Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of South Tucson, Arizona, held Monday, August 12, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. at the City of South Tucson Council Chambers, 1601 South 6th Avenue, South Tucson, Arizona.

Staff Present:  John Vidaurri City Manager  
Veronica Moreno, City Clerk  
Bobby Yu, City Attorney  
Marilyn Chico, Housing Director  
Kevin Shonk, Commander  
Mick Jensen, Planning Department  
Angel Lopez, Public Works Director

Council Present:  Bob Teso  
Herman Lopez  
Paul Diaz  
Rita Rogers  
Anita Romero  
Robert Romero

Others:  Dennis Luttrell  
Dwight Metzger

Mayor Teso called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM #03 – INVOCATION

Councilwoman Rogers led the Invocation.

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

ITEM #05 – CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

Mayor Teso: Is there anybody here who would wish to speak?

Mr. Luttrell: Good evening, Mr. Mayor and Council. Dennis Luttrell, 305 East Benson Highway. I just have a, just a simple input. There are, on the agenda Item #08, the Invocation, and I understand, from what I’m reading, there’s a lot of controversy over different rights and things like that, so what I would just recommend is do away with the Invocation and just have a Mission Statement reading. And so that way, the, it doesn’t offend anybody and, and it might be an easier way. Just an idea I had. Thanks, that’s all I have. Thank you.
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Mayor Teso: Thank you.

Councilman Romero: Good idea.

Vice-Mayor Lopez: Thank you.

Mayor Teso: Is there anyone else who would like to speak? Please step up to the lectern.

Mr. Metzger: Thanks for your time, Council members. I went to Pima County Board of Supervisors meeting last week and I was really heartened to hear them express their enthusiasm and actual, actually make it a stipulation that there be Public Hearings and public input mandated for the GPLET process, so I just (inaudible) I know you all voted for that a month ago. I want to make sure that that happens. I feel like that could really bring back a spirit of cooperation amongst all of us. I know it hasn’t been easy. I know I haven’t been easy. But I think that’s the biggest thing we want in this is a democratic process. I feel we need to talk about these issues, how they affect everybody.

Mayor Teso: Right.

Mr. Metzger: And I just, quickly on the agenda, I’m really happy to see Mr. Jensen here. I hope we can hear more information about Items #09 and #10. I would really caution a vote in support of that. I think that really falls in the realm of public, needing public input, spending $2,000,000 of our RTA money on specific projects, possibly projects that benefit a certain subset of the population, maybe even people that don’t live or work here. And that, and what are the implications for the people that do live here. I know I live next to Public Works. I know the dire need here for transportation improvements, for bus shelters, for signage, for repairs, etc., so I just hope there’s a really thorough discussion about that before you vote on it, not just rubber stamping it. And I hope that opportunity is also afforded to the people of South Tucson to weigh in on how they would like their tax dollars, that’s a half cent sales tax that every one of us puts into every day, how that money is being spent, not just being given away to potentially some, you know, big development project. So, thank you.

Mayor Teso: Thank you. Is there anybody else in the audience that would like to speak?

(No response from the audience)

ITEM #06 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 15, 2019, AND THE REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 22, 2019

Mayor Teso: First, we’ll look at the Regular Meeting minutes for July 15. Anybody have any additions or corrections?
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Councilwoman Rogers: Mr. Mayor, I’m not sure which page, right now, on the minutes, but Miss, let’s see, Miss Celeste, her name is not Rodgers. Her last name, I think she’s kind of fussy about it. It’s on the first part of the first set of minutes. She is the wife of Joey Rodgers. And so, and also, she’s printed out sometimes as Ms. Rodgers with the name as nee, which I know (inaudible). She’s a “D”. (Inaudible) Rodgers is a “D”. And I’m not sure of her last name, but it’s not Rodgers. So that’s page 5 or 6, or something, of the first set of minutes. It’s that first public hearing ...

(Simultaneous conversation)

Councilwoman Rogers: ... (inaudible). What?

Mayor Teso: You’re talking about Celeste?

Councilwoman Rogers: Yes.

Mayor Teso: (Inaudible).

Councilwoman Rogers: Is that her name?

Mayor Teso: L-U-P-U.

Councilwoman Rogers: Well, anyway, before that, it says Rogers, my name, and she has, if she were a Rodgers, which she doesn’t go by, it would be a “D”.

Mayor Teso: Okay. Any other additions or correction?

Acting Mayor Diaz: Mr. Mayor, if there are no additions to the Regular Meeting of July 15, I move that we accept the minutes.

Vice-Mayor Lopez: Second.

Mayor Teso: Mr. Romero.
Councilman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Diaz.
Acting Mayor Diaz: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Ms. Romero.
Councilwoman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Ms. Rogers.
Councilwoman Rogers: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Lopez.
Vice-Mayor Lopez: Yes.
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Mayor Teso:  Aye.  Motion carries.  Moving onto the Regular minutes for July 22, 2019, do we have any additions or corrections?

Acting Mayor Diaz:  Mr. Mayor, if there are no additions or corrections to the Regular Meeting of July 22, I move to accept.

Vice-Mayor Lopez:  Second.

Mayor Teso:  Mr. Romero.
Councilman Romero:  Aye.
Mayor Teso:  Mr. Diaz.
Acting Mayor Diaz:  Aye.
Mayor Teso:  Ms. Romero.
Councilwoman Romero:  Aye.
Mayor Teso:  Ms. Rogers.
Councilwoman Rogers:  Abstain.
Mayor Teso:  Mr. Lopez.
Vice-Mayor Lopez:  Yes.
Mayor Teso:  Aye.  Motion carries.

ITEM #07  –  MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS: REPORTS OF CURRENT EVENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mayor Teso:  Does anybody have any reports?

Councilwoman Rogers:  Mr. Mayor, I have several reports.  I will try to do just a couple.  But I was at the Pima County August 6th meeting, 2019, of Chuck Huckelberry and gang, whatever, and our, just for the record, we went in as agenda item #14, which is, I believe, unfinished business (7-2-19), and the contract was City of South Tucson to provide an IGA for economic development assistance, no cost/10 year term CTN-CA-19-232.  And on that, well before the vote was called, I, you all probably know his last name, I don’t, but the Chair of the Pima County Supervisors, Richard, said that it would be, it (inaudible) to the agreement if they, and the other rest confirmed with him if we, the City of South Tucson, were to have at least five meetings for the people to be heard in the City of South Tucson.  And I called for the minutes and it takes ‘em a long time because they have (inaudible) filled the meter twice, two hours, so four hours on other items, plus this.  So I want this in the record that we start having the meetings.

Mayor Teso:  Any other reports?

Councilwoman Rogers:  Yes.  Mr. Mayor, regarding, I had asked for something to be on the agenda, both you and the City Manager, on Friday.  Would’ve taken two to five minutes to have it answered by the whole Council and it was to find out when the budget-appointed committee could be, meet again or they would like
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...to know if they’re involved or not involved, etc. And I got no response, no respectful call that it won’t be on from either the two that do the agenda, and it needs to stop.

Mayor Teso: I also have, well, let me stop and get in here a little bit. I also have concerns about the agenda items. And so I was wondering if we could put on a future agenda item to look at agenda items and how they get installed onto an agenda. Maybe look and see how many, if there are any Arizona Statutes that provide guidance or how items are added to a Council’s agenda. And look into South Tucson and whether or not it has any as well, any kind of ordinances in place, you know, that address agenda items and how they’re placed on the agenda. One other thing that I would like to see is, placed on the agenda is to review the information that Mr. Damian Clinko sent to the City Manager regarding signage and the Historic U.S. 80 Highway, which basically is 6th Avenue, and the potential maybe for us entering into an agreement with ADOT, you know, regarding the preservation of U.S. Highway 80. Anybody else have any items or reports?

Councilwoman Rogers: Mr. Mayor, just one more thing. I guess it would come under report, but I want to make it very clear for the people who don’t know, and that’s the people in the public, maybe, is one everybody knows, I guess, that for a month or more now the Gospel Rescue Mission no longer lives in the City of South Tucson. And it is located at Palo Verde, the old Holiday Inn, and I have meals, thanks to our Housing. Mr. Benz gave them to me for a free meal seven days a week at that address. So that’s a good thing. But a lot of our phone calls were from there, so we cannot say the reason we’re troubled with cops is because they’re answering Gospel Rescue calls. And then the next item, I know because I’ve talked to a lot of people at Salvation Army, so far their last day is September 27th. Everything. I thought it was just going to be the drug rehab, etc., but it’s going to be the store and the whole full block of people out on the street and they may even close earlier. So those are two big things. And then the third thing is a resident of Spanish Trail today asked me if I saw our City Manager on Channel 9, Nine on your Side, and everything, and if I knew all about the grant and everything. I said, “No. I absolutely know nothing.” End of report.

Mayor Teso: What grant?

Acting Mayor Diaz: I have an item.

Councilwoman Rogers: I didn’t say ...

Mayor Teso: Okay.

Councilwoman Rogers: ... (inaudible).

Mayor Teso: Mr. Diaz:

Acting Mayor Diaz: Mr. Vidaurri, I think I heard you mention one time that you were an IT person that could handle the, the webpage, the South Tucson webpage. Is that correct?

Mr. Vidaurri: No, sir. I’m not an IT person.
Acting Mayor Diaz: Okay.

Mr. Vidaurri: We do have an IT person, well, actually it’s a company on contract.

Acting Mayor Diaz: It’s, it’s in regards to being more transparent, really. What I’d like to do is, more or less, for you to get us all on the same page in regards to, I guess your, your calendar on public meetings. You know, when you’re going to be meeting at certain places where the public is, they’re open sessions to the public. And also, you know, that way at least we know that you’ll be attending such and such meeting and we’ll be prepared to answer answers from, from our constituents that ask, “Hey, what’s going on with this or that?” And, you know, so we can better inform them. Also, that you’re not just running around. And also, the, you know, it’s a way to, for all of us to be on the same page and the public also. And we also need to know some of those other little meetings between yourself and, you know, whoever you’re meeting with, either just by general brief quota as to what’s, what’s really going on in South Tucson. We know that some of these agenda items that we’re discussing, that we have given the direction to either yourself or the Mayor to proceed with certain things, but there’s a lot of stuff in there that we have to assume that we’re agreeing to, and, and it gets agreed to, and, and so forth, but some of those issues we need to at least know that it’ll, you’ll be discussing those issues. And, and, you know, giving this to us in a future agenda item and stuff like that. Thank you.

Mayor Teso: Do we have any other reports or future agenda items?

Councilwoman Rogers: A future agenda, Mr. Mayor, the future agenda item is the item I wrote out and dated for City Manager, you told me to go through him and I did that, so I would like that to be on a future agenda item. And I think that’s the only one I gave at this time.

Mayor Teso: Okay. Alright. Then moving onto City Manager and Department Heads reports to Mayor and Council.

CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENT HEADS: REPORTS TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mr. Vidaurri: Mr. Mayor, members of the Council, we have no reports at this time.

Mayor Teso: No reports. Okay. Thank you.

ITEM #08 – DISCUSSION, CONSIDERATION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION PERTAINING TO ADOPTION OF A COUNCIL MEETING INVOCATION POLICY

Mr. Vidaurri: Mr. Mayor, members of the Council, you have some information in your packets. It was prepared by our City Attorney, Mr. Yu. Basically letting you know of what he found with his legal research with respect to this particular item. So, if you would review that information and then let staff know what sort of policy you’d like to set as far as Invocation, then we can go forward at that point.
Mr. Yu: Mayor, members of the Council, I should add that this report is the exact same report as last meeting, and I really don’t have anything else to add to it.

Councilwoman Rogers: Mr. Mayor, just for some input, I would say I’ve been studying it quite a bit, and neither Tucson or Pima County has erased their Invocation. You know, the City of Tucson or Pima County. It’s still on there, for your information. But I have my opinion, which I think I wrote to all six Council members and that is we can let diablo fly around the court once a year, if we need to. And we can still have the Invocation, or we can do the Mission Statement, which is not a prayer. That’s the only thing I can think of.

Councilman Romero: Mr. Mayor, I really like Mr. Luttrell’s idea about just reciting the Mission Statement. That way we’re going right down the middle of the road and we’re not deviating on any part.

Mayor Teso: Do we have any other discussion?

(No discussion from the Council)

Mayor Teso: Do we have a motion?

Councilman Romero: Mr. Mayor, I make a motion that we adopt the Mission Statement as an Invocation.

Acting Mayor Diaz: Second.

Mayor Teso: Is there any more discussion?

Councilwoman Rogers: The discussion, Mr. Mayor, might be that we don’t need the word Invocation in there because that’s what they want to come with their Invocation. So possibly erasing the current agenda of Invocation and put what Mr. Romero just moved without the word Invocation would be really possible. Mr. Yu could look into it as a real good difference.

Mayor Teso: Could we just call it a reading of the Mission Statement?

Mr. Yu: Mayor and members of the Council, I understand Council member Rogers’ statement as essentially amending the motion so that would be to adopt the Mission Statement in place of the Invocation. Is …

Councilwoman Rogers: In place …

Mr. Yu: … that correct?

Councilwoman Rogers: … of.

Mayor Teso: Right.
Mr. Yu: And is that motion, is that motion amended in that manner?

Mayor Teso: Yes.

Councilman Romero: Yes.

Councilwoman Rogers: Then diablo would see Invocation.

Mayor Teso: Okay. So.

Vice-Mayor Lopez: I’ll second the motion.

Mayor Teso: Second the motion. Okay. Thank you. If there’s no more discussion, then we’ll go for a roll.

Mayor Teso: Mr. Romero.
Councilman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Diaz.
Acting Mayor Diaz: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Ms. Romero.
Councilwoman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Ms. Rogers.
Councilwoman Rogers: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Lopez.
Vice-Mayor Lopez: Yes.
Mayor Teso: Aye. Motion carries.


Mr. Vidaurri: Mr. Mayor, members of the City Council, this is an RTA project as is indicated in the Resolution. It’s a project with a total budget of $1,000,000. It’s for 40th Avenue and 40th Street construction at the intersection. Mr. Jensen has a report on this item for you.

Mr. Jensen: Mr. Mayor, members of the Council, these next four items on the agenda are all ...

Acting Mayor Diaz: Excuse me. Could you put the microphone, please? Thank you.
Mr. Jensen: Mr. Mayor, members of the Council, these next four agenda items are projects that we talked about a couple of weeks ago when I updated you on projects that we were completing and then planning for the future. Each of these intergovernmental agreements is identical, the wording. The only difference, of course, describes the specific scope of the project that we’re talking about. So the first project is slated for intersection improvements at 40th Street and 4th Avenue. It pairs, really, with the next item, which covers the intersection at 6th Avenue and 40th Street. What we’re contemplating is that those intersection improvements at both ends of 40th Street will improve that street to the extent that it becomes a usable street. As you know now, it’s really nothing more than an alley. The reason for those improvements at those intersections and the improvements to 40th is to accommodate what we assume will be significant development in that region of the City. As you know, we have, right now, in place a GPLET redevelopment area in that neighborhood eligible now for GPLET incentives. When, and assuming that we are successful in attracting development to that area of the City, we’re going to need an improved roadway to accommodate that development. Plain and simple. So, again, these first two IGA’s cover that work. The work would begin with planning and design for both of those intersections. That process would take months, six months, possibly a year. Once we have the design, Council would see that design, see what would be proposed for those two intersections, have the ability to weigh in on it and move forward with the project. So, again, your approval of this resolution would allow the process of designing and rebuilding that intersection, specifically the first one here to go forward. We would assume that this, these IGA’s would go before RTA at the September meeting and allow us to begin the work of designing and implementing the project.

Councilman Romero: Mr. Mayor, Mick, this RGA, or IGA with the RTA, who pays for that? Is that coming out of the RTA budget?

Mr. Jensen: These four projects are all funded with RTA money.

Councilman Romero: So it’s nothing coming out of our pockets?

Mr. Jensen: It’s all coming from RTA to design and build the project.

Councilman Romero: Okay. Thank you.

Councilwoman Rogers: Mr. Mayor, Mr. Jensen, was, in the olden days, or in the past, was this, this money here a while, like some of these papers say 2016 that I’m reading. Maybe it’s just a form you use, but I think this thing is going by Ralph’s Automotive place over there on 4th Avenue (inaudible). Was any of this $1,000,000 assigned to somewhere else before it was assigned to this? And the reason I ask is because about five meetings coming up from the public.

Mr. Jensen: No. That, these projects were proposed and specifically funded. The, that, the $1,000,000 that’s devoted to each of these projects, the money was never intended to, was ever going anywhere else.

Councilwoman Rogers: Okay. (Inaudible) ...
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Mr. Jensen:  (Inaudible) these projects.  I might also point out, and I think that Council member Diaz would back me on this, there has been talk at, at Pima Association of Governments about improving 40th Street since 2000.  That’s nineteen years.  This is not something that just popped up yesterday.  These, the City staff had concerns and was interested in making improvement plans for 40th Street since at least 2000.  Only recently have we been able to get the funding to move forward on these and it became more of a concern as our redevelopment plans in that part of the City started to firm up.  So, now, I think the, the time is right to make these kinds of improvements down there.

Councilwoman Rogers:  That’s why I asked the questions because when I talk to people, which I talk to often, I want ‘em to say, “Blame Mick Jensen.  He said so it’s been forty years.”

Mr. Jensen:  As I mentioned, it’s been many years on the, on the planning books.

Councilwoman Rogers:  That’s just a joke.

Acting Mayor Diaz:  Excuse me, Mr. Mayor.  There’s a fallacy on this because there’s the, the 25-year plan in the RTA is, you know, maturing now.  You know, so there’s money leftover so they’re gonna use it up because of the 25-year plan.  In fact, there’s a new 25-year plan in concept right now and they’re working on that.  And, of course, again, they’re supposed to have public meetings and so forth and so on.  And, you know, I haven’t seen any, any advertisement on the new 25-year plan.  But these 25-year plans can sit on the shelf forever, and then all of a sudden, you know, somebody sees that an improvement could be made at such and such area, and then they put the money towards that.  But again, it’s the, the fallacy is that without public input, they come up with this, it seems like we gave the okay to do this, you know, twenty years ago and now we’re seeing that, hey, we might need it and we might not.  So it’s kind of, of wishful thinking on our part that we did accept this 20 years ago, but, you know, so the whole thing is that we need more public information in regards to hey, you know, this area is coming up next, or this area is coming up.  And the public has at least knowledge that, way in advance, especially when we’re (inaudible) and we’re also in a prosperity zone area where these monies might be used and might not be used.  So, yes, I agree with Mr. Jensen that the concept was done 2000, so …

Mayor Teso:  Definitely old plans.  I know they’re developing the new plans for the next cycle.  But that’s really at the very basic steps right now.  Committees have been set up by PAG and they will start looking at various timelines by which they need to get this plan out to the public and, and get approval on ‘em.

Acting Mayor Diaz:  And also for your information, too, is that I did have some input in regards to this new Board that was put together for the next 25-year plan.  And apparently they’re using a, what do they call it, analog rhythm-type diagram to, to find out the candidates for these positions.  And I was saying, “Well, you know, if it’s not representative of the culture that we have here,” and they said, “Well, according to this diagram, we’re covering all the bases,” which means that the upper class people are going to be deciding, you know, what happens to Tucson, so, you know, in that respect, people need to attend those public meetings when they’re advertised because it might not be what you really want.  So, you know, and it’s important for everybody to get involved in the next 25-year plan.
Mr. Vidaurri: Mr. Mayor, if I could amplify your ...

Mayor Teso: Sure.

Mr. Jensen: ... comments and Council member Diaz, RTA, right now, is beginning the planning for the next 25 years, putting together the roster of projects that they would like to take to the public, to convince the public to vote for that plan again. We have an opportunity, and we will take the opportunity to present the RTA what South Tucson’s ideas are, what our strategies for our transportation needs over the next 25 years. We’ll have the opportunity to give that information to RTA, and that will require your input as members of the Council, what you see as our needs in South Tucson. So, the opportunity is there. And I think that, that people can become as involved in that process as they want to, but the opportunity is there to influence that decision-making.

Mayor Teso: Mick, I see that in the information that is presented here, that these are classified as safety projects.

Mr. Jensen: The intersection projects?

Mayor Teso: Yeah, both the ...

Mr. Jensen: Okay. Actually, ...

Mayor Teso: ... on each end of the 40th Street ...

Mr. Jensen: ... (inaudible) ...

Mayor Teso: ... (inaudible). The other ones are classified as economic development and some other things, but the ...

Mr. Jensen: I would say, though, that each of these projects probably has safety components involved. I mean when you’re talking about the HAWK crossing, the Greenway, that’s clearly a safety thing. The Greenway design needs to be done with safety in mind. So I would have to say that they’re all ...

Mayor Teso: Safety, ...

Mr. Jensen: ... (inaudible).

Mayor Teso: ... have a safety element.

Mr. Jensen: But intersections, specifically, because of RTA, an intersection improvement automatically assumes that there are gonna be safety improvements at that intersection.
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Mayor Teso: Okay. Do we have any other discussion?

(No discussion from the Council)

Mayor Teso: Do I have a motion?

Councilman Romero: Mr. Mayor, I make a motion that we approve Resolution No. 19-25, approving the IGA with the City and the Regional Transportation Authority.

Mayor Teso: Do we have a second?

Vice-Mayor Lopez: Second.

Acting Mayor Diaz: I have some more discussion.

Councilwoman Rogers: Yes.

Mayor Teso: Okay.

Acting Mayor Diaz: In regards to, you mentioned something to do with the, I guess a duplex is already planned for that area. Is that correct?

Mr. Jensen: I have no idea what you’re referring to.

Mayor Teso: The what?

Acting Mayor Diaz: There’s no duplex planned or, or, is there a concept design for the area? In other words, we’re providing this road for maybe, assuming that a business brings in sales tax, will eventually take notice and do development there. Is that more or less what we’re ...

Mr. Jensen: There is no City master plan for that area. As you know, it’s all privately-owned property. Decisions about development of that property would be made by individual property owners. The City, though, has been very willing, interested, over the last period in talking to those property owners in encouraging development and redevelopment, and being informed, at least, about what, what the thinking is. If there, it’s, the improvements that, that need to be made on 40th Street, if you’re looking at any kind of redevelopment in that area south of 40th Street, need to be made, need, the linkage between 4th Avenue, 6th Avenue, and, and beyond, those improvements have been on the plate, development down there, they need to be made. There is no specific plan, again, because the City doesn’t own that property.

Acting Mayor Diaz: Right, but is in the process, a giblet for the City to know in advance of what they’re gonna, I guess, develop there.
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Mr. Jensen: GPLET? Any, any GPLET proposal would come to Mayor and Council for approval. Absolutely. Before anything would go forward, before any approval were given ...

Acting Mayor Diaz: No, no. I’m asking in regards to the giblet, the giblet ...

Councilwoman Rogers: GPLET.

Mayor Teso: GPLET.

Acting Mayor Diaz: GPLET. Sorry. Yeah.

Mr. Jensen: Any, any proposal that was made asking for the GPLET incentive comes to Mayor and Council. Mayor and Council would be totally informed on it and would vote up or down on it, and could have the opportunity to adjust that agreement. Mayor and Council have a lot of authority and latitude in implementing GPLET.

Acting Mayor Diaz: So, in other words, if I may, just one more comment, is that we are improving 40th Street at both ends, assuming that somebody will apply under the GPLET.

Mr. Jensen: Whether they do or not is really immaterial. But that doesn’t affect this, the projects that we’re proposing here. They are being, they are being executed in an area of the City that is eligible for the GPLET incentive, but there’s no direct tie between those two things.

Acting Mayor Diaz: Okay. Thank you.

Councilwoman Rogers: Okay. Mr. Mayor, ‘cause that’s what I learned a lot, one at school board for ten years at Vail and also being at Pima County for four hours that you move and second, and then have a discussion whether you’re gonna vote on what’s up or not. So my question after this has been moved and seconded is, is this have anything to do with Richard from Pima County saying we need five meetings with the people at least? Or is this have nothing to do with GPLET? Or what the people would like to see happen in the City of South Tucson. It’s all I care about. I truly don’t care about Tucson. I like South Tucson.

Mr. Jensen: This, this has no relationship to the conversation that went on ...

Councilwoman Rogers: Okay.

Mr. Jensen: ... at the Supervisor’s, with Supervisor Elias, Chairman Elias. It’s not related.

Councilwoman Rogers: Okay.

Mr. Jensen: They’re separate issues.
Councilwoman Rogers: Thank you.

Councilman Romero: Mr. Mayor, bottom line, they’re doing this for us. It’s not costing us a penny. Why say no? Let ‘em do whatever they want if it’s not costing us anything. It’s all going to be improving our City anyhow in the bottom line.

Mayor Teso: Okay. We have a motion and a second. Any further discussion?

(No discussion from the Council)

Mayor Teso: Mr. Romero.
Councilman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Diaz.
Acting Mayor Diaz: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Ms. Romero.
Councilwoman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Ms. Rogers.
Councilwoman Rogers: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Lopez.
Vice-Mayor Lopez: Yes.
Mayor Teso: Aye. Motion carries.


Councilman Romero: Mr. Mayor, it looks like this is just a duplication, just we’re moving it over two blocks from 4th Avenue to 6th Avenue. I’m quite sure we’re gonna have the same questions, the same concerns, and since we already passed #09, I don’t see why we should spend too much time on it and just put it up to motion.

Mayor Teso: Are you making a motion?

Councilman Romero: I make a motion that we approve Resolution No. 19-26 of the Mayor and Council for the IGA agreement between the City and the Regional Transportation Authority.

Vice-Mayor Lopez: Second.

Acting Mayor Diaz: I have a question. Does it mean that the street will be paved between 4th and 6th also?
Mr. Jensen: Yes, sir.

Acting Mayor Diaz: Okay. That’s it.

Councilwoman Rogers: Okay. So discussion on the motion. I just think the motion, Mr. Mayor, should have 6th Avenue and 40th Street in the motion.

Councilman Romero: Yes, between 6th Avenue and 40th Street.

Mayor Teso: Okay.

Vice-Mayor Lopez: Second.

Mayor Teso: So we have a revised motion and second. So we’ll go to roll.

Mayor Teso: Mr. Romero.
Councilman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Diaz.
Acting Mayor Diaz: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Ms. Romero.
Councilwoman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Ms. Rogers.
Councilwoman Rogers: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Lopez.
Vice-Mayor Lopez: Yes.
Mayor Teso: Aye. Motion carries.


Mr. Vidaurri: Mr. Mayor, members of the Council, Mr. Jensen has this report as well.

Mr. Jensen: Mr. Mayor, members of the Council, as you know, we’ve now completed large stretches of the El Paso & Southwestern Greenway through the City of South Tucson. We’ve completed a piece between the historic bridge at the bottom of 11th Avenue down to 10th Avenue. That’s all complete now. Both paths are in place. As I mentioned a few weeks ago, we’re doing some major tree planting from 10th Avenue to 8th Avenue this summer, or September, excuse me. So, in other words, we’re going to have a pretty complete pathway between 8th Avenue and the park, and the bridge. But the dangerous spot is a crossing at 10th Avenue
because, as you know, there’s too much fast traffic on 10th Avenue; traffic that isn’t impeded. There’s no speed tables there. It’s not as light as it could be. It’s just having a pedestrian/bike crossing on 10th Avenue needs a safety feature. So this project would install a HAWK crossing similar to the ones that we have on 6th Avenue now; pedestrian or bicycle activated. They push a button, yellow lights come on signaling to traffic, and then a red light comes on for traffic to stop. So, it’s a, a more enhanced signal than the one we have on 29th Street at the Greenway crossing, actually, because it commands that motorists stop. And then it goes to flashing red and then it completes. So, in other words, it’s a safety feature that I don’t think we can afford not to put in on the Greenway, is the bottom line. And again, since we have major portions of that complete now, we see people using it now already, pedestrians and bicyclists, that we need to put this HAWK in.

Mayor Teso: Do we have any other discussion? Questions?

(No discussion/questions from Council)

Mayor Teso: Do we have a motion?

Vice-Mayor Lopez: I’d like to make sure that we pass this Resolution 19-27, approving an intergovernmental agreement between the City and the RTA for design and construction of improvements for 10th Avenue at the El Paso Southwest Greenway HAWK crossing.

Councilman Romero: Second.

Mayor Teso: Any other discussion?

(No discussion from the Council)

Mayor Teso: Okay. Going to roll call. Mr. Romero.
Councilman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Diaz.
Acting Mayor Diaz: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Ms. Romero.
Councilwoman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Ms. Rogers.
Councilwoman Rogers: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Lopez.
Vice-Mayor Lopez: Yes.
Mayor Teso: Aye. Motion carries.
Mr. Jensen: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. This, again, is the fourth of these RTA projects also related to the Greenway. The Greenway, by the way, has been in planning for more than 15 years; also not a new project. We’re so happy, as part of the City of South Tucson, that we’re going to finish our piece to that Greenway long before the City of Tucson does. This project would design the pathway from where it ends now, essentially a block west of 36th Street, along 36th Street all the way to the railroad tracks. As I explained to you a couple weeks ago, it’s kind of challenging there because it’s narrow and constricted by buildings from 6th Avenue to 4th Avenue. So, that will be challenging, and that will be sort of a design challenge. And that’s primarily what this money is going for is designing and what that’s going to look like. Between 4th Avenue and the railroad, then, we widen out and there’s more room to do a full on pathway with asphalt and (inaudible) for walking. Again, though, this project will kind of help us finish up the Greenway in South Tucson, at least the design of it. So it’s, again, a project that can get underway, in fact, in many ways, it’s underway already, but formally and with money to apply it can get underway this fall.

Mayor Teso: Do we have any questions for Mick?

(No questions from the Council)

Mayor Teso: So this is limited strictly to the design portion of it?

Mr. Jensen: Well, it’s unclear. There’s not a lot of money in this.

Mayor Teso: Right, yeah.

Mr. Jensen: Depending on what the design calls for, we’ll construct what we can with that money, but I feel certain we’ll have to go back to RTA and ask for more money to actually complete fully the project to the railroad tracks.

Mayor Teso: Do you think it may require widening the street at some point in time?

Mr. Jensen: There aren’t many options to widen the street between, at least between 6th Avenue and 4th Avenue. I think what we might end up having to do is narrow the pavement that’s devoted to cars and give a little bit up to bikes and pedestrians. So, it’s probably going to be a solution something like that because there’s only so much right-of-way there that we can work with. And we’re just going to have to share it better between cars and others.

Mayor Teso: Okay. Thank you. Does anybody else have any other questions?

(No questions from the Council)
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Mayor Teso: Do we have a motion?

Vice-Mayor Lopez: Mr. Mayor, I’d like to approve Resolution No. 19-28 of the Mayor and Council. This is approving IGA between the City and the RTA for design and construction of the 36th Street bike lane pathway, El Paso & Southwest Greenway, for the UPRR limit, City limit.

Councilman Romero: Second.

Mayor Teso: Do we have any other discussion?

(No discussion from the Council)

Mayor Teso: Okay. Taking roll. Mr. Romero.
Councilman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Diaz.
Acting Mayor Diaz: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Ms. Romero.
Councilwoman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Ms. Rogers.
Councilwoman Rogers: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Lopez.
Vice-Mayor Lopez: Yes.
Mayor Teso: Aye. Motion carries.

Mr. Jensen: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Teso: Thank you, Mick.

ITEM #13 – SKIP

Mayor Teso: Do we have a motion to exit Regular Session and enter Housing Governing Board Session?

Councilman Romero: Aye.

Vice-Mayor Lopez: Second.

Mayor Teso: Mr. Romero.
Councilman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Diaz.
Acting Mayor Diaz: Aye.
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Mayor Teso: Ms. Romero.
Councilwoman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Ms. Rogers.
Councilwoman Rogers: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Lopez.
Vice-Mayor Lopez: Yes.
Mayor Teso: Aye. Motion carries.

ITEM #14 – RESOLUTION NO. 19-30 OF THE HOUSING GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON, ARIZONA, APPROVING THE SOUTH TUCSON HOUSING AUTHORITY’S (STHA) REVISED UTILITY ALLOWANCE SCHEDULE FOR THE LOW RENT AND SECTION EIGHT HOUSING PROGRAMS AND AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE THIS RESOLUTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING THE STHA DIRECTOR TO SUBMIT SAME TO HUD

Mr. Yu: Chairman Teso, members of the Housing Governing Board, just to put it on the record, Alan Benz is not present for this session.

Chairman Teso: Yeah, right, (inaudible). Okay. Mr. Vidaurri.

Mr. Vidaurri: Mr. Mayor, members of the Council, Marilyn Chico is here to report on this item.

Ms. Chico: Chairman Teso, Board, good evening. This resolution deals with our utility allowances. We have utility allowances that help determine rent for both the Low Rent Public Housing and Section 8. These have to be reviewed annually. If there is a 10% or more increase in any one of the utilities, we have to come before you and show you the proposed versus the current, and ask that the utility allowance be changed. This year, we did go through The Nelrod Company to do our utility study. It’s very in-depth for both programs, Section 8 and Public Housing. It is definitely worth the money to have an outside third party do the utility allowances. There’s an awful lot of work that goes into it. This year, as I had given you, first I want to just explain something. For our Family Section 25-1, we pay all water and sewer for them. They are responsible for gas and the electric, but they have a utility allowance. So, anything over that allowance comes out of their pocket. El Senorial and Casa de Bernie Sedley, we pay all the utilities. They pay nothing. For scattered sites, all utilities are paid by the residents. So, in 25-5, they always have a higher utility allowance because they’re paying for all of them, including the water. We pay garbage (inaudible) so that’s not actually a utility, but I just thought I’d throw that in. We did see a little bit of a decrease in our cost for utilities because we did put in the energy efficient windows a few years ago, and we’re starting to see that they’re actually working. So, it is helping our residents and, quite frankly, it helps Housing because we pay an awful lot of utility reimbursement payments for our residents, our very low income families. Water and sewer, as I showed you, have increased by 23% and 130%, respectively. Gas went down. Go figure. I can’t figure that one out, but they have all the information to prove it. I can only just take their word for it. So, what you have is a comparison of our current versus the proposed utility allowances. So, the proposed are the ones that we would be using. And another interesting part about, well, not just South Tucson but Arizona, is that air conditioning is not considered a
utility by HUD, except for Arizona because we have so many triple digit days here that they finally had to concede that we need air conditioning. So you see where I added air conditioning. That’s because The Nelrod Company has to do that separately for Arizona-only Housing Authorities. So you will see the proposed utilities versus all the current utilities and what I am requesting, and I do recommend is that the Board does approve our new proposed utility allowances.

Chairman Teso: Does anybody have questions for Marilyn?

(No questions from the Board)

Chairman Teso: If not, do we have a motion?

Board member Lopez: Yes, I’d like the Council to approve Resolution No. 19-30 of the Housing Governing Board for the City of South Tucson, approving the South Tucson Housing Authority revising utility allowance fee schedule for Low Rent and Section 8 Housing Program and authorizing the Chairman to execute this resolution for the purpose of authorizing the South Tucson Housing Authority Director to submit the same to HUD.

Board member Romero: Second.

Chairman Teso: Do we have any further discussion?

Board member Rogers: Oh, just, Mr. Mayor, discussion, I appreciate all the work that Ms. Chico puts in. All of that background, I read it all and I know who pays utilities now and who doesn’t. I like that to tell people about Section 8 versus the others, people I know (inaudible). Thank you.

Ms. Chico: You’re welcome. Thank you.

Chairman Teso: Kind of fascinating that Arizona has air conditioning utility. I mean electricity is electricity and that’s what it eats. So we have a motion and a second. Going to roll call.

Chairman Teso: Mr. Romero.
Board member Romero: Aye.
Chairman Teso: Mr. Diaz.
Board member Diaz: Aye.
Chairman Teso: Ms. Romero.
Board member Romero: Aye.
Chairman Teso: Ms. Rogers.
Board member Rogers: Aye.
Chairman Teso: Mr. Lopez.
Board member Lopez: Yes.
Chairman Teso: Aye. Motion carries.
ITEM #15 - RESOLUTION NO. 19-31 OF THE HOUSING GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON, ARIZONA, APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE SECTION EIGHT MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT PROGRAM ("SEMAP") REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2019 FOR THE HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER ("HCV") PROGRAM BY THE SOUTH TUCSON PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY ("PHA") AND AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE THIS RESOLUTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING THE STA DIRECTOR TO SUBMIT SAME TO HUD

Ms. Chico: Chairman Teso, Board, annually, no, I take it back. Every other year, our Housing Authority has to do a SEMAP, Section Eight Management Assessment Program report. We only do it every other year because we are considered a very small Housing Authority. And they figure that by the time we do the report, we have all of the back-up, it's time-consuming for a small Housing Authority when you have no staff. So, there are some perks, I guess, when you're very small. So, this is, well, last year, we actually did it by mistake and submitted it. And we ended up being high performers. That's the (inaudible) by mistake, thank goodness. Because what we did was provable and HUD realized it and gave us all the points for it. So this year is the year that we actually have to do it, and our report is attached. There is not a lot of difference in how we do this report every year. We are saying that we are doing certain things per our policy, that we're following our policy, we're doing re-exams, we're doing inspections, we're doing everything that we're supposed to do in the Section 8 Housing Program. We also show the Fair Market Rents, the FMR's, on here so they can check later, and I'll go into that in a second. And we also always ask for the bonus, which is the deconcentration bonus indicator which is the last page of this. We always like those extra points if we can get them. We will, once, if the Board approves this, tomorrow morning, I go on the computer and electronically certify that this is correct as far, you know, to the best of my knowledge, and we submit it to HUD. At some future point, HUD then, the HUD reps will come down and they will actually go through every one of these indicators. They will check our binder that's probably this thick. And you're always welcome to come in and look at it because we have to back up every single indicator in there, and they call it the universe. So for every fifty vouchers we have out, we have to have at least one. For any five after that, we add another. So, it depends on how many vouchers we have out to prove, or to show those many, or that many, what am I trying to say, the proof of the pudding. If we say that we did re-exams, we have to pull randomly six, seven different families, have all the information in the book, for those families. For re-exams, we have to have six or seven randomly picked people, that kind of thing, for every one of these indicators in the binder, and HUD will go through that, believe me, with a fine tooth comb. So, what we put on the paper will be proven by HUD at some future point, and that's what I want to get across.

Chairman Teso: Is there any discussion?

(No discussion from the Board)

Chairman Teso: Do we have a motion?
Board member Lopez: Mr. Mayor, I’d like to pass Resolution No. 19-31 of the Housing Governing Board for the City of South Tucson, approving and adopting Section Eight Management Assistance Program (SEMAP) report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, for the Housing Choice Voucher Program by the City of South Tucson Housing Authority and authorizing the Chairman to execute this resolution for the purpose of authorizing the South Tucson Housing Authority Director to submit the same to HUD.

Board member Romero: Second.

Chairman Teso: Do we have any other discussion?

(No discussion from the Board)

Chairman Teso: If not, we’ll take the roll call.

Chairman Teso: Mr. Romero.
Board member Romero: Aye.
Chairman Teso: Mr. Diaz.
Board member Diaz: Aye.
Chairman Teso: Ms. Romero.
Board member Romero: Aye.
Chairman Teso: Ms. Rogers.
Board member Rogers: Aye.
Chairman Teso: Mr. Lopez.
Board member Lopez: Yes.
Chairman Teso: Aye. Motion carries.

Ms. Chico: Thank you very much.

Chairman Teso: You’re welcome.

Board member Diaz: Mr. Mayor, just a quick comment. Could you make sure that Mr. Benz gets a report on what happened tonight?

Ms. Chico: Oh, certainly.

Board member Diaz: Thank you.

Board member Rogers: Mr. Mayor, I move to leave (inaudible) Session and return to our Regular Council meeting.

Board member Lopez: Second.
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Chairman Teso: Is there any discussion?  

(No discussion from the Council)  

Chairman Teso: None being heard, go to roll call.  

Chairman Teso: Mr. Romero.  
Board member Romero: Aye.  
Chairman Teso: Mr. Diaz.  
Board member Diaz: Aye.  
Chairman Teso: Ms. Romero.  
Board member Romero: Aye.  
Chairman Teso: Ms. Rogers.  
Board member Rogers: Aye.  
Chairman Teso: Mr. Lopez.  
Board member Lopez: Yes.  
Chairman Teso: Aye. Motion carries.  

ITEM #16 – POSITION OF CITY MAGISTRATE – DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION REGARDING GOALS, JOB DESCRIPTION, REQUIREMENTS, AND SELECTION PROCESS  

Mr. Vidaurri: Mr. Mayor, members of the City Council, our Magistrate submitted his resignation. It’s effective September 27. You have a copy of the memorandum from Magistrate Lassen explaining the resignation, and the copy of a job description which he submitted in addition to that memorandum. Staff is asking that the Council provide staff with direction with respect to how you would like us to handle the recruitment for the vacant position.  

Mayor Teso: Thank you. Do we have any discussion?  

Councilwoman Rogers: Mr. Mayor, it’s very, the position of the Judge and the Attorney and the City Manager are the responsibility of the Council. And it’s very, very important to me about how this goes because Judge Lassen has another year of which he is leaving. He knows a whole lot of the seven Council members, there’s one Council member who’s in this Court as a victim or a person talking back and forth, etcetera, to the Court. I think Mr. Yu could identify that as Ms. Rogers. So, I definitely would like this to be a hire by the Council, rather than who likes him or whatever, of 30 or 40 staff.  

Mayor Teso: Do we have another comments or discussion?  

(No comments or discussion from the Council)
Mayor Teso: I know some of the dates on, on, I think, that Judge Lassen put on here are already kind of like almost expired, so I don’t see how we can probably get most of this done by his proposed retirement date, yeah, or resignation date. Is that flexible or?

Mr. Vidaurri: I believe the City has, in the past in situations like this, acquired the services of an Interim Magistrate until the recruitment process that the Council authorizes is initiated and completed.

Councilwoman Rogers: Mr. Mayor, I have had an opportunity without knowing about this happening of asking to meet with our Judge about crime and different things that I see as a person who lives with a hundred studios not a house next door, like the rest of Council, etcetera, and from my understanding, he said that he would be glad to do that kind of interim thing for the next person.

Mayor Teso: Okay. Do we have any direction for Mr. Vidaurri?

Councilwoman Rogers: Mr. Mayor, I would say it’s more in the Mr. Yu or the Council area. I’m trying to tell the truth as strictly as I can.

Mayor Teso: Like I said, we definitely need to get the job description out (inaudible) as soon as possible and, and have discussion with Mr. Yu and, and Judge Lassen, you know, see what, what the possibilities are, maybe anything that we need to look at in terms of job qualifications, based on maybe the last couple of years of what types of cases you’ve been seeing coming into the Courts and, you know, I guess getting a report back to us maybe like next week, if possible. Mr. Yu.

Mr. Yu: Mayor, members of the Council, I believe I can actually answer that right now. On page 2, the Judge emailed a proposed job description with, I believe, to be particularly accurate for the job duties. And I can tell you that the vast majority of cases that are heard in this Court when it’s in session, is primarily misdemeanor cases, with some Orders of Protection and some civil traffic cases.

Mayor Teso: Okay. I think this is also where I saw those, those dates on here seem a little, a little, somewhat of a concern to me. Making all these requests or something by a certain date and at this point in time, I think we should just go ahead and start the recruitment process, get the job description together and, and have it sent out. Anybody have any other comments about that?

(No comments from the Council)

Mr. Vidaurri: Mr. Mayor, members of the Council, if this job description is (inaudible) with Human Resources to initiate the recruitment.

Mayor Teso: Right.

Councilman Romero: Mr. Mayor, I make a motion that we have our City staff start the recruitment process for finding a new replacement as soon as possible.
Minutes presented in verbatim format from recorded audio.

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Mayor Teso: Do we have a second?

Vice-Mayor Lopez: Second.

Mayor Teso: Any discussion?

(No discussion from the Council)

Mayor Teso: Mr. Romero.
Councilman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Diaz.
Acting Mayor Diaz: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Ms. Romero.
Councilwoman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Ms. Rogers.
Councilwoman Rogers: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Lopez.
Vice-Mayor Lopez: Yes.
Mayor Teso: Aye. Motion carries.

ITEM #17– **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Teso: Do we have a motion to adjourn?

Vice-Mayor Lopez: Mr. Mayor, ...

Councilwoman Romero: (Inaudible) at the last meeting asked for to put a fireman on our, and I’m asking again ...

Unknown: (Inaudible).

Councilwoman Romero: ... (inaudible) put it on the next meeting. The fire, four firemen.

Mayor Teso: Okay. Do we have a motion to adjourn? We have, do we have a motion on the table?

Councilman Romero: Yes.

Mayor Teso: Do we have a second?

Vice-Mayor Lopez: Second.
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Mayor Teso: Mr. Romero.
Councilman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Diaz.
Acting Mayor Diaz: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Ms. Romero.
Councilwoman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Ms. Rogers.
Councilwoman Rogers: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Lopez.
Vice-Mayor Lopez: Yes.
Mayor Teso: Aye. Motion carries.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 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 12th day of August, 2019. I further certify the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Dated this ________ day of ________________________, 2019.
Minutes presented in verbatim format from recorded audio.

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_______________________________________
Veronica Moreno, City Clerk