

COUNCIL MINUTES

May 17, 2004

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 May 17, 2004 at 4:49 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Keno Hawker
Rex Griswold
Kyle Jones
Dennis Kavanaugh
Janie Thom
Claudia Walters
Mike Whalen

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mike Hutchinson
Debbie Spinner
Linda Crocker

1. Review items on the agenda for the May 17, 2004 Regular Council meeting.

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

Conflicts of interest declared: 3 (Hawker, Whalen), 5l (Hawker)

Items removed from the consent agenda: 6m, 8b

Items deleted from the consent agenda: 7t

Items added to the consent agenda: None

2. Discuss and consider requesting that the Maricopa County Elections Office review the "violation of elections laws" complaint brought by the Valley Business Owners and Concerned Citizens, Inc.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Kavanaugh, seconded by Councilmember Walters, that Mayor Hawker be authorized to send a letter on behalf of the City to the Maricopa County Elections Department requesting a review of the subject complaint.

Councilmember Thom expressed the opinion that the Mayor's letter should be directed to the Maricopa County Attorney's Office rather than the County Elections Department.

Discussion ensued relative to the fact that the customary procedure is to direct an election related complaint to the County Elections Department for review, after which the Elections Department forwards the complaint to the County Attorney's Office.

Mayor Hawker called for the vote.

Carried unanimously.

3. Further discussion and direction concerning the proposed 2004-05 budget.

Deputy City Manager Debra Dollar reported that staff is in the process of gathering information to address budget related questions previously mentioned by the Council. She asked the Council for additional suggestions of items that staff could research in advance of the next budget discussion scheduled for May 27th. Ms. Dollar noted that Councilmember-elect Rawles submitted a list of topics for discussion.

Councilmember Walters requested information on the public arts programs and programs utilized to reward employees for cost-saving recommendations.

In response to Councilmember Walters' question regarding the status of the employee special recognition program, City Manager Mike Hutchinson advised that the Special Thanks and Recognition (STAR) program was suspended a year ago.

Councilmember Thom reported that she was preparing a list of budget recommendations for Council consideration on May 27th.

Councilmember Whalen stated that he initially supported a one-time across the board salary increase for Public Safety employees, but he now recognizes that the budget requires a graduated approach to the increases.

Mayor Hawker advised that he anticipated a report on the possible cost savings that could result by incorporating the Redevelopment function into the Planning Department. He also requested information on privatizing the Park Ranger Program.

Councilmember Walters added that she would like information on the division of labor as it relates to the Park Ranger Program.

Mayor Hawker also noted that staff could provide information on the chiller for the Mesa Arts Center, the enterprise account, and potential cost recovery figures. He also requested information on the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) grant for the walkway in the area of the Mesa Arts Center.

4. Acknowledge receipt of minutes of boards and committees.

- a. Ad Hoc Committee to Study Police Oversight held April 28, 2004.
- b. Economic Development Advisory Board meeting held April 6, 2004.
- c. Parks and Recreation Board meeting held April 8, 2004.

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

Carried unanimously.

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

Vice Mayor Kavanaugh:

Citizen Committee to Study Police Oversight Meeting

Councilmember Walters:	National League of Cities Meeting
Mayor Hawker:	Maricopa Area Government Executive Committee Meeting Williams Gateway Airport Board Meeting
Councilmember Griswold:	Financing the Future Citizen Committee Meeting

6. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

City Manager Mike Hutchinson stated that the meeting schedule is as follows:

Monday, May 17, 2004, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council Meeting

Thursday, May 20, 2004, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session – Cancelled

Thursday, May 20, 2004, 9:30 a.m. – General Development Committee

Thursday, May 27, 2004, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Thursday, June 3, 2004, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Thursday, June 3, 2004, TBA – Utility Committee

Monday, June 7, 2004, TBA – Study Session

Monday, June 7, 2004, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council Meeting

7. Prescheduled public opinion appearances.

There were no prescheduled public opinion appearances.

8. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

KENO HAWKER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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 the 17th day of May 2004. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK