

COUNCIL MINUTES

October 6, 1997

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 October 6, 1997, at 4:31 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Wayne Brown
Pat Gilbert
John Giles
Dennis Kavanaugh
Joan Payne
Wayne Pomeroy
Jim Stapley

COUNCIL ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

C.K. Luster
Don Ayers
Pauline Backer
Wayne Balmer
Neal Beets
Denise Bleyle
Tanya Collins
Dennis Compton
Mark Coon
Linda Crocker
Jack Friedline
John Gendron
Joe Holmwood
Mike Hutchinson
Lars Jarvie
Barbara Jones
Harry Kent
Wayne Korinek
Ron Krosting
Jane Kurtz
Dorinda Larsen
Larry Lines

STAFF PRESENT (CONT.)

Rich Lorig
Tom Mattingly
Bryan Raines
Andrea Rasizer
Tom Remes
Becky Richardson
Sharon Seekins
Jamie Warner
Mindy White
Paul Wilson
Ralph Wisz
Larry Woolf
Jim Wright
Others

OTHERS PRESENT

Bill Brando
Andy Clancy
Beverly Hart
Chris Moeser
James Stoch
Others

1. Hear and discuss an update on City budget issues.

Assistant City Manager Mike Hutchinson stated that staff has prepared a preliminary budget status report and update and said that over the next two months, staff will be soliciting Council input relative to budget priorities.

Budget Director Jamie Warner provided the Council with brief information relative to Fiscal Year 1996-97 and noted that the ending fund balance was higher than previously estimated but still lower than Fiscal Year 1995-96. Mr. Warner reported that total revenues for the

previous fiscal year was \$354.6 million, slightly higher than staff's projections. Mr. Warner informed the Council that the actual Fiscal Year 1996-97 expenditures totaled 60.6% of the amount originally budgeted. Mr. Warner added that \$35 million was transferred from the City's enterprise fund to the City's general fund at the end of Fiscal Year 1996-97. Mr. Warner reported that sales tax revenues totaled \$58.3 million for Fiscal Year 1996-97 and noted that the figures represents a growth rate of 6.7% and was \$122,000 less than the \$58.4 estimate provided by staff.

Discussion ensued relative to the fact that expenditures increased by 8.1% over the previous year while revenues increased by approximately 6%; staff's opinion that the City's share of expenses for Williams Gateway Airport for the next fiscal year will be approximately the same as the current year, and the fact that 30% of the City's fleet has been converted to Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and that by 1998 the City is required to have 50% of the fleet converted.

Mr. Warner briefly highlighted the contents of a projected ten-year financial forecast, which based on varying assumptions, including the possible implementation of a 1/2¢ sales tax. (See Attachment.)

Mayor Brown requested that staff provide a twenty-year financial forecast for future Council review.

Vice Mayor Gilbert requested that departmental budgets be prepared and presented in a manner similar to the ten-year financial forecast. Vice Mayor Gilbert added that the inclusion of historical data in addition to future trends will be a valuable tool in evaluating the departmental budgets.

Assistant to the City Manager Bryan Raines advised that staff has provided the Council with a preliminary draft of Fiscal Year 1998-99 budget issues and priorities. Mr. Raines noted that the list contains various items referred to by members of the Council during the previous year and requested feedback from the Council relative to these issues.

Mr. Warner informed the Council that staff will be presenting recommended revisions to the budget book and encouraged input from the Council.

Councilmember Kavanaugh requested that sufficient time be allocated for departmental budget presentations and stated the opinion that previous presentation timetables were limited and did not provide the Council with sufficient time to review and consider each of the department's budgets. Councilmember Kavanaugh suggested that the Council receive early notification of the proposed budget review session meeting dates and that the review process be expanded.

Mayor Brown requested that staff consider the option of scheduling the budget review sessions for every other day, rather than daily, to allow the Council sufficient time to address other responsibilities.

Mr. Warner reported that the 5-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) process will begin in mid-October and noted that in accordance with the City Charter, staff is required to submit a proposal to the Council by March 1, 1998. Mr. Warner noted that the proposal will be in a tentative format and subject to change.

Assistant to the City Manager Bryan Raines advised that budget issues will be included on the agenda of the December Council Policy Session, if not earlier, and requested that the Council provide input.

Mayor Brown stressed the importance of providing the Council with budgetary information in advance of the meetings to allow sufficient review, analysis and input to occur.

Mayor Brown thanked staff for their presentation.

2. Hear and consider a proposal from Bill Brando for a Mesa Air Cadets program to be sponsored by the Mesa Police Department.

Bill Brando, 61 South Macdonald, introduced Andy Clancy, President and founder of Clancy Aviation in Mesa, to the members of the Council. Mr. Clancy displayed a sample of a model plane he has designed and marketed and provided the Council with brief information relative to his background in this field.

Mr. Brando referred to a handout distributed to the Council regarding the establishment of a Mesa Air Cadets program in Mesa and stated the opinion that involving City youths in designing, building, and flying model planes, will assist in resolving the City's 'street gang' problems.

The Council viewed a brief video presented by Mr. Clancy which depicted samples of his model planes in flight.

Mr. Clancy expressed his willingness to work with the City of Mesa to develop a program similar to the one proposed by Mr. Brando and added that he would discount the cost of the model planes.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Brando and Mr. Clancy for their presentation and complimented Mr. Clancy on his efforts. Mr. Brando requested that the Council respond to Mr. Brando's proposal for the development of an Air Cadets program in Mesa in the near future.

3. Hear from James Stoch, Jobs America, regarding the Community Center's policy on 60-day intervals between similar shows.

James Stoch, President of Jobs America, 4701 Patrick Henry Drive, Suite 1801, Santa Clara, California, informed the Council that due to a current 60-day interval requirement in between Career/Job Fairs at the Mesa Community and Conference Center, his company will be unable to schedule a Jobs America forum in 1998. Mr. Stoch provided the Council with brief background information relative to his company and the success of the company's previously held career fairs. Mr. Stoch requested that the Council review this policy, particularly in light of the fact that the competitor's previously scheduled Career Fair differs substantially in content and attendees from the type of fair produced by Jobs America.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Stoch for his input and indicated that staff will research this issue and respond to his concerns.

Mr. Stoch thanked Mayor Brown for the opportunity to address the Council.

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

- a. Economic Development Advisory Board meeting held September 25, 1997.
- b. Museum and Cultural Advisory Board meeting held September 25, 1997.

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

Carried unanimously.

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

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

6. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

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

Thursday, October 9, 1997, 4:00 p.m. - Policy Session

Friday, October 10, 1997, 7:30 a.m. - Study Session

7. Review items on the agenda for the October 6, 1997, Regular Council Meeting.

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

3. Consider the following liquor license applications:

e. KIMBERLY ANN BUTLER, AGENT

City Manager Charles Luster discussed staff's concerns relative to the fact that the establishment appears to operate more as a bar than as a restaurant but noted that the State Liquor Board has no objection to the issuance of the license.

5. Introduction of the following ordinances and setting October 20, 1997 as the date for the public hearing on these ordinances.

*c. Code amendment.

In response to a question from Councilmember Giles, Community Development Manager Wayne Balmer advised that this agenda item relates only to the introduction of the ordinance. Mr. Balmer added that staff could provide Council with a presentation relative to this issue prior to actual consideration of the ordinance.

6. Consider the following resolutions:
 - a. Approving and authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement between the Regional Public Transportation Authority and the City of Mesa for the operation of the Mesa/Chandler/Gilbert Dial-A-Ride service.

Public Works Manager Harry Kent advised that Transportation Department staff, a representative from the provider, Arnett Transportation Services, and a representative from the Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA) are present to respond to Council questions.

Mayor Brown requested that Councilmember Kavanaugh address his questions at this time but that for the purpose of public information and in response to citizens' concerns, that the representatives of Dial-A-Ride and the RPTA respond to those questions at the Regular Council Meeting following the Study Session.

Councilmember Kavanaugh expressed concern relative to the level of service provided to Dial-A-Ride users and whether the capability exists to improve their services. Councilmember Kavanaugh noted the volume of complaints received from citizens and questioned whether Dial-A-Ride drivers are provided Workmen's Compensation insurance. Councilmember Kavanaugh stressed the importance of acknowledging and addressing the concerns of Mesa's citizens.

Vice Mayor Gilbert commented on citizens' complaints relative to rude behavior on the part of various Dial-A-Ride drivers, particularly towards disabled patrons, and questioned plans to eliminate this type of behavior in the future.

- *f. Pertaining to floodplain management.

In response to a question from Councilmember Payne, Mayor Brown advised that he has advised Mr. Falkenberg by letter that the Council has determined that floodplain management be placed under the control of the Flood Control District.

In response to concerns expressed by Councilmember Payne relative to the fact that she has not had an opportunity to personally discuss this issue with Mr. Falkenberg, Mayor Brown stated that this item will be continued to a future meeting to allow Councilmember Payne an opportunity to discuss this matter with Mr. Falkenberg.

In response to a request from Councilmember Payne, Mayor Brown stated that this item will be continued.

- *h. Providing for the issuance and sale of \$19,000,000 aggregate principal amount of City of Mesa, Arizona, Street and Highway User Revenue Bonds, Series 1997.

In response to a comment from Councilmember Payne relative to a request from Mr. Brando, Mayor Brown indicated that the agenda item will remain off of the Consent Agenda.

7. Consider the following ordinances:
 - a. Establishing a business license for the operation of recovery homes and supervised living facilities.

Councilmember Giles stated that he previously requested that this item be removed from the Consent Agenda to allow additional time to research the issue. Councilmember Giles commented that he has since met with staff to review the ordinance and has no objection to the placement of this item back on the Consent Agenda.

Mayor Brown advised that this item will be placed on the Consent Agenda.

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. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

WAYNE BROWN, MAYOR

ATTEST:

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

Attachment

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 6th day of October 1997. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 22nd day of October 1997

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK