



CITY OF SAFFORD • CITY COUNCIL MEETING • MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
MEETING LOCATION: SAFFORD LIBRARY PROGRAM ROOM • 808 S. 7TH AVE SAFFORD, ARIZONA
“The mission of the City of Safford is to make Safford a great place to live, work, and visit”

1. **WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:** (Reminder: Please turn off cell phones)
2. **ROLL CALL:** A quorum of the Council was present (6)
COUNCIL PRESENT: Jason Kouts, Mayor; Vice Mayor, Richard Ortega; Councilmembers Gene Seale; Arnold Lopez, Steve McGaughey; and Michael Andazola.

STAFF PRESENT: Horatio Skeete, City Manager; John Cassella, Assistant City Manager; Glen Orr, Interim Chief of Police; Lance Henrie, Public Works Director/Assistant City Engineer; Susan Anderson, Planning and Community Development Director; Alma Flores Valles, Finance Officer; Victoria Silva, Library Director; Sam Napier, IT Director; Tamara Webster, City Clerk; Lydia Newkirk, Human Resources Officer; Dan Braatz, Electric Division Supervisor and Morgan Seale, Wastewater Division Supervisor.

OTHERS PRESENT: None

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Councilman Lopez led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **OPENING PRAYER:** Councilman Andazola offered the opening prayer.
5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** Scott Evans addressed the council regarding item 10.1.
6. **CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** Paul David
7. **PUBLIC HEARING**
Mayor Kouts will open a Public Hearing in compliance with Arizona Revised Statutes §38.431.02 to hear public comments regarding:

1. A proposed text amendment relating to the City of Safford Municipal Code Title 17, amending Chapter 17.52 C-2 Highway Commercial relating to nonconforming single-family residential uses. **No Comments were made.**

2. A proposed text amendment relating to the City of Safford Municipal Code Title 17, amending Chapter 17.48 – C-1 General Commercial District, Section 17-48.020 – Use Requirements - Permitted Uses to allow warehouse as a permitted use. **No Comments were made.**

8. **CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING AND RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING**

9. **ORDINANCES:**

1. **ORDINANCE O20-005:** Request for the Mayor and City Council to approve and adopt Ordinance O20-005, an ordinance of the City of Safford, Graham County, Arizona, amending Title 17, Zoning, Chapter 17.82 Sign Regulations of the City of Safford Municipal Code relating to freestanding directory signs. **MOTION ADOPTED**

2. **ORDINANCE O20-006:** First reading of Ordinance Number O20-006, an Ordinance of the City of Safford, Graham County, Arizona, amending Title 17, Zoning, Chapter 17.52 C-2 Highway Commercial District, relating to nonconforming single-family dwellings and general housekeeping. **FIRST READING**

3. **ORDINANCE O20-007:** First reading of Ordinance Number O20-007, an Ordinance of the City of Safford, Graham County, Arizona, amending Title 17, Zoning, Chapter 17.48 C-1 General Commercial District, relating to warehouses and general housekeeping. **TABLED**

10. **NEW/OLD BUSINESS:**

1. **FEE WAIVER INCENTIVE PROGRAM:** Request for the Mayor and City Council to review the building permit fee waiver for single family and duplex homes and water capacity fee and water meter fee assistance program, adopted by City Council on May 13, 2019, and decide whether to include fourplex (four-unit) residential buildings in the program. **MOTION ADOPTED 5 – 1 Mayor Kouts Opposed**

2. **PROPERTY PURCHASE:** Request for the Mayor and City Council to approve the purchase of a 2,430 square foot vacant lot, owned by Carol Ann McQuen, located at 121 East 12th Street in Safford. **MOTION ADOPTED (Councilman McGaughey recused)**

11. **CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS/BIDS:**

1. **ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS AGREEMENT:** Request for the Mayor and City Council to approve to extend the current agreement with Arizona Board for Regents, a body corporate for and on behalf of The University of Arizona for the 1st of four consecutive five year terms, from May 1st, 2020 to April 30, 2025. **MOTION ADOPTED**

2. **SEWER BID AWARD:** Request for the Mayor and City Council to approve a construction contract to Accelerated Construction & Excavating, LLC in the amount of \$123,746.00 for the Stone Willow and 20th Street Sewer Project (Project No. 67-731, CIP No. WW2001). **MOTION ADOPTED**

3. **14th AVE MATERIAL:** Request for the Mayor and City Council to approve to award the contract to Ferguson Water Works in the amount of \$69,882.28 to purchase the material necessary for the 14th Ave Water Project and to waive the formal bid process.
MOTION ADOPTED

12. **Water Table Update:** Morgan Seale gave an update on the water tables.

13. **RESOLUTIONS:**

1. **RESOLUTION R20-010:** Request for the Mayor and City Council to approve and adopt Resolution R20-010, a resolution adopting the Human Resources Emergency Paid Sick Time and Expanded FMLA Policy. **MOTION ADOPTED with amending expiration date to June 30, 2021**

2. **RESOLUTION R20-011:** Request for the Mayor and City Council to approve and adopt Resolution R20-011, a resolution authorizing the dissolution of the Library Advisory Board.
MOTION ADOPTED

14. **CENSUS UPDATE:** Victoria Silva gave an update on the 2020 Census.

15. **PRESENTATION:**

1. **CITY OF SAFFORD ACTIONS REGARDING COVID-19:** Present Mayor and Council with an update on City of Safford actions regarding the COVID-19.

16. **RESOLUTION R20-012:** Request for the Mayor and City Council to approve and adopt Resolution R20-012, a resolution providing an option to assist customers who rely on social security payments to pay utility services by allowing them to avoid late payment penalties.
MOTION ADOPTED 5-1, Councilman Lopez Opposed

17. **FY 20/21 BUDGET DISCUSSION:** Review and discuss with the Mayor and City Council the FY 2021 preliminary budget. This budget includes: The General Fund departments, the Enterprise funds and Special Revenue Funds.

18. **REPORTS:**

1. Revenues Over \$5,000
2. Expenses Over \$5,000
3. P-Card Report

19. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF CURRENT EVENTS:** The Mayor or any member of Council may at this time present a brief summary of current events and provide future agenda items. However, no discussion shall take place on such items except for clarifying comments related to substance, time and location.
20. **REPORT ON OPERATIONAL ITEMS:** The city manager, members of city staff or those individuals designated by the manager may present information pertinent to items under consideration or information related to the operation of the City. There shall however be no discussion at this time except for clarification inquiries. (If not listed below)
- Update on Airport FBO (Staff, Horatio Skeete)
 - Update on Graham County Cooperative Utility Exchange (Staff, Horatio Skeete)
21. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The City Council may enter executive session, pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes §38-431.03(A)(1)(7). The City Council may reconvene regular session to take action.
1. Discuss with the Mayor and City Council personnel changes and recruitment strategy in the City of Safford.
 2. Discuss with the Mayor and City Council a possible second FBO at the City of Safford Airport.
22. **ADJOURN:** It was moved by Vice Mayor Ortega, seconded by Councilman Andazola and carried unanimously to adjourn city council meeting at 10:52 p.m. **MOTION ADOPTED**