

COUNCIL MINUTES

January 22, 2007

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 January 22, 2007 at 5:00 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Keno Hawker
Rex Griswold
Kyle Jones
Tom Rawles
Scott Somers
Claudia Walters
Mike Whalen

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

OFFICERS PRESENT

Christopher Brady
Debbie Spinner
Barbara Jones

1. Review items on the agenda for the January 22, 2007 Regular Council meeting.

Councilmember Rawles announced that he would no longer stand and participate in the Pledge of Allegiance at the Regular Council Meetings. He explained that although he loves his country and respects the flag, this action is his form of protest against the continuing involvement of America in the Iraq civil war.

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

Conflicts of interest declared: 5e, 5f, 5h, 7k, 8g (Hawker); 5h (Whalen); 7k, 8g (Rawles); 10a (Jones)

Items deleted from the consent agenda: 8.1b, 8.1c, 8.1d, 8.1e

2. Appointments to boards and committees.

Mayor Hawker recommended the following appointments to Boards and Committees:

HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD

Rory Gilbert – Term Expires June 30, 2007

It was moved by Vice Mayor Walters, seconded by Councilmember Jones, that the Council concur with the Mayor's recommendation and the appointment be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

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

Councilmember Jones:	Mesa Historic Homes Tour; Wal-Mart Grand Opening
Mayor Hawker:	Welcomed Western Airlines' Inaugural Flight at Williams Gateway Airport
Councilmember Griswold:	Mesa Historical Museum Tour; Fundraiser for Tony Jordan, owner of Christel's Café

4. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

City Manager Christopher Brady stated that the meeting schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, January 23, 2007, 6:00 p.m. – Town Hall Meeting (District 4)

Thursday, January 25, 2007, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session – Cancelled

Tuesday, January 30, 2007, 6:00 p.m. – Town Hall Meeting (District 3)

Thursday, February 1, 2007, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Mr. Brady reported that staff recently received a request from the Dobson Ranch Homeowners' Association (HOA) to hold a joint meeting with the Council. He explained that the question was raised whether there would be a meeting of the full Council and requested feedback in this regard. He stated that staff would be available to meet with the HOA and respond to any questions or concerns they may have.

Vice Mayor Walters commented that she appreciates the opportunity to attend HOA meetings in Council districts other than her own so that she can become acquainted with a variety of City issues. She stated that if additional HOA meetings (other than Dobson Ranch) were to take place, it would be important to inform the group that the Council representative from that district would attend, however, the participation of the other Councilmembers would be optional. Vice Mayor Walters added that if four Councilmembers planned to participate in the event, it would be necessary for staff to post a public meeting and create an agenda.

Councilmember Rawles indicated that it is not equitable for the Council to have a joint meeting with one HOA (Dobson Ranch) and not do the same with other Mesa HOAs. He stated that he would prefer that the Council not have "full-blown" public meetings unless four or more Councilmembers indicate their desire to attend a particular HOA event.

Councilmember Griswold concurred with Councilmember Rawles' suggestion and added that it would be important for each Councilmember to advise staff in a timely manner whether he or she planned on attending the HOA meeting.

Councilmember Jones said that because the Dobson Ranch HOA meeting is the only HOA meeting that the Council currently attends, he suggested that the matter be tabled until such time as staff receives requests from additional HOAs that wish to meet with the Council.

Mayor Hawker paraphrased his fellow Councilmembers' input as follows: 1.) If staff receives a request from an HOA and four Councilmembers wish to attend the meeting, a public meeting would be posted and an agenda drafted; 2.) It would be necessary for the individual Councilmembers to RSVP by a certain date in order to assist staff in determining whether a quorum of the Council would be present; and 3.) If a Councilmember fails to respond to the invitation, he or she would not attend the meeting.

5. Prescheduled public opinion appearances.

There were no prescheduled public opinion appearances.

6. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 5:35 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 22nd day of January 2007. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK