

MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BISBEE, COUNTY OF COCHISE, AND STATE OF ARIZONA, HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2021 AT 6:00 PM VIA ZOOM.

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR BUDGE AT 6:00PM.

ROLL CALL

COUNCIL

Councilmember Louis Pawlik, Ward III
Councilmember Joni Giacomino, Ward II
Councilmember Frank Davis, Ward I
Mayor Ken Budge
Councilmember Leslie Johns, Ward I
Councilmember Joan Hansen, Ward II
Councilmember Anna Cline, Ward III, Mayor Pro Tempore

STAFF

Theresa Coleman, City Manager
Ashlee Coronado, City Clerk

CITY ATTORNEY

Joseph Estes

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED AND/OR CONSIDERED AT THESE MEETINGS:

1. Discussion and possible acceptance of the resignation from Theresa Coleman, City Manager.
Ken Budge, Mayor

MOTION: Mayor Budge moved to accept the resignation from Theresa Coleman pursuant to a mutually agreed upon separation agreement.

SECOND: Councilmember Giacomino

Councilmember Davis asked what problems were we solving by accepting her resignation. Were we in fact creating more. He went on to say that during Ms. Coleman's tenure she appeared to have done a fine job of managing the day to day running of the City affairs. She had gained the respect and support of the majority of the City employees. He discussed his interactions with Ms. Coleman on the Design Review Board. He also spoke on her housing initiative. He said that if Ms. Coleman stayed on he would work for better communication.

Councilmember Hansen said that this was not a voluntary resignation. This came after Mayor Budge gave her an ultimatum to resign or he would fire her. There was no regard for the things Ms. Coleman had done. She was adhering to the rules and regulations of City Ordinances. This was a sticking point to some in Bisbee. The Mayor wants Ms. Coleman gone regardless that she was a strong City Manager.

Councilmember Pawlik said that he was unhappy with the way this had developed. Ms. Coleman had been an above average City Manager. When asked Ms. Coleman stated she wanted to remain the City Manager. Therefore, he refused to accept her resignation.

Councilmember Johns said that she understood how heartbreaking this was and that she had nothing but positive interactions with Theresa. But at the same time she could not ignore the wishes of her constituents.

She said that this was a very complex situation. Sometimes things can't be repaired and we may be in one of those situations.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Councilmember Giacomino, Johns, Cline and Mayor Budge.

NAYS: Councilmember Pawlik, Davis and Hansen

MOTION PASSED: AYES -4 NAYS -3

- 2. Discussion and Possible Approval of a Motion to Go into Executive Session Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(a)(1) for Consideration of the Employment and Appointment of a City Manager
Per ARS § 38-431.03(a)(1), the City Council may vote to go into executive session for discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, demotion, dismissal, salaries, disciplining or resignation of a public officer, appointee or employee of any public body.

Ken Budge Mayor

MOTION: Mayor Budge moved to enter into Executive Session

SECOND: Councilmember Johns

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

MOTION: Councilmember Davis moved to come out of Executive Session

SECOND: Councilmember Cline

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

- 3. Discussion and Possible Appointment of an Interim City Manager.

Ken Budge, Mayor

MOTION: Mayor Budge moved to appoint Ashlee Coronado as Interim City Manager.

SECOND: Councilmember Cline

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Councilmember Giacomino, Davis, Johns, Cline and Mayor Budge.

NAYS: Councilmember Pawlik and Hansen

MOTION PASSED: AYES -5 NAYS -2

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Mayor Budge moved to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND: Councilmember Johns

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT: 7:08 PM

Ken Budge, Mayor