not looking at approving any impact fee amounts; only moving the process forward.

Mayor Romero stated that as they look at the emergencies, urgencies and the crisis that was happening in the world and at how the economy was being affected, what she believed a week ago, she no longer believed today and had to change the way she saw what came before the Mayor and Council. She said she was open to the possibility of delaying implementation of the impact fees. She said she wanted to make sure she stated this because currently they were continuing with the motion, but there was plenty of time to talk about details on how to move forward with impact fees in the community.

Council Member Kozachik stated he wanted confirmation that the Mayor and Council was not voting on the fees, but the IIP and the Land Use Assumptions.

Mayor Romero responded affirmatively.

Council Member Durham stated staff did a good job on responding to the concerns raised by the Mayor and Council. He said the relocation option was a positive for encouraging adaptive reuse and only requiring that business pay the difference if the uses were intensified. He stated the three districts for Park and Recreation (PR) were appropriate and made it more streamlined to implement improvements. He said he was still concerned about the rapid increase in retail uses, especially in activities.

Council Member Santa Cruz stated she also shared the same concerns that were just expressed and had more questions to ask and would be working with staff to answer those questions.

Council Member Fimbres stated he also shared the same concerns. He said he wanted to make sure stakeholders were being heard and addressed and not just staff coming up with decisions.

Vice Mayor Cunningham stated the Parks schedule was doable and exactly where the City wanted to be. He said unfortunately things had changed in the last week and what he was looking for completely got delivered as far as he was concerned. He said the City was right on the money on best practices, and when the time came, this would be a very prudent package. He said in the next couple of months they had the opportunity for a lot of different discussions, but in the meantime, the package to him was the right package.

Council Member Fimbres asked if the plan was for the next five years, why could they not discuss this at the next meeting as planned so that they had a clearer picture or path of what was going on in the world with the community and also to continue the timeline to vote on June 9th.

Mayor Romero stated the current plan was to continue with the current time frame and have the necessary discussions by the set dates unless there were community emergencies or anything else happening. She said with the current situation on hand, things were changing hour by hour and for now the timeline was being preserved as stated.

Michael J. Ortega, City Manager, said that as they went down this path, all the Mayor and Council were doing was preserving the conversation so they did not have to start over with the notices and, based on what they see in the next thirty to forty-five days, would help them be informed for future conversation. He said he thought what Council Member Fimbres was saying was that this item would come back to the Mayor and Council for review and a public hearing on April 21st. He stated there was opportunity before that to have more conversation about the fees, up to and including, phasing. He commented that right now it was difficult to predict what that would look like but knew what the fees were based on the analysis and inventory they currently provided. He said, given the uncertainty and the economy as it currently stood, he might come back and suggest that they rethink the strategy in its entirety.

It was moved by Council Member Lee, duly seconded, and passed by a roll call vote of 7 to 0, to pass and adopt Resolution 23155.

10. CITY MAGISTRATES: APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL MAGISTRATE AND FIXING COMPENSATION (CITY WIDE)

(This item was taken out of order and considered after Item 2.)

**11. INFECTIOUS DISEASE OUTBREAK RESPONSE PLAN (CITY WIDE)
MAR17-20-90**

(Note: Vice Mayor Cunningham departed at 6:21 p.m.; returned at 6:22 p.m.)

Mayor Romero announced City Manager's Communication number 90, dated March 17, 2020, was received into and made a part of the record. This time has been scheduled to allow members of the Mayor and Council to receive an update and discuss the Infectious Disease Outbreak Response Plan.

Mayor Romero thanked Council Member Lee for bringing this item to the table and appreciated the quick action. She said she wanted to share an update of the impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic and the actions taken by the City to protect public health. She stated she knew that the Mayor and Council's top priority was to protect public health, which meant the City needed to take swift action to flatten the curve and slow the spread. She said she was confident the City would get through this pandemic.

Mayor Romero outlined the steps she and staff had been taking to protect public health. She said after consulting with business leaders, other mayors around the state, the City Attorney and the City Manager, she decided it was necessary to declare a local emergency and together they determined it was in the best interest of maintaining public health to suspend dining services, restaurants and food courts and transition to delivery and pickup services only. Bars, gyms and other specific venues stated in the proclamation that she signed, where groups of people congregated, were directed to be closed through the end of the month effective at 8 p.m. that evening.

