

COUNCIL MINUTES

December 17, 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 December 17, 1998 at 8:30 a.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Wayne Brown
Jim Davidson
John Giles
Keno Hawker
Bill Jaffa
Dennis Kavanaugh
Pat Pomeroy

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

C.K. Luster
Tom Albright
Wayne Balmer
Neal Beets
Melissa Bingmann
Denise Bleyle
Jamie Brennen
Dennis Compton
Fred Conway
Mark Coon
Linda Crocker
Laurie Goggin
Joe Holmwood
Mike Hutchinson
Barbara Jones
Harry Kent
Wayne Korinek
Ron Krosting
Dorinda Larsen
Larry Lines
Rich Lorig
Tracy Mead
Frank Mizner

STAFF PRESENT (CONT.)

Keith Nath
Ruth Anne Norris
Ellen Pence
Don Pfohl
David Plumb
Bryan Raines
Andrea Rasizer
Tom Remes
Becky Richardson
Sharon Seekins
Jenny Sheppard
John Smoyer
Ursula Strephans
Doug Tessendorf
Mindy White
Paul Wilson
Others

OTHERS PRESENT

Joan Newth
Dr. Mark O'Neil
Robbie Sherwood
Others

1. Review items on the agenda for the December 21, 1998 Regular Council Meeting.

All of the items on the agenda were reviewed among Council and staff with no formal action taken. There was specific discussion relative to the following items:

- *f. 4 administrative sedans for the Fire Department. 1 vehicle is a replacement, 3 are additions to the fleet.

In response to questions from Councilmember Hawker, Assistant Fire Chief Paul Wilson and Assistant Police Chief Fred Conway updated the Council on the status of CNG conversions with the Fire Department and Police Department fleets.

City Manager Charles Luster advised that the City is converting the required number of vehicles in order to comply with State mandates.

- 5.1 Consider further direction concerning a possible management analysis of Town Center Improvement District No. 228 and to plan to budget for a 'signature event' for the City.

Councilmember Pomeroy recommended that staff pursue the implementation of a Year 2000 signature event for the City of Mesa and added that the event should then be held on an annual basis. Councilmember Pomeroy said that the services of appropriate staff and/or outside consultants should be engaged in order to accomplish this goal.

Councilmember Davidson concurred with Councilmember Pomeroy's remarks and indicated an interest in pursuing an annual trademark signature event that would be held in Mesa on an annual basis.

Councilmember Davidson also commented on an additional agenda item, 4g, relative to extending the Mesa Town Center Improvement District No. 228 for an additional three years and questioned whether the three-year review cycle would place an undue burden on the Town Center Corporation. Councilmember Davidson indicated an interest in receiving input from the Town Center Corporation in the near future on the feasibility of implementing a signature event. Councilmember Davidson added that he would prefer that the selected signature event be implemented prior to the Year 2000.

Councilmember Kavanaugh stated that although he originally proposed the three-year review process, based on the amount of work the assessment review process entails on the part of the Mesa Town Center Corporation Board of Directors, he is willing to revise his proposal and recommend that the process occur every five rather than three years. Councilmember Kavanaugh pointed out that the annual review of the assessments would continue and would provide an opportunity to address any issues that have arisen. Councilmember Kavanaugh added that he would be hesitant to suggest a theme for a City-wide signature event and suggested that a staff person with expertise in this area be assigned to work on a full-time basis with the Town Center Corporation and City staff in an effort to accomplish this task and other types of community-wide events.

Mayor Brown expressed the opinion that the assessments should be reviewed on an annual basis, but stated that in the interest of compromise, the three-year review timeframe should be implemented. Mayor Brown stressed the importance of providing an opportunity for everyone involved to remain focused on the purpose and benefits of the District.

Mayor Brown requested that staff place the issue of developing and implementing a City-wide signature event on the agenda of an upcoming Policy Session.

6. Consider the following ordinances:

- *a. Pertaining to firearms.

In response to a request from Councilmember Hawker, Mayor Brown advised that this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda.

- *d. Relating to the Mesa Personnel Rules.

In response to a request from Councilmember Hawker, Mayor Brown advised that this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda.

7. Consider the following cases from the Planning and Zoning Board and possible adoption of the corresponding ordinances:

- *f. Z98-104 Certain properties between Broadway Road and Southern Avenue and 106th Street to Meridian.

Mayor Brown advised that this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda.

