Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the City of South Tucson, Arizona, held Tuesday, October 1, 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
Angel Lopez, Public Works Director
Manny Amado, Public Safety Director

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

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

ITEM #03 – MISSION STATEMENT

Councilwoman Rogers read the City of South Tucson’s Mission Statement.

ITEM #04 – ROLL CALL – All members of the Council were present.

ITEM #05 – CALL TO THE AUDIENCE

Mayor Teso: Speakers are limited to a three-minute oral presentation to address the Mayor and City Council on any issue within the jurisdiction of the Mayor and Council, except for items scheduled for a public hearing at the meeting, and may submit written comments of any length for the City Clerk’s files. Is there anybody in the audience that would like to speak?

(No response from the audience)

Mayor Teso: There being none, we will move onto Item #06.

ITEM #06 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES: NONE AVAILABLE
ITEM #07 – MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS: REPORTS OF CURRENT EVENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Vice-Mayor Lopez: Mr. Mayor, on the 24th, which was Judge Lassen’s last day, I had an appointment at noon with the Pima County Flood Management from the District, and they just wanted to verify and see for themselves that everything that we had discussed in the past while we were at their meetings with them, so it was a three hour little tour all over the City and sorry I missed the party, but I’m sure Mr. Lassen is enjoying life. Thank you.

Councilwoman Rogers: Mr. Mayor, I would just like to tell the rest of the Council that I visited for an hour or so with a new business in South Tucson at Food City. She had mentioned that a couple of people were also over there, but I also gave her a (inaudible) No Trespass sign, etcetera, and they, since the last two Council members were there, they still have very, very bad things going on and I want everybody to know that I went to see them.

Mayor Teso: Do we have any other reports of current events?

(No reports from the Council)

Mayor Teso: How about future agenda items? Does anybody have any future agenda items?

Councilwoman Rogers: Mr. Mayor, I have to go back, month after month after month after month, to say what they would be, but they start with things like evaluations of personnel, of departments; evaluation of the City Manager being here past a half a year. There’s just so many things; the johns, the johns, the johns was supposed to be handled instead of the prostitutes, and it’s nonstop. I can’t name all future agenda items. I have to go through all my minutes to name what’s not been done. I know some people, just a few of the Council, know about, about two things; eighteen months ago when I was elected, there were two big things. One was a directory, a year and a half ago. I don’t know where the directory is or the process. And the other was intern; one intern or two. I’m hearing from different people outside that there may be twelve, but only three Council members know these things. And this comes under Reports. It’s not happening. So I want all of that on future agenda items. This is ridiculous to have one item tonight and say we don’t need to meet. We need to meet with eighteen months worth of things undone. That’s all.

Councilman Romero: Mr. Mayor, by what Ms. Rogers is saying, maybe we should put a time limit, make an agenda of things that have to be done and give whatever department heads or whoever, people that are involved, a time limit to let us know what’s going on and we need to start getting some of these things done. We need to start holding people accountable to get stuff done ‘cause like Rita says, we just talk about it and then we blow it under the carpet. I think we should adopt something like that so we have an agenda and we have a time limit so these people can get stuff accomplished.

Mayor Teso: Okay. Should we add that as a future agenda item?

Councilman Romero: That would be nice.

Mayor Teso: Okay. Do we have any other agenda items?
Councilwoman Rogers: Oh, I’m sure, Mr. Mayor, I’m sure you all remember, but we need to review the contract of the upcoming Judge, like we did with the City Manager.

Mayor Teso: Oh, right.

Councilwoman Rogers: The upcoming Judge should be on the agenda like fast. ‘Cause I remember when we did the City Manager here at the Council here, I had put a different insert in his contract and you all agreed with it, but I have to read the new Judge’s contract to know that stuff. So we did that out in the open public. The Council hires the, the City Manager and the Judge, so I have to know what the contract is saying. So that would be a future agenda item.

Mayor Teso: Any other agenda items?

(No other future agenda items from Council)

ITEM #08 – CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENT HEADS: REPORTS TO MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Mr. Vidaurri: Mr. Mayor and members of the Council, we had, I had a couple of items that relate to appointment of individuals to vacancies on Committees. There’s currently a vacancy on the Pima County Regional Flood Control District Committee. The Committee makes recommendations to the Pima County Board of Supervisors on a variety of flood control and flood plain management issues. The Committee’s regular meetings are scheduled for the third Wednesday of each month. And the other committee is the Pima County Historical Commission. That was previously occupied by Patsy Waterfall, whose term expired on May 20, 2017. The Commission’s mission is to advise the governing bodies of the County and the City of Tucson Historical Activities and Sites, and to organize historical activities for the community. Members of the Commission cannot be employees of the appointing jurisdiction and the Commission meets the second Wednesday of each month at 12:00 noon. So, those are the two vacancies that are currently available for City Council to consider appointments to.

Acting Mayor Diaz: Mr. Mayor, I think by ordinance, we also have some other committees that need appointment too. Like the Merit Commission and so forth. And also, the fact that we had discussed the Citizens Advisory Committee where they do have a, a tendency to have a quorum, whereas we run into problems of getting a quorum into these other committees and commissions, that we, you know, that that item be brought up again, as we discussed before, to the, on the agenda because we do have, by ordinance, that we do have to have these other commissions filled, so maybe considering turning the Citizens Advisory Committee into these commissions because of the fact that, again, we have, there is a problem of getting quorums to these commissions. And we spend a lot of time getting those quorums and the Advisory Committee is already established and do have a tendency, at least, to have some of the, well, at least a quorum at the meetings. So, you know, if we bring that up (inaudible) we can discuss it some more.

Mr. Vidaurri: I’ll work with the City Clerk to go ahead and get a listing of all the Committees and the vacancies on those committees so that Council can review those.
Mayor Teso: Do we have any other reports?

Mr. Vidaurri: No, Mr. Mayor, not at this point.

ITEM #09 – DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION REGARDING ORDINANCE NO. 19-05 OF THE CITY OF SOUTH TUCSON, ARIZONA, RELATING TO ADMINISTRATION; APPROVING AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 2 ADMINISTRATION OF THE SOUTH TUCSON CITY CODE TO CHANGE REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL FROM SECOND, THIRD AND FOURTH MONDAYS OF EACH MONTH TO FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

Mr. Vidaurri: Mr. Mayor, members of the Council, this has been discussed by the City Council, I guess, since last year. And there was some discussion about changing the meeting dates. But apparently, there was also some discussion about removing an item from the current code which related to the City Council’s ability to cancel meetings. And so the intent for this particular meeting was to have a work session with our Financial Advisor to discuss a proposed refinancing of some old debt. And unfortunately, we received a last minute notice that the bond attorney needed additional information which we provided late last week. And so, I was in a quandary because I wasn’t sure, okay, if you can no longer cancel meetings, what are my options as your City Manager? Do we not post Notice of a Meeting? What do we do? And so, I decided we needed a one-item agenda to discuss this and let me know what it is that you want so that we can implement it and staff is doing what Council desires. And so the City Attorney, I believe, contacted several municipalities who do not have cancellation provisions in their codes as well, but the question that I had was, okay, if we can no longer cancel, what procedure do we use? And so Notices can not be posted, which basically constitutes no meeting, or perhaps there are other options and I’m not sure if the City Attorney has had an opportunity to look at those other options that might be available for Council so that you can choose and decide what you think is best for you.

Councilwoman Rogers: Okay. Mr. Mayor, I’d like to just speak to that. I didn’t know why it was on the agenda at all, but I, in the person that suggested that we do the Tuesday from now on instead of the Mondays, my purpose was important is that all the time I was in the audience as a non-Council member, three Mondays a month, most of the time, one or two or three of them were cancelled. If we only had two, we could not be cancelling, no need to cancel two Tuesdays a month. And there’s plenty, of the eighteen months I’ve been here, to have ‘em four Tuesdays a month, but two Tuesdays a month should be no issue at all. And that’s exactly, Tucson is how many million? One million? They have two …

Mayor Teso: Tucson.

Councilwoman Rogers: … Tuesdays a month.

Mayor Teso: Four hundred and fifty thousand.

Councilwoman Rogers: At any rate, so I, and the reason, and the other reason, a little reason which I don’t like is football, but I thought Monday night football, some folks might like that too. And then so many times that Monday was cancelled due to holiday or whatever, we could get on the same page as Tucson, second and
fourth Tuesday; South Tucson, first and third Tuesday, and I don’t think they need to be cancelled. We’re way behind.

Mr. Vidaurri: Mr. Mayor, in response to Councilwoman Rogers’ comment, and that’s fine. If that’s what the City Council wants, that’s fine. I just need to know that if we’re not going to cancel, what procedure am I going to use to post agendas or not post them. That’s all I’m asking.

Councilman Oyegbola: Mr. Mayor, I have a quick question. Should we, sorry, City Councilman, City Attorney, Manager, …

(Simultaneous conversation)

Councilman Oyegbola: City Manager, I wanted to say, should we wait for the City Attorney’s research on it or are you asking for direction right now before he does this …

Mr. Vidaurri: Well, …

Councilman Oyegbola: … (inaudible).

Mr. Vidaurri: … I was under the impression that he was going to contact those communities that have non-cancellation wording in their ordinances and ask them what their procedure was …

Councilman Oyegbola: Okay.

Mr. Vidaurri: … in terms of holding Council meetings and whether or not they do the non-posting or what procedure they use in case they have to cancel a meeting.

Councilman Romero: Mr. Mayor, I make the motion that Mr. Bobby Yu research this for us and get it to us for the next meeting, that way we’ll know what direction we want to go.

Mayor Teso: Do we have a second?

Councilman Oyegbola: Second.

Mayor Teso: Mr. Oyegbola.
Councilman Oyegbola: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Romero.
Councilman Romero: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Mr. Diaz.
Acting Mayor Diaz: No.
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 #10 – ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Teso: Do I have a motion to adjourn?

Vice-Mayor Lopez: Mr. Mayor, I’d like to make a motion that we adjourn the meeting.

Councilman Oyegbola: Second.

Mayor Teso: Mr. Oyegbola.
Councilman Oyegbola: Aye.
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: Aye.
Mayor Teso: Aye. The meeting is adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

ATTEST:

_______________________________________
Mayor

_______________________________________
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 1st day of October, 2019. I further certify the meeting was duly called and a quorum was present.

Dated this ________ day of ______________________, 2019.

_____________________________________
Veronica Moreno, City Clerk