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CALL TO ORDER

[Time: 00:00:03]

Mayor Ortega: Welcome. I call to order the October 5th, 2021, city council regular meeting to order. City clerk, Ben Lane, please conduct the roll call.

ROLL CALL

[Time: 00:00:20]

Clerk Lane: Thank you, mayor. Mayor David Ortega.

Mayor Ortega: Present.

Clerk Ben Lane: Vice Mayor Tammy Caputi.

Vice Mayor Caputi: Here.

Clerk Ben Lane: Councilmembers Tom Durham.

Councilmember Durham: Present.

Clerk Ben Lane: Betty Janik.

Councilmember Janik: Here.

Clerk Ben Lane: Kathy Littlefield.

Councilmember Littlefield: Here.

Clerk Ben Lane: Linda Milhaven.

Councilmember Milhaven: Here.

Clerk Ben Lane: Solange Whitehead.

Councilmember Whitehead: Here.

Clerk Ben Lane: City Manager Jim Thompson.

Jim Thompson: Here.

Clerk Ben Lane: City Attorney Sherry Scott.

Sherry Scott: Here.

Clerk Ben Lane: City Treasurer Sonia Andrews.

Sonia Andrews: Here.

Clerk Ben Lane: City Auditor Sharron Walker.

Sharron Walker: Here.

Clerk Ben Lane: And the Clerk is present. Thank you, mayor.

[Time: 00:00:49]

Mayor Ortega: Excellent. Well, we have Scottsdale Police Officer Anthony Wells and Dustin Patrick and firefighter Shawn Killiner here should anyone require assistance. I will ask councilwoman Betty Janik to lead us in the pledge.

Councilmember Janik: I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands: One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Mayor Ortega: Well, thank you. I would like to thank councilwoman Betty Janik for her dedicated service as Vice Mayor. And on the next rotation for nine months, Tammy Caputi will serve as Vice Mayor. So thank you as well.

Next, we have a proclamation involving the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy. I will ask Justin Owen to come forward here to accept the proclamation for the Scottsdale McDowell Sonoran Preserve month. What I will do is I will read it from here, as -- as we prepare for some comments. So thank you so much, Justin, for being here. Okay.

Whereas, the Sonoran desert is a majestic, fragile region and the McDowell Sonoran Preserve consists of well over 30,500 acres of protected natural open space with abundance wildlife, native plants and geological wonders, and whereas the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy provides interactive, ecological education, leading edge scientific research and recruits, trains and directs 650 tireless stewards for the benefit of visitors of all ages.

And whereas, the McDowell Sonoran Preserve commission recommends to the city council proactive and sustainable strategies realistic funding mechanisms, master planning and oversight to assure that our preserve remains intact for future generations, and whereas at the Fraesfield Trailhead on October 31st, 2021, we will celebrate the opening of the Camino Campana interpretive trail, named for honorable mayor Campana, who helped to shape the McDowell Sonoran Preserve.

And whereas on November 13th, 2021, we will celebrate the unveiling of the Pima Dynamite Trailhead, and the Art Decabooter, to honor Art Decabooter, the founding chair of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve commission.

Therefore, I David D. Ortega, mayor of Scottsdale do hereby proclaim October 2021 as McDowell Sonoran Preserve month in Scottsdale and encourage everyone to experience the beauty of our McDowell Sonoran Preserve to consider donating to the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy and most of all to thank the stewards and the commissioners who volunteer to protect nature. Thank you very much.

[Time: 00:04:58]

Justin Owen: Thank you, Mayor Ortega and councilmembers for recognizing the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy and as you said our over 700 volunteer stewards in today's proclamation. I would like to add as we celebrate the 27th anniversary of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, we are celebrating the 30th anniversary of McDowell Sonoran Conservancy which was formed to perform our magnificent McDowell mountains.

We want to sincerely thank the visionary community leaders and elected officials who imagined what is now the largest urban preserve in the continental United States, our McDowell Sonoran Preserve.

Their vision benefits the citizens and residents of Scottsdale today, and as you articulated, mayor, the thousands of children that will care for it in the generations to come. But I would also like to thank each of you that serves on the council today, for your dedicated service to the city of Scottsdale, and your unwavering support for the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy. Thank you so much.

Mayor Ortega: You know, lastly the Scottsdale police department is asking for assistance from the public to locate a missing 20-year-old autistic male Najib Monsif he was last seen the night of September 22nd in his neighborhood northeast of Frank Lloyd Wright and Via Linda. Najib is approach matily 5'10" and thin build. I appreciate the efforts of the community in helping Najib's family.

If you have any information regarding Najib, please call the nonemergency number at the Scottsdale police department, that's 480-312-5000. Thank you.

Next, we will have an update from the Scottsdale arts, the presenter is Gerd Wuestemann, President and C.E.O. Welcome, Gerd, good to see you.

[Time: 00:07:38]

Gerd Wuestermann: Thank you so much, Mayor Ortega, Vice Mayor Janik and councilmembers. Thanks for having me to give you a quick overview. A quick overview, we have become a six ring circus with a center for the performing arts museum of contemporary arts and public art one of the finest programs innocent country, the newest addition learning and innovation which does lifelong learning throughout the city and beyond.

And canal convergence, more on that in just a moment and the newest title events at civic center in anticipation of the renovation of civic center reopening in 2023. We have continued to lead Arizona in the arts over these last 18 months and continue to do so, we are perhaps the only organization that is fully financially table, fully staffed and fully operational. We have also prepared the biggest and most diverse stream.

We put safety first throughout this entire process, and have recently announced a new COVID protocol to make sure that our patrons, artists, staff and volunteers are fully protected and we feel very good about these positives.

We have nothing but a positive response and it's been wonderful to see the community come behind us to make sure that is right artists that travel in front of city to city, income front of thousands of people can continue to work on stage and continue to do so.

We use new technology, including new measures where you can preload your required certificates and so forth to make sure that checking in our venue and into our shows is as easy as can possibly be and we hired specially trained staff to do so.

I mentioned we have the most diverse and deep season in our history, more than 200 shows at the center for performing arts including Keb Mo on the left, one of the iconic blues performers in this country and a frequent performer with us. And we are breaking some new ground is Hawaiian ukulele player. What he does on that instrument it defies belief. There's much more to come.

We have recently focused on dance as the center of excellence within our organization, and focused on modern dance in particular. And sometimes strangely enough, that relates to baseball. In 1991, when the newly renovated stadium was reopened, we commissioned a piece from a dance company called Momix. 20 years later -- I'm sorry, 30 years later, they will be back with us during spring training and will reperform this baseball piece as part of their offering. So something we're very excited about. We are also breaking new ground.

We have not dabbled with family performances all that much, but as our community has growing young families, we want to make sure that we have offerings for those as well. This is a wonderful example, the underwater bubble show for big kids like myself and young kids alike. It's going to be a wonderful set of performances and much more so that families can enjoy in the magic of the arts.

[Time: 00:10:42]

At SMOCA we recently opened our new set of fall Exhibits to great fan fair. We had a wonderful set of openings and we see that we have record sales from now to the SMOCA attendance and we continue to build a young diverse audience reflecting the next generation of what Scottsdale is growing into.

So we are very thrilled about that level of participation from the younger audience members especially at SMOCA. How do you install an endearing French artist that lives in London. And submitted in the biggest art show in the world how do you install her show that consists of a recreation of her living room in London without her being able to travel to the United States? Our staff had Zoom meetings with her via laptops, contorting themselves showing her every aspect of this particular display.

We have, I'm happy to report, received national attend for this show, with reviews on art net and art forum two, of the most significant museum publications in the country for a small museum like SMOCA that, that's truly a remarkable achievement. Also a new show that we just installed, as we are coming out of the pandemic or hopefully out of the pandemic, we can all use a little whimsy.

We have this introspective, huge oversized sort of very personal displays of turned over milk cartons and much more and as part of this also, if you go to the next image, perhaps an image that sums up our life for the last 18 months a hermit crab emerging from an Amazon prime bad. In S.A.L.I., our learning innovation division, we continued the work with school systems through digital and other medium.

We have been able to go back into the classrooms and we are working with 30,000 kids in our Scottsdale and Paradise Valley unified school districts and other kids outside of those barriers as well. Not only do we teach them to be more creative and have creative activities but we teach important history.

In this case, this is a wonderful national movement "Hope Chest" which teaches our next generation about the horrors of holocaust and how we came back to light from that darkness. We are proud of being part of this national movement and it's been an extraordinarily rewarding thing to work with our kids in the community, with this particular theme. We have literally created these hope chests that we are distributing to the classrooms. Our SALI visions program targeting high school students in our community has been full bore. You see the image of our atrium, the largest available space to us for them to create work and then we go to the center space and had great openings with great fanfare and wonderful participation throughout as well.

Last but not least, we are very proud of our various collaborations with the city of Scottsdale, our education, public art, and city staff work together to install wonderful shows, including a new watercolor exhibit at the library and host workshops throughout our community centers including the now really famous nationally famous memory lounges which are Alzheimer's prevention and support workshops for elderly afflicted with that horribly disease.

[Time: 00:13:59]

It's an incredibly heart-warming thing as, we are able to reach these folks in various settings across our city. If you haven't been to SkySong in a while, please take a trip down there. There's great theater to be had across the street with the fan brewery. You can see this beautiful new installation from our public art branch called sunburst. It's a huge kaleidoscopic piece that throws a light show on the sidewalk in front of the SkySong building.

The backlog in our public art installations is greater than it's ever been in history, reflecting our growing city and our growing resources. We also, of course have been hard at work, working towards prepping the civic center for the upcoming renovation. In this case, that means we had to remove some of our most treasured public sculptures on the civic center so they can be stored safely for the next 18 months before we reopen. And how do you move such very public art treasures? Well, very, very slowly and carefully.

Lastly, I want to give a nod to city manager Jim Thompson. He and I started a conversation how cool it would be to have something inside the Drinkwater Tunnel and you realize that there is a great arts campus on top of it. Were ready to install this new piece to dress up this traverse underground, and really alert people about the fact that this renovated beautiful campus will come to pass on top very, very soon. This should coincide with the reopening of the civic center and, of course, the piece is whimsical in that it looks forward in an abstract way while harkening back to our history as a western city.

And being of course, canal convergence, please bark your calendars coming up very soon, November 5 through 4, ten days it will be absolutely spectacular. I think we have the best submissions yet for any canal convergence. We are very, very thrilled about the event and we have designed roughly 40 or 50 engagement events, kids workshops, everything else under the sun.

Thankfully the entire organization now works together on this wonderful event. And speaking of which, we are expecting regular attendance this year and we will be engaging people through large-scale work, as well as smaller, more intimate experiences. Often with an eye towards themes such as sustainability, water, all the challenges we face here in the desert. In addition to that, since I have been here, we have been envisioning and dreaming about layering conferences on top of canal convergence, so really we can build it out into a national destination event.

And I'm happy to report that this year, thankfully, not delayed by COVID any longer, this year, we are able to present the Codaworx International Conference in conjunction with canal convergence.

[Time: 00:17:00]

So we have hundreds of public arts specialists converging here in Scottsdale. A wonderful event for us and a great sign of much bigger things to come. I want to spend of the last couple of minutes to talk for a second about civic center. I can't tell you how excited we are as Scottsdale arts that this is going forward and this is happening. And I'm thankful personally to be allowed by city staff and many of you to work with the -- the planning of entire set of constructs from the very beginning since I have arrived here and I'm very happy to say that I believe that we're delivering on the promise we made to our community. Of really billing a new modernized civic center that remains as beautiful as it already, is updates its facilities and allows us to much better engage people in the future through shows, events, community gatherings, everything from autism walks to great national performing act outside under these extraordinary starry skies.

I'm very happy to say that this innovative 360 pavilion we are building in front of performing arts is truly exciting to me. It's a stage that allows us to do events in four events and it respects the historic trees in the center, and the heart of our civic center. They become frames through this construct and turn into a backdrop to our performances if you think about being on stage and playing in any of those directions. It acts a wonderful shade structure when it's not in use for performances and so that's an additional bonus.

Shade is something that we really need in our climate so we can extend our outdoor. I'm excited about this particular piece. And I'm just as excited about the magnificent east bowl pavilion we are about to build. I believe that both of these architectural structures respect the existing architecture at civic center, they are mindful of its sort of southwestern charm and

mid-century identity and we work to connect the city hall, the library and the performing arts center and create more cohesion on this campus rather than tearing it apart, while adding new amenities that allow us to present incredible things from shakes peer in the park to sim foe if I orchestra.

So I'm very excited these sculptural architectures will act as shade structures during the day but can light up the evening under starry desert skies. I can only tell you that my experience is unbridled, and I'm thankful for being here. And I believe if creative meets culture, Scottsdale is in for a great future. Thanks so much for having me today.

Mayor Ortega: Great. Gerd, thank you for your keen eye. Thank you for the preparation and the creativity of your entire team and really looking forward as everything moves forward with the season to come.

PUBLIC COMMENT

[Time: 00:20:12]

Well, next, part of our program is public comment, where the public has an opportunity to come forward and speak on a non-agendized item, to which the city would have some purview, but we will not comment on any public comment -- input at this time. We log in remote requests, seeing none. And looking for any walk-ins also seeing none. So accordingly, I will close the public comment portion of our meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

[Time: 00:20:53]

Next, we will move on to the consent agenda items. They are numbered and agendized as item 1 through 20. However, there was a request to remove or continue item number 6, which was requested by the applicant. So our consent agenda has deleted that item. Is there any question of any of these items by council? Okay. I see no hand up on my monitor. So accordingly, I would look for a motion to -- for consent agenda items 1 through 5, excluding 6, and then 7 through 20.

Councilmember Littlefield: Mayor, I so move.

Councilmember Whitehead: Second.

Mayor Ortega: Thank you. We have a motion and a second. Any discussion? Please record your vote. That shows unanimous. Thank you.

ITEM 21 – GREENBELT 88 REZONING (15-ZN-2020)

[Time: 00:22:12]

We have item number 21 which is posted as greenbelt 88 rezoning and at the request of the applicant, they have asked to continue this case to November 16th, 2021, city council meeting. That is granted by right, and we do not need a motion to recognize that request. So for the record, that will be continued to November 16th, the greenbelt 88 rezoning case.

The next item on our agenda is item number 22. It is the 92nd street nonmajor general plan amendment and rezoning. Also, at the request of the applicant, they have requested to continue the item to a date to be determined. So accordingly, the item number 22, that is the 92nd street apartment complex is also continued. With no action on our part.

Finally, we have another opportunity for public comment at the -- towards the end of our meeting. Again I call on the public if there's any non-agendized item that they wish to speak to, and we cannot take any official action on any such comments. I have received none by remote, and I also see no walk-ins on public comment. So accordingly, I will close public comment, and move on.

I see a comment by city attorney. Could you help me?

City Attorney Scott: Thank you, mayor. I'm sorry to interrupt. Just to make sure that we are clear, it would be good to get a motion to continue to November 16th on item 6, and item 21 and a motion to continue to a date to be determined on item 22.

It's primarily just so there's clear notice about when those are being continued and the public doesn't have to try to figure that out, and more importantly, these applicants don't have to meet all of the legal requirements to repost.

ITEM 6 – CURALEAF 8-UP-2021 MOTION AND VOTE

[Time: 00:25:10]

Mayor Ortega: Thank you very much. I inquired about that. So accordingly, I would be open to receive a motion to continue item 6, to November 16th as requested by the applicant.

Councilmember Janik: I would move to continue Item 6, Curaleaf 8-UP-2021 to November 16th, 2021.

Councilmember Durham: Second.

Mayor Ortega: Thank you. We have a motion to continue item 6 to November 16th, please register your vote. I said yes too. So it's unanimous. Thank you.

ITEM 21 – GREENBELT 88 REZONING (15-ZN-2020) MOTION AND VOTE

[Time: 00:26:07]

Mayor Ortega: Then returning to item number 21, that is the greenbelt 88 rezoning. Again, at the request of the applicant, they wish to continue to -- the case to a date certain, November 16th, 2021. Do I hear a motion to continue that?

Councilmember Whitehead: Sure. I will make a motion, mayor. I will make a motion to continue greenbelt 88 rezoning 15-ZN-2020, item number 21 to November 16th.

Councilmember Littlefield: Second.

Mayor Ortega: Thank you. Please register your vote. Unanimous.

ITEM 22 – 92ND STREET NON MAJOR GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT AND REZONING (3-GP-2021 AND 6-ZN-2021) MOTION AND VOTE

[Time: 00:26:50]

Mayor Ortega: Again, just to clarify that item number 22, that is the 92nd street apartment complex, nonmajor general plan amendment has been continued to a date not certain, but I think we should make a motion to acknowledge that.

Councilmember Janik: I make a motion to continue item number 22, 92nd street nonmajor general plan amendment and rezoning, 3-GP-2021 and 6-ZN-2021 to be continued to be a date determined in the future.

Councilmember Durham: Second.

Mayor Ortega: Thank you. We have a motion and a second. Any discussion? Please register your vote. Thank you. Unanimous.

The next posted item is a possibility of a citizen petition. The -- our charter allows for any Scottsdale resident to come forward and present a petition. I don't believe we have received any.

So accordingly, I will conclude that item which would recognize a petition if any. At this time, we conclude with any mayor and council items. Are there any in particular? Seeing none -- oh, excuse me. Go ahead Councilwoman Janik.

Councilmember Janik: I just wanted to make sure everyone knows that the ballots will come in the mail this week for the new general plan 2035. I encourage all of you to become educated on

the plan and to please vote. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

[Time: 00:28:42]

Mayor Ortega: Okay. Thank you. Seeing no other hands up for any discussion. So I would look for a motion to adjourn.

Vice Mayor Caputi: Motion to adjourn.

Mayor Ortega: Second. We have a motion and a second to adjourn. Please register your vote. Thank you. We are adjourned.

We will be going into -- convening a work study session. I will just take five minutes to check with the clerk if there's anything that has come up for my attention.