



COUNCIL MINUTES

December 2, 2019

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Study Session in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on December 2, 2019 at 4:31 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

John Giles
Mark Freeman
Jennifer Duff
David Luna
Francisco Heredia
Kevin Thompson
Jeremy Whittaker

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

OFFICERS PRESENT

Christopher Brady
Dee Ann Mickelsen
Jim Smith

1. Review and discuss items on the agenda for the December 2, 2019 Regular Council meeting.

All of the items on the agenda were reviewed among Council and staff and the following was noted:

Conflict of interest: None

Items removed from the consent agenda: None

Items removed from the agenda: None

In response to a question from Councilmember Luna, City Attorney Jim Smith discussed Item 7-d, **(Repealing and replacing Chapter 7 of Title 9 of the Mesa City Code, pertaining to Community Antenna Television Systems to comply with recent changes to state law. The changes correlate to the state's uniform licensing requirements and regulation of video services; establish standards in the areas of indemnification, right-of-way management, undergrounding of facilities; and codify the City's existing 5% franchise fee. (Citywide))**, on the Regular Council meeting agenda, stating the objective is to have uniformity for all municipalities throughout the state. He stated the City will continue to have four channels and receive the 5% franchise fee.

City Engineer Beth Huning explained State Statute requires service complaints be referred to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) or the Attorney General's Office.

In response to a question from Councilmember Duff, Mr. Smith provided information on Item 8-d, **(Amending the Mesa City Code, Title 1, Chapter 19, Section 3, and adding Sections 4 and 5, regarding service of process, settlement authority, and policies for the demands, claims,**

and lawsuits involving the City. The changes include City Attorney policies for the Public Property and Liability Trust Fund, and audit provisions for the Trust Fund. (Citywide), on the Regular Council meeting agenda, stating the change provides direction and clarification to the City Attorney to ensure consistency to the code.

2-a. Hear a presentation and discuss the work of PHX East Valley Partnership in the City of Mesa.

Assistant Economic Development Director Jaye O'Donnell introduced Denny Barney, president and CEO of PHX East Valley Partnership, and Mike Hutchinson, executive vice president for PHX East Valley Partnership, who displayed a PowerPoint presentation. **(See Attachment 1)**

Mr. Barney described his background with the Partnership and its history of bringing people together.

Mr. Barney detailed the purpose of the Partnership, stating the focus is to advocate, facilitate and convene to ensure consideration for opportunities that exist in the East Valley. He indicated most of the funding for the Partnership comes from private businesses and individuals who invest. (See Pages 2 and 3 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Barney advised the Partnership has several committees that take an active role in sharing key priorities represented by stakeholders to ensure unification with cities, towns, chambers and businesses and that their voices are represented. (See Page 4 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Barney summarized some of the special projects the Partnership is involved with, including working alongside Arizona State University (ASU) on the Polytechnic campus development. (See Page 5 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Barney discussed the Thought Leader Forum being held at the Mesa Arts Center (MAC) and the signature events the Partnership holds annually. He shared recently there have been many media publications which have showcased living and working in the East Valley. (See Pages 6 and 7 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Barney stated the Partnership creates opportunities to advocate for the region by publicizing the great work that is occurring throughout the East Valley. (See Page 8 through 11 of Attachment 1)

In response to a question from Councilmember Thompson, Mr. Barney advised the money the City invests into the Partnership is used to promote the story of the region. He highlighted that individual cities are powerful, but when cities work together there is a greater value. He reported the East Valley has 25% of the population yet has well over 40% of the jobs, ensuring a vibrant and robust economy.

Mr. Hutchinson added the Partnership also assists in gathering financial and political support for passing critical issues like transportation and educational funding.

In response to a question posed by Councilmember Luna regarding the Southeast Valley transportation corridor, Mr. Hutchinson stated although there has been progress in the last year there are still congestion issues that need to be addressed.

Mr. Barney informed Councilmember Luna that PHX East Valley consists of individuals with competing interests coming together to solve issues. He stated Maricopa County is the fastest

growing county for the third year in a row, with Mesa being the largest jurisdiction in the East Valley, and that the region will continue to be elevated by planning ahead to ensure a vibrant community.

Mayor Giles thanked Mr. Barney and Mr. Hutchinson for the presentation.

2-b. Hear a presentation from the Human Relations Advisory Board on 2017-19 Strategic Plan accomplishments.

Ron Williams, Chairman of the Human Relations Advisory Board (HRAB), introduced Neighborhood Services Coordinator and Human Relations Advisory Board liaison Andrea Alicoate and displayed a PowerPoint presentation. **(See Attachment 2)**

Mr. Williams stated the mission statement of HRAB is to create an inclusive, respectful and equitable community. (See Page 2 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Alicoate thanked Mr. Williams for his leadership role on the board. She discussed one of the pillars of HRAB is community education through programs and events. (See Page 3 of Attachment 2)

Mr. Williams remarked he was encouraged after attending the Annual Youth Peace Building Summit.

Ms. Alicoate explained the Annual Youth Peace Building Summit is a day-long event for students across Mesa to gain leadership skills and personal growth opportunities that can be used to impact their schools and communities. She added next year a service component will be incorporated into the program. (See Page 4 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Alicoate commented that the Annual Women's Empowerment Summit focuses on topics such as human trafficking, cultural norms or limitations for females. She described this year the event will be tailored towards local issues and creating a platform for dialogue. (See Page 5 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Alicoate indicated another successful program through the Arizona Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) is the Independent Television Service (ITVS) documentary film series which is contracted to host six films. She remarked throughout the film series dialogue facilitators and topic experts will be brought in to spark community conversation based on the film topics. (See Page 6 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Alicoate discussed the importance of having measurable and data-driven goals to ensure diversity within the board and throughout the community. (See Page 7 of Attachment 2)

Mr. Williams explained that without having a diverse board there would be challenges in having meaningful discussions and he is confident City Council values inclusivity and diversity in Mesa. (See Page 8 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Alicoate stated HRAB tracks events or meetings board members participate in and encourages sharing information learned at the monthly board meetings. She described the regional collaboration that occurs which allows discussion of topics that concerns communities around the Valley and State. (See Pages 9 and 10 of Attachment 2)

Mr. Williams expressed after meeting with Mayor Giles, HRAB will be seeking to implement forums to publicly educate Mesa residents and welcome their input.

Mayor Giles thanked Mr. Williams and staff for the presentation.

3. Approval of minutes from Executive Sessions held on March 21, June 27, and July 1, 2019.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Freeman, seconded by Councilmember Duff that the above-listed Executive Session minutes be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Giles-Freeman-Duff-Heredia-Luna-Thompson-Whittaker
NAYS – None

Carried unanimously.

4. Acknowledge receipt of minutes of various board and committees.

4-a. Judicial Advisory Board meetings held on August 7 and September 18, 2019.

4-b. Library Advisory Board meeting held on September 17, 2019.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Freeman, seconded by Councilmember Thompson that receipt of the above-listed minutes be acknowledged.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Giles-Freeman-Duff-Heredia-Luna-Thompson-Whittaker
NAYS – None

Carried unanimously.

5. Current events summary including meetings and conferences attended.

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|----------------------|--|
| Mayor Giles – | Hermosa Vista Elementary School Lunch with Scott McKenzie
The Mesa Polar Express
Turkey Tuesday – 1,500 turkeys received
New Leaf La Mesita after-school program
Opening of Fat Cats |
| Vice Mayor Freeman – | Lehi Community Meeting
National League of Cities – San Antonio
Hermosa Vista Elementary School Lunch with Scott McKenzie |
| Councilmember Duff – | Merry Main Street Kickoff
Small Business Saturday |
| Councilmember Luna – | National League of Cities – San Antonio
– Elected as Hispanic Elected Local Officials Chairman |

6. Scheduling of meetings.

City Manager Christopher Brady stated that the schedule of meetings is as follows:

Thursday, December 5, 2019, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Thursday, December 5, 2019, 7:30 a.m. – Mesa Housing Services Governing Board

Thursday, December 5, 2019, 8:00 a.m. – Community and Cultural Development Committee

Thursday, December 9, 2019, 4:30 p.m. – Study Session

Monday, December 9, 2019, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council meeting

7. Convene an Executive Session.

It was moved by Councilmember Luna, seconded by Councilmember Thompson, that the Council adjourn the Study Session at 5:31 p.m. and enter into an Executive Session.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Giles-Freeman-Duff-Heredia-Luna-Thompson-Whittaker

NAYS – None

Carried unanimously.

7-a. Discussion or consultation for legal advice with the City Attorney. (A.R.S. §38-431.03A (3)) Discussion or consultation with the City Attorney in order to consider the City's position and instruct the City Attorney regarding the City's position regarding pending or contemplated litigation or in settlement discussions conducted in order to avoid or resolve litigation. (A.R.S. §38-431.03A (4)):

1. *Rost v. City of Mesa, et al.*, Case No. CV2019-050636

7. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

JOHN GILES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

DEE ANN MICKELSEN, CITY CLERK

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Study Session of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 2nd day of December 2019. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

DEE ANN MICKELSEN, CITY CLERK

jjg/la
(Attachments – 2)