Mayor Romero stated this was a very difficult and painful decision that she did not take lightly. She said the City was doing everything possible to minimize the impact of COVID-19 on the community. She said she wanted a healthy City, both physically and economically, and was looking for ways to support every resident in Tucson. She commented that, as a City, they were taking steps to protect residents including suspending water shutoffs and halting evictions of City-owned public housing through the end of April. She noted they were working day and night to identify ways to support individuals in our local economy through this difficult time.

Mayor Romero said she knew the City would get through this time and the best thing everyone could do was to come together as a community and as a Council and take care of each other. She said Tucson was strong, resilient; and compassionate; and she knew that each one of her colleagues were taking precautions in their offices and with the families and appreciated all of their work.

Mayor Romero informed that one of the other actions taken was to close all public counters to the public, all City of Tucson lobbies to include Council Offices and City hall. She said she believed the City of Phoenix, City of Mesa, and the City of Tempe also moved forward with the same declaration and the City of Flagstaff signed their emergency declaration a day.

Council Member Lee stated she wanted this time to specifically focused on how the City was going to be able to deliver core services during this situation. She thanked the City Manager and his staff, public safety staff and any other department's staff that had a part in putting these plans together. She said she attended a meeting last week and was inspired by seeing everyone at the table, asking the right questions and being able to answer questions that they did not have before.

Council Member Lee said she felt a little vulnerable when she first drafted the memo on February 28th, because it was still early, but she knew that it would take time to put these plans together and if the military had taught her anything it was to have continuity plans for continuity plans and to be prepared. She said she was hoping this would be something that could be created and put on the shelf and never have to use it, but it was not the case. She thanked Council Members Kozachik and Durham for a call-in on the news that they had done and got to talk to a lot of people. She also thanked the City Manager for his strong and stable leadership during this time.

Michael J. Ortega, City Manager, stated he wanted to reiterate the fact that they had an amazing staff and he too was inspired sitting through what he called hours and hours of dialogue about what they were doing and mobilizing folks. He said he would present three "buckets of actions" regarding the issue; 1) things that had already been done, 2) things that had just begun to be implemented, and 3) things to think about in the not too distant future.

Mr. Ortega spoke about the memo sent out by the Mayor regarding employee leave and explained that further. He also spoke about the telecommuting plan for those individual and employees that could work remotely, he thanked the Information Technologies (IT) staff for putting an infrastructure in place very quickly and stated they had increased the capacity for that. He informed that there would be no water turn offs for non-payments or late fees through the end of April. He said they had also instituted not holding large meetings, using a lot of technology for meetings including conference calls as well as online meetings, no out of city travel, or bringing people in from other parts for trainings, etc., which could be done electronically, and all Boards, Committees and Commissions (BCCs) had been cancelled, again through the end of the April.

Mr. Ortega said they also handed gloves out to those individuals that were handling cash, but this was no longer a problem as all public counters were shut down. He informed that the only thing left open was the landfill, but staff was working through that. He said employees at the landfill were provided gloves, masks, etc. He stated they had also stopped evictions for non-payment in the public housing functions through the end of April and mail was being quarantined when received because it was their understanding that the virus could stay on paper for up to nine hours, therefore, interoffice mail was being delayed by one day. He encouraged the Council Offices to do the same.

Mr. Ortega said leave requirements had been loosened up to in terms of how employees could use leave to help reduce the bureaucracy that sometimes got in the way of doing that. He said he was also receiving daily check-ins by 8:30 a.m. from departments once they had an understanding of what their absenteeism might be for that day to see if they might need help or if they needed to shut down any services. He reiterated, as Council Member Lee mentioned, that the COOP Plan was being updated and was pretty much in place, but he hesitated to call them final because as they were learning, on paper it was one thing and actually implemented it was something a little different. He said those would be fluid as time went on, but he was pleased that they had them in place.

Mr. Ortega stated he was instituting a hiring freeze effective immediately except for commissioned firefighters, police officers and dispatchers in public safety communications, as well as, consolidating the Public Information Officer (PIO) functions. He said he thought he needed to do that at least until they had a better understanding of some of the impacts and it gave them opportunity to quickly get information and disseminate it, as well as any and other questions that might be out there. He mentioned he had also directed staff to scale back on expenditures; without knowing what the economy was doing, he thought it was time for them to put the brakes on expenditures.

Mr. Ortega stated they had started up the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), co-lead by Tucson Fire and Tucson Police. He said he was very pleased that, on a daily basis, they got together to share the latest information from the health department and health professionals, as well as, what was going on across the nation. He said he was

also eliminating, effective immediately, the wellness benefit program that gave employees rewards for not using their sick leave. He said they needed to make sure that everyone understood they needed to stay home if they were feeling ill for any reason. He said another thing that was being done, as they closed City Offices, was posting on the doors a call-in number, 520-791-2540, which would be staffed from 8 to 5. He said they were still working out the details of that, but for now it would be a recorded message initially, but if you pressed 1 he believed they would be able to talk to a live person. The purpose of this was so that if somebody came to a door and it was locked there would be a phone number where they could call and figure out how they could deal with whatever business or city business they had.

Mr. Ortega stated they had also established an email address for comments and that email was comments@tucsonaz.gov. He said the idea was that people could send in their information, and it would be a tall order to respond to each email that came in, but they were going to do their best to do that or nothing more than to route it to the appropriate agencies, because a lot of the questions might not be related to city business, but might be related to health department or other functions. He stated they were also going to recommend people go to the website at www.tucsonaz.gov and click on the link for current COVID-19 information and it would have all the links to agencies available. He commented social distancing on Sun Tran buses, to protect drivers, was instituted; the first three seats were being kept vacant with only one person per seat and no standing on buses.

Mr. Ortega stated some other quick things to think about and what this meant for the budget, was that they would take the FY20 revenues and expenditures that would be the FY21 revenues and expenditures for now including contingency that would be used as a placeholder. He said his intent was that they would go through the normal process to establish the budget by statute, and on a monthly basis have conversations on what those expenses looked like in terms of actual revenues. He said things would be a little different this year, both on the revenue side and on the expenditure side.

Mr. Ortega commented some other things that they were looking at were fee increases but would not have any more information for the time being. He said he would report back to the Mayor and Council once he knew what the impact to the economy, both locally and on a macroscale.

Chris Magnus, Chief of Police, Tucson Police Department (TPD), stated it was their priority to keep Tucson safe. He said by working together, TPD could continue to respond to emergency calls in the same timely way that they had been doing up to this point, as long as they could keep sufficient personnel well, they could continue to handle many other types of calls in an effective manner. He said in accordance with guidelines and recommendation from both federal sources and local health experts, it was critical to recognize that the community spread of the COVID-19 had to be limited. He stated that had to be done through every possible means in order to keep police officers responding to calls, so that meant limiting the number of police contacts with the community other than those that were deemed essential when it came to handling emergencies and higher

priority calls for service. He said keeping officers and other key responders safe was really the first step in keeping the entire community safe.

Chief Magnus said the community would continue to call 911, the call would be prioritized, and help would be provided as quickly as possible. He stated what would change a bit was that if you were the victim of what they categorized as a Level 4 crime, such as property crimes, not including burglaries, you would use the on-line reporting tool which could be accessed through the website. He said burglaries would still be responded in the same manner they are currently being responded to. A complaint number would be issued if something needed to be submitted to their insurance company. He said there were also certain crimes and circumstances that could only be reported by phone at 791-4444, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., and not by an officer coming out. If they were unsure if this was a call that they could do through the online website or talking to someone on the phone it was fine to just continue to call 911 and they would transfer that call or instruct you where you need to go.

Chief Magnus stated some samples of the things they were going to be asking people to do by calling that non-emergency number would be low-level property crimes, property crimes not in progress, various thefts basically not burglaries, shoplifting complaints, harassment complaints and threat complaints, unless the threat was immediate and you were in danger, those would be things they would like for people to call in on the non-emergency number. He said some things that could not be handled online, but could over the phone were assaults with no serious injuries, illegal parking, or if people heard fireworks and thought it was guns shots, but had no idea where it was coming from, and found property. For those types of things if constituents called TPD they could give the information over the phone, but an officer would not necessarily respond.

