

MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BISBEE, COUNTY OF COCHISE, AND STATE OF ARIZONA, HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2026, AT 7:00 PM AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 118 ARIZONA STREET, BISBEE, ARIZONA.

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR BUDGE AT 7:02PM.

ROLL CALL

COUNCIL

Councilmember Karen Schumacher, Ward I
Councilmember Pete Skinner, Ward II
Councilmember Trish Damon, Ward III
Mayor Ken Budge
Councilmember Anna Cline, Ward III, Mayor Pro Tempore
Councilmember Mel Sowid, Ward II
Councilmember Lori Reynolds, Ward I

STAFF

Ashlee Coronado, Interim City Manager / City Clerk
Keri Bagley, Finance Director
Bridgette Kantner, Personnel Director
Matthew Gurney, Public Works Director
Logan Dodd, Operations Manager
Tim Cox, Police Chief
Jay Ritchie, Deputy Police Chief
Melissa Hartman, City Planner

CITY ATTORNEY

Joseph Estes

INVOCATION: Mayor Budge called for a moment of silence for personal reflection.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

- Fred Miller said the bed tax was created for visitors to Bisbee, and voters later approved increasing it for marketing to boost overnight stays. He said he hopes any future proposals for other uses will honor that voter intent. He also supported rescinding the previous marketing RFP in agenda item 17.
- Nolan Gouguet spoke about the First Amendment, saying it protects free speech, including criticism of public officials, and supports transparency, accountability, and public participation in government. He emphasized the importance of preserving these constitutional protections in the democratic process.
- Circles Robinson spoke about ICE petition, citing an opinion by Attorney General Kris Mayes that local limits on cooperation with immigration officials do not violate state or federal law. She urged the mayor and council to support policies reflecting Bisbee's welcoming and progressive values.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WERE DISCUSSED, CONSIDERED, AND/OR DECIDED UPON AT THIS MEETING:

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Subject to availability of funds.

MOTION: Councilmember Cline moved to approve accounts payable in the amount of \$314,663.73.

SECOND: Councilmember Schumacher

Councilmember Skinner inquired about an item in the accounts payable report, and staff responded.

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

2. Approval of the Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Session of Mayor and Council held on Tuesday, May 5, 2026.

Ashlee Coronado, City Clerk

- B. Acceptance of the Resignation of Bill Bailey from the Parks and Recreation Committee.

Ashlee Coronado, City Clerk

- C. Approval of the Park, Facility and Right-of-Way Use Permit for the Bisbee Rotary Club for the use of Cole Avenue, Bisbee Road/Douglas Street, Ruppe Avenue, and Arizona Street for the Annual 4th of July Parade on Saturday, July 4, 2026, from 11:00am to 1:00pm with possible waiver of fees.

Ashlee Coronado, City Clerk

- D. Approval of an Inmate Work Contract ("IWC") No. 26-067-31 Bisbee Police Department.

Ashlee Coronado, City Clerk

Councilmember Schumacher asked a procedural question about whether she could ask a question without pulling an item, then requested to pull item D regarding the Inmate Work Contract to ask questions about it.

MOTION: Councilmember Damon moved to approve consent agenda items A through C, including a waiver of fees for the 4th of July parade.

SECOND: Councilmember Sowid

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

- D. Approval of an Inmate Work Contract ("IWC") No. 26-067-31 Bisbee Police Department.

Councilmember Schumacher questioned why we are approving an Inmate Work Contract at 50 cents per hour when another agenda item would change the rate to a dollar.

Ms. Coronado explained these were two different contracts - this one was specific for the police department, which had decided to keep the rate at 50 cents.

MOTION: Councilmember Cline moved to approve consent agenda item D.

SECOND: Councilmember Sowid MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

3. Public Hearing and Discussion and Possible Approval of Resolution R-26-13: Establishing Increases to Wastewater Rates or Rate Components Fees, or Service Charges for a six (6) year period; Providing for Repeal of Conflicting Resolutions; and Providing for Severability.

Keri Bagley, Finance Director

Ms. Bagley explained the increase and stated this increase would be reflected in the August billing for July.

Mayor Budge opened the public hearing on Resolution R-26-13 for wastewater rates.

No one spoke in favor or against, and there were no written notifications.

Mayor Budge closed the public hearing.

Mayor Budge explained this was not something any of them liked to do, noting they hadn't done a rate increase for a number of years - only one in the past four to five years. He explained that when they did the original study, they were supposed to raise rates, but then the pandemic hit, and they felt it wasn't a good time to raise rates when people didn't have jobs. The rate increase was delayed, but another study showed they were now behind, so rates would need to go up faster than if they had acted earlier.

Mayor Budge mentioned that he had taken office during the pandemic when it was really tough to raise rates, and while they probably could have addressed this a year earlier, it wouldn't have made much difference. He noted that after looking at other cities and towns their size, Bisbee's rates were on the higher scale but not the highest. He pointed out that while their plant was over 22 years old and needed upgrades, unlike many other municipalities facing plants that couldn't handle the load requiring completely new plants, their plant should be able to be rebuilt and continue serving for many years with good capacity for growth.

Councilmember Damon commented that while everything was rising and it was really tough, in a town like Bisbee with aging infrastructure, they had to be able to do it and bite the bullet.

Councilmember Schumacher noted she had seen pushback on social media and reminded the public that government was participatory, so people needed to show up if this was something they didn't want. Since no one was there to speak against it, and considering they needed this to match grant funding, it seemed like a necessity.

Mayor Budge mentioned they had two lower rate amounts available for people who qualified for low-income assistance, encouraging anyone who felt they might qualify to come down and talk to staff to potentially get on either the lower rate or the lowest rate available.

MOTION: Councilmember Skinner moved to approve Resolution R-26-13, adopting an increase to the wastewater rates as presented in Exhibit A.

SECOND: Councilmember Reynolds

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

4. Discussion and Possible Approval of Resolution R-26-12, Accepting the Fiscal Year 2027 PSPRS Pension Funding Policy.

Keri Bagley, Finance Director

Ms. Bagley explained this was required by state statute - they had to name someone responsible for submitting annual reports to the auditor general.

Mayor Budge commented that years ago, the pension system was eating them alive, but they had taken out bonds at a much lower interest rate than what PSPRS was charging, and now they had a plan to move forward. He noted this was a good way to handle it so the pension wouldn't be an albatross around the city's neck forever, and eventually it would be paid off. He was pleased they now had over 100 percent funding ratio in both pension systems when it used to be around 8 or 9 percent.

MOTION: Councilmember Cline moved to approve Resolution R-26-12 approving the PSPRS pension funding policy for fiscal year 2027.

SECOND: Councilmember Sowid

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

5. Discussion and Possible Approval of Resolution R-26-11: Designating Keri Bagley as the Chief Fiscal Officer (CFO) for Fiscal Year 2027 for the Purpose of Submitting the City's Annual Expenditure Limitation Report to the Arizona Auditor General's Office.

Keri Bagley, Finance Director

Ms. Bagley explained this was required by state statute to name someone responsible for submitting the annual reports to the auditor general, which they did every year.

MOTION: Councilmember Damon moved to approve Resolution R-26-11 designating Keri Bagley as the CFO for the City of Bisbee for Fiscal Year 2027.

SECOND: Councilmember Cline

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

6. Discussion and Possible Approval of the FY27 Employee Benefit Renewal Agreements.

Bridgette Kantner, Personnel Director

Ms. Kantner presented the medical revised renewal, explaining it was called "revised" because Blue Cross Blue Shield initially proposed a 17 percent increase, but CBIZ was able to negotiate it down to 12 percent, which was quite good in their area at that time. She noted there were some small changes to the plans overall - some copays increased, prescription drug copays increased slightly, and emergency room copays increased from \$350 to \$450. Overall, these were the only changes to the plan. She recommended continuing with the same Blue Cross Blue Shield plan, which provided 90 percent coinsurance for Blue Cross and 10 percent for the employee.

Councilmember Sowid asked if the 12 percent increase had been adjusted in the budget, and Ms. Bagley confirmed it had been included.

Councilmember Damon and Cline expressed appreciation that CBIZ brought the increase down to 12 percent, noting other insurance increases were much higher - some as high as 40 percent. Also appreciated the 90/10 split, noting that when she had insurance elsewhere, it was often 60/40 or 50/50.

Mayor Budge confirmed that dental and vision rates remained the same.

Ms. Kantner explained that several benefits had rate guarantees for multiple years: dental renewal had a rate pass for two years expiring July 1, 2027; vision had a rate guarantee pushed through until 2028; and basic voluntary life, short-term disability, and long-term disability with Mutual of Omaha also had rate passes for two years expiring July 1, 2027. The employee assistance program with Alliance Work Partners also received a rate pass for the fiscal year.

Councilmember Cline asked about the buy-up option for employees and whether many used it.

Ms. Kantner noted they had a very healthy enrollment population with 113 employees total (not all full-time) and 85 people enrolled in healthcare.

MOTION: Councilmember Cline moved to approve FY27 Employee Benefit Renewal agreements for Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) Health Insurance and stated Ancillary plans.

SECOND: Councilmember Sowid

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

7. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Recommendation from the Bisbee Arts Commission to Fund a Grant Application for Carolyn Toronto in the amount of \$500.00 from the Bisbee Arts Commission Fund.

Karen Schumacher, BAC Liaison

Councilmember Schumacher explained this would be a reimbursement for Carolyn Toronto who had put together the Calliope Women's Music and Art Festival the previous weekend. She noted many citizens attended and it was very well received. The \$500 would go toward paying the musicians, all local, who played at the festival.

MOTION: Councilmember Schumacher moved to approve the funding of the grant application for Carolyn Toronto in the amount of \$500 from the Bisbee Arts Commission Fund.

SECOND: Councilmember Damon

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

8. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Recommendation from the Bisbee Arts Commission to Fund a Grant Application for Andrew van Baal in the amount of \$500.00 from the Bisbee Arts Commission Fund.
Karen Schumacher, BAC Liaison

Councilmember Schumacher explained this was an interesting project - a low-budget feature film being filmed in Bisbee in the fall. The Arts Commission had decided to approve the \$500 request, with the money going mostly to locals who would be extras and for locations and food, putting money back into the local economy.

MOTION: Councilmember Schumacher moved to approve the funding of the grant application for Andrew van Baal in the amount of \$500 from the Bisbee Arts Commission Fund.

SECOND: Councilmember Damon

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

9. Discussion and Possible Approval of the Recommendation from the Bisbee Arts Commission to Fund a Grant Application for Joe Barron in the amount of \$398.00 from the Bisbee Arts Commission Fund.
Karen Schumacher, BAC Liaison

Councilmember Schumacher explained that Joe Barron worked with KBRP and had been doing live music sessions that people enjoyed. He needed better gear for this work, so the Arts Commission unanimously approved his request for \$398.

Mayor Budge noted that going forward, these Arts Commission grant approvals would be placed on the consent agenda since the council generally approved them and supported them.

Councilmember Schumacher appreciated this approach, noting that the Arts Commission raised their own money and the city just held it for them, making the consent agenda approach more sensible.

MOTION: Councilmember Schumacher moved to approve the funding of the grant application for Joe Barron in the amount of \$398 from the Bisbee Arts Commission Fund.

SECOND: Councilmember Reynolds

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

10. Discussion and Possible Approval of a Subaward Agreement between Cochise County Department of Development Services and the City of Bisbee in the amount of \$150,000.00 to be used for environmental remediation and clean-up for 30 Main Street Bisbee, AZ.
Melissa Hartman, City Planner

Ms. Hartman presented the \$150,000 subaward agreement for environmental remediation and cleanup of 30 Main Street. She explained they had been waiting a lengthy time to get this Brownfields funding contract from Cochise County to do the actual cleanup at 30 Main. She noted they had gone through almost a year's worth of compliance reports - the same number of reports for 30 Main that they did for Hillcrest. All reports were now completed, which was why the contract had come forward. She was happy with the \$150,000 amount and asked for approval of the contract.

Councilmember Sowid asked if \$150,000 would be enough.

Ms. Hartman explained that when they got bids before, it was enough, though prices had gone up. They would RFP for the \$150,000 and contractors would have to come in at that amount.

Mayor Budge thanked Ms. Hartman for her extensive work on this project, noting the complexity involved, including getting letters from tribes and many other requirements. He mentioned going to her office every couple of weeks to check on progress, and there were always multiple additional requirements.

Ms. Hartman explained that everything they had done was posted at both the library and City Hall for citizens to review, as required, including a book of all reporting and contamination rates. The information was also posted on the county website.

Councilmember Schumacher asked about the timeline.

Ms. Hartman explained the RFP had to go through Cochise County procurement, and she had submitted the document that day with a projected bid date of June 9th, making it a 30-day bid closing July 9th. The cleanup was originally projected to take 6-8 weeks, which likely hadn't changed.

Regarding street shutdowns, Ms. Hartman said there would be some kind of street shutdown for safety, possibly tenting, but she wouldn't know specifics until bids came back.

