Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of South Tucson, Arizona, held Monday, October 19, 2015, at 6:00 p.m. at the City of South Tucson Council Chambers, 1601 South 6th Avenue, South Tucson, Arizona.

Council Present: Miguel Rojas
Oscar Patino
Robert Larribas
Herman Lopez
Vanessa Mendoza
Anita Romero

Staff Present: Veronica Moreno, Interim City Manager
Marilyn Chico, Housing Director
Rey Alvarez, Fire Chief
Cory Lakosky, Administrative Fire Captain
Michael Ford, Police Chief
David Carranza, Economic Development Specialist

Mayor Rojas called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilman Lopez led the Invocation.

ITEM #04 – ROLL CALL – All members of the Council were present, except for Councilman Green, who was excused.

ITEM #05 – CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

Mayor Rojas: I have one card. And I guess, I don’t have a last name, but I have to call him John. Is there a Mr. John? Come to the podium, please. Your name and address for the record.

Mr. Sheff: Thank you. My name is John Sheff (ph).

Mayor Rojas: Sheff?

Mr. Sheff: I’m the applicant for your position of Town, of City Manager. I live in Apache Junction currently. I’ve been down here checking out your lovely city. I spent a couple hours with your Interim Town, your Interim City Manager and was quite impressed, and I just wanted to say hi and hopefully, I’ll get to see you all again. Thank you.

Mayor Rojas: Thank you.

Councilman Lopez: Thank you very, much. Welcome.

ITEM #06 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING, JUNE 22, 2015; REGULAR MEETING, AUGUST 10, 2015; REGULAR MEETING, AUGUST 17, 2015; REGULAR MEETING,
AUGUST 24, 2015; SPECIAL MEETING, AUGUST 27, 2015; SPECIAL MEETING, AUGUST 31, 2015; SPECIAL MEETING, SEPTEMBER 3, 2015; REGULAR MEETING, SEPTEMBER 21, 2015

Mayor Rojas: For Item #6, it’s the approval of the minutes for meetings of June 22, August 10, August 17, August 24, August 27, August 31, September 3, September 21. The wishes of the Council, please?

Motion by Vice-Mayor Patino to approve all the minutes. Seconded by Councilman Lopez. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM #07 – RESOLUTION NO. 15-46 OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON, ARIZONA, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH PIMA COUNTY FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM THAT INCLUDES ADMINISTRATION, COMMUNITY POLICING & CRIME PREVENTION, FIRE SAFETY EQUIPMENT, YOUTH PROGRAMS AND FAMILY ASSISTANCE

Ms. Moreno: Thank you, Mayor, members of the Council. The item you have before you, which is Resolution No. 15-46, is an item that has come every year to the City from the Pima County Community Development Block Grant. The award we have received this year is actually an increase from last year, and that is from $218,300 to $244,151. And that is a total increase of 9%, which is about $18,000. The increase, as you can see before you on your agenda report, is an increase from Fire Safety Equipment, which was $25,000 to $30,851. And Youth and Family Assistance, which went from $120,000 to $125,000, so those are the total increases from last year to this year. Additionally, funds that were unspent at the end of last year’s contract period were reprogrammed back to South Tucson for continued local program development. And, like I said, before you is the breakdown.

Mayor Rojas: Thank you. The wishes of the Council, please, on Resolution No. 15-46?

Motion by Vice-Mayor Patino to adopt Resolution No. 15-46, a resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of South Tucson, Arizona, ratifying, approving, and adopting the Intergovernmental Agreement with Pima County for the management and implementation of the Community Development Grant Program, that includes Administration, Community Policing, and Crime Prevention, Fire Safety Equipment, Youth Programs and Family Assistance. Seconded by Councilman Lopez.

Mayor Rojas: There’s a second to the motion. Any questions, any discussions, any comments from the Chief, any comments from the Chief of the Fire Department? Are we good?

Chief Alvarez: Mayor and Council members, I appreciate you guys working with us since I’ve been here as Chief and we’re glad that we had a little increase in our CDBG and we’ll make sure that that money is spent well, and for the appropriate things that we need at the station, so I appreciate you guys adopting this. Thank you very much.

Mayor Rojas: Thank you.
Chief Ford: Mr. Mayor and Council, the addition of these additional funds actually help us with some critical program development that we’re working on. So it is working towards our strategic planning and also with the goals of the Community Development Block Grant. It’s actually a very helpful thing to us, this budget (inaudible).

Mayor Rojas: Thank you very much. Any questions?

(No response).

Motion passed unanimously.


Ms. Moreno: Thank you, Mayor and members of the Council. The item you have before you is an award from the Tohono O’Odham Nation for the police department’s body-worn camera program in the amount of $43,126.11. I’ll go ahead and refer the police chief for any questions.

Councilman Lopez: I have a question, Chief. How many cameras do you expect in being able to purchase with this amount of money?

Chief Ford: We’ll actually be able to purchase cameras for all of our officers and including our (inaudible) officer (inaudible). One of the benefits of this particular program is that it’s kind of multi-faceted. We can use this equipment as a body-worn camera, but we can also use the equipment to film the inside of the vehicle either facing out towards traffic stops or also facing towards the prisoner compartment, which is crucial when we’re transporting people that we have accountability (inaudible) safety once we take people into custody or we have contact with them. We spent about four months on beta testing the equipment. And so we’ve actually had it out on the road. We’ve applied it and we had some of the officers have some experience with it because their opinion on the equipment that they’re going to be using is very important. So this particular equipment, we’ve used and we’re actually going to have a chance to implement this before Pima County and before the City of Tucson has an opportunity to, thanks to the Tohono O’odham Nation.

Mayor Rojas: Any other questions?

Councilman Lopez: I have another question. Would that be, equipment also be utilized like in case the Fire Department went and responded and they went into a building or something, they’d be able to record it as well? Is that possible or, or am I, or is there a different equipment for …

Chief Ford: No, that …
Councilman Lopez: … that?

Chief Ford: … probably, the tolerances for the Fire Department would be a little bit different than the tolerances that we would have for the Police Department. One of the advantages that this particular unit has is that it’s a single piece and it’s encapsulated. It can charge in a multi-charger. It doesn’t give a monocular type vision. It gives dual perspective. So it gives you the site of what the officer is seeing. What you see in some of the other units is if you see this one, it’s a 25 feet. When you look at 25 feet from one single eye, that 25 feet looks a lot longer. So this gives you true perception of what the officer is seeing. It also gives us the software, hardware. It gives us software that allows us to do (inaudible) information request redaction. So in the event of a tragedy, and whether that’s a citizen or a police officer that loses their life, we’ll be able to redact images so that images like that won’t reflect tragedy (inaudible). So someone loses a loved one, they won’t have to live with the fact that their loved ones death is memorialized on You Tube forever.

Councilman Lopez: Thank you, Chief.

Mayor Rojas: Any other questions?

Councilwoman Mendoza: I do, Mr. Mayor. So the same body camera that’s worn on the police officer would be the same camera that’s located inside of the unit facing the prisoner or out?

Chief Ford: Yeah, it comes with a vehicle mount and so there’ll be a vehicle mount inside of the car. And once the officer is back in the car, he can take the camera and it can be facing out, or it can be facing in. So there’s a variety of perspectives that the officer can use. So instead of having three different systems, a lot of agencies will have an in-car camera system. They’ll have a body-worn camera system. And then they’ll have recording inside of the vehicle itself. This kind of integrates all three technologies into one.

Councilwoman Mendoza: Will the officers be trained on taking that off and putting it on there automatically, or is it just up to the officer to do that? I mean will we be staring at somebody’s steering wheel?

Chief Ford: We actually …

Councilwoman Mendoza: Once in a while.

Chief Ford: … had an opportunity, one of the things that we got to test on this is, before we even got to the point where we beta tested, (inaudible) and Edwards, who we contract with for policy and procedures, had already mapped out a policy for us that’s in line with Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police and a standardized practice of the use of body cameras in Arizona. So we already kind of had an idea of procedurally what we were going to do. In testing this, one of the reasons I wanted to do a test is because we did run into some snags in the beginning (inaudible) take a learning curve for the officer. It’s a single piece where there is an aperture that they open and that they close. And so it does take some muscle memory for the officers to get used to opening and closing the aperture. The officer we were working with, it took him about three days to get used to it. And this particular company that we’re going with, also brings training for us. So it will also give us (inaudible) in the event that there is some litigation of the secureness of the technology as far as whether or not the
pixilation has been changed, or whether the video has been edited in any way. This particular technology and software, the officers do not have the permission to alter it in any way or edit it in any way. So it is (inaudible) exactly as it was that day. And there’s a server that’s going to go along with this, too, where we can store these things as evidence.

Councilwoman Mendoza: Okay. Is it more or less, how is it running off of like some kind of Bluetooth wireless, how, or a card or something, you know, in the case of, you know, hacking or anything like that? How vulnerable is that to something?

Chief Ford: It’s a stand-alone server so there is no outside access. So there is no Internet access to this where someone could access the data. The information itself is recorded directly to the device which holds roughly, I think, about 14 hours worth of charge. And then when it’s charged and downloaded, it downloads into the system. And the officer can review it for the purposes of report writing or other things, but they can’t alter it in any way.

Councilman Larribas: I have a question. If you’re watching who you have in the back, will there be something so that you can see what’s going on outside the vehicle up front at the same time?

Chief Ford: Well, right now, this is one particular device, it’s one or the other. So it’s (inaudible) it could be filming something out (inaudible) passenger compartment. One of the things that’s kind of a priority when someone’s in custody is the safety and security of that person while they’re in custody. So in the time that we have that person in the back of the car until the time that we get to Pima County Jail, we’ll be able to have an accountability of what happened between point A and point B.

Councilwoman Mendoza: Right.

Councilman Lopez: Okay.

Mayor Rojas: Councilman Larribas.

Councilman Larribas: But only one at a time, right?

Chief Ford: Only one …

Councilman Larribas: You wouldn’t …

Chief Ford: … at a time.

Councilman Larribas: … be able to see both. Say you’re transporting and something happens out front.

Chief Ford: If something happens out front as far as on the way?

Councilman Larribas: You’d have to change the camera?

Chief Ford: Yeah, the officer would have to change the camera if there was some event, like a vehicle crash with some critical incident they’re responding to. But, of course, the priority for an
officer when there is someone in custody, is the safety and security of that person. And so, generally, the officer would call for someone else to come so they can kind of deal with that, even though they did a safety standby. But once we have someone in our custody, it’s our responsibility to make sure that person is safe. So, like for example, an officer with a person in custody wouldn’t be capable to respond to an active robbery in progress because that would put that individual that they had in custody in danger. Or a high-speed pursuit (inaudible).

Mayor Rojas: Councilman Larribas.

Councilman Larribas: So what if you have a passenger and they’re trying to hit that, you know, sometimes you might have somebody that they want to take out of your car.

Chief Ford: As far as, …

Councilman Larribas: (Inaudible).

Chief Ford: … well, inside of the car, just like in conversation (inaudible) that we’re having now, you’ll be able to see basically, in peripheral, the same way that we’re all seeing each other right now. But you’ll also be able to hear, so you may not have full camera sight, but you’ll be able to have some awareness that there is an event that’s happening. And if you look at a lot of in-car video systems, and you look at how they work, there will be a lot of things that are kind of outside the cone of vision of that. And so the officer is trained where they position the car and try to stay within that, but from time to time, there will be things that happen outside of that, outside of the camera.

Mayor Rojas: Any other questions?

Vice-Mayor Patino: I have a question. Is there any possibility that cameras that are not in use be also used inside the vehicle when transporting somebody? One facing towards the back where the person is and you got the other one on the person already towards the front?

Chief Ford: Yeah, there are some and, in fact, I’m hoping to have enough. And a good example of that is Officer Rankin because he does the Court transports. So it’s important for him to be able to document the things that he’s working on. But once we have people in custody in the back of that van, we don’t currently have the capability of being able to see what’s happening in the passenger compartment of the van. So it would be to our advantage to record every time we put people in the back of the van exactly what’s going on back there.

Vice-Mayor Patino: Exactly.

Mayor Rojas: Thank you. Any other questions? Is there a guarantee with this item?

Chief Ford: It comes with a 3-year warranty and the program that we’re going with actually has software equipment upgrades. So what we’re paying for is basically the same price as it would be to buy the equipment outright. But once we get to the end of the 3-year program here, we’ll be able to upgrade.
Mayor Rojas: Thank you very much, appreciate it. For the proposal and the fact that we got it approved. The wishes of the Council for Item #08, please?

Motion by Councilwoman Mendoza to approve and adopt Resolution No. 15-47 of the Mayor and Council. Seconded by Councilman Larribas.

Mayor Rojas: Motion made and seconded. Any questions, discussion?

(No questions from Council)

Motion passed unanimously.


Ms. Moreno: Thank you Mayor, members of the Council. The item you have before you is a request from the Housing Director to approve an award and a contract to Climatec to replace the fire system for both El Senioral and Casa de Bernie Sedley, in the amount of $23,382. The Housing Director is here so if you have any questions, she can provide you with a summary of the background behind this.

Mayor Rojas: Questions for the Executive Director of the Housing Authority? Marilyn.

Ms. Chico: Mr. Mayor, Council, the fire systems that we have in our two elderly disabled buildings are the original systems. Needless to say, like anything else, parts are hard to find now. We’re spending an awful lot of time and energy trying to find parts all across the country, and they’re becoming very, very expensive. One building, right now, is totally without a fire system. This is an extreme safety hazard to all of our residents. Because of this, we contacted HUD to see if we could do a sole source with Climatec. They can put it in, they can install it and get it set up. And, of course, it will go to our Fire Department and have it monitored. But this is an extreme safety, it, it scares me to death knowing our residents don’t have that fire system in there right now. So HUD did approve a sole source. They did approve the contract if Mayor and Council approves it.

Mayor Rojas: Okay. Thank you. The wishes of the Council, please?

Vice-Mayor Patino: I have a question. Is this for also complete plumbing throughout the building?

Ms. Chico: Complete plumbing? Oh, the fire system?

Vice-Mayor Patino: Mm hm.

Ms. Chico: (Inaudible) …
Vice-Mayor Patino: The sprinkler system.

Ms. Chico: ... right now, too. Okay. Yes, it will be throughout the entire building so that the fire system is going to be actuated inside of every single, or activated inside of every apartment, as it should be. You know, with the fire alarm. The system that would, it goes through Central Alarm. It goes to our Fire Department, so it would all be throughout both buildings. Did I answer your question?

Vice-Mayor Patino: Yes.

Mayor Rojas: Any other questions?

Councilwoman Mendoza: I do, Mr. Mayor. How soon are they going to be able to install this system, considering that that’s probably not supposed to be operating without a fire system there?

Ms. Chico: I couldn't do a thing until I had Mayor and Council’s approval. We’ve let Climatec know that we would approve their proposal if this is approved by Mayor and Council. So I’m not exactly sure. I’m going to have to get with them tomorrow morning. You know, give them a call, see how long, see if they’ve got the equipment, see if they’re going to have to order it, see what they’ve got to do. But they know that this is a top priority when it’s the safety of our residents. So, of course, we’re going to pushing it.

Councilwoman Mendoza: Okay.

Ms. Chico: And I will be pushing it.

Mayor Rojas: Any other questions?

(No questions from the Council)

Mayor Rojas: The wishes of the Council on Item #09?

Motion by Vice-Mayor Patino to adopt Resolution No. 15-48 of the Mayor and Council of the City of South Tucson, approving and adopting the agreement between the City of South Tucson and Climatec for the replacement of fire system at the City of South Tucson Housing Authority El Senioral and Casa de Bernie Sedley, maintained by the South Tucson Housing Authority, authorizing the Mayor and/or the City Manager to execute the agreement. Seconded by Councilwoman Mendoza.

Mayor Rojas: Motion made and seconded. Any discussion?

(No discussion)

Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM #10 – REPORTS – None at this time.
Vice-Mayor Patino: I have a question.

Mayor Rojas: Question.

Vice-Mayor Patino: The only thing, I've been asked by a lot of people is when are we going to get striping redone on 10th Avenue, 6th Avenue, 4th Avenue? I guess we've had a couple of people that have been gotten citations for riding on the sidewalk. And I guess it's a pretty hefty price. So do we have paint for, and who does it? Is it Public Works that does it or do we contract with the City of Tucson?

Ms. Moreno: A little bit of both. We have an IGA with City of Tucson for maintenance on streets, and lights, and things like that. However, we do a lot of our work for in-house stuff such as, you know, street sweeping, which is when we borrow their equipment and then the street striping. So I'll check with the Director tomorrow and get back with all of you by the end of the day tomorrow.

Mayor Rojas: Okay.

Vice-Mayor Patino: Sounds good.

Mayor Rojas: Any other questions? Any other items?

(No questions from Council)

ITEM #11 - ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilwoman Mendoza to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Seconded by Councilman Lopez. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:22 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 Meeting of the City Council of South Tucson, Arizona, held on the 19th day of October, 2015. I further certify the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Dated this ________ day of ______________________, 2015.

_______________________________________
Veronica Moreno, City Clerk