Chief Magnus stated as a reminder there were already some things they did not respond to; non-jury accidents, panhandling and abandoned vehicles unless the roadway was blocked. He said all of this information would be clearly posted to TPD's website on-line and if someone was not sure, the 911 operators would be able to help and direct the call in the right way. He said they just wanted people to understand there were some things that, in order to keep officers available for emergencies, as well as limit their in-person contact to help flatten the curve, it really was better if they could have some of those types of calls handled over the phone or online. He said they were also looking at how to handle public records and had worked out ways that they could get submitted online, by email, or by coming down to headquarters at the window right outside of the entrance to the building where constituents could get help if necessary. He said TPD was also looking at getting masks and gloves, disinfectant and everything that you could imagine for their personnel to stay safe.

Mayor Romero stated she knew Chief Magnus and his staff were participating in EOC meetings with the Tucson Fire Department (TFD) and the Pima County Health Department (PCHD) and other jurisdictions to talk about COVID-19. She asked if he would elaborate on those meetings.

Chief Magnus stated they were working closely with TFD and were part of EOC meetings every morning. He said there was a range of county officials and state officials at these meetings and there were robust discussions of what was going on day by day. He said TPD and TFD were having a number of in house meetings, and felt it was important because they wanted to make sure staff understood what was going on so they could keep them safe and provide the best service to the community.

Council Member Fimbres asked about officer and fireman safety, environmental services, inspectors, bus drivers. He said he wanted to know what was being done to protect them.

Mr. Ortega reiterated that, as far as Sun Tran, they were practicing social distancing, wiping everything down after use, providing gloves and masks, etc. He said with regards to fire and police, it was pretty much business as usual, using their protective equipment as they had in the past. He said for other areas, gloves and masks were being provided, counters were shut down to the public and reducing public interaction.

Council Member Fimbres stated he understood they were in a state of emergency now and asked what the process was for restaurant owners that had waiters, cooks and dishwashers; were they going to be able to be compensated for lost wages. He asked if there was a process or phone number to call to assure their crews that things would be okay. He also asked if the city was holding off on evictions and for how long.

Mr. Ortega stated he did not know but he was expecting, and they were hearing that there was a stimulus package that was coming from the federal government. He said it was important for people to track their costs so that if given the opportunity they could recapture some of those costs that they were incurring during these difficult times.

Mayor Romero interjected and said she had been in contact with Governor Ducey and had a meeting about COVID-19 with other community stakeholders. She said Governor Ducey sent a letter to the Office of Disaster Assistance, Field of Operations Center in the Western Region. She said he had requested the administrator of the Small Business Administration (SBA) to implement an administrative declaration to provide assistance in the form of SBA economic inquiry disaster loans to Cochise, Maricopa, Pima, Yavapai and Apache Counties, as a result of COVID-19. She said they were also tracking three relief packages that Congress was intending to pass and as of this moment she did not know if the Senate had passed the U.S. House bill approved by the House of Representatives and specified what each package had.

Mayor Romero said the first federal package that was passed by the House and Senate was additional funds for first responders, health care providers and anyone that dealt with vulnerable communities including cities. She said the second relief package was for worker relief, Small Business relief, extra money for cities and other jurisdiction and small business to tap into paid sick leave. She said it was a very exhaustive list

including additional money for SNAP Federal Food Assistance, and food banks. She said the second package was headed to the Senate and hopefully the Senate would vote for it and President Trump had indicated that he would sign it.

Mayor Romero said the third package dealt with airlines and what was happening with the airline industries. She said that was the report that she could give them and she had promised and stated many times she would do anything possibly she could to work with the congressional delegation in the Governor's Office to bring in any funds that the City of Tucson deserved. She said she had a call in to Senators Sinema and McSally to have personal conversations with them.

Vice Mayor Cunningham stated Pima County right now was behind Pinal County in the highest infection rate. He said he thought it was important to put together at least two or three-person teams that their number one purpose would be to track this money to make sure the City got it.

Mr. Ortega stated he had already established protocols internally and had assigned someone in his office to oversee it because it was not just the financial piece it, it was the logistics piece, therefore, working closely with our EOC. He said they had a pretty good game plan internally to make sure that they take advantage of any stimulus money that might be coming.

Vice Mayor Cunningham stated that it looked like Rio Nuevo might do some type of relief for their district, and he did not want a duplication of efforts there, so the City might want to work concurrently with them.

Mr. Ortega responded to Council Member Fimbres' question regarding evictions. He stated evictions, for non-payment, were suspended through the end of April. He emphasized it was for non-payment because this was not a ticket for other issues of eviction.

Mayor Romero stated that she, along with her staff, the City Manager, the City Attorney and the PIO's worked on the press release that was posted to the website sharing the Emergency Proclamation. She said the information was shared throughout the City as much as possible.

Discussion continued regarding the services being provided by the City as far as the websites for information, hotlines, phone infrastructure for offices to receive/make calls, making sure call backs were being made, and shelters. The Pima County's website <https://webcms.pima.gov/health/> was also given as a resource for information.

Paula Mandel, Pima County Health Department, updated the Mayor and Council on Protective Personal Equipment (PPE) demands and when to expect them, on-going media events, meetings with various entities regarding COVID-19, medical/hospital facilities, ambulatory partners and meetings with restaurants and small business owners. She applauded the Mayor and Council in respect to the social isolation that they were

trying to recommend with everyone. She said giving a piece of equipment to someone not utilizing it all the time was somewhat of a disservice. She reiterated that when someone did not use the equipment properly, such as masks, they had a tendency of always touching their face and masks, which was one of the things they were recommending against doing; avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. She said TPD and TFD knew about what precautionary steps needed to be taken when wearing PPE.

Mayor Romero stated when she spoke to Governor Ducey she understood the Pima County Health Department was receiving protective gear to disseminate to health care providers and local jurisdiction. She said what concerned her was that they could not forget to add to that list, dissemination of protective gear to organizations that needed it to care for the most vulnerable community, such as the Pima County on Aging, the Blake Foundation and also homeless shelters and nonprofit organizations that helped and served the homeless communities. She said her office had already received texts from these organizations that they were running out of disinfecting wipes, gloves and protective gear for their services providers. She asked if there had been any communication with nonprofit organizations that served the public.

Ms. Mandel stated there was and part of their incident command was that they actually had a team of what they were calling liaisons that had been identified for a variety of community partners. They specifically had a liaison that was working with their long-term care settings, their family homes that were taking care of individuals and those that were working with the homeless shelters.

Mayor Romero stated there was another possibly that a nonprofit organization that that was hurting for these types of materials could be another space where Pima County to be able to distribute or access the protective gear. She also asked about test kits and wanted an update on what Pima County and the federal government were doing.

Ms. Mandel stated she agreed with her on the nonprofit organizations. She stated that not everyone needed to be tested. If someone was experiencing mild symptoms and went to get tested for COVID-19, it might not give an accurate reading, you might be experiencing mild systems and test positive, what would they do different. She said mild systems could be treated at home whether you know are positive it or not. Hopefully, these people experiencing mild systems were self-isolating from their families and doing all the self-hygiene things and cleaning that should be done anyway.

Ms. Mandel thought testing was one of the hardest things at this moment and knew that the CDC was working very hard to get more tests kits available. She said Arizona received three hundred more test kits three weeks ago. She said they were set up to have Lab Corp doing the testing and Sonora Quest accepting the tests. She stated there were also commercial testing agencies coming on board or online all the time. She said they were looking at the possibilities of purchasing a larger number of tests kits, but one of the difficulties with the testing was that they did not have the medium for transporting them.

Discussion continued regarding testing, if people could just walk up to a center and ask to be tested, shelters, release of patients who are homeless, where do they go, capacity sites, food bank, meal sites, food deliveries, senior care facilities, emergency room and urgent care centers, services in Spanish, additional information listed on the Pima County's website at www.Pima.gov/covid19.

