

# COUNCIL MINUTES

February 6, 1998

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 February 6, 1998 at 7:35 a.m.

## COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Wayne Brown  
Pat Gilbert  
John Giles  
Dennis Kavanaugh  
Wayne Pomeroy  
Claudia Walters

## COUNCIL ABSENT

Joan Payne

## STAFF PRESENT

C.K. Luster  
Pauline Backer  
Wayne Balmer  
Neal Beets  
Denise Bleyle  
Dan Brewer  
Tanya Collins  
Fred Conway  
Jo Cooper  
Kim Fallbeck  
Joe Holmwood  
Mike Hutchinson  
Lars Jarvie  
Barbara Jones  
Harry Kent  
Wayne Korinek  
Ron Krosting  
Dorinda Larsen  
Frank Mizner  
Ruth Ann Norris  
Ellen Pence  
Bryan Raines

## STAFF PRESENT (CONT.)

Tom Remes  
Becky Richardson  
Doug Tessendorf  
Debbie Vickman  
Ron Vonburg  
Jeff Welker  
Michael Whalen  
Mindy White  
Paul Wilson  
Larry Woolf  
Others

## OTHERS PRESENT

Larry Given  
Bev Hart  
Keno Hawker  
Ivan Johnson  
Jan Radakovich  
Others

Mayor Brown excused Councilmember Payne from the meeting.

Assistant City Manager Mike Hutchinson briefly outlined the Business Education Exchange program offered by the Mesa Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Hutchinson introduced Jan Radakovich, Principal at Lowell Elementary School, and noted that Ms. Radakovich would spend a portion of the day with him learning about the functions of the City and stated that on Wednesday, February 4, he spent the day with Ms. Radakovich at Lowell Elementary School.

Mayor Brown welcomed Ms. Radakovich to the meeting.

1. Hear and discuss a report from Ivan Johnson, Vice President of Cox Communications, regarding Cox's current and planned activities in Mesa.

Ivan Johnson, Vice President Community Relations Cox Communications, displayed illustrations and advised Council that Cox Communications will provide four new products; digital television, Cox at Home, digital telephone, and fibernet. Mr. Johnson explained that digital television will be available in approximately one year and will provide more than 110 channels and an enhanced three-tier choice for the consumer; Cox at Home, a high-speed data service, will be available in less than one year. Mr. Johnson stated that Cox at Home service will exceed 100 times the speed consumers can currently receive by utilizing their phone modem; digital telephone service will be available during late 1998 for utilization by single-family and multi-family residences. Mr. Johnson noted that Cox Communications' digital telephone service will be the first option to the services offered by U.S. West; and fibernet services will provide flexible video, voice and data solutions for businesses and government. Mr. Johnson stressed that the current basic cable customer would not endure the cost of the proposed services. Mr. Johnson stated that Cox Communications is committed to providing full service solutions to its customers through expanded service.

In response to questions from Councilmember Walters, Mr. Johnson said that individuals currently subscribing to upgraded phone services would retain the upgrades upon switching to Cox Communications' digital telephone service. Mr. Johnson explained that the current basic cable customer would receive additional channels for a small monthly increase but would not be required to subscribe to any of the proposed services. Mr. Johnson reiterated that existing cable customers would not absorb the costs realized by Cox Communications to develop and provide digital television, Cox at Home, digital telephone, or fibernet services.

Mr. Hutchinson requested that Mr. Johnson provide a report outlining the anticipated time line for the development, installation, and initiation of the proposed services.

In response to questions from Councilmember Giles, Mr. Johnson expressed interest in working with the City to develop a video program for City Court arraignments.

Mr. Johnson assured Council that difficulties previously encountered with the inability to block certain cable channels from young viewers has been corrected and preventative measures installed.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Johnson for the presentation.

2. Consider a report on half streets in the vicinity of Gilbert Road and Hermosa Vista Drive.

Public Works Manager Harry Kent reminded Council that at a recent Study Session concern was expressed regarding the number of existing half-streets in the vicinity of Old Gilbert Road and Hermosa Vista Drive. Mr. Kent informed Council that staff has developed recommendations for improvement of the half-streets.

Councilmember Giles advised that he has visited several homeowners in the neighborhood to discuss the potential development of the half-streets. Councilmember Giles concurred with staff's recommendation to improve four of the seven street segments located near Old

Gilbert Road and Hermosa Vista Drive and to develop the remaining three half-streets at a future date.

Vice Mayor Gilbert suggested that staff meet with residents of the neighborhood regarding the development of the half-streets.

It was moved by Councilmember Pomeroy, seconded by Councilmember Giles, that staff's recommendations for the improvement of four street segments in the vicinity of Old Gilbert Road and Hermosa Vista Drive be approved and that the remaining three segments be improved during the development of the surrounding property.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brown-Gilbert-Giles-Kavanaugh-Pomeroy-Walters  
NAYS - None  
ABSENT - Payne

Mayor Brown declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

3. Discuss and consider temporary closure of Rotary Guerrero Park.

Assistant City Manager Mike Hutchinson informed Council that safety concerns have been expressed by neighbors of Rotary Guerrero Park. Mr. Hutchinson requested that Council consider temporarily closing the park beginning Monday, February 9, for approximately three months to provide sufficient time for staff to meet with the neighbors to discuss improvements and renovation of the park.

It was moved by Councilmember Giles, seconded by Councilmember Pomeroy that the temporary closure of Rotary Guerrero Park be approved.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brown-Gilbert-Giles-Kavanaugh-Pomeroy-Walters  
NAYS - None  
ABSENT - Payne

Mayor Brown declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

4. Further discussion and consideration regarding adjusting salaries for Mayor and Councilmembers.

It was moved by Councilmember Walters, seconded by Vice Mayor Gilbert to direct staff to place this issue on the agenda of the February 17, 1998 Regular Council Meeting.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brown-Gilbert-Giles-Kavanaugh-Pomeroy-Walters  
NAYS - None  
ABSENT - Payne

Mayor Brown declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

5. Discuss and consider authorizing the sale of General Obligation and Utility System Revenue Bonds and associated refunding.

Assistant to the City Manager Bryan Raines emphasized the importance of a General Obligation and Revenue bond sale and refund. Mr. Raines noted that bond funds would be allocated for capital construction projects, land acquisitions, and Fire Department rolling stock.

Assistant Finance Director Larry Woolf explained that due to the exceptionally favorable bond market the City has the opportunity to initiate a General Obligation and Revenue Bond sale and refund more than \$47 million in previously issued General Obligation and Revenue bonds to obtain lower rates. Mr. Woolf indicated that refunding of the bonds would provide a savings of approximately \$1.5 million over the next ten years with \$1.1 million of the savings realized within the first 18 months. Mr. Woolf stated that the sale and refunding of General Obligation and Revenue bonds would provide an adequate reserve of bond funds to complete several significant capital projects initiated during the current fiscal year and proposed for the 1998/1999 fiscal year.

Larry Given, representing Peacock, Hislop, Staley, and Given, the City's financial advisors, addressed the Council regarding the current bond market and rates. Mr. Given indicated that bond council recommends the sale and refunding of General Obligation and Revenue bonds to obtain the current low interest rates.

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Gilbert, Mr. Given stated the opinion that sufficient flexibility has been factored into the debt service schedule to ensure that the City of Mesa will not be penalized should rates increase.

In response to a question from Councilmember Walters, Mr. Woolf stated that staff would proceed quickly to ensure the existing low interest rate and return to Council in approximately two weeks with bid results.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Raines, Mr. Woolf, and Mr. Given for the presentation.

6. Acknowledge receipt of minutes of meetings of various boards and committees.

- a. Board of Adjustment meeting held January 28, 1998

It was moved by Councilmember Giles, seconded by Vice Mayor Gilbert, that receipt of the above listed minutes be acknowledged.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brown-Gilbert-Giles-Kavanaugh-Pomeroy-Walters  
NAYS - None  
ABSENT - Payne

Mayor Brown declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

7. Hear reports on meetings and/or conferences attended.

Mayor Brown advised that there were no reports on meetings and/or conferences attended.

8. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

City Manager Charles Luster advised that the meeting schedule is as follows:

Thursday, February 12, 1998, 4:00 p.m. - Policy Session

Friday, February 13, 1998, 7:30 a.m. - Study Session

Tuesday, February 17, 1998, 5:45 p.m. - Regular Council Meeting

9. Prescheduled public opinion appearances (maximum of three speakers for five minutes per speaker).

Mayor Brown advised that there were no prescheduled public opinion appearances.

10. Items from citizens present (maximum of three speakers for five minutes per speaker).

Mayor Brown advised that there were no items from citizens present.

11. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 8:38 a.m.

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WAYNE BROWN, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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BARBARA JONES, 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 6th day of February 1998. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 1998

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BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK