

# COUNCIL MINUTES

August 26, 2002

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 August 26, 2002 at 4:00 p.m.

## COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Hawker  
Dennis Kavanaugh  
Rex Griswold  
Kyle Jones  
Janie Thom  
Claudia Walters  
Mike Whalen

## COUNCIL ABSENT

None

## OFFICERS PRESENT

Mike Hutchinson  
Debbie Spinner  
Barbara Jones

### 1. Review items on the agenda for the August 26, 2002 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:

Councilmember Griswold declared a potential conflict of interest on agenda item 3b (Richard J. Pawlak, Agent, New Restaurant License for Tom's BBQ & Deli) and said he would refrain from discussion/participation in this item.

Mayor Hawker declared a potential conflict of interest on agenda item 4m (Fire Station No. 201. City of Mesa Project No. 01-24) and said he would refrain from discussion/participation in this item.

Mayor Hawker stated that agenda item 7b (A01-4 Annexing the southeast corner of Broadway Road and the RWCD Canal) will be added to the consent agenda.

### 2. Hear a report on the United Way Ready To Learn Initiative.

John Whiteman and Bev Kunz, Co-Chairmen of the Mesa United Way's Ready to Learn Initiative, addressed the Council relative to this agenda item.

Mr. Whiteman reported that the Ready to Learn Initiative was developed by the Mesa United Way to educate families and the community at large about the importance of proper brain development for children from pre-birth to age six. He advised that the program is a partnership

comprised of citizens from various business, educational and health and human services organizations who are dedicated to ensuring that all children possess the necessary tools to succeed in school and throughout their lives.

Ms. Kunz played a videotape in the Council Chambers which provided an overview of recent medical research regarding early brain development in children ages three through five. She explained that the Ready to Learn Initiative focuses on four areas of a child's development including sensory, motor, language and social emotion. Ms. Kunz added that the purpose of today's presentation is to acquaint the Council with the Ready to Learn Initiative and ultimately the employees of the City of Mesa as well.

Mayor Hawker thanked Mr. Whiteman and Ms. Kunz for the presentation.

City Manager Mike Hutchinson commented that in the near future, staff will endeavor to offer Ready to Learn Initiative training to City employees on a voluntary basis.

Vice Mayor Kavanaugh expressed appreciation to Ms. Kunz and Mr. Whiteman for their efforts and hard work regarding this issue. He also voiced support that City of Mesa employees should be given the opportunity to gain an awareness of the Ready to Learn Initiative.

Councilmember Walters concurred with Vice Mayor Kavanaugh's comments. She suggested that the Mesa public libraries would be appropriate venues from which citizens could obtain the necessary information relative to the Ready to Learn Initiative.

Discussion ensued relative to the fact that the majority of the Initiative information has been translated into Spanish; that the United Way is working closely with the Native American community to become familiarized with the program, and that the United Way has a cadre of speakers who are available to make presentations to various organizations regarding the Ready to Learn Initiative.

3. Discuss and consider the format of the ABC program (A Better Community) on the newly designed utility bill statement.

Management Assistant Denise Bleyle addressed the Council relative to this agenda item. She reported that the purpose of today's presentation is to follow up on various issues and questions raised by the Council at the August 5, 2002 Study Session regarding the format of the ABC program (A Better Community) on the newly designed utility bill statements. Ms. Bleyle advised that in response to Council's input, staff has made revisions to the bill stub format as well as the new pledge and Surepay ABC donation options (See Attachment 1.) She requested Council direction regarding the modifications.

In response to a question from Mayor Hawker, Ms. Bleyle clarified that it is anticipated that the new billing format will become effective in January 2003.

Mayor Hawker voiced support for the revised utility bill statement. He added that he is pleased that the "Utility Amount" and "Voluntary ABC Donation" portion of the bill is now highlighted and no longer located at the bottom of the statement.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Kavanaugh, seconded by Councilmember Walters, that the format of the ABC program (A Better Community) on the newly designed City utility bill statement, be approved.

Carried unanimously.

4. Discuss and consider League of Arizona Cities and Towns 2003 Legislative Resolutions.

Assistant to the City Manager Jim Huling and Government Relations Assistant Kelly Orrick addressed the Council relative to this agenda item.

Mr. Huling reported that each year prior to the Regular Legislative Session, the League of Arizona Cities and Towns adopts a League Policy Statement which includes League resolutions adopted by a voting majority of the member communities. He advised that the Policy Statement represents the collective views of Arizona cities on a wide range of issues for the 2003 Legislative Session. Mr. Huling added that the League resolutions will be formally adopted at the League's Annual Conference which is scheduled for August 26-29, 2002 in Phoenix.

Ms. Orrick commented that on July 26, 2002, the League's Resolution Committee met to consider a preliminary list of resolutions submitted by the member communities, at which time several resolutions were either withdrawn or not approved by the Committeemembers. She explained that the Resolutions Committee is scheduled to meet again during the Annual Conference to consider resolutions that were submitted after the deadline and to finalize the resolutions package. Ms. Orrick added that the Committee will meet at the conclusion of the Annual Conference to take final action on the Policy Statement for the 2003 Legislative Session. She noted that Mayor Hawker represents the City of Mesa on the League's Resolution Committee.

Ms. Orrick briefly outlined the four resolutions that Mesa has identified as additional priorities: 1.) Resolution #30, Half-cent Transportation Sales Tax Extension; 2.) Resolution #8, Expand Definitions for Recreational Immunity; 3.) Resolution #12, Alternative Project Delivery Methods, and 4.) Resolution #25, Heritage Fund Protection.

Vice Mayor Kavanaugh commended staff for the presentation and also acknowledged Mayor Hawker for his participation as the City of Mesa's representative at the various League meetings and conferences.

Council discussion ensued relative to Resolution #18, (Urges the Legislature to acknowledge the efforts of Public Safety Agencies in the State of Arizona to communicate interoperably as first responders and to allocate adequate resources to provide and sustain necessary interoperable communications infrastructure, especially at a local level); Resolution #23, (Urges the Legislature not to preempt local control over the development and adoption of building codes); Resolution #3 (Urges the Legislature to support the statewide tourism industry); and Resolution #14 (Urges the Legislature to increase the options available to municipalities when calculating the number of signatures required to call a referendum challenging the recent passage of an ordinance, franchise or resolution.)

It was moved by Vice Mayor Kavanaugh, seconded by Councilmember Jones, that the recommendations of staff relative to the submission of four proposed resolutions for inclusion in the League of Arizona Cities and Towns' Municipal Policy Statement, be approved.

Carried unanimously.

5. Appointments to boards and committees.

Mayor Hawker recommended the following appointments to Boards and Committees:

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

Roxanne Pierson

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Robert Fletcher

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

David Woods

It was moved by Councilmember Walters, seconded by Vice Mayor Kavanaugh, that the Council concur with the Mayor's recommendations and the appointments be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

6. Acknowledgement of minutes of boards and committees.

- a. Building Board of Appeals meetings held May 14, 2002 and June 11, 2002.
- b. Downtown Development Committee meeting held July 18, 2002.
- c. Historic Preservation Committee meeting held June 13, 2002.
- d. Human Relations Advisory Board meeting held July 24, 2002.
- e. Transportation Citizen Advisory Committee meetings held July 24, 2002 and August 8, 2002.
- f. Transportation Committee meeting held July 16, 2002.

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

Carried unanimously.

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

Vice Mayor Kavanaugh reported on his and other Councilmembers' recent visit to Mesa Sister City Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada. He advised that the primary focus of the trip was to

share ideas with the representatives from Burnaby relative to international trade, economic development, community planning and public transportation.

Mayor Hawker commented that he also participated in the conference and particularly enjoyed learning about a variety of economic development successes in Burnaby which could possibly be achieved in Mesa as well. He added that he was also impressed by Burnaby's elevated light rail system and the city's efforts to encourage neighborhood participation during the development of various aspects of the rail system.

Councilmember Jones advised that he and Vice Mayor Kavanaugh had the opportunity to tour Burnaby's Police Department communications center and also learned how residential neighborhoods participate in resolving various police issues.

Councilmember Whalen commented that he was impressed by the fact that Burnaby, like Mesa Sister City Guaymas, Sonora, Mexico, has incorporated green lights at street intersections which flash just prior to traffic signals turning red. He urged City staff to consider the incorporation of such a feature into the City's traffic control measures.

Mayor Hawker expressed appreciation to State Legislative candidates Karen Johnson, Mark Anderson, Louise Daggs, Chuck Gray, Leslie Kelly, Tara Plese, Ken Moore, Jay Tibshraney, Laura Hatch, Roberta Livesay, Brent Brown, Cynthia Dunham and Thayer Verschoor for taking time out of their busy schedules to attend a recent bus tour of the City of Mesa.

8. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

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

Wednesday, August 28, 2002, 3:30 p.m. – Transportation Committee Meeting

Thursday, September 5, 2002, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Thursday, September 5, 2002, TBA – Tour of the City Attorney's Office and the City Court

Monday, September 9, 2002, 3:00 p.m. – Police Committee Meeting

Monday, September 9, 2002, TBA – Study Session

Monday, September 9, 2002, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council Meeting

Thursday, September 12, 2002, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Thursday, September 12, 2002, 9:30 a.m. – Fire Committee Meeting

Friday, September 13, 2002, 8:30 a.m. – Fire Department Tour

Thursday, September 19, 2002, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Thursday, September 19, 2002, TBA – City Council Planning Session

9. Prescheduled public opinion appearances.

There were no prescheduled public opinion appearances.

10. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 5:07 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 26<sup>th</sup> day of August 2002. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

\_\_\_\_\_  
BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

pag  
Attachment