

# COUNCIL MINUTES

October 8, 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 October 8, 1998 at 7:32 a.m.

## COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Brown  
Jim Davidson  
John Giles  
Keno Hawker  
Bill Jaffa  
Dennis Kavanaugh  
Pat Pomeroy

## COUNCIL ABSENT

None

## STAFF PRESENT

C.K. Luster  
Don Ayers  
Pauline Backer  
Wayne Balmer  
Dan Brewer  
Neal Beets  
Denise Bleyle  
Jamie Brennan  
Dennis Compton  
Fred Conway  
Linda Crocker  
G.T. Fowler  
Mike Hutchinson  
Barbara Jones  
Harry Kent  
Ron Krosting  
Dorinda Larsen  
Earl Lloyd  
Keith Nath  
Ellen Pence  
Don Pfohl  
David Plumb  
Gary Puls  
Bryan Raines  
Andrea Rasizer

## STAFF PRESENT (CONT.)

Becky Richardson  
Dan Saban  
Gordon Sheffield  
Jenny Sheppard  
Jan Strauss  
Ursula Strehphans  
Others

## OTHERS PRESENT

Mary Baldwin  
Lynn Kusy  
Victor Linoff  
Robbie Sherwood  
Claudia Walters  
Others

### 1. Update on various Williams Gateway Airport issues.

Community Development Manager Wayne Balmer addressed the Council relative to this agenda item and informed the Council that Williams Gateway Airport Executive Director Lynn Kusy and Marketing Director Mary Baldwin were present and will provide a brief presentation following his remarks.

Mr. Balmer referred to maps and illustrations displayed in the Council Chambers and discussed noise attenuation construction, aviation easements, the fact that notification of the property's location with respect to the airport will be listed in title reports and will not be noted on the property deeds, enhanced notification efforts and the fact that a newsletter will be sent to property owners in the area, staff's recommendation that the airport engage the services of a consulting firm to assist City staff and Airport management in addressing

citizens' concerns, and the fact that efforts will be expended to contact pilots utilizing Williams Gateway Airport and request their cooperation in eliminating unnecessary noise.

Airport Executive Director Lynn Kusy informed the Council that over the last few months he and other staff members have attended a variety of meetings with citizens who have expressed concerns regarding the location of their homes in relation to the airport. Mr. Kusy stated that Marketing Director Mary Baldwin has initiated an extensive public outreach program to address citizens' concerns and provide up-to-date information on the Airport's current and future status. Mr. Kusy reported that 1,000 packets of information have been mailed out over the last several months and added that personal letters of response are being sent to everyone who has taken the time to forward a letter to the Airport regarding their concerns.

Mr. Kusy stressed the importance of engaging the services of a facilitator to assist Airport and City staff in their efforts to address neighborhood concerns and respond to issues that have been raised.

Discussion ensued relative to the fact that a Master Plan update is currently underway, the fact that staff has applied to the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) for funding to initiate a land use and noise study, the fact that the completion of the land use and noise study will allow Williams Gateway Airport to remain eligible to receive noise mitigation funding from the FAA, the fact that the airport has the ability to charge the Air Force for landing fees, which, if instituted, may reduce the amount of military landings, and the importance of maintaining land zoned for industrial and commercial uses in the vicinity of the airport.

Councilmember Hawker expressed the opinion that Williams Gateway Airport should initiate steps to become a reliever airport for commercial and corporate jets out of Sky Harbor Airport. Councilmember Hawker added that accommodating cargo planes should also be explored. Councilmember Hawker spoke in strong support of implementing the Airport Influence Area.

In response to a question from Mayor Brown, Mr. Kusy advised that five firms were identified as possible airport facilitators and said that two of the firms appear exceptionally qualified for this assignment. Mayor Brown urged Mr. Kusy to accelerate this process.

Councilmember Davidson thanked Mr. Balmer and Mr. Kusy for their input and discussed timetables and opportunities for citizens to present their input relative to the airport.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Kusy and staff for their presentation.

## 2. Discuss and consider a proposed Transportation Committee.

Vice Mayor Giles acknowledged the presence of former Councilmember Claudia Walters. Vice Mayor Giles advised that in May 1998, Mayor Brown requested that he and then Councilmember Walters investigate the feasibility of appointing a citizen committee to assist and advise the Council in developing a community-based, multi-modal surface transportation system. Vice Mayor Giles added that Councilmember Davidson also participated in this study.

Councilmember Kavanaugh commended Vice Mayor Giles, Ms. Walters and Councilmember Davidson on their efforts. Councilmember Kavanaugh expressed the opinion that this proposal will provide guidance on a broader range of topics and emphasized that the Council will retain final approval. Councilmember Kavanaugh added that this represents an improved approach to the issues as far as a range of duties and stated that he strongly supports the proposal.

Councilmember Hawker noted that the proposal will increase the membership of the committee to a total of 11 participants and stated that he too supports the recommendations as presented.

City Manager Charles Luster advised that staff will prepare an ordinance for introduction at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Mayor Brown expressed appreciation to Ms. Walters, Vice Mayor Giles and Councilmember Davidson for their efforts.

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

Mayor Brown advised that there were no reports on meetings and/or conferences attended to report on at this time.

4. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

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

Thursday, October 15, 1998, 7:30 a.m. – Council Study Session

Monday, October 19, 1998, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council Meeting

Mr. Luster advised that the Thursday, October 22, 1998 Council Study Session has been cancelled.

5. Prescheduled public opinion appearances. (Maximum of three speakers for three minutes per speaker.)

Beverly Selvage, 2627 South Hibiscus, discussed Williams Gateway Airport, and recommended that the Council appoint citizens from the affected area to serve on a committee to review the airport's operations. Ms. Selvage stated that as far back as 1993 the citizens of Sunland Village East have been vocal in their opposition to the proposed plans for the airport and urged the Council to provide sufficient information to the residents of the area regarding current and future airport plans.

In response to additional questions posed by Ms. Selvage, Mayor Brown recommended that Ms. Selvage meet with David Spaur to address her unanswered questions. Mayor Brown thanked Ms. Selvage for her input.

Nancy Jo Johnson, 8330 East Monterey Avenue, expressed the opinion that an additional airport impact study be conducted and stressed the importance of involving the citizens living in the affected area in all aspects of the airport's future plans. Ms. Johnson stated that she is a resident of Sunland Village East and emphasized the need to provide up to date information to the residents of the area.

Mayor Brown thanked Ms. Johnson for comments.

6. Adjournment.

Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 8:52 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 the 8th day of October 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