Mr. Gurney, Public Works Director, added that when they had spoken with the original contractor a year and a half ago, they discussed doing night work to minimize disruptions, so there would be lane closures but hopefully limited to nighttime hours.

Councilmember Schumacher asked about timing relative to monsoon season.

Mr. Gurney expected a start date around September depending on the contractor, with a theoretical 6–8-week completion timeframe. The timing would depend on contractor comfort during rainy season.

Ms. Hartman noted that from Hillcrest experience, once contractors begin work, they have to do at least three weekly reports, so it doesn't pay for them to go over projected timelines. There would also be a contractor monitoring air quality during the work.

Councilmember Cline thanked Ms. Hartman for staying on the project and noted that while \$150,000 seemed like a lot, it really wasn't much for environmental remediation, making this a pretty good deal.

MOTION: Councilmember Reynolds moved to approve the subgrant agreement between Cochise County and the City of Bisbee in the amount of \$150,000 to be used for environmental remediation and cleanup for 30 Main Street, Bisbee, Arizona.

SECOND: Councilmember Cline

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

11. Discussion and Possible Approval of Change Order with Poster Mirto McDonald for Commercial Kitchen design consulting in the amount of \$3,864.68.

Mike Normand, Construction Project Manager Camp Naco

Mr. Normand explained this was a change order with architect Poster Mirto McDonald to add Arizona Restaurant Supply as a subcontractor to provide design guidance assistance with the commercial kitchen layout in building A3 (formerly the mess hall) at Camp Naco. The commercial kitchen would support events, possibly serve as a teaching kitchen, and handle catering events.

Mr. Normand explained that Poster Mirto McDonald didn't have on-staff expertise in commercial kitchen design. After discussion and coordination with the Bisbee Senior Center and Melissa Hartman on their kitchen remodeling project, they collaborated and spoke with Arizona Restaurant Supply, who would serve as the sub-

consultant to Poster McDonald. He felt their rates were very reasonable and this would help get the kitchen design moving so they could finish the interior design of the building and get it under construction.

Mr. Normand noted that renovation of this building was funded in part by the National Park Service grant they received the previous year in partnership with the Mellon Foundation. The kitchen layout was currently a roadblock to finishing the design, and once they determined equipment types and layout, they could move forward with electrical and utility placement. The exterior work on the building and structural components were already underway under a previously approved construction contract.

Councilmember Cline expressed excitement about the swift progress and the amount of work being accomplished at the site.

MOTION: Councilmember Cline moved to approve change order number 6 with Poster Mirto McDonald in the amount of \$3,864.68 to support the commercial kitchen development at Camp Naco.

SECOND: Councilmember Damon

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

12. Discussion and Possible Approval of a new 60-month lease agreement between the Bisbee Police Department and RICOH USA, Inc. for the acquisition of two upgraded intelligent-series copier/fax machines. These units will replace the department's current leased machines, which have become obsolete.
Timothy Cox, Chief of Police

Chief Cox explained this was a simple renewal contract for their current 60-month contract coming up in June. RICOH was the state-approved vendor they had been using for a long time, and surprisingly, the new contract was slightly cheaper than the last one by about \$40 per month.

MOTION: Councilmember Cline moved to approve a new 60-month lease agreement between the Bisbee Police Department and RICOH USA Inc. for the acquisition of 2 upgraded intelligence series copier fax machines to replace the department's current lease machines which had become obsolete.

SECOND: Councilmember Damon

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

13. Discussion and Possible Approval of Contract Amendment No. 1 with the Arizona Department of Corrections to increase inmate labor from a rate of \$.50/hr. to \$1.00/hr.
Matthew Gurney, Public Works Director

Mr. Gurney explained the amendment would increase inmate labor pay from \$0.50 to \$1.00 per hour. He said the increase had been planned during last year's budget process but was delayed unless retention became an issue. By November, departments began losing inmates to other programs and cities offering higher pay, including ADOT at \$1.50 per hour.

Mr. Gurney said Public Works, parks, wastewater, and street crews relied heavily on inmate labor for daily operations, including alleyways, roadways, cemetery maintenance, airport projects, and property cleanup. He noted inmates were rapidly leaving and frequently asked about the promised raise.

Mr. Gurney stated approximately 21–25 inmates worked 6–8 hours per day and the added cost was minor compared to regular staffing costs.

Mr. Gurney also explained that inmates voluntarily participated, often to earn money and gain work experience in trades such as building maintenance.

Mayor Budge noted the increase would cost about \$80 more per day for 25 inmates and said the program provided significant value to the city.

MOTION: Councilmember Sowid moved to approve contract amendment number 1 with the Arizona Department of Corrections to increase inmate labor from a rate of 50 cents an hour to \$1.00 an hour.

SECOND: Councilmember Cline

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

14. Discussion and Possible Acceptance of the Resignation of Councilmember Lori Reynolds and Discussion and Recommendation for scheduling to fill this vacancy.

Ken Budge, Mayor

Mayor Budge thanked Council Member Reynolds for her service, acknowledging it had been tough lately and that he understood her decision. He noted her letter indicated she would serve until June 1st, but under their charter, they could begin soliciting applications the next day. The application period would be open for 15 days but couldn't exceed 30 days. He planned to hold the selection meeting on the second meeting in June (June 16th) to review applications and choose someone.

Councilmember Reynolds stated she appreciated support from everyone, staff and community members who felt she had done a good job. She explained that while she might be a good fit for the job, she wasn't sure the job was a good fit for her, so she decided for personal and other reasons that it wasn't a good time for her to continue.

Mayor Budge noted that whoever was appointed would serve a full two-year term, making it almost like being elected.

Council Member Damon expressed that Reynolds was her friend and colleague, noting that everyone said she had done a great job. While she understood there were personal reasons, Reynolds would be missed.

MOTION: Mayor Budge moved to accept the resignation of Councilmember Reynolds and set a replacement date of June 16th, starting the application process immediately for the required 15-day period.

SECOND: Councilmember Skinner

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

15. Discussion and Possible Approval of Resolution R-26-14, Approving the transfer of funds in the amount of \$140,576.97 from the Capital Improvement funds back to the Bed Tax Fund.

Karen Schumacher, Councilmember Ward I

Mel Sowid, Councilmember Ward I

Councilmember Schumacher explained the funds were originally transferred for the 30 Main project, but since the project was no longer moving forward, she believed the money should be returned to its original fund and could be reallocated later if needed.

Councilmember Schumacher asked why the transfer was done in increments of \$33,000 rather than all at once.

Ms. Bagley, Finance Director, explained that when moving large chunks of money at one time, it hits the budget all at once, making it look like the entire budget was spent. For transfers like this, they divided by 12 and moved set amounts monthly to better match revenue with expenses.

Councilmember Schumacher asked whether the transfers had been stopped.

Mayor Budge clarified they were never officially told to stop transferring the money - he had said there was no need to transfer it anymore because they wouldn't need it, but it continued because it required a council resolution to stop transfers. The last \$33,000 had gone in the previous month, making the total \$140,000 instead of \$100,000.

Councilmember Reynolds opposed the transfer back, arguing that the money was capital funds that could really be needed for the Bisbee Bikeways project. She noted that Bikeways had raised significant money

but was trying to reduce costs and had asked if the city could help. She saw this as \$140,000 that would go toward tourism and capital development, expressing this as her preference for the funds.

Mayor Budge interjected with extensive discussion about the Bikeways project situation. He explained they had received a larger bid than planned and were working hard to lower costs. He had received a personal call that day asking what could be done, with a meeting set for Thursday. He believed they might not have to seal the entire road (saving almost \$300,000), had gotten support from someone on the five-year plan board, and there were possibilities for different barrier types.

Mayor Budge noted there was \$3.2 million in the fund for the project plus \$500,000 in reserves. He suggested taking part of reserves (\$300,000-\$400,000) and adding it to the \$3.2 million. If they could get costs down to \$3.6-\$3.7 million but needed reserves, they could use \$100,000 from this fund. If more was needed, he was willing to borrow from the mine tour capital improvement fund and pay it back over four years.

Mayor Budge emphasized that the business community had supported Bikeways throughout, and Meggen Connolley had used economic development and tourism figures for years. His suggestion was not to move the money back at this time and see how everything played out.

Councilmember Damon asked about bed tax fund usage since the increase that went to voters was specifically for overnight destination.

Mayor Budge explained there was currently \$250,000 in bed tax reserves, and only the increase was voted on for overnight destination. He felt they were on safe ground since the \$140,000 was not more than half of what the increase generated.

Mr. Estes, City Attorney, noted that the Bikeways project was originally presented as a tourism-based project, and any tourism-based project would qualify for bed tax funds.

Councilmember Sowid expressed confusion about the direction they were going, feeling they were going in too many directions. While he was a big supporter of Bikeways and wanted to find a way to help. He recommended putting the money back where it came from, avoiding creating uncertainties.

Council agreed about not wanting to lose money and noted there was no urgency to transfer the money back immediately.

Councilmember Schumacher supported the Bikeways project as tourism and felt it fit with bed tax fund purposes but noted they would get pushback since they'd had nine months without marketing and were using money supposed to be in reserves for bed tax. She thought it would be insulting to hotels that had raised the money through taxes.

Mayor Budge clarified they had \$250,000 in bed tax reserves currently and needed to hire a company to start marketing.

No motion was made, and the item did not move forward.

16. Discussion and Possible Approval of an Agreement to Provide Service Pursuant to a Cooperative Purchasing Contract and GSA Statement of Work with CivicPlus, LLC for Doc Access Implementation accessibility services to support ADA website compliance.

Ashlee Coronado, Interim City Manger

Ms. Coronado explained this was for ADA website compliance - the last piece of the puzzle to make all documents on the website ADA accessible. The system would read and translate documents for whoever needed them. The first year would cost \$5,800 for initial implementation, then approximately \$4,000 thereafter.

Mr. Estes, City Attorney, noted he had recently given a CLA presentation on ADA issues, specifically website requirements. The federal government had pushed back the implementation requirement by a year due to difficulties with school districts and other entities getting their sites ADA compliant, but it required all audio, video, and documents to be ADA accessible from websites.

Mayor Budge noted the pushback had just come through the news two days prior, but since they were ready with the last piece, there was no need to delay. They would be fully compliant once this was implemented.

MOTION: Councilmember Cline moved to approve an agreement to provide service pursuant to cooperative purchasing contract with GSA statement of work with CivicPlus LLC for doc access implementation accessibility services to support ADA website compliance.

SECOND: Councilmember Sowid

MOTION PASSED: UNANIMOUSLY

17. Discussion and Possible Approval to rescind the contract for DMO Services and Rejecting all DMO bids and Possible Direction regarding posting of a new RFP.

Ashlee Coronado, Interim City Manager

Mayor Budge explained that due to letters challenging what they did previously, they decided to reject the current bid and all bids and go back out again. This was a matter of urgency, so they wanted to go out as quickly as possible. Council members had the new RFP solicitation on their desks, which was almost exactly the same except for a couple of sentences added to address the objections.

Councilmember Schumacher asked if this was because of a complaint made by Bisbee Forward.

Mayor Budge confirmed there were actually two bid protests that came in.

Councilmember Schumacher noted she hadn't had a chance to review the RFP since receiving it that evening, making it difficult to make a decision. She also expressed frustration about figuring out how this would work before implementing it.

Ms. Coronado noted there was a possibility of having a tourism advisory board, which had been on the agenda, but because of the bid protest, they thought it best not to move forward with anything. If this was approved, they could bring back a tourism board at the next council meeting.

Mr. Estes, City Attorney, clarified that the bid protest was timely. He had commented at the previous meeting that council had already awarded the contract during interviews, but after reviewing the meeting again, he found that wasn't the motion made, which was why the protest was determined to be timely.

MOTION: Mayor Budge moved to rescind the offer of contract, reject all bids in response to the DMO RFP, and direct staff to immediately reissue the RFP to clarify that the RFP seeks DMO services from qualified agencies under the AOT rules, including agencies providing services with the city as the designated DMO.

SECOND: Councilmember Cline

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Councilmember Skinner, Damon, Reynolds, Sowid, Cline and Mayor Budge

NAYS: Councilmember Schumacher

MOTION PASSED: AYES-6 NAYS-1

18. City Manager's Report:

- Ms. Coronado reported two items:
 - The pool would be opening on Friday thanks to public works' hard work to get it open on time.
 - Hillcrest would be going back out for bids, hopefully resulting in a good bid to finally resolve that issue.

Councilmember Skinner asked about social media activity regarding fundraising to keep the pool funded for an additional period from August forward.

Ms. Coronado explained this was typically done by the Friends of the Pool, who had raised funds in past years to keep it open longer.

Mayor Budge confirmed they accepted donations for the pool, noting that when kids went back to school, they had to pay for additional lifeguards.

COUNCIL COMMENTS OR FUTURE AGENDA ITEM SUGGESTIONS: (Council members may suggest topics for future meeting agendas, but Council will not here discuss, deliberate, or take any action on these topics.):

Mayor Budge stated that, as there was nothing else before this Council this meeting was adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:30PM

Ken Budge, Mayor