

# COUNCIL MINUTES

February 20, 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 20, 1998 at 7:46 a.m.

## COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Wayne Brown  
John Giles  
Dennis Kavanaugh  
Joan Payne  
Wayne Pomeroy  
Claudia Walters

## COUNCIL ABSENT

Pat Gilbert

## STAFF PRESENT

C.K. Luster  
Neal Beets  
Denise Bleyle  
Mike Claspell  
Dennis Compton  
John Gendron  
Joe Holmwood  
Mike Hutchinson  
Lars Jarvie  
Barbara Jones  
Harry Kent  
Wayne Korinek  
Ron Krosting  
Dorinda Larsen  
Greg Marek  
Jeff Martin  
Tray Mead  
Ellen Pence  
Bryan Raines  
Andrea Rasizer  
Tom Remes  
David Spaur

## STAFF PRESENT (CONT.)

Doug Tessendorf  
Debbie Vickman  
Mindy White  
Debbie Yukolis  
Others

## OTHERS PRESENT

Carolyn Backer  
Jim Davidson  
Harold Decker  
Richard Duve  
Doug Hancock  
Bev Hart  
Keno Hawker  
Ivan Johnson  
Jan Radakovich  
Robbie Sherwood  
Bob Saemisch  
Tom Verploegen  
Rich Weddle  
Marilynn Wennerstrom  
Others

Mayor Brown excused Vice Mayor Gilbert from the meeting.

1. Discuss and consider the formation of a Special Improvement District for street improvements on North Brimhall Road, north of Lehi Road.

Public Works Manager Harry Kent informed Council of a proposed Special Improvement District for the correction of drainage problems on North Brimhall Road, from Lehi Road to Nance Road. Mr. Kent stated that the utilization of right-of-way will be required to develop a cul-de-sac at the north end of North Brimhall Road, and that approximately four street lights will be installed and the road will be paved. Mr. Kent explained that the size of lots on North Brimhall Road vary and recommended that an assessment be based on cost per lot.

In response to a question from Mayor Brown, Mr. Kent advised that the estimated City's share of the cost for the Special Improvement District is necessary to obtain the approval of the residents.

Councilmember Kavanaugh acknowledged the importance of paving streets to eliminate excessive dirt from the environment but indicated concern regarding the large percentage of funding requested of the City. Councilmember Kavanaugh questioned whether the City's funding amount would indicate preferential treatment to the neighborhood.

Doug Hancock, 2448 North Brimhall Road, spoke in support of the proposed Special Improvement District. Mr. Hancock explained health concerns and difficulties encountered by the residents of North Brimhall Road resulting from the excessive dust created by the dirt road. Mr. Hancock expressed the opinion that the cost to pave North Brimhall Road would create financial hardship on several of the older residents and requested that the City provide sufficient funding to pave the street.

Richard Duve, 2424 North Brimhall Road, informed Council that the number of homes located on North Brimhall Road has increased since the annexation of Lehi by the City of Mesa. Mr. Duve expressed the opinion that the increase in density has created additional traffic and increased dust. Mr. Duve requested that the City provide a higher percentage of the cost to pave the road than what has currently been proposed.

It was moved by Councilmember Pomeroy, seconded by Councilmember Giles, that the formation of a Special Improvement District for street improvements on North Brimhall Road, north of Lehi Road be approved.

Councilmember Kavanaugh expressed opposition to the motion relative to the large amount of funding to be provided by the City and the potential preferential treatment of the neighborhood.

Councilmember Giles concurred with Councilmember Kavanaugh regarding the importance of paving streets and protecting the environment from excessive dust.

Councilmember Walters indicated support for the motion but expressed concern regarding the large percentage of funds to be provided by the City. Councilmember Walters noted the importance of reviewing future Special Improvement District requests on their own merits.

In response to a question from Councilmember Walters, Mr. Kent advised that only one individual has expressed opposition to dedicating right-of-way for the development of the cul-de-sac.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES	-	Brown-Giles-Pomeroy-Walters
NAYS	-	Kavanaugh-Payne
ABSENT	-	Gilbert

Mayor Brown declared the motion carried by majority vote of those present.

2. Hear from Rich Weddle, President and CEO of the Greater Phoenix Economic Council.

Rich Weddle, President and CEO of the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC) stated that during 1997 GPEC defined its goals, developed an action plan, established a series of measures, and reorganized staff. Mr. Weddle stated that GPEC has promoted the Phoenix metropolitan area through a series of advertisements, articles in major publications, and conferences. Mr. Weddle advised that GPEC has assisted 19 businesses to locate within the Phoenix metropolitan area and has created approximately 2,700 new jobs year-to-date. Mr. Weddle informed Council that GPEC will continue to train staff to promote the region, develop brochures, conduct outreach activities, and create a web site. Mr. Weddle stated that GPEC will not request an increase in the City's annual fee for the 1998/1999 fiscal year and thanked Council for its continued support.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Weddle for the update and noted the importance of GPEC and the City working together to achieve the best results.

Mr. Weddle concurred with Mayor Brown's comments and explained the importance of the City providing details of incentive programs.

Councilmember Kavanaugh commended Mr. Weddle for his efforts in meeting the challenges at GPEC.

Discussion ensued relative to the benefits a business receives due to the lack of a property tax in the City of Mesa and GPEC's continued efforts to market the benefits of locating a business in Mesa including the fact that the City does not have a property tax.

Councilmember Giles expressed concern of GPEC's past accomplishments but noted optimism of changes recently made by GPEC.

Councilmember Walters requested that GPEC provide feedback to City staff whenever businesses decide to locate in another City. Councilmember Walters stressed the importance of informing businesses that the City of Mesa provides a business-friendly environment.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Weddle and Mr. Spaur for the presentation and expressed appreciation to Carolyn Backer for her efforts in working with GPEC.

3. Hear and consider a report on schedule of events for the Town Center Improvement District.

Public Works Manager Harry Kent outlined the schedule of events to review assessments for the Town Center Improvement District.

Councilmember Giles requested that staff prepare a memo outlining the formula currently utilized to determine the feasibility of maintaining the Improvement District.

4. Hear a status report on the progress of the Mesa Southwest Museum expansion project.

Assistant City Manager Mike Hutchinson reported that the Mesa Southwest Museum expansion project is currently out to bid and is expected to be brought back to Council for approval on March 16, 1998.

Museum Administrator Tray Mead stated that the expansion of the Mesa Southwest Museum is a key element in the redevelopment of downtown Mesa. Mr. Mead estimated that one year will be required to complete the construction. Mr. Mead referred to overhead slides and stated that the museum would contain exhibits on astronomy, dinosaurs, Arizona's prehistoric seas, Mesa's desert beauty, archeology, and general history of the area.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Mead for the report.

5. Hear a presentation on the status of the Ad Hoc Committee on Ethics.

Councilmember Kavanaugh stated that the Ad Hoc Committee on Ethics has been meeting since September 1997 to develop a code of ethics for advisory boardmembers and City Councilmembers. Councilmember Kavanaugh suggested that Council consider requesting voters to amend the city charter to allow for the creation of a permanent ethics advisory board. Councilmember Kavanaugh outlined the role of the ethics advisory board and noted that upon receipt of a complaint concerning an advisory boardmember or City Councilmember, five members of the ethics advisory board would be selected to review the case. Councilmember Kavanaugh stated that members of the City's advisory boards would be requested to submit names of potential ethics advisory boardmembers, for approval by the Mayor and Council, that have had experience or training in ethics or have represented Mesa as an elected official.

Mayor Brown expressed concern relative to members of the City's advisory boards nominating the ethics advisory boardmembers and noted the importance of the Mayor's role in nominating boardmembers.

Councilmember Kavanaugh acknowledged Mayor Brown's concerns and expressed the opinion that utilizing City advisory boardmembers to nominate individuals would assist in developing a diverse board.

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

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

7. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

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

Monday, February 23, 1998, 7:00 p.m. - Transportation Committee

Friday, February 27, 1998, 7:30 a.m. - Study Session

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

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

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

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

10. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 8:55 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 20th 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