

**THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BENSON, ARIZONA
HELD AUGUST 10, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M.
AT THE BENSON COMMUNITY CENTER, 705 W. UNION STREET, BENSON, ARIZONA**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor King called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present were: Mayor Toney D. King, Sr., Vice Mayor Barbara Nunn, Councilmembers: Pat Boyle, Lupe Diaz, Larry Dempster (via phone), Nick Maldonado, and Chris Tapia (via phone).

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION:

Mayor King recognized William “Corky” Brandt for thirty-five years of service with the City of Benson and presented a plaque to Mr. Brandt, thanking him for his service.

Mayor King then recognized Brandon Guilliams for five years of service with the City of Benson.

Mayor King then recognized Vicki Vivian for twenty years of service with the City and presented a plaque to Ms. Vivian, thanking her for her service.

PROCLAMATION: None

CITY MANAGER’S SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS REPORT:

City Manager Vicki Vivian addressed Council, giving the dates of upcoming meetings and events.

Tuesday, August 11, 2020 – Planning & Zoning, Special Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Community Center
Monday, August 24, 2020 – City Council Meeting, 7:00p.m., Community Center

August – BAT FOOD DELIVERY – Get your request in by Monday at 3 p.m. (last food delivery will be on August 14, 2020 – updated to include the month of July)

To have food delivered you must call Benson Area Transit at 520-586-9406 Each week by 3 p.m. the Monday before. Be prepared to give your name, Address, birthdate, and number of people in your household, (this information Is helpful for federal funding).

If you prefer to pick up your own food box, the Food Pantry opens Wednesday at 9 a.m., located at 1120 West 4th Street, Benson (off Easy Street), and they will be practicing COVID-19 safety measures. If you have questions, contact them direct at 520-200-5186 for other hours and more information.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Discussion and possible action on the Consent Agenda**

1a. Invoices processed for the period from July 20, 2020 through July 29, 2020

Councilmember Maldonado moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Vice Mayor Nunn. Motion passed 7-0.

2. **Discussion and possible action to approve the AZCares Fund Program grant agreement with the State of Arizona, Office of the Governor, Grant Number ERMT-20-014, Award Amount \$560,257, and authorize the Mayor, City Manager, and City Attorney to take all actions necessary to accept grant funds and administer the grant**

City Manager Vicki Vivian stated the CARES Act funding allocated to Arizona was \$2.822 billion for Arizona; however, cities and counties with populations of over 500,000 could apply for direct funding from the federal government, noting those were: Phoenix, Mesa, Tucson, Maricopa County and Pima County. Ms. Vivian then stated after those 5 entities were given \$965 million, \$1.857 billion was left to be distributed once the Governor established guidelines, an application process, and an equitable way for those funds to be distributed, after they were applied for.

Ms. Vivian then stated the Governor is releasing \$441 million to cities, towns and counties, noting the amount Benson was allocated is \$560,257, and it is the maximum amount the City can be reimbursed. Ms. Vivian stated the guidelines the State put in place follow the federal guidelines and allow funding for public health and public safety personnel costs, meaning the City was able to apply for funding to be used for our public safety personnel regular payroll and the Employee-Related Expenses (ERE). Ms. Vivian then stated the timeframe for the eligible public safety personnel costs is March 1, 2020 through December 30, 2020, adding the City's public safety payroll costs for this timeframe exceeded the allocated amount. Ms. Vivian then stated the flexibility of the State guidelines allowing the City to use the awarded funding for payroll expenses in the General Fund (Police, Fire) free up other General Fund dollars for cities and towns.

Ms. Vivian then stated after gathering the required information and submitting the application, she was notified that the application for the full allocated amount was approved. Ms. Vivian then stated the next step is to have the Council take action on the required agreement and if approved, Staff will submit the agreement and await the distribution of funds.

Councilmember Boyle stated the money is a windfall and asked if the City has spent over \$500,000 on anything in the past few months with Ms. Vivian stating the City has not, but with the COVID-19 expenses, the City's revenue projections are down approximately 25%. Ms. Vivian then stated this amount of funding does not make the City whole, but it comes close, adding the projected revenues decreased by about \$795,000 in this new fiscal year, noting Staff will be watching the revenues, but this \$560,000 makes up a big portion of that projected decrease.

Mayor King stated the City is grateful to get what it gets that is what's important.

Vice Mayor Nunn moved to approve the AZCares Fund Program grant agreement. Seconded by Councilmember Diaz. Motion passed 7-0.

3. **Discussion and possible action regarding the Adoption of the Benson Area Transit Program Civil Rights Policies (Title VI)**

City Manager Vicki Vivian stated this is a required policy for the City of Benson/Benson Area Transit and must be adopted to receive the Federal Transit Authority (FTA) funds for the Benson Area Transit Program. Ms. Vivian then stated this is an updated version to the previously adopted TITLE VI, noting whenever there is a change, the federal government contacts Transit Specialist Kathe Williams, who updates the document before Staff brings it to Council for action.

No Council discussion

Councilmember Boyle moved to approve the Adoption of the Benson Area Transit Program Civil Rights Policies. Seconded by Councilmember Maldonado. Motion passed 7-0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03 (A)(3) & (7), for discussion or consultation for legal advice with the attorney or attorneys of the public body and discussions or consultations with the Mayor and Council's designated representatives to consider its position and possibly instruct its representatives regarding negotiations for the purchase, sale, lease, or exchange of city-owned real property.

Vice Mayor Nunn moved to enter into an Executive Session with the Mayor and Council, the City Manager, and the City Attorney, at 7:14 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Diaz. Motion passed 7-0.

Council reconvened at 7:35 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Boyle moved to adjourn at 7:36 p.m. Seconded by Councilmember Diaz. Motion passed 7-0.

Toney D. King, Sr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Vicki L. Vivian, CMC, City Clerk