

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
PUBLIC HEARING
MONDAY, JULY 18, 2016
6:00 P.M.
SCHIEFFELIN HALL
402 E. Fremont Street**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Dustin Escapule called the Public Hearing Special Council Meeting/ to order on Monday, July 18, 2016.

- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Mayor Dustin Escapule led the Common Council and the general public in a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

- III. **ROLL CALL**

Commissioner Armando Villa	Absent
Commissioner Bill Barlow	Present
Commissioner Patricia Moreno	Present
Commissioner Deborah Bachman	Present
Chairman Dustin Escapule	Present

Also in Attendance: Ruben Villa, Finance Director
P. Randy Bays, City Attorney

A QUORUM WAS DECLARED

PUBLIC HEARING

Finance Director Villa- “Good Evening Mayor, Council and members of the community. This is the opportunity for members of the community to speak to the budget and property taxes and the following items we will describe in more detail the numbers behind the budget and the property taxes. I can say before anybody decides to speak that the total budget for this year is six million one hundred and forty two thousand three hundred and thirty three dollars. There has been no change since the tentative budget. There are no anticipated increases in property taxes. The property tax levy will remain at the neutral level .1982 per hundred dollars of valuation and Primary and Secondary taxes will be .8851 per hundred dollars of valuation arriving to a hundred and nineteen thousand dollars which is equal to the bond payment and I mention this for the record but also to open up discussion for those that would have any questions related to those three topics. So it is back to the residents if they have any questions.”

Mayor Escapule; “Any of the residents; anyone here have any questions in regards to the budget?” “To the taxes?”

Mayor Escapule; “Any of the Council?” “No questions?”

There being no questions from residents or City Council Mayor Escapule closes the public hearing and moves on Agenda to New Business.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:** Resolution No. 07-2016; a resolution of the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Tombstone, Cochise County, State of Arizona, determining and adopting estimates for the amounts required for the public expense for the City of Tombstone, Arizona: adopting a budget; setting forth the receipts and expenditures; the amounts proposed to be raised by direct property taxation for the various purposes for the fiscal year 2016-2017.

MOTION by Councilmember Bachman, **SECOND** by Councilmember Barlow to approve Resolution No. 07-2016; a resolution of the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Tombstone, Cochise County, State of Arizona, determining and adopting estimates for the amounts required for the public expense for the City of Tombstone, Arizona: adopting a budget; setting forth the receipts and expenditures; the amounts proposed to be raised by direct property taxation for the various purposes for the fiscal year 2016-2017.

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 4/1/0

MOTION: Carried

- B. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:** Approval of Resolution No. 08-2016; a Resolution by the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Tombstone, Cochise County, Arizona to authorize for the City's Fiscal Year 2016-2017 the Primary Tax Rate of .8939 for every \$100 assessed value.

MOTION by Councilmember Bachman, **SECOND** by Councilmember Barlow to approve Resolution No. 08-2016; a Resolution by the Mayor and Common Council of the City of Tombstone, Cochise County, Arizona to authorize for the City's Fiscal Year 2016-2017 the Primary Tax Rate of .8939 for every \$100 assessed value.

DISCUSSION: "Councilmember Bachman; "Yeah, it needs to be changed. The rate is point nine eight two not point eight nine three nine. There was a correction made.

Mayor Escapule; "Ruben, did you catch that?"

Finance Director Villa; "I just noticed the way it is presented in the agenda itself is different from the actual resolution. For the Primary it should read .8851.

Councilmember Bachman; "But we are on the Secondary one right now."

Finance Director Villa; For Secondary it should be .8851 for Primary it should be .9182. So item B on the actual agenda the amount is incorrect. It is reading .8939 and it should read .8851.

Councilmember Bachman; "No it should be .9182."

Finance Director Villa; "Yes, you are correct."

Councilmember Bachman; "Okay, because the resolution was incorrect also. I had Regina correct it we should all have received the corrected one.

Finance Director Villa; "The actual rate as calculated by the levy should be .9182 Primary rate.

Mayor Escapule; "So the resolution is correct?"

Councilwoman Bachman; "The new one you just got."

Mayor Escapule; "Do we need to make an amendment or just go ahead and approve it?"

City Attorney Bays; "That was a typographical error."

Mayor Escapule; "Okay." Any further discussion."

Mayor Escapule closes discussion.

