

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE
REGULAR MEETING - FEBRUARY 12, 2025 AT 6:00 PM**



Minutes

The City of Douglas Mayor and Council met in a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, February 12, 2025, at 6:00 p.m., at City Hall Council Chamber, 425 10th Street. The Honorable Mayor Jose Grijalva called the meeting to order.

1. **CALL TO ORDER.** 6:00 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.** By Council
3. **INVOCATION BY:** Pastor Pete Cordova From First Assembly of God.
4. **ROLL CALL.**

	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
MAYOR, JOSE GRIJALVA	X	
MAYOR PRO TEMPORE, DANYA ACOSTA	X	
COUNCILMEMBER, MELISSA RODRIGUEZ	X	
COUNCILMEMBER, JOSE MONTANO	X	
COUNCILMEMBER, RAY SHELTON	X	
COUNCILMEMBER, MICHAEL BALDENEGRO	X	
COUNCILMEMBER, RICHARD C. ACOSTA	X	
CITY MANAGER, ANA URQUIJO	X	
CITY ATTORNEY, DENIS FITZGIBBONS	X	
CITY TREASURER, ALEJANDRO MARTINEZ	X	
CITY CLERK, ALMA ANDRADE	X	

5. EVENTS UPDATE.

A video presentation was shown highlighting upcoming events in the City of Douglas, including:

- A free tree limbs and vegetation drop off event on February 15, 2025.
- Dia de los Ninos on April 26, 2025, at Tenth Street Castro Park.
- The 7th annual Children's Run.
- The 10th annual Douglas Days celebration.

The library also provided an update on their February events, including arts and crafts, movie screenings, STEAM club activities, story time, chess club, and a book club discussion.

6. MAYOR AND COUNCIL UPDATES AND/OR REPORTS.

Council Member D. Acosta reported on attending the Douglas Public Facility Municipal Property Corporation meeting on January 21st. She noted discussions on balance sheets, revenues/expenses for the golf course, and ongoing improvements. She recommended providing monthly attendance figures for the golf course.

Council Member D. Acosta also reported on attending Governor Hobbs' State of the State address in Sierra Vista on February 11th on behalf of Mayor Grijalva. Topics discussed included healthcare, education, law enforcement retention, border security, childcare, economic development, and job creation.

Council Member R. Acosta announced plans to host a town hall in March, with the date and location to be determined.

Mayor Grijalva thanked Mayor Pro Tempore Acosta for attending the State of the State address on his behalf. He reported a meeting with Mr. Selchow about golf course concerns to be addressed during budget discussions. He also noted attending an ADOT meeting with other council members and Supervisor Gomez to discuss Douglas-related issues.

7. PRESENTATION of AWARDS.

A. **CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION** to **SGT. DAVID ACOSTA** and **DET. IVAN GAMEZ** for being selected to receive the **UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE 2024 CIVIL RIGHTS TEAM AWARD** in recognition of outstanding contributions and exemplary service in the Ridenour arson investigation.

Mayor Grijalva presented Certificates of Recognition to Detective Ivan Gamez and Sergeant David Acosta for being selected to receive the United States Attorney's Office 2024 Civil Rights Team Award for their contributions to the Ridenour Arson Investigation.

8. READING of PROCLAMATION.

A. BLACK HISTORY MONTH.

Mayor Grijalva read a proclamation declaring February 2025 as Black History Month in the City of Douglas. The proclamation highlighted the contributions of African Americans to the community, state, and nation in areas such as education, medicine, art, culture, religion, public service, economic development, politics, and human rights.

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

- Mr. Rene Lopez of 854 E 8th Street, commented regarding the SEACAP organization and its weatherization program. He explained that SEACAP helps low-income households with home improvements related to energy efficiency and safety. Mr. Lopez provided details on recent projects completed in Douglas and encouraged residents to apply for the free program.

10. DISCUSSION/DECISION on APPROVAL of CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:

A. **EXPENDITURES** for the month of **JANUARY 2025** totaling **\$2,752,329.17**.

B. **MEETING MINUTES** for **JANUARY 8** and **JANUARY 29, 2025**.

C. **MOU** with the **LOCAL COALITION to END HOMELESSNESS (LCEH)** for participation and voting authority in LCEH meetings.

Motion by Council Member R. Acosta, second by Council Member Baldenegro to approve consent agenda items as presented.

Council Member D. Acosta requested discussion on the Local Coalition to End Homelessness (LCEH) item C.

Ms. Gonzalez provided an overview, explaining that participating in LCEH meetings gives the city voting authority and helps address affordable housing and homelessness issues as required for CDBG entitlement communities. She noted that Catholic Community Services administers the program locally, offering services like rapid relocation assistance and housing vouchers.

Roll call: Voted in Favor: Mayor Jose Grijalva, Council Members: Melissa Rodriguez, Jose Montaño, Danya Acosta, Ray Shelton, Michael Baldenegro and Richard Acosta. Voted Against: None.

11. DISCUSSION/DECISION on APPROVALS.

A. **RESOLUTION NO. 25-1652**, a Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Douglas, Cochise County, Arizona, **AUTHORIZING** the City of Douglas to enter into a **DATA ACCESS / EXCHANGE AGREEMENT** with the **ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION** for purposes of reporting and querying data in the **ARIZONA CRASH INFORMATION SYSTEM (ACIS)**.

Chief Fullen explained that the Resolution authorizes an agreement with the Arizona Department of Transportation for electronic submission and querying of crash report data. The agreement includes data security safeguards and has a 5-year term with potential extensions.

Motion by Council Member Rodriguez, second by Council Member Baldenegro to approve Resolution No. 25-1652.

Roll call: Voted in Favor: Mayor Jose Grijalva, Council Members: Melissa Rodriguez, Jose Montañó, Danya Acosta, Ray Shelton, Michael Baldenegro and Richard Acosta. Voted Against: None.

B. RESOLUTION NO. 25-1653, a Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Douglas, Cochise County, Arizona, **AUTHORIZING** the City of Douglas to **ACCEPT GRANT FUNDING** and **ENTER** into a **SUBGRANTEE AGREEMENT** with the **STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY** for a **REIMBURSABLE GRANT FUND** allocation in the amount of \$390,300 for **PERSONNEL OVERTIME** and **MILEAGE COSTS** under **OPERATION STONEGARDEN FISCAL YEAR 2024 ALLOCATION GRANT PROGRAM**.

Chief Fullen presented details on a \$390,300 grant award from the Arizona Department of Homeland Security under the Operation Stone Garden program. The funds will cover overtime, employee-related expenses, and mileage reimbursement for the police department.

Motion by Council Member Montañó, second by Council Member Shelton to approve Resolution No. 25-1653.

Roll call: Voted in Favor: Mayor Jose Grijalva, Council Members: Melissa Rodriguez, Jose Montañó, Danya Acosta, Ray Shelton, Michael Baldenegro and Richard Acosta. Voted Against: None.

C. RESOLUTION NO. 25-1654, a Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Douglas, Cochise County, Arizona, **AUTHORIZING** the **CITY OF DOUGLAS** to **ACCEPT GRANT FUNDING** and **ENTER** into a **COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT** with the **STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY** for a **REIMBURSABLE GRANT FUND** allocation in the amount of \$98,693 for **EQUIPMENT** under **OPERATION STONEGARDEN Fiscal Year 2024 Grant Program**.

Chief Fullen explained the Resolution accepts an additional \$98,693 grant under Operation Stone Garden for purchasing a 4x4 vehicle with emergency equipment and a mobile radio. He credited Lieutenant Lomeli for submitting both grant proposals.

Motion by Council Member Baldenegro, second by Council Member Rodriguez to approve Resolution No. 25-1654.

Mayor Grijalva noted the city's reliance on grants and appreciated the police department's efforts in securing funding.

Roll call: Voted in Favor: Mayor Jose Grijalva, Council Members: Melissa Rodriguez, Jose Montañó, Danya Acosta, Ray Shelton, Michael Baldenegro and Richard Acosta. Voted Against: None.

D. RESOLUTION NO. 25-1655, a Resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Douglas, Cochise County, Arizona, **AUTHORIZING** the execution of an **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT** between the City of Douglas and the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management **DFFM** for **WILDLAND FIRES ASSISTANCE**.

Chief Lomeli presented a cooperative agreement between the City of Douglas and the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management (DFFM) for wildland fire assistance. He explained the agreement provides a basis for mutual aid and resource sharing during wildland fire emergencies. Chief Lomeli noted this would enhance the city's wildland firefighting capabilities and potentially allow for reimbursable out-of-state assignments.

Motion by Council Member D. Acosta, second by Council Member Baldenegro to approve Resolution No. 25-1655.

City Attorney Denis Fitzgibbons clarified that the title should be changed from "intergovernmental agreement" to "cooperative agreement" to match the actual document.