Council Member Fimbres asked staff if they would be informed on a daily basis, the same information that was being given to officers so they could respond to the citizens in their ward to try to calm them down as to what was happening. He also asked that when staff sends the list of all the emergency numbers to contact plus information on the website, could that also be shared with organization's and nonprofits and homeless shelters.

Mr. Ortega replied in the affirmative.

Mayor Romero stated if the Mayor and Council had not visited the City's website at www.tucsonaz.gov they needed to do so because there was a wealth of information about how city departments were helping to prevent the spread of the virus, additional resources, and a direct link to the Pima County Health Departments updates and the YouTube page, the Arizona Department of Health Services webinar schedule page, workplace safety, City postponed events for City employees, local news and links to local news stories and what each and every one of the City of Tucson Department were doing to prevent the spread. She said it was a very informative website and a good resource for staff to share with the community as well.

Council Member Santa Cruz stated some of the calls her office was receiving was regarding school updates. She asked if they could add information on school closures and possibly link that information back to its original source. She also requested information regarding meals for young people and where could they get meals as well for seniors. She asked if all of this information would be in a central location that the Mayor and Council could share with constituents making it easier to find.

Mayor Romero stated it had been an incredible last seven days and said she was impressed with all of the work and dedication that the City Manager and his staff, as well as, the City Attorney and in the City Clerk had been putting forward to keep the community safe and healthy.

Discussion continued regarding the shortage of toilet paper and how the City could help, Parks and Recreation, city courts, domestic violence cases, Sun Tran/Sun Van/Sun Link, hand washing stations, impact fees, PAYGO, effects on the Reid Park Zoo project, phone banks, MLK and Tucson House buildings, businesses in the entertainment district, store hours for seniors,

Mike Rankin City Attorney, stated they started last week in coordination with the courts and public defender's office, presiding magistrate to think of ways to reduce the number of face to face interactions within the court which was noted as one highest

density locations of interaction with the public and so among the strategies that they had put in place included continuing cases out into May when possible, establishing both a telephone line and an email where people who had court dates coming up in these few weeks could just either call or email in and ask for a continuance and it would be granted. He said those continuances were setting the new hearing dates out into May or later, they had established a 30-day period between new citations. In addition, it was just yesterday he thought that the Supreme Court issued an administrative order urging all of the lower courts to take those very same types of actions.

Mr. Rankin said they would keep a priority on being able to provide essential services in terms of dealing with in custody cases. He stated for defendants who were in custody they were not going to continue those cases out while they sat in jail. Those cases were being prioritized so those hearings could be held and could be resolved as quickly as possible as well as providing access for orders of protection, but overall the goal was to minimize the amount of need for the public to come to City Courts to engage in business.

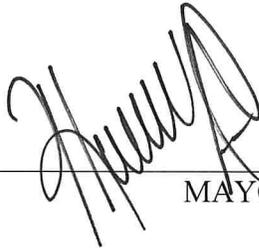
Council Member Kozachik asked if he felt these actions were enough to make sure that they were still giving prioritization to the serious emergency Domestic Violence (DV) cases and the orders of protections.

Mr. Rankin stated that he was not prepared to say that anything they did was enough. They had to keep an eye on it, day to day, to see if they needed to go further. The Supreme Court administrative order contemplated the future need to close the courts all together and what that might look like and so he knew the communications were ongoing and the Presiding's were talking probably everyday but at least several times a week to talk about whether there was a need to take further steps.

No formal action was taken on this item.

12. **ADJOURNMENT: 7:29 p.m.**

Mayor Romero announced the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Mayor and Council would be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2020, at 5:30 p.m., in the Mayor and Council Chambers, City Hall, 255 West Alameda, Tucson, Arizona.



MAYOR

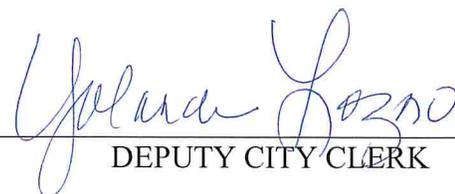
ATTEST:



CITY CLERK

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY

I, the undersigned, have read the foregoing transcript of the meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Tucson, Arizona, held on the 17th day of March 2020, and do hereby certify that it is an accurate transcription.



DEPUTY CITY CLERK

RWR:aj:yl