VOTE: 4/1/0

MOTION: Carried

C. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION: Approval of Resolution No. 09-2016; a resolution of the City of Tombstone, Cochise County, Arizona, levying the amount to be raised by Secondary Tax Levy and the rate upon each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of the assessed valuation of property subject to taxation within the City of Tombstone for the Fiscal Year ending June 30th, 2017.

MOTION by Councilmember Bachman, **SECOND** by Councilmember Moreno to approve Resolution No. 09-2016; a resolution of the City of Tombstone, Cochise County, Arizona, levying the amount to be raised by Secondary Tax Levy and the rate upon each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of the assessed valuation of property subject to taxation within the City of Tombstone for the Fiscal Year ending June 30th, 2017.

DISCUSSION: Councilmember Barlow; "Just one question on the resolution. The .8851 is correct?"

Finance Director Villa; "Yes sir; it is correct."

VOTE: 4/1/0

MOTION: Carried

- D. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:** Approval of modification to intergovernmental Agreement between the State of Arizona and the City of Tombstone for the administration of taxes imposed by the State or City of Tombstone.

MOTION by Councilmember Bachman, **SECOND** by Councilmember Moreno to approve modification to intergovernmental Agreement between the State of Arizona and the City of Tombstone for the administration of taxes imposed by the State or City of Tombstone.

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 4/1/0

MOTION: Carried

- E. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:** Accepting a request from Ruben Villa to rescind the letter of resignation dated April 25th, 2016.

MOTION by Councilmember Barlow, **SECOND** by Councilmember Bachman to accept a request from Ruben Villa to rescind the letter of resignation dated April 25th, 2016.

DISCUSSION: Finance Director Villa; "Previously the Council approved a position; a supervisory position in accounting or the finance department. The position will not be filled if you approve rescinding the resignation letter. The position will exist now that you have approved it but it will not be filled. The plan as I am proposing is to fill the position that will be vacated by a Public Works administrative clerk and add accounting and clerical functions to that position at no additional cost to the City. When the time comes either you or we decide that it is time to move on we now have the infrastructure or the structure to move into a position that will be in house. The plan still remains to delegate some of the external responsibilities to keep them in house rather than moving towards that in the future. As a personal comment; I really appreciate the opportunity to continue to work for you all. Initially when I saw the opportunity come up for me in Tucson I had a strong feeling that I did not want to disappoint the Council and the residents of this town by over committing and not being able to provide the service that you all deserve. Three months have gone by I made adjustments and I believe that we can continue to work as we have in the past. There is a lot to do. There is a lot of exciting stuff coming and we would like to be involved in that so thank you for the opportunity.

Councilmember Bachman; "With regards to if we approve you coming back the position that was created it was set at a certain amount. Between the Public Works position and that other position it's still going to remain at the same

Public Works amount. So this amount isn't going to be there so yours would still be?

Finance Director Villa; "Well, the way we envision it that everything would remain the same. As we relinquish some of the responsibilities we would of course be billing less but that's going to be on a gradual pace and you are absolutely right there is no plan to pay this position more than what the City currently pays. As we move into additional responsibilities we would make the recommendation to make an adjustment to that salary but you have the budget structure for that already because we have set aside the position with funding for that position.

Councilmember Bachman; "Right but that eliminates your position so what I am saying is if we are bring in that position and we are adding that money on top of what we are paying you plus the public works."

Finance Director Villa; "That would not happen."

Councilmember Bachman; "Okay. I just want it on record"

Finance Director Villa; "That position only replaces me and if anything cost..."

Councilmember Bachman; "Because otherwise I would say you need to take a cut in pay."

Finance Director Villa; "And I would. In my original recommendation was to transition responsibilities on to this position where eventually there would be zero being billed to the City from me. At this stage as we move towards getting the list of items on the plan resolved we will continue to operate as normal but the plan still is to move items in house and of course reduce the amount that we bill you."

Councilmember Bachman; "I just wanted on record. Thank you!"

VOTE: 4/1/0

MOTION: Carried

V. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mayor Escapule entertains a motion for adjournment.

MOTION by Councilmember Bachman, **SECOND** by Councilmember Moreno to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE: 4/1/0

MOTION: Carried

The Special Council Meeting/Public Hearing for Monday, July 18, 2016 thereby adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Dustin Escapule, Mayor

Brenda Ikirt, Acting City Clerk