Roll call: Voted in Favor: Mayor Jose Grijalva, Council Members: Melissa Rodriguez, Jose Montaño, Danya Acosta, Ray Shelton, Michael Baldenegro and Richard Acosta. Voted Against: None.

E. AUTHORIZING the City of Douglas **SURPLUS VEHICLE** and **EQUIPMENT** list and use of the **PUBLIC SURPLUS ONLINE AUCTION** platform.

Chief Fullen requested authorization for a surplus vehicle and equipment auction tentatively scheduled for March 5, 2025. He provided an overview of items to be auctioned, including vehicle parts, four vehicles, and computer equipment. Chief Fullen noted that city employees and officials are not permitted to bid on items.

Motion by Council Member D. Acosta, second by Council Member R. Acosta to approve the City of Douglas surplus vehicles, equipment and auction date of March 5, 2025.

Council Member Montaño requested clarification on the list of items.

Chief Fullen provided additional details on the surplus items.

Mayor Grijalva noted that photos of the items were uploaded to the online agenda.

Roll call: Voted in Favor: Mayor Jose Grijalva, Council Members: Melissa Rodriguez, Jose Montaño, Danya Acosta, Ray Shelton, Michael Baldenegro and Richard Acosta. Voted Against: None.

F. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 25-1206, an Ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the City of Douglas, Cochise County, Arizona, **AMENDING CHAPTER 15.08** of the **DOUGLAS MUNICIPAL CODE**, by adding section 15.08.010(g) regarding the **WAIVER** and **REIMBURSEMENT** of certain fees; establishing severability of components of ordinance; and establishing an effective date thereof.

Ms. Gomez presented a proposed amendment to Chapter 15.08 of the Douglas Municipal Code regarding waiver and reimbursement of certain fees for nonprofit organizations impacted by criminal activities. She explained the amendment aims to alleviate financial burdens for nonprofits during recovery from incidents like arson.

Motion by Council Member D. Acosta, second by Council Member Baldenegro to approve the placement of Ordinance No. 25-1206.

Council Member D Acosta thanked Council Member Baldenegro for bringing this forward.

Council Member Baldenegro thanked staff for looking into waving these fees.

Roll call: Voted in Favor: Mayor Jose Grijalva, Council Members: Melissa Rodriguez, Jose Montaño, Danya Acosta, Ray Shelton, Michael Baldenegro and Richard Acosta. Voted Against: None.

Motion by Council Member D. Acosta, second by Council Member Rodriguez to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 25-1206.

Council members discussed the retroactive application of the ordinance and potential time frames.

City Attorney Denis Fitzgibbons suggested considering a one-year retroactive period.

Staff agreed to bring back recommended language for the second reading to ensure recently affected structures would be included.

Roll call: Voted in Favor: Mayor Jose Grijalva, Council Members: Melissa Rodriguez, Jose Montaño, Danya Acosta, Ray Shelton, Michael Baldenegro and Richard Acosta. Voted Against: None.

12. CITY MANAGER REPORTS.

City Manager Urquijo provided updates on various policy priorities and projects, including:

- Infrastructure construction for water and sewer along State Route 80
- Downtown revitalization progress
- Golf course irrigation project
- Commercial port of entry and connector road developments
- Colocation efforts of ADOT and FMCSA – ADOT has \$32M in the proposed 5 Year Plan. Negotiations between GSA and ADOT are ongoing
- Call center facility planning
- Annexation efforts
- SCADA project for water well monitoring
- Streets and roads improvements, including asphalt plant financing
- The RAISE grant for commercial street resurfacing will be managed by ADOT and agreements are underway to initiate transfer and set timelines for the 9 corridors of street improvements over the next 3-4 years.
- The Resource Page for construction job seekers has been completed as a first draft and is under review by GSA and contractors
- Raul Castro Park improvement projects
- Aquatic center progress

Other Announcements: Amusement Tax reduction: The City of Douglas has established a timeline to reduce the amusement tax from 3.8% to 0.0% by July 1, 2025, following Arizona League of Cities and Towns guidelines and State Law. The process includes a three-year sunset clause, a 60-day public notice starting January 27, 2025, and a 60-day notice to the Arizona Department of Revenue post-approval. To ensure compliance and a smooth transition, the ordinance will have its first reading on March 12, 2025, and a second reading on April 9, 2025, before taking effect at the start of the new fiscal year.

13. FUTURE AGENDA ITEM REQUESTS FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL.

No future agenda item requests from the council.

14. ADJOURNMENT.

Motion by Council Member D. Acosta, second by Council Member Montañño to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Prepared by:



Alma Andrade, City Clerk