

COUNCIL MINUTES

May 24, 2001

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 May 24, 2001 at 7:30 a.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Keno Hawker
Jim Davidson
Bill Jaffa
Dennis Kavanaugh
Pat Pomeroy
Claudia Walters
Mike Whalen

COUNCIL ABSENT

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mike Hutchinson
Barbara Jones

1. Discuss and consider issues related to hosting the aquatic portion of the 2005 Goodwill Games.

Parks and Recreation Director Joe Holmwood and Mike Sculley, Executive Director of Maricopa County Sports Commission (MCSC) addressed the Council regarding this agenda item. Mr. Holmwood discussed staff's recommendation that Mesa commit to participating in the four-event plan and appropriate the necessary funds to proceed with the proposal. Mr. Holmwood commented that at the General Development Committee meeting held the previous day, staff outlined three proposed alternatives for the siting of an indoor aquatics center (IAC). He noted that the most elaborate of those plans, which included the relocation of the facility to Site 17, is the only one that would impact Mesa's ability to host a portion of the 2005 Goodwill Games.

Mr. Holmwood noted that the 2005 Goodwill Games will come to the Phoenix area September 14th through the 25th, and staff is proposing that Mesa host the aquatic portion consisting of swimming, diving, synchro and water polo.

It was moved by Councilmember Pomeroy, seconded by Councilmember Walters, that staff's recommendation that the City set aside an amount up to \$45,000 per year (for a five year period of time) to host the aquatic portion of the 2005 Goodwill Games, including swimming, diving, synchro and water polo, be approved.

Discussion ensued relative to the fact that the total annual contribution is \$90,000 with the City funding \$45,000 and the Mesa Convention and Visitors' Bureau (MCVB) contributing \$45,000, the fact that the MCVB has approved the proposal in concept and it is anticipated that they will

proceed with the project; the fact that a presentation has already been made to the Goodwill team confirming the cities' participation and proposed funding contributions; the fact that the costs are consistent for each city, however, certain cities, such as Tempe, have chosen to eliminate a sport activity and therefore the cost for that city decreased, and the fact that the cost is \$160,000 per sport or, in the case of multiple sports, \$150,000 each.

Councilmember Jaffa asked whether the funds would be placed in a separate escrow account and stated concerns regarding the manner in which the \$45,000 in funds will be set aside.

Carried unanimously.

2. Hear a presentation on the City of Mesa's response to the Northwest 2000 Draft Environmental Assessment.

Assistant to the City Manager Jeff Martin and Mayor Hawker addressed this agenda item. Mayor Hawker discussed a letter that was drafted in response to the Northwest 2000 Draft Environmental Assessment and said that Mesa asked for an equal dispersion of flights and clarified that Mesa does not want established flight paths to interfere with Williams Gateway Airport flights in the future.

Discussion ensued regarding this issue and the fact that the letter suggested that additional thought and consideration be expended to ensure that the 4-mile DME Gate operates effectively and efficiently. The Mayor said that he talked with other members of the Airport Authority and they agreed with the Mayor's concerns.

Williams Gateway Regional Economic Activity Area Project Manager Wayne Balmer provided an overview on this agenda item and noted that the cities of Phoenix and Tempe agreed upon a 4-DME gate procedure that has been in use since 1994. He said that Sky Harbor Airport is the only airport of its type in the nation that has this type of restriction on both arriving and departing flights and discussed the negative impacts of this process on those cities (timing, which results in delays) as well as noise impacts on the City of Mesa.

Discussion ensued relative to an anticipated increase in noise decimal levels, the fact that the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) was under the mistaken impression that areas such as Las Sendas are open space and were unaware of the significant residential development that has occurred; Councilmember Jaffa's concerns that the letter sent by the City did not adequately address impacts on Mesa, both current and future; distance measuring equipment, and the fact that the City of Mesa was not included in the discussion/development of an agreement relative to such an important issue that impacts the City in a significant manner.

Mr. Balmer emphasized the importance of pursuing sharing the burden and obtaining a 2 or 3 DME gate option rather than the current 4 DME gate option, minimizing the impacts in the future and carefully monitoring this important issue.

3. Hear an update on the proposed Southeast Maricopa County and Northern Pinal County Regional Transportation Plan.

Assistant to the City Manager Jeff Martin provided a brief update on this agenda item and said that he and Mayor Hawker have spent a significant amount of time on this study over the last six months and have met with the Pinal and Maricopa County Supervisors, as well as Councilmembers from the towns/cities of Queen Creek, Apache Junction and Chandler.

Mr. Martin said that the purpose of the study is to determine transportation needs for this sub-region in the future and added that since a significant amount of the growth is occurring in Pinal County, the transportation planners did not receive updated information on the significant increase that has occurred in this area. He added that timing is good since the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) is currently updating their Transportation Plan for the next 20 years and ADOT is also involved in a transportation study which is being done in anticipation of a state-wide transportation election over the next two to three years.

Mr. Martin discussed the cooperation that has been received from both CAAG and MAG and discussed funding, anticipated schedules, and the positive impacts that may result from the study.

The Mayor commented that CAAG was impressed and grateful that the City of Mesa was willing to reach outside of Maricopa County to involve other communities and gain input on this issue. Discussion ensued relative to the importance of developing a cooperative relationship with those entities and the fact that a possibility exists to work together in updating the various general plans.

Councilmember Kavanaugh and Vice Mayor Davidson expressed appreciation to Mr. Martin and Mayor Hawker for their efforts regarding this important issue.

4. Discuss and consider various issues related to the FY 2001-02 and FY 2002-03 Annual Budget Plan.

City Manager Mike Hutchinson and Budget Director Jamie Warner addressed the Council regarding this agenda item. Mr. Hutchinson said that following the previous discussion with the Council regarding budget issues, Staff has attempted to address the concerns and items of interest that were outlined. He said that tentative adoption of the budget is scheduled for June 4, 2001 and presented a brief overview of the various additions/modifications developed by staff in response to Council's previous direction.

The members of the Council thanked staff for their efforts to address their previously stated concerns.

5. Acknowledge receipt of minutes of various boards and committees.

- a. Council District Commission Meeting held April 12, 2001.
- b. Crime Prevention Advisory Board Meeting held May 16, 2001.

- c. Housing and Human Services Advisory Board Meeting held April 24, 2001.
- d. Utility Committee Meeting held May 11, 2001.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Davidson, seconded by Councilmember Kavanaugh, that receipt of the above-listed minutes be acknowledged.

Carried unanimously.

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

Vice Mayor Davidson discussed his attendance at a recent Steering Committee meeting of the National League of Cities & Towns Energy and Environment/Natural Resources Committee.

Mayor Hawker said that he attended a recent MAG (Maricopa Association of Governments) meeting and announced that Mesa made a motion to take a look at forming a Committee to look at governance for MAG and whether the existing 23 cities represent all of the stakeholders who are (or should be) involved in regional planning.

7. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

City Manager Mike Hutchinson stated that the meeting schedule is as follows:

Thursday, May 24, 2001, 9:00 a.m. – Finance Committee

Thursday, May 24, 2001, 6:30 p.m. – Districting Commission at Pedro Guerrero Elementary

Thursday, May 31, 2001, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Monday, June 4, 2001, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council Meeting

Monday, June 4, 2001, 6:30 p.m. – Districting Commission at Hale Elementary School

Wednesday, June 6, 2001, 6:30 p.m. – Districting Commission at Holmes Elementary School

Thursday, June 7, 2001, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Wednesday, June 7, 2001, 6:30 p.m. – Districting Commission at Superstition Police and Fire Substation

8. Prescheduled public opinion appearances.

There were no prescheduled public opinion appearances.

9. Items from citizens present.

There were no items from citizens present.

10. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 8:51 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 Study Session of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 24th day of May, 2001. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

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