11. Consider the following subdivision plats:

- *a. PARKWOOD RANCH PARCEL 10
 - *b. PARKWOOD RANCH PARCEL 11

In response to questions posed by Councilmember Hawker, Community Development Manager Wayne Balmer discussed the fissures which are present at this location and homeowner/homebuyer notification process.

In response to a request from Councilmember Hawker, Mayor Brown advised that these items will be removed from the Consent Agenda.

2. Presentation of the results of a citizen survey.

Dr. Mike O'Neil, President of O'Neil and Associates, a public opinion research firm hired by the City to conduct a Mesa Citizen Survey and Special Projects Coordinator Laurie Goggin, addressed the Council relative to this agenda item. Ms. Goggin informed the Council that in October 1996 the Council commissioned a survey of residents and asked at that time that the survey be repeated in 24 months. Ms. Goggin reported that the survey has been completed and said that Mr. O'Neil will present the survey findings to the Council.

Mr. O'Neil referred to a handout and overheads displayed in the Council Chambers and briefly highlighted the contents of the results of the Mesa Citizen Survey. Mr. Neil reported that overall the citizens remain extremely satisfied with the quality of life in Mesa, the services provided by the City, and communication about City business. Mr. O'Neil reported that the results of this survey compare closely with those obtained from the survey which was completed 24 months ago and said that major issues of concern evolved around parking and traffic related matters. Mr. O'Neil reported that citizens also indicated dissatisfaction with the taste and quality of City water.

Discussion ensued relative to citizen responses to specific questions contained in the survey.

In response to a question from Councilmember Jaffa, Assistant City Manager Mike Hutchinson advised that following a close review of the data contained in the report, staff will report to the Council at a future meeting, present recommendations relative to specific issues and seek Council direction.

Mr. Hutchinson stated that Utilities Manager Dave Plumb is preparing a cost analysis on measures to improve the taste of the City's water. Mr. Hutchinson added that this issue will also be presented to the Council for discussion and consideration at a future meeting.

3. Discuss and consider adopting guidelines for the Heritage Wall on the south side of the Mesa City Plaza Building.

Museum Administrator Tray C. Mead and Education Curator Melissa Bingmann addressed the Council relative to this agenda item and provided a brief overview of this issue. Ms. Bingmann noted that the purpose of the wall is to commemorate Mesa's heritage and the people who have contributed over the years to the City's heritage.

Mayor Brown stated his reluctance to proceed with the project and expressed the opinion that the sensitive process of selecting citizens for this honor might create difficult situations and prove to be a negative rather than positive project for the City.

Councilmember Kavanaugh commended staff who worked diligently on preparing draft guidelines for the Council's review but stated that he concurs with the Mayor's comments. Councilmember Kavanaugh stated that the project may become controversial and indicated that he would prefer that staff pursue a public art project for this site which would represent the different aspects of life in Mesa.

Councilmember Pomeroy recommended that only the names of the four founding fathers and the Mayors of the City be listed on the wall.

Councilmembers Davidson and Jaffa concurred with Mayor Brown and Councilmember Kavanaugh's remarks and suggested that this matter be directed once again to the Museum and Cultural Advisory Board for additional consideration and recommendations.

Councilmember Hawker stated the opinion that the proposed heritage wall would not be an appropriate project for the City of Mesa.

Assistant City Manager Mike Hutchinson indicated that the plaques would be removed and effort will be expended to develop additional recommendations for the Council to consider.

Mayor Brown thanked staff for their effort and indicated his support for pursuing a public art project for this site.

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

- a. Adjustment Board meeting held December 1, 1998.
- b. Council District Commission meetings held November 4, 5, 9, 12, 17, and 18, 1998.
- c. Design Review Board meeting held December 2, 1998.
- d. Housing and Human Services Advisory Board meeting held November 18, 1998.

It was moved by Councilmember Kavanaugh, seconded by Councilmember Pomeroy, that receipt of the above listed minutes be acknowledged.

Carried unanimously.

5. Appointments to boards and committees.

Mayor Brown recommended the following appointments to Boards and Committees:

HOUSING AND HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

MICHAEL WHITING – Term to expire 6/30/99

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

Carried unanimously.

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 stated that the meeting schedule is as follows:

Monday, December 17, 1998, 4:00 p.m. – Utility Committee Meeting

Monday, December 17, 1998, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council Meeting

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

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

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

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

10. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

WAYNE BROWN, 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 17th day of December 1998. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this ____ day of _____ 1999

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK