



**CITY OF SAFFORD • CITY COUNCIL MEETING/WORK SESSION • MONDAY, APRIL 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**  
**MEETING LOCATION: SAFFORD LIBRARY PROGRAM ROOM • 808 S. 7<sup>TH</sup> 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:** Mayor Kouts called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
2. **ROLL CALL:** A quorum of the Council was present (7)

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Jason Kouts, Mayor; Richard Ortega, Vice Mayor; Councilmembers Gene Seale; Arnold Lopez; Steve McGaughey; Michael Andazola; and Brad Hemphill.

**STAFF PRESENT:** John Cassella, City Manager; Glen Orr, Police Chief; Brian Avila, Police Captain; Lance Henrie, Public Works Director/City Engineer; Susan Anderson, Planning and Community Development Director; Alma Valles, Finance Officer; Victoria Silva, Library Director; Sam Napier, IT Officer; Tamara Webster, City Clerk; Lydia Newkirk, Human Resources Officer; Matthew Hoshal, Executive Assistant to the City Manager; Morgan Seale, Water Division Supervisor; Dan Braatz, Electric Division Supervisor; Raymond Osornio, Gas Division Supervisor; Kabrina Romero, Accounting Administrator; Mohamed Abdelmottelb, IT Support Specialist; and Justin Green, Senior IT Specialist.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Vance Bryce, John and Jenny Howard, Sarah Henderson, Ron Gonzales, Paul R. David and others that did not sign in.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Vice Mayor Ortega led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **OPENING PRAYER:** Pastor Ron Gonzales offered the opening prayer.
5. **CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:** Vance Bryce addressed council regarding item 10.2.
6. **CITIZEN COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:** David Bell addressed the council regarding WIFI at City Hall Lawn during events.
7. **PUBLIC HEARING:** A Public Hearing will be opened in compliance with Arizona Revised Statutes §38.431.02 to hear public comments regarding:
  1. Request for Mayor and Council to hold a public hearing on a text amendment of Title 15, Building and Construction, Chapter 15.10 International Building Code, Section 15.10.020 Amendments to consider following the 2015 Building Code and any subsequent adopted codes as they relate to regulations and requirements for automatic sprinkler systems. **No Public Comments were made**
8. **CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING AND RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING:**
9. **ORDINANCES:**
  1. **ORDINANCE 021-009:** Request for Mayor and City Council to have a first reading of Ordinance Number O21-009, an Ordinance amending City of Safford Municipal Code Title 15, Buildings and Construction, Chapter 15.10 International Building Code, Section 15.10.020 Amendments as it pertains to the seven thousand five hundred (7,500) square foot requirement for automatic sprinkler systems. **MOTION ADOPTED**

2. **ORDINANCE O21-007:** Request for the Mayor and City Council to approve and adopt Ordinance Number O21-007, an Ordinance of the City of Safford, Graham County, Arizona, rezoning Graham County Assessor's Parcel # 101-14-003D and 101-14-003E, located directly to the south of 1615 South First Avenue, from City of Safford A-R Agricultural Residential to City of Safford C-2 Highway Commercial. **MOTION ADOPTED**
10. **NEW/OLD BUSINESS:**
    1. **MINUTES:** Request for Mayor and City Council to review and approve March 29, 2021 Council Work Session Minutes. **MOTION ADOPTED**
    2. **LIQUOR LICENSE:** Request for Mayor and City Council to make a recommendation to the Arizona State Liquor Board regarding an application for Extension of Premises/Patio Permit application from Sarah's Bull Pen located at 912 W. Thatcher Blvd, Safford AZ. **MOTION ADOPTED**
  11. **CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS/BIDS:**
    1. **14<sup>th</sup> Avenue Street Improvements:** Request for Mayor and City Council to award the construction contract for the 14th Avenue Street Improvements Project (Project No. 263-031,) to Hatch Construction in the amount of \$1,391,557.50. **MOTION ADOPTED**
    2. **MANHOLE REHAB:** Request for Mayor and City Council to award the construction contract for the 2021-22 Manhole Rehabilitation Project (Project No. 67-613,) to Molina Contracting in the amount of \$227,020.00. **MOTION ADOPTED**
  12. **RESOLUTIONS:**
    1. **RESOLUTION R21-010:** Request for Mayor and City Council to approve and adopt Resolution R21-010, a Resolution removing the current fees associated with Fire Sprinkler Systems. **MOTION ADOPTED**
    2. **RESOLUTION R21-011:** Request for Mayor and City Council to approve and adopt Resolution Number R21-011, a Resolution adopting a Sidewalk Café and Outdoor Seating Policy permit fee of up to five dollars (\$5.00) per square foot, per parklet. **MOTION ADOPTED**
    3. **RESOLUTION R21-012:** Request for Mayor and City Council to approve and adopt Resolution Number R21-012, a Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into a Property Lease Agreement with Richard and Ramona Lines for property located on 20th Avenue adjacent to the City owned parcel leased to the Mount Graham Safe House. **MOTION ADOPTED**
  13. **BUDGET:** Present to Mayor and City Council the FY 2022 preliminary budget. The General Fund departments and the Streets/HURF Funds.

**14. REPORTS:**

1. **P-CARD REPORT** – Councilman Lopez inquired on a credit to a p-card in Business Services
2. **REVENUES OVER \$5,000**
3. **EXPENSES OVER \$5,000**

**15. 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.

- Councilman Hemphill announced a ribbon Cutting Ceremony on May 1<sup>st</sup> for Marcia's Garden on Main Street.
- Mayor Kouts requested staff look into WIFI for City Hall Lawn.
- Lance Henrie advised Council of an upcoming dedication of a donated drinking fountain at the city pool which was donated by Joyce Porter.

**16. 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)

- Airport Layout Plan (ALP) Update (Staff, Lance Henrie)

**17. CLOSE REGULAR MEETING AND RECONVENE INTO A COUNCIL WORK SESSION:**

**18. WORK SESSION:** The Mayor and City Council will enter into a work session to discuss the following items:

1. **CITY OF SAFFORD PROPERTY:** Discussion with Mayor and City Council regarding property located at 4 Cottage Street.
2. **PSPRS UNFUNDED LIABILITY:** Present the Mayor and City Council with information regarding the PSPRS unfunded liability.

**19. ADJOURN:** It was moved by Vice Mayor Ortega, seconded by Councilman Andazola and carried unanimously to adjourn City Council Meeting at 7:53 pm. **MOTION ADOPTED**