

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
SPECIAL MEETING - JUNE 07, 2023 AT 5:30 PM**



MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER. 5:30 p.m.**
2. **ROLL CALL.**

	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
MAYOR, DONALD C. HUISH	X	
MAYOR PRO TEMPORE, MARGARET MORALES	X	
COUNCILMEMBER, MITCH LINDEMANN	X	
COUNCILMEMBER, DANYA ACOSTA	X	
COUNCILMEMBER, RAY SHELTON	X	
COUNCILMEMBER, MICHAEL BALDENEGRO	X	
COUNCILMEMBER, JOSE GRIJALVA	X	
CITY MANAGER, ANA URQUIJO	X	
CITY ATTORNEY, DENIS FITZGIBBONS	X	
CITY TREASURER, LUIS PEDROZA	X	
CITY CLERK, ALMA ANDRADE	X	

3. **PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL IN WRITING OR VERBALLY ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA.**

Ms. Andrade stated no public participation forms were submitted.

4. **DISCUSSION/DECISION on APPROVALS.**
 - A. **EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRACTS.**

Rocio Garcia Pedroza provided background information.

Motion by Council Member Morales, second by Council Member Shelton to approve the contract renewals with Marpai Health, Aetna, American Health Holding, Broadreach Medical Resources, and Berkley; set the monthly city contributions for employee only at \$634.56 and for employee + family at \$1,031.96; and to accept all other voluntary and customary benefits, as submitted.

Council Member Lindemann reported that the Finance Committee recommended that the city would cover the increase for the employees.

Rocio Garcia Pedroza stated that the increase for the employees would not be covered within the motion, an amendment would have to be made to change the family coverage to \$1,046.60.

Motion by Council Member Lindemann, second by Council Member Grijalva to amend employee + family at \$1,046.60.

Voted in Favor: Mayor Donald Huish, Council Members: Margaret Morales, Mitch Lindemann, Danya Acosta, Ray Shelton, Michael Baldenegro, and Jose Grijalva. Voted Against: None.

Voted in Favor: Mayor Donald Huish, Council Members: Margaret Morales, Mitch Lindemann, Danya Acosta, Ray Shelton, Michael Baldenegro, and Jose Grijalva. Voted Against: None.

- B. **CONTRACT RENEWAL with EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, INC. (ESI)**

Rocio Garcia Pedroza reported on the annual renewal with Educational Services, Inc. (ESI).

Motion by Council Member Shelton, second by Council Member Acosta to approve the contract renewal with Educational Services, Inc. (ESI).

Council Member Shelton asked how many employees are under this contact.

Ms. Garcia-Pedroza answered only 1 employee.

Council Member Grijalva commented, having long-term having jobs with one person taking up the job that someone new could come in and broaden the tax base, he added he like to discuss it for next year.

Motion PASSED by a vote of 7-0. Roll call: Voted in Favor: Mayor Donald Huish, Council Members: Margaret Morales, Mitch Lindemann, Danya Acosta, Ray Shelton, Michael Baldenegro, and Jose Grijalva. Voted Against: None.

C. **MEMORANDUM of UNDERSTANDING** between **THE ARIZONA BOARD of REGENTS** for and on behalf of **NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY** and **THE CITY of DOUGLAS** to allow eligible employees to **RECEIVE TUITION REDUCTION** for **ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS**.

Rocio Garcia Pedroza mentioned NAU has a program where if cities or educational institutions allow their employees to go to school they get a 10% tuition reduction from tuition.

Council Member Grijalva commented this is a great idea and asked if the city has reached to other universities to see if they have similar programs.

Ms. Garcia-Pedroza answered they have not but they will and in addition NAU said in the future this agreement will no longer be needed because the 10% reduction will be provided automatically.

Council Member Acosta asked what are the eligible programs.

Ms. Garcia-Pedroza answered they have there's different bachelor's degrees and some Masters as well.

Motion by Council Member Acosta, second by Council Member Baldenegro to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Arizona Board of Regents for and on behalf of Northern Arizona University to allow eligible employees to receive tuition reduction for eligible programs.

Roll call: Voted in Favor: Mayor Donald Huish, Council Members: Margaret Morales, Mitch Lindemann, Danya Acosta, Ray Shelton, Michael Baldenegro, and Jose Grijalva. Voted Against: None

5. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION.

A. BUDGET PRESENTATION for FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024.

City Manager Ana Urquijo gave background information about the four recommendations from the finance committee.

Council Member Lindemann mentioned that the finance committee voted unanimously for those four recommendations.

Mr. Martinez gave a brief summary of the proposed budget with the recommendations made by the finance committee.

Mayor Donald Huish asked the councils input on the recommendations that the finance committee made.

Council Member Grijalva commented that currently the golf course subsidy is \$180,000 and paying someone \$100,000 is getting close to the actual subsidy of what is given to the golf course and might not sit well with the public.

Council Member Lindemann addressed Council Member Grijalva concerns saying if he could speak for the finance committee they felt this would be a revenue source to bring the golf course back up it would be a revenue source for the future and an asset to the city.

Council Member Shelton mentioned the need of a golf superintendent to get on the right line on the golf course and if it is done halfway, half is what will be received. There is also a need to expand the RV Park.

Council Member Acosta asked if the position is approved will the golf course subsidy continue.

City manager Ana Urquijo answered that initially yes, the city is making the recommendation to continue to subsidize until a point is reached to turn around and minimize the subsidy reaching sustainability over time.

Council Member Lindemann mentioned a discussion during the finance meeting that if revenue increases at the golf course thereby lessening the subsidy in the future it will be a self-sustaining model.

Council Member Baldenegro asked how many RV's have upgraded in the past.

Mr. Pedroza answered that no RV have been upgraded.

Council Member Baldenegro asked how is Washington Avenue being addressed.

Mr. Pedroza answered that the city needs asphalt to get the work done in Washington Avenue.

Council Member Baldenegro asked if we have to wait for an annexation to add fire and police officers and added if it can be put into budget.

Mayor Donald Huish directed staff to put the items discussed on the finance committee four recommendations in the budget and if anyone wants to modify they will be modified in the next meeting with motions.

City Manager Ana Urquijo answered that the city's police officers and firemen have many requests based on annexation but there has not been a point where it's been annexed.

Council Member Shelton asked if there was any money to revitalize and get the airport museum in better shape, condition and form.

City Manager Ana Urquijo answered that there is hope with the proceeds from the sales surrounding that will include the museum and strategies have started for it.

Rocio Garcia Pedroza mentioned that there is an Airport Museum improvements carryover from previous years that is by now it is \$52,000. The restrooms have been improved as well as the new door to be automatic and amount left over is planned to use more of it.

Council Member Baldenegro said that the city should take money out of general fund and fix whatever it is needed to open the 8th ST Park public swimming pool.

City Manager Ana Urquijo stated that there are structural issues at that pool and it is feared that it may be closed to being obsolete. A structural assessment has been requested to know the problems with the pool.

Council Member Shelton asked of any grant opportunities to help with the pool situation.

City Manager Ana Urquijo answered that the city is doing good with track record for grants but there is still no idea with what its being looked at until the assessment is done.

Council Member Grijalva commented on a few points concerning two CIP crew members being taken out, if the Mexican Baseball Festival was coming, and why hasn't the city funded on these issues that came out with the pool and RV park knowing the ARPA funds were available.

Mayor Donald Huish asked to address and express the strategy regarding the CIP employees in the water department.

Rocio Garcia Pedroza answered that the two employees who currently work in water used to be Public Works CIP crew.

City Manager Ana Urquijo accentuated with Ms. Garcia-Pedroza saying that those two positions are currently in the role of CIP but do not have enough resources to properly handle CIP. A unit was created to combine both water and wastewater, add more positions so there can be more effectively accomplish that task.

Mayor Donald Huish asked is the city will be involved in the Mexican Baseball Festival this year.

Ms. Smith answered yes, the city is in current negotiations for the contract, staff has been asked to look into them and ask if they will be staying in town.

Mr. Pedroza added that in the past its been asked for them to stay here but they establish contracts with Tucson in advance dismisses them out of that if asked to stay in another area. Availability to get 100 plus rooms here in Douglas is some of the challenged dealt with in the past.

Mayor Donald Huish asked to generate another report concerning the ARPA funds.

Council Member Grijalva suggested that the first \$500,000 from the 2.5 million used for CIP projects should go to the bonuses and whatever's left over should go to special events.

Council Member Grijalva asked Mr. Pedroza if the city were to ask for something else will it be added on to the spending ceiling but then if voted on the tentative it is basically being capped at it.

Mr. Pedroza answered saying its correct and it is able to decrease one-line item and bring it over but it wouldn't be able to increase after the tentative adoption.

Council Member Grijalva suggested to help Making Connections for You event with the school supplies given and add \$5,000 more to what is given already to their cost.

Mayor Donald Huish told staff to take a look at that and see what the history has been and what the projection may be for that.

Council Member Lindemann asked which company or which organization was giving out backpacks.

City Manager Ana Urquijo answered the requesting agencies making connections for you AKA Care Fair.

Council Member Shelton asked how many backpacks were given away last year and when will they meet again.

Representative from the organization answered 2,000 backpacks school supplies included also and will meet June 14th.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Motion by Council Member Morales, second by Council Member Shelton to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Prepared by:


Cynthia Acuña Robles, Deputy City Clerk