



COUNCIL MINUTES

April 26, 2007

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Joint meeting with Fountain Hills Town Council on April 26, 2007 at Copperwynd Resort and Club, 13225 N. Eagle Ridge Drive, Fountain Hills, AZ

COUNCIL PRESENT	STAFF PRESENT	FOUNTAIN HILLS TOWN COUNCIL PRESENT	FOUNTAIN HILLS STAFF PRESENT
Keno Hawker, Mayor Rex Griswold Kyle Jones Tom Rawles Janie Thom Claudia Walters Mike Whalen	Christopher Brady Scott Butler Linda Crocker Heather Gray Debbie Spinner	Wally Nichols, Mayor Ginny Dickey Ed Kehe Henry Leger Keith McMahan Jay Schlum	Tim Pickering Bev Bender Andrew McGuire Susan Trocki Tom Ward Shaunna Williams Kate Zanon
		FOUNTAIN HILLS TOWN COUNCIL ABSENT Mike Archambault	

The meeting was called to order at 11:55 a.m. Ms. Zanon reviewed the meeting agenda that would be followed and facilitated the meeting.

1. Welcome and Introductions.

Self-introductions of attendees took place as listed above. Mayor Nichols welcomed everyone and commented on one of Fountain Hills' greatest assets, the views and the fact that Fountain Hills is establishing relationships with adjoining communities. He thanked the City of Mesa [the 3rd largest city in Maricopa County] for assisting Fountain Hills in the past.

Mayor Hawker stated that Mesa had supported Fountain Hills in their annexation efforts and hoped to use Fountain Hills as a model for a success story.

2. Update on the State Trust Land

Fountain Hills Town Manager Pickering briefly gave an update on the State Trust Land annexation. He pointed out that Fountain Hills had been successful in obtaining a pre-annexation development agreement with the Arizona Land Department. He noted that the Land Department's goal had been to add value to the land before the land auction took place. The land sold last month for \$110M, which

was the second highest sale to date. Mr. Pickering indicated a willingness to assist Mesa with the process the Town had gone through. He also expressed that the City of Mesa's 20-year plan had been the model for Fountain Hills' current 20-year plan. He stated that this 20-year plan forced the Town to look into the future and to begin taking on those issues now to find answers rather than waiting.

Ms. Zanon stated that information on this topic had been included in the packet provided to everyone.

3. Williams Gateway Area Update.

Mr. Butler reviewed the plans for this area noting that it was Mesa's long-term plan to establish a thriving center for business, employment, aviation, education, and technology. He discussed the impacts of potential additional passenger services, Cessna is constructing a new facility and relocating from California, Embraer is constructing a new facility, educational facilities that will be constructed in the area and their role [ASU and Chandler-Gilbert Community College], as well as the importance of two new studies that were to be completed [Airport Master Plan Update and ULI]. *A copy of the presentation is on file in the Clerk's office.*

Mayor Nichols questioned the impact the Gateway expansion would have on Scottsdale's airport and Mr. Butler responded that this was not a competing market as Scottsdale provided mainly charter services due to their schedules and volume limitations.

4. Transportation Connectivity.

Mr. Ward briefly spoke about the lack of connecting roads to Fountain Hills and the impact of having a road connect Bush Highway to the Beeline Highway. He stated that Fort McDowell's Tribal Council and the Town of Fountain Hills Council supported efforts to provide connectivity. He noted that staff would be asking the Town of Fountain Hills Town Council to consider contributing 25% towards the cost of the Stantec study that was projected to be completed in June.

5. Economic Development.

Ms. Zanon talked about the Town's trade demographics and how limited the commercial growth was. She stated that the Town was currently working with the Fountain Hills Chamber of Commerce to broaden visitor market outreach and emphasized that transportation was the key. She noted that the Town had invested in the revitalization of infrastructure in the downtown area and that the Town's focus was on business retention, filling parcels, and downtown development.

Mr. Brady stated that a well educated and skilled workforce was necessary for economic development and the right infrastructure was needed to move things forward. He discussed the fact the lack of freeway congestion in Mesa, the fact that the 202 was scheduled to be completed in 2008, the fact that Mesa needed to work on the north/south connection, and that their water and waste water facilities were in a strong position to facilitate future growth.

6. Closing remarks.

Mayor Nichols thanked everyone for attending and staff for making all the arrangements. He stated that he was looking forward to connecting Fountain Hills to the Gateway Area through the proposed Usury Pass. He presented Mayor Hawker with a Fountain Hills pen set in remembrance of this meeting.

Mayor Hawker also expressed his thanks to everyone who attended. He pointed out that the East Valley communities needed to band together to complete projects and indicated that he would follow-up and meet with Fort McDowell Tribal President Bear. He commented on Mesa's excellent relationship with both the Fort McDowell and Salt River Pima Tribal Councils. He commented that he was impressed with Fountain Hills as a community.

7. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Joint Meeting with Fountain Hills Town Council adjourned at 1:12 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 Joint Meeting with the Fountain Hills Town Council held on the 26th day of April 2007. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this ____ day of _____ 2007

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK