

COUNCIL MINUTES

May 10, 2000

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Budget Review Session in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on May 10, 2000 at 8:00 a.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Wayne Brown
Jim Davidson
John Giles
Keno Hawker
Bill Jaffa
Dennis Kavanaugh
Pat Pomeroy
Councilmember-Elect
Claudia Walters

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Mike Hutchinson
Chris Albright
Wayne Balmer
Jack Friedline
Gerry Gerber
Pat Granillo
Joe Holmwood
Carrie Kent
Wayne Korinek
Ron Krosting
Tom Mattingly
Frank Mizner
Keith Nath
Ellen Pence
Bryan Raines
Andrea Rasizer
Jackie Redpath
Becky Richardson
Tom Remes

STAFF PRESENT (CONT.)

Jenny Sheppard
John Smoyer
Walter Switzer
Larry Talley
Doug Tessendorf
Jamie Warner
Christine Zielonka

OTHERS PRESENT

Barrett Marson
Betty Beard
Kathy Tolman
Mike Whalen
Others

(Mayor Brown excused Councilmembers Hawker and Jaffa from the beginning of the meeting.)

1. Community Services Department.

Community Services Manager Wayne Korinek introduced staff members present at the meeting and provided an overview of the proposed FY 2000/01 budget for the Community Services Department. Mr. Korinek advised Council that his department is divided into four general areas: parks and recreation; arts & cultural; community center; and libraries.

(Councilmembers Hawker and Jaffa arrived at the meeting at 8:05 a.m.)

Mr. Korinek stated that the Golf Program includes funding for ongoing expenses related to the Dobson Ranch and Riverview Golf Courses. Mr. Korinek added that revenue decreases are anticipated due to increasing competition from surrounding courses and also due to the fact that only nine holes will be open during renovation and irrigation system upgrades at the Dobson Ranch Golf Course.

Mr. Korinek displayed several maps of the proposed 2000/01 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) projects for the above-referenced divisions including: a) athletic field lighting (Stapley Junior High, Taylor Junior High, Red Mountain Park, Countryside Park); b) design (Augusta Ranch Park, Arts & Entertainment Center, aquatic center); c) expansions (Dobson Ranch Golf Course, Riverview Park, Cemetery, Museum for Youth); e) new developments (Greenfield Youth Complex, Countryside Park, Enid Basin, Skyline Park, Valencia Park, canal bank multiuse pathway); and f) renovations (Carriage Park Lane, Westwood High School and Carson Junior High School, Evergreen Park, Fitch Park, Main Library, Powell Junior High, Red Bird Elementary and Jefferson Park.).

Vice Mayor Giles expressed appreciation to Mr. Korinek and his staff for their hard work. Vice Mayor Giles also encouraged staff to revisit the issue of a revised parks bond to be presented to the voters for reconsideration at a future election.

Discussion ensued relative to a regional park in southeast Mesa and the potential for the City to apply for federal funding for the acquisition and development of new parks.

Councilmember Jaffa concurred with the opinions expressed by Vice Mayor Giles and stressed the importance of the City's acquisition of property for the development of new parks. Councilmember Jaffa also commended staff on the Greenfield Sports Complex.

Mr. Korinek advised the Council that there is a growing demand for year-round youth sports programs and noted that there will be an increase this budget year of approximately 30,000 participants.

Councilmember Davidson questioned Mr. Korinek relative to the Summer Program for Disabled Kids and encouraged staff to maintain the program in its entirety.

Mr. Korinek spoke relative to the cemetery expansion located in the southwest portion of the site adjacent to Country Club Drive and indicated that once completed, 3,200 more spaces would become available.

Mayor Brown indicated that relative to the cemetery, the new Council should investigate the location of headstones in the new area.

Discussion ensued relative to the cemetery perpetual care fund.

Mr. Korinek highlighted activities relative to the Mesa Arts and Entertainment Center and the fact that it is on schedule and on budget and that the schematic drawings have been approved. Mr. Korinek added that the project is scheduled to break ground in the winter of 2001 and to open in the fall of 2004.

Mr. Korinek noted that the Early Childhood Learning Center at the Museum for Youth is slated for construction in this budget year and also that the Southwest Museum's 40,000 square feet expansion is scheduled to open on May 27.

Discussion ensued relative to potential fund raising efforts through the private/public sector.

Mr. Korinek spoke relative to the library and stated that more citizens are electronically accessing the library from their homes or offices rather than through the utilization of print material. Mr. Korinek added that the proposed expansion of the East Mesa Library will increase the available space from 17,000 to 50,000 square feet.

Councilmember-Elect Walters addressed the issue relative to staff delineating the current needs of the library prior to implementation of design standards.

Mr. Korinek addressed the Council with respect to the Community Center and noted that an economic study is currently being conducted by Pricewaterhouse Coopers to issue recommendations relative to the most appropriate use and management of the facility. Mr. Korinek also remarked that there is a 23% increase in revenues and that the Amphitheater attendance has also increased by 33%.

Discussion ensued relative to Simply Citrus, Mesa's new "signature" event; the fact repairs are necessary in the Conference Center to renovate a deteriorating kitchen and the expansion of the Public Art Program.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Korinek and his staff for their presentations.

2. Break.

At 9:30 a.m., Mayor Brown called for a short recess. The meeting reconvened at 9:50 a.m.

3. Development Services.

Development Services Manager Jack Friedline distributed an overview of the proposed 2000/01 budget for the Development Services Department and introduced personnel present at the meeting. Mr. Friedline recounted a brief history relative to the reorganization efforts of the Public Works Department and Planning Department that resulted in the formation of the Development Services Department. Mr. Friedline stated that the budget is currently \$250 million, with a requested target amount of \$270 million. Mr. Friedline added that the Department currently employs 470 full-time employees and is anticipating that this number will increase to 517 in the 2000/01 budget year.

Contracts and Budget Coordinator Larry Talley provided a synopsis of the Development Services Department Administration functions. Mr. Talley indicated that there are four main divisions including Department Administrative Services, 5-Year CIP Administration, Special Project, and Contract and Budget Administration. Mr. Talley noted that the proposed FY budget for the Department is \$164,815,918 with a total of 14.5 full-time employees.

Real Estate Services Director Doug Tessororf outlined the responsibilities of the Real Estate Services Department, which include the management of City-owned property and the acquisition of property. Mr. Tessororf noted that the Real Estate Services Department is not requesting additional staff or equipment.

City Engineer Keith Nath detailed the functions of the Engineering Department to the Council. Mr. Nath advised that the primary responsibilities of the Engineering Department consist of the design and construction of Capital Improvement Projects and Special Improvement Districts; reviewing outside agency plans; maintaining record drawings of off-site improvement projects and utility mapping, and providing prints of drawings and maps. Mr. Nath stated that the Engineering Department currently has allocated \$225 million for the design of various projects including the Arts & Entertainment Center, the aquatics facility, numerous street-widening projects and wastewater facilities. Mr. Nath added that the proposed budget request for 2000/01 is \$28,019,533, which is an increase of 13.94%.

Solid Waste Management Director Carrie Kent provided Council with an overview of the primary responsibilities of the Solid Waste Management Department. Ms. Kent discussed updates in the Department's

strategic plan which include an increase in the number of commercial accounts, expanding recycling services to commercial businesses and apartment residents and increasing the amount of recycled material.

Ms. Kent also recounted other department programs including the green waste barrel program, the bulk items collection program, the appliance program, the household hazardous waste program, apartment complex recycling programs and also a community outreach program designed to educate citizens relative to the importance of recycling. Ms. Kent stated that the FY proposed budget is \$18,900,000.

Building Inspections Superintendent Tom Mattingly provided a brief synopsis of the duties of the Building Inspections Department. Mr. Mattingly advised that the focus of the Department includes such varied responsibilities as issuing building permits and offsite permits; full spectrum plan reviews, fire plan reviews; development engineering; planning and zoning; and building plan review. Mr. Mattingly emphasized that the Building Inspections Department is self-supporting relative to the fact the permit fees that are collected are sufficient to support the services that are provided to the City. Mr. Mattingly added that the proposed budget is estimated at \$5,924,820.

Planning Director Frank Mizner outlined the functions of the Planning Department, which is the newest member of the Development Services Department. Mr. Mizner stated that the primary responsibilities of the Department include the staffing of a variety of citizen advisory boards such as Board of Adjustment, Planning and Zoning, and Design Review Board; annexations; avigation easements; reporting to the City Council relative to code amendments and special studies; Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping; regional planning with Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG), Maricopa County, Williams Gateway and also the U.S. Census. Mr. Mizner stated that the proposed budget for FY 2000/01 is \$1,777,618, which is an 8% increase over the previous budget year.

Environmental Programs Director Christine Zielonka informed the Council that the primary programs that the Environmental Department is currently focusing on involve air quality, which includes enforcement of Mesa's Dust Control Program on City-owned property, public roads and shoulders; monitoring hazardous materials through illegal dumping investigations; and a storm water permit program, which is a comprehensive program designed to keep pollutants out of the storm drain system. Ms. Zielonka added that the Department budget reflects a 55% increase over the 1999/2000 budget.

Facilities Maintenance Superintendent Chris Albright outlined the functions of the Facilities Maintenance Department, which includes the maintenance of 175 facilities. Mr. Albright noted that the proposed budget is \$5.2 million, which reflects no increase from the previous year's budget.

Transportation Director Ron Krosting outlined for the Council the various responsibilities of the Transportation Department, which include the areas of Streets Maintenance, Transportation and Transit. Mr. Krosting indicated that the proposed budget for FY 2000/01 is \$33,294,839.

Councilmember Jaffa expressed appreciation to Mr. Friedline for his leadership abilities in spearheading such a large and diverse department. Councilmember Jaffa also applauded the Development Services Department for its partnering with the private sector to streamline the process for approval of development projects.

Discussion ensued relative to speed hump programs; bus pullouts, and traffic-calming devices.

Councilmembers Hawker and Kavanaugh expressed appreciation to Mr. Friedline and staff for their detailed and informative presentations.

In response to a question from Councilmember Kavanaugh, Mr. Friedline noted that the City is currently in discussions to automate and create e-permits and electronic plan reviews.

Mayor Brown encouraged the Solid Waste Department to implement more centralized and accessible hazardous waste disposals sites for the citizens of Mesa.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Friedline and his staff for their input.

4. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Budget Review Session adjourned at 11:50 a.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 Budget Review Session of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 10th day of May, 2000. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this ____ day of _____ 2000

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK