



## Minutes Town Council Regular Meeting January 13, 2022

Valerie Molina  
Mayor

Ricardo Vital  
Vice Mayor

Mary Bravo  
Councilmember

Gloria Cota  
Councilmember

Elvira Osuna  
Councilmember

Joe Sánchez  
Councilmember

Anita Cota Soto  
Councilmember

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Town Council Chambers  
9241 S. Avenida del Yaqui  
Guadalupe, AZ 85283  
Phone: (480) 730-3080  
Fax: (480)-505-5368

Minutes of the Guadalupe Town Council Regular Meeting held on Thursday, January 13, 2022, at 6:00 P.M., at Guadalupe Town Hall, 9241 South Avenida del Yaqui, Museum Room, Guadalupe, Arizona.

A. Mayor Molina called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m..

### B. ROLL CALL

Councilmembers Present: Mayor Valerie Molina and Councilmember Joe Sánchez. The following councilmembers participated via video conference: Vice Mayor Ricardo Vital, Councilmember Mary Bravo, Councilmember Elvira Osuna, and Councilmember Anita Cota Soto

Councilmember Absent: Councilmember Gloria Cota

Staff Present: Jeff Kulaga – Town Manager / Clerk and Jennifer Drury – Assistant to the Town Manager; and, David Ledyard – Town Attorney (via video conference)

### C. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Cota Soto provided the invocation. Mayor Molina then lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

### D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of the December 8, 2021, Town Council Special Meeting Minutes.
2. Approval of the December 9, 2021, Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes.

**Motion by Vice Mayor Vital to approve agenda items D1 and D2; second by Councilmember Bravo. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote 6-0.**

1. Councilmembers approved the December 8, 2021, Town Council Special Meeting Minutes.
2. Councilmembers approved the December 9, 2021, Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes.

E. CALL TO THE PUBLIC: No one spoke.

### F. MAYOR and COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Molina read a proclamation declaring January 23 – 29, 2022, School Choice Week in the Town of Guadalupe.

### G. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS:

#### 1. SCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCE – NICKOLAS BENIGNO SELPH

Mayor Molina called upon representatives from Solutions of Sobriety to provide a presentation regarding what their organization offers to individuals recovering from alcohol and drug addiction.

Lacey Greer and Josephine Chavez discussed how Solutions of Sobriety provides long-term substance abuse treatment. There are several treatment facilities in the valley. Ms. Greer and Ms. Chavez outlined the various treatment structures offered and insurance plans that are accepted.



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In response to a question, Ms. Greer outlined the client referral process and services offered. COVID-19 tests are also available for clients. Services are available 24-hours a day.

A Councilmember discussed treatment options and insurances accepted for like type services by the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. Ms. Greer offered to provide Councilmembers with a list of available resources.

Councilmembers requested that the Town Manager / Clerk work with representatives from Solutions to Sobriety to see what services could be offered to the Town of Guadalupe.

*There is no material for this item.*

## **2. COVID-19 ACTION UPDATE**

Mayor Molina called upon Jeff Kulaga, Town Manager / Clerk, to provide an update regarding current Town of Guadalupe COVID-19 positive case rates, scheduled testing, vaccination information, Town services and steps taken to safeguard public health and safety in response to the Coronavirus.

Mr. Kulaga reported that 32% of the Town Hall staff members have tested positive for COVID-19, 3 of 14 part-time employees have tested positive with an additional part-time employee awaiting test results. Staff and visitors in Town Hall are being asked to wear face masks and taking precautions. Due to a reduction in staff, service delays will result. Town Hall remains open for business.

Guadalupe's vaccination rate is 46%, which is the lowest municipal vaccination rate in Arizona. There is a vaccination and booster clinic scheduled for Saturday, January 29, 2022. COVID-19 positive case rates are increasing. Those not fully vaccinated are more likely to get COVID-19, be hospitalized, and/or die due to COVID-19, than those fully vaccinated.

## **3. CONSIDERATION OF REOPENING THE MERCADO – 9201 SOUTH AVENIDA DEL YAQUI**

Mayor Molina called upon Jeff Kulaga, Town Manager / Clerk to provide an update and information for Council consideration to reopen the Mercado patio and multi-purpose room for private/public event rental.

Mr. Kulaga stated that on September 9, 2021, Town Council directed staff to permit events at the Mercado for events with less than 150 guests. He discussed recent COVID-19 considerations, community and logistic considerations. Mr. Kulaga then discussed the challenge to strike a balance between combatting COVID-19 and providing an opportunity for gatherings which conflicts with spiking positive case rates and declining health conditions. Regardless, there are large scale events occurring nationally.

Currently, the Mercado has several bookings per month, through June, which were grandfathered at the September 9, 2021 Regular Council Meeting. Biehn Park also has reservations that were grandfathered in on September 9. Staff begin processing residential party permits in May, 2021.

Mr. Kulaga stated that staff is recommending that the Council direction on September 9, 2021, remain in place as follows:

- Continue to permit residential / home parties
- Limit Mercado private and or public event permits to less than 200 attendees
- Limit Biehn Park events to less than 200 participants and attendees
- Día de los Muertos: plan for event
- Light Parade and Tree lighting: plan for parade, cancel tree lighting event
- Navidad en Guadalupe: plan for drive through event

**Motion by Councilmember Bravo to cancel all grandfathered events at the Mercado and to prohibit permitting new events until the number of COVID-19 cases improve.**

Councilmembers discussed the various categories of events that could be impacted. Mr. Kulaga stated



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that the categories include events at the Mercado, which, at Council direction on September 9, booked events were grandfathered in and allowed to occur. The proposed motion would cancel pending events and discontinue allowing events at the Mercado until further notice.

Two additional Town properties that the public can reserve are Biehn Park and Stottlemire Park. Currently Biehn Park may have softball practices schedule and cancelling events at Stottlemire Park could impact the Little League season.

Councilmembers discussed the challenge of not having the resources to enforce a maximum number of people that participate in events.

Mr. Kulaga reported that there are 19 events scheduled at the Mercado through December 2022.

Mayor Molina announced that the motion died for lack of a second.

**Motion by Councilmember Bravo for staff to discontinue accepting reservations for events at the Mercado and to not honor the grandfathered events that are already scheduled at the Mercado.**

Mr. Kulaga noted that there are 7 events scheduled at the Mercado between now and April 1 that had previously grandfathered. There are an additional 4 events between April and June, and 8 events between July and December. Staff is proposing that Council revisit this issue at the first Council meeting in April, 2022.

Mr. Kulaga stated that staff is recommending that no future reservations be accepted for the Mercado, and cancelling 7 events scheduled through April.

**Vice Mayor Vital seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote 4-1-1 with Councilmember Osuna voting no and Councilmember Cota Soto abstaining.**

#### **4. 2021 MARICOPA COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN (RESOLUTION NO. R2022.01)**

Mayor Molina stated that this agenda item is for Council to consider adopting a resolution to approve the 2021 Maricopa County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (Plan). The Plan includes risk assessments for multiple natural hazards, a public outreach effort at two phases of the planning process, and development of a mitigation strategy that incorporates measures intended to eliminate or reduce the effects of future disasters throughout the County. To remain compliant with congressional regulations, the county and local jurisdictions must perform a full plan update and obtain state and Federal Emergency Management Assistance approval.

Jeff Kulaga, Town Manager / Clerk, called upon Fire Chief, Wayne Clement to brief the Council on this agenda item. Chief Clement stated that the 2021 Maricopa County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (Plan) is a county-wide hazard mitigation plan. The Plan is required to be updated every 5 years. Changes made to the Guadalupe portion of the Plan were minimal. There is no cost for this process.

**Motion by Vice Mayor Vital to approve agenda item G4; second by Councilmember Sánchez. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote 6-0.**



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Councilmembers adopted **RESOLUTION NO. R2022.01** to approve the 2021 Maricopa County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (Plan). The Plan includes risk assessments for multiple natural hazards, a public outreach effort at two phases of the planning process, and development of a mitigation strategy that incorporates measures intended to eliminate or reduce the effects of future disasters throughout the County. To remain compliant with congressional regulations, the county and local jurisdictions must perform a full plan update and obtain state and Federal Emergency Management Assistance approval.

## **5. AWARD OF CONTRACT – HOMELESSNESS SERVICES**

Jeff Kulaga, Town Manager / Clerk stated that this agenda item is for Council consider awarding a contract to Chicanos por la Causa in the amount of \$325,000 for the provision of homelessness services. The original contract was approved by Council at the December 9, 2021, Regular Council Meeting and has since been revised for further clarification. Staff is recommending that the original contract be rescinded and replaced with the revised contract. The purpose of this contract is to provide services to homeless individuals or members of households in the Town of Guadalupe in the following areas: obtaining and retaining permanent housing, community outreach, access to shelter, supportive services, track data utilizing the Homeless Management Information System, address substance abuse, healthcare and behavioral health, and resources for COVID-19 testing, vaccinations, and treatment. The contract is funded by the Town Council approved COVID-19 funds provided by the Pascua Yaqui Tribe.

Mr. Kulaga outlined portions of the original contract that have been updated which include Indemnification, Safety, Confidentiality, and recognizing Chicanos por la Causa (CPLC) as an incorporated entity. The scope of work was not impacted. Staff and CPLC recommend approval of the contract.

In response to a question, Mr. Kulaga stated that staff has met with CPLC staff and have toured the Town. Once the contract is approved, CPLC will begin providing services to the homelessness population.

**Motion Councilmember Cota Soto by to approve agenda item G5; second by Vice Mayor Vital.  
Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote 6-0.**

Councilmembers awarded a contract (C2022-01) to Chicanos por la Causa in the amount of \$325,000 for the provision of homelessness services. The original contract (C2021-71) was approved by Council at the December 9, 2021, Regular Council Meeting and has since been revised for further clarification. Staff is recommending that the original contract be rescinded and replaced with the revised contract. The purpose of this contract is to provide services to homeless individuals or members of households in the Town of Guadalupe in the following areas: obtaining and retaining permanent housing, community outreach, access to shelter, supportive services, track data utilizing the Homeless Management Information System, address substance abuse, healthcare and behavioral health, and resources for COVID-19 testing, vaccinations, and treatment. The contract is funded by the Town Council approved COVID-19 funds provided by the Pascua Yaqui Tribe.

## **6. STATE OF ARIZONA (ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION) INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR SOUTH CALLE MARAVILLA RETAINING WALL IMPROVEMENTS (RESOLUTION NO. R2022.02)**

Jeff Kulaga, Town Manager / Clerk stated that this agenda item is for Council to consider adopting a resolution authorizing the Mayor, or designee, to enter into an intergovernmental agreement (C2022-02) with the State of Arizona, acting by and through its Department of Transportation (ADOT). As part of the Broadway Curve Project (Project) and at the request of the Town of Guadalupe, ADOT will leave a portion of the retaining wall adjacent to the South Calle Maravilla cul-de-sac unrusted, for which the Town will assume maintenance responsibility at the completion of the Project, followed by the Town funding the aesthetic enhancement of the wall. Adoption of the resolution authorizes the Mayor, or designee to sign all necessary documents in furtherance of this agreement.





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Mr. Kulaga stated that as part of the Broadway Curve Project, ADOT will be widening the Guadalupe Road bridge located over Interstate-10 to include a sidewalk and retaining wall on the north side of the bridge. There will leave a blank space on the retaining wall at the South Calle Maravilla cul-de-sac for the Town to use for a mural. As part of the reconstruction of the bridge, ADOT will also be repairing a section of roadway where flooding is occurring.

Completion of the bridge and wall is anticipated in late 2023. The entire project is scheduled for completion in late 2024, at which time the Town can move forward with painting the mural.

In response to a question, Mr. Kulaga clarified that the Town is not taking any private property during this process. All of the impacted areas included in the contract and process are owned by ADOT, in ADOT right of way. It will be the responsibility of the Town to issue a Request for Proposals for the preparation of the mural. The Town will then be responsible for maintaining the mural.

**Motion Vice Mayor Vital by to approve agenda item G6; second by Councilmember Osuna. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote 6-0.**

Councilmembers adopted **RESOLUTION NO. R2022.02** authorizing the Mayor, or designee, to enter into an intergovernmental agreement (C2022-02) with the State of Arizona, acting by and through its Department of Transportation (ADOT). As part of the Broadway Curve Project (Project) and at the request of the Town of Guadalupe, ADOT will leave a portion of the retaining wall adjacent to the South Calle Maravilla cul-de-sac unrusticated, for which the Town will assume maintenance responsibility at the completion of the Project, followed by the Town funding the aesthetic enhancement of the wall. Adoption of the resolution authorizes the Mayor, or designee to sign all necessary documents in furtherance of this agreement.

## 7. CLAIMS

Mayor Molina stated that this agenda item is for Council to consider approving the check register for November 2021, totaling \$639,622.01.

**Motion Vice Mayor Vital by to approve agenda item G7; second by Councilmember Bravo. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote 6-0.**

Councilmembers approved the check register for November 2021, totaling \$639,622.01.

## 8. CLAIMS

Mayor Molina stated that this agenda item is for Council to consider approving the check register for December 2021, totaling \$732,436.29.

**Motion Vice Mayor Vital by to approve agenda item G8; second by Councilmember Osuna. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote 6-0.**

Councilmembers approved the check register for December 2021, totaling \$732,436.29.

## H. TOWN MANAGERS' COMMENTS

Jeff Kulaga, Town Manager / Clerk

- The Town is short staffed and continues to deliver services to the best of its ability.

## I. COUNCILMEMBERS' COMMENTS

Councilmember Bravo

- Thanked staff for their work.
- Thanked residents.
- Wished peace to all.
- Wished for a cure to the virus.



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Councilmember Cota Soto

- o Thanked staff for their work.
- o Thanked Star Luis for her work on the Mercado events.

Councilmember Osuna

- o Emphasized the importance of getting vaccinated and staying safe.
- o Thanked staff for their work.
- o Thanked everyone for keeping the community safe.

Councilmember Sánchez

- o Thanked staff for their work.
- o He will be painting over graffiti at Stottlemire Park

Vice Mayor Vital

- o Thanked staff for their work.
- o Thanked the community.
- o Discussed an upcoming vaccination clinic.

Mayor Molina

- o Thanked staff for their work.
- o Out of 19 staff members, six have tested positive for COVID-19.
- o The Community Action Program will continue to provide food boxes.
- o Urged everyone to stay safe.
- o Cancellation of the events at the Mercado is to ensure that the community is safe.

J. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion by Vice Mayor Vital to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting; second by Councilmember Bravo. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote 6-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

  
Valerie Molina, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Jeff Kulaga, Town Manager / Town Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the January 13, 2022, Town of Guadalupe, Town Council Regular Meeting. I further certify the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

  
Jeff Kulaga, Town Manager / Town Clerk