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## Minutes of MAYOR AND COUNCIL Meeting

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Approved by Mayor and Council  
on April 4, 2023.

Date of Meeting: August 9, 2022

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 5:37 p.m., on Tuesday, August 9, 2022, 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	Vice Mayor, Council Member Ward 1 (electronic attendance)
Paul Cunningham	Council Member Ward 2
Kevin Dahl	Council Member Ward 3 (electronic attendance)
Nikki Lee	Council Member Ward 4
Richard G. Fimbres	Council Member Ward 5 (electronic attendance)
Steve Kozachik	Council Member Ward 6
Regina Romero	Mayor

Absent/Excused: None

Staff Members Present:

Michael J. Ortega	City Manager
Michael Rankin	City Attorney
Suzanne Mesich	City Clerk

Suzanne Mesich, City Clerk, reminded the public that they could attend the meeting or watch it via the live stream on YouTube or use the Microsoft Team link posted on the City Clerk's webpage at [www.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/mayorcouncil](http://www.tucsonaz.gov/clerks/mayorcouncil).

It was moved by Council Member Cunningham, duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 7 to 0, to enter into executive session as noticed on the agenda.

Mike Rankin, City Attorney, announced for the record that Vice Mayor Santa Cruz and Council Members Dahl and Fimbres were participating by electronic means.

RECESS: 1:15 p.m.

RECONVENE: 2:25 p.m.

MAYOR & COUNCIL: All present

STAFF: All present

Executive Session was held from 1:15 p.m. to 2:17 p.m.

It was moved by Council Member Lee, duly seconded, and CARRIED by a voice vote of 7 to 0. to return to open session.

2. **Mayor and Council Direction Regarding Executive Session – Tucson Police Officers Association, et al. v. City of Tucson, Pima County Superior Court Case No. C20213869; and Arizona Civil Rights Division Complaint No. CRD-2021-0834 Relating to City of Tucson Ordinance No. 11869 and Administrative Directive 2.03-7 (City Wide) SS/AUG09-22-134**

Mike Rankin, City Attorney, stated that, for Items 2 and 4, no action or further direction was needed from the Mayor and Council.

3. **Executive Session – Discussion of the City of Tucson’s Cybersecurity and Critical Infrastructure Posture (City Wide) SS/AUG09-22-136**

(This item was taken out of order and discussed after Item #1.)

4. **Mayor and Council Direction Regarding Executive Session – Discussion of the City of Tucson’s Cybersecurity and Critical Infrastructure Posture (City Wide) SS/AUG09-22-137**

Mike Rankin, City Attorney, stated that, for Items 2 and 4, no action or further direction was needed from the Mayor and Council.

5. **City Manager’s Report and Update on COVID-19, Ongoing City and County Mitigation Measures; Funding and Appropriations; and Related Legal Matters (City Wide) SS/AUG09-22-129**

Information was presented by Michael J. Ortega, City Manager, who fielded and answered questions. He said, as a region, they all needed to continue to be diligent on social distancing, face coverings, getting vaccinated and so forth. He said if there was something specific the Mayor and Council wanted to discuss in future updates to let him know. He said he wanted to add the discussion of Monkeypox to the item for the next meeting.

Mayor Romero shared with the Mayor and Council some information she had received from Dr. Theresa Cullen, Pima County Health Department.

Discussion ensued; no action was taken.

**6. Discussion of Fiscal Year 22/23 Supplemental Requests (City Wide) SS/AUG09-22-133**

Introductory comments were made by Mayor Romero. She stated the City was in a good spot in two perspectives, operationally and organizationally. She said the dollars they were going to talk about for the supplemental requests were a result of many, many years of strategic work from the Mayor and Council, as well as previous Mayor and Council members. She commented that with their guidance they had a good budgeting process and met their savings plan or strategic reserve goals enabling them to make decisions that he felt were historic because they had the possibility of investing one one-time and ongoing investments.

Mayor Romero said the management of the resources by the Mayor and Council, the City Manager and his Financial Team had been incredible and showed they had been good stewards. She said of the taxpayer funds, and right now, they had the historic opportunity to continue doing investments to both City departments and how they served the Community. She said one-time investments helped employees, but also those investments would, in a positive way, affect the community. She said sometimes the needs of the City were overwhelming, but he felt they were in a good, healthy place to be able to take care of some of these needs.

Information and presentation were provided by Michael J. Ortega, City Manager, who fielded and answered questions. He said he thought it was important to talk about the opportunity and to celebrate the position the City was in. He said there were still some challenges ahead, but first and foremost, this did not happen overnight and did not happen by accident. He said to be in the position today where policy reserves were at a level that the Mayor and Council had established ten plus years ago was incredible. He said he oftentimes looked back and asked himself how the City got there, what caused it. He said it was important to at least take through some of those policy decisions that were made. He spoke about sales tax, federal funding, ARPA funds and a variety of other funding that came in and helped offset some of the city's ongoing costs during the "recession."

Mr. Ortega informed that during the pandemic, they were able to put those dollars in the bank and use them for investment moving forward. He said it was important to emphasize that when talking about Prop. 101, 407 and 411, although those dollars did not necessarily fund the General Fund (GF) or lead to dollars in the GF, they took the burden off of the GF. Otherwise, the City, out of the GF, had to invest dollars for public safety, and for the last five years, dollars for road and parks. He said it was important to note that it was the confidence the voters had displayed in the Mayor and Council's leadership and the organization's ability to deliver.

Mr. Ortega reviewed the process used to come up with the Supplemental Budget requests. He also went through some highlights of his presentation that included one-time funding sources, on-going discussions, investment plan, assigned fund balance, FTE's, programmatic requests, IT hardware/software to include Cybersecurity, ADA Plan, contingency, parks and recreation,



community safety, beautification and entryways, expansion of homeless work program, art history, heritage and culture, special/civic events, and rodeo parade.

Mr. Ortega said to keep in mind that all the supplementals were all inclusive in terms of GF and special revenue funds, like HURF and HCD or Housing, as well as enterprise funds which were water and environmental services. He said he was asked about the Planning and Development Services Department and how all the related to the 14 positions approved back in June. He stated all but five of those positions were starting employment on Monday, four offers had been accepted, and he was pleased with their ability to recruit people and get them in the door.

Mr. Ortega spoke about the Police department's requests, salaries, vehicle replacement and furniture requests. He said he had authorized funds for the purchase of vehicles to the tune of \$3.5 million and authorized some internal workforce hires and a variety of other items that were time pressing. He said if the budget discussions led him into another direction, he would have to figure something else out, but wanted to keep the operation of the TPD going.

Mr. Ortega said moving forward, the City was in a solid position financially and organizationally. He said hearing about all the needs, they were already doing their jobs and doing them the best they could with the investment at hand. He said he was very pleased with what his team had presented to the Mayor and Council and what he was recommending. He stated it was a recommendation based on feedback from a lot of different sources.

Mr. Ortega stated he was not looking necessarily for any decision or direction, but commentary and feedback. He said he would return on August 23rd with more information and discussion. He said ultimately, they had two more opportunities for discussion and his goal was to have a final recommendation by October.

Council Members Fimbres, Vice Mayor Santa Cruz, Council Member Dahl, Cunningham, Lee and Kozachik, and Mayor Romero all expressed their thoughts of appreciation and suggestions on concerns regarding the analysis.

Discussion continued; no formal action was taken.

**7. Updates on State and National Legislation and Regional Committees (City Wide) SS/AUG09-22-130**

Information was provided by Andrew Greenhill, Intergovernmental Relations Manager, who fielded and answered questions.

Discussion ensued; no formal action was taken.

**8. Mayor and Council Discussion of Regular Agenda (City Wide) SS/AUG09-22-131**

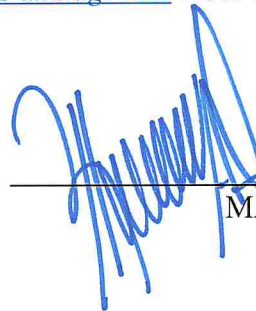
No items were identified.

**9. Mayor and Council Discussion of Future Agendas (City Wide) SS/AUG09-22-132**

Council Member Fimbres requested an update at the August 23, 2022, meeting on the proposal to rename the I-10 and Ruthrauff overpass for fallen DPS Officer Juan Cruz. He also requested an item for the September 27, 2022, to discuss the possibility of recognizing Juneteenth as a holiday, to be in line with the federal government.

**10. ADJOURNMENT – 4:19 p.m.**

*AUDIO RECORDING FOR THIS MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON-LINE AT <https://www.tucsonaz.gov/gov/meeting-schedules-and-agendas> FOR TEN YEARS FROM THE DATE OF THIS MEETING.*


  
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MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
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CITY CLERK

**CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY**

I, the undersigned, have read the foregoing transcript of the study session meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of Tucson, Arizona, held on the 9th day of August 2022, and do hereby certify that it is an accurate transcription.

  
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DEPUTY CITY CLERK

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