



Sierra Vista City Council  
Work Session Agenda  
January 20, 2026

1. Mayor McCaa called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 1011 N. Coronado Drive, Sierra Vista, Arizona.

Mayor Clea McCaa – present  
Mayor Pro Tem Carolyn Flowers – present  
Council Member Faye Jackson – present  
Council Member Ken Kilmurray – present  
Council Member Angelica Landry – present  
Council Member Brian Miers – present  
Council Member Mark Rodriguez – present

Others Present:

Victoria Yarborough, Assistant City Manager  
Jill Adams, City Clerk  
Chris Hiser, Police Chief  
Brad Dever, Deputy Fire Chief  
Sharon Flissar, Public Works Director  
Matt McLachlan, Community Development Director  
Laura Wilson, Parks, Leisure and Library Services Director  
Tony Boone, Economic Development Director  
Jennifer Dillaha, Budget Officer  
Elizabeth Wrozek, Public Information Officer  
John Healy, Sports and Aquatics Coordinator  
Helen Lee, Chief Procurement Officer  
Kennie Downing, Chief Human Resources Officer  
Jeff Pregler, City Planner  
Mary “Lis” Chatham, Commander SVPD  
Don Foster, Fire Marshall  
Joshua Meeker, Battalion Chief SVFD  
Chris Workman, Captain SVFD  
Michael Slania, Sierra Vista Industrial Development Authority

2. Presentation and Discussion:

A. January 22, 2026, Council Meeting Agenda Items

[Item 1](#) – Acceptance of the Agenda, no questions or comments

City Manager's Report

Ms. Yarborough reported that there are several projects out for bid, including the library's Mona Bishop Conference Room's AV upgrades. There is a pre bid meeting on January 22, 2026, and bids are due February 12, 2026. Also, out for bid is the Fire Fighter's Cancer Screening Contract, and bids for that are due on February 11, 2026. Ms. Yarborough also stated that the Buffalo Soldier Trail Multi Use Path project has had its kickoff meeting and is scheduled to be finished sometime in May 2026.

Ms. Yarborough stated that the November sales tax numbers had come and while normally a flat sales tax report isn't a positive thing, after the federal government shut down, seeing no growth instead of negative numbers is a good thing.

Items [2.1](#), [2.2](#), [2.3](#) – Consent Agenda – no questions or comments

[Item 3](#) – Ordinance 2026-001, text amendments to City Development Code.

Mr. Pregler stated that these changes to the City's Development Code were presented at the December 11, 2025 council meeting as Resolution 2025-092, which opened a 30-day public comment period for the proposed changes, which included moving the airport to a light industrial zoning designation, which allows for emergency services to provide services there, eliminating the annual renewal of the mobile food vendor permits, and allowing houses of worship to be located in General Commercial zoning areas without the need for a special use permit.

[Item 4](#) – Resolution 2026-005, Intergovernmental Agreement with Pima County for EMT Training.

Deputy Chief Dever stated that this is the renewal of an existing Intergovernmental Agreement with Pima County that allows Sierra Vista EMT candidates who live in Tucson to attend Pima Community College for their EMT classes instead of making extra trips to attend classes at Cochise College and allows for Pima County's agencies to send their students to Sierra Vista to get their clinical training with the EMT staff at SVFD.

Mayor McCaa asked if there are currently any SVFD students enrolled at Pima Community College. Deputy Chief Dever stated that there are not any current students enrolled at Pima Community College, but that Pima would be sending some of their students down in Spring 2026 for clinical training.

Council Member Rodriguez asked if Pima Community College's program was the same length at Cochise College. Deputy Chief Dever explained that because Pima Community College is located in a larger metropolitan area, they have access to more agencies and instructors, making their program shorter.

Mayor McCaa asked how long the current program is and Deputy Chief Dever stated that it's about a year long.

[Item 5](#) – Resolution 2026-006 Approval of Sierra Vista Industrial Authority Education Revenue Facility Bonds to American Leadership Academy, Johnston.

Mr. Slania explained that this bond series is being issued to an American Leadership Academy in North Carolina that shares its leadership with schools the IDA has worked with in the past.

This bond is for a planned expansion to the school, and the bonds will only be sold to accredited institutions. Mr. Slania stated that the IDA is allowed to issue bonds to out of state applicants as long as there is a benefit to Sierra Vista, in this case, it is the fees on the bonds, which will go

towards supporting economic development in Sierra Vista, which are paid by the borrower.

Council Member Kilmurray asked Mr. Slania to explain how these bonds are considered “no risk” to the City. Mr. Slania explained that the IDA is a non-profit entity that has no financial ties to the city, and these are special limited obligation bonds that place all the risks of buying them on the buyers.

Council Member Kilmurray asked what the city’s relationship to this money is. Mr. Slania explained that the city has no relationship to the money in this process, but the city council must approve the IDA’s actions in issuing the bonds.

Council Member Miers asked why the city council has to approve this. Mr. Slania stated that Arizona State Statute states that the city council is the body who created the IDA and approves its members.

Mayor Pro Tem Flowers stated that she is the council liaison to the IDA and the city council acts as the public oversight body for the IDA.

Council Member Kilmurray stated that he now understands that the city council is bound by the statutes around the IDA and their role is to approve these bonds.

Mayor McCaa stated that he has asked Demetry Simonton, the IDA President to come to a work session and present on the IDA’s current financials.

[Item 6](#) – Resolution 2026-007 Approval of Industrial Development Authority Capital Appreciation Bonds to The Bayou Belle Project.

Mr. Slania stated that this bond series is for a master plan community in Texas. The benefit to the IDA is the fees the borrowers pay to the IDA, which goes towards economic development, and this financing is taxable. The risk is to the bond purchasers and they are scheduled to be offered for sale within the next month.

[Item 7](#) – Resolution 2026-008 – Approval of appointments to the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Ms. Wilson stated that unfortunately, Dr. Brian Stover, who was appointed at the last council meeting has resigned from the commission and that left two openings on the committee and the Parks and Recreation Commission is asking for the approval of Jennifer Holt and Robert Brooks to give the commission full membership.

Council Member Rodriguez stressed the importance of public participation in the City's boards and commissions.

B. [Presentation by the Sierra Vista Firefighters' Association](#)

Battalion Chief Meeker presented on the causes of presumptive cancer in firefighters, which is measured in exposure time, and cause. The causes of these cancers can include house fires, wildland fires, vehicle exhaust and various chemicals that fire fighters are exposed to. Battalion Chief Meeker went on to explain that the City and the Fire Department have worked together to create policies and procedures to mitigate firefighter's exposures to carcinogens, as well as applying for grants and adding budget items to get the department cancer screenings. Currently, 14 of Sierra Vista's firefighters have been screened for presumptive cancer, with one officer testing positive, and he is currently undergoing treatment.

Following Battalion Chief Meeker's presentation there was discussion about how the screening process will be handled going forward, with the fire department having received a grant that will make it possible for all of the members of the department to be screened. There is currently a contract out for bid for a provider to give the screenings. Once the initial screenings are done, repeat screening schedules can be assessed as not every member of the department may require annual screening.

Fire Captain Josh Workman presented on what the firefighters are looking for in a policy going forward for firefighters who are diagnosed with presumptive cancers. He shared state statutes, which lay out which cancers are considered presumptive and should be covered by the city. This policy will outline the steps firefighters and city officials need to take once a presumptive

cancer diagnosis is given, in order to reduce the stress on the individual making the claim. He also spoke about the Firefighter Cancer Reimbursement Fund which allows the city to recoup costs associated with approving claims.

Ms. Downing was called on to explain the workman's comp claim process. She stated that the process starts with a call to Triage Now, the city's work injury hotline, who then issues a claim number and forwards the information on to Traveler's Insurance, who provides the City's workman's comp program. HR will then reach out to Traveler's and let them know that the claim is for presumptive cancer and should be covered.

C. [Discussion of City Council Salaries, City Code 30.01](#)

There was a brief discussion by Council Members that resulted in the members agreeing to keep the current pay structure and to change the title of Mayor Pro Tem to Vice Mayor.

Ms. Adams stated that as this is not an ordinance that needs a public comment period, an ordinance will be presented at the next council meeting on February 12, 2026.

D. [Council Executive Report](#)

Ms. Yarborough stated that this month's executive report contains the schedule of the budget process for this year, starting with the mid-year budget review in March and ending with the adoption of the property tax levy in August.

Council Member Landry stated that in the interest of time, she would save her comments on the executive report for Thursday's meeting.

E. Report on Recent Trips, Meetings and Future Meetings

Several council members will be going to Washington DC in March.

F. Future Discussion Items and Council Requests

Ms. Yarborough stated that there are three presentations scheduled for the February 10, 2026 work session: A presentation from HR on the presumptive cancer policy, an update from the golf course and a presentation on the new license plate readers with a representative from Flock.

3. Mayor McCaa Adjourned the Council Work Session at 4:37 p.m.

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Clea McCaa II, Mayor

Minutes prepared by:

Attest:

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Jessica A Shouppe, Department Specialist

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Jill Adams, City Clerk

A recording of the Work Session is available at: [Head to our YouTube Channel](#) to stream City Council meetings live or watch previous meetings