

# COUNCIL MINUTES

April 22, 1999

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 April 22, 1999 at 7:30 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  
Wayne Balmer  
Neal Beets  
Denise Bleyle  
Linda Crocker  
Jack Friedline  
Joe Holmwood  
Mike Hutchinson  
Barbara Jones  
Greg Marek  
Ellen Pence  
Bill Petrie

## STAFF PRESENT (CONT.)

Bryan Raines  
Andrea Rasizer  
Tom Remes  
Becky Richardson  
Jenny Sheppard  
Jan Strauss  
Mindy White  
Others

## OTHERS PRESENT

Robbie Sherwood  
Others

(Mayor Brown excused Councilmember Jaffa from the beginning of the meeting. Councilmember Jaffa joined the meeting at 7:41 a.m.)

### 1. Welcome by Mayor Brown and remarks by Chief Jan Strauss for Take Daughters to Work Day.

Mayor Brown welcomed the members of the audience to the meeting, particularly the daughters of Council and staff who were in attendance for the "Take Your Daughters to Work Day" event. Mayor Brown introduced Police Chief Jan Strauss.

Chief Strauss also welcomed the youths to the meeting and stressed the importance of education in order to succeed in life, no matter which career path the students choose to follow. Chief Strauss encouraged the students to pose questions regarding the various programs they will attend throughout the day and wished them good luck in achieving their future goals.

### 2. Discuss and consider a future fire station site at 80th Street and McDowell as recommended by the Fire Committee.

Mayor Brown advised that this agenda item will not be discussed at this time.

### 3. Further discussion and consideration concerning the possible co-location of the City's indoor aquatics complex with the Mesa Verde project.

Councilmember Hawker provided the Council with an update on efforts to determine the feasibility of co-locating the City's proposed indoor aquatics complex with the Mesa Verde Sports Club and Resort project. Councilmember Hawker stated that the combination of "for profit" and "non-profit" entities resulted in a variety of problems and stated that it was the consensus of the Aquatics Board and the Parks and Recreation Board that the projects not be co-located and that the Mesa Verde project be allowed to proceed without further delay.

Mayor Brown thanked Councilmember Hawker for his input and commented on the fact that exploring the proposal was a worthwhile undertaking.

4. Discuss and consider concerns expressed by citizens regarding the parking and or storage of RVs boats, trailers and camper shells in the front yard of residential property.

Code Compliance Director Bill Petrie informed the Council that in response to citizen complaints regarding the parking and/or storage of recreational vehicles (RVs), boats, trailers and camper shells in front yard areas of residential properties, staff has developed recommended changes to the current regulations for Council consideration.

Mr. Petrie referred to slides of various violations that were displayed in the Council Chambers and noted that the City receives complaints regarding the above listed items on a regular basis. Mr. Petrie said that in 1976, in response to citizen concerns, the City adopted regulations for the parking and storage of RV's on residential lots. Mr. Petrie reported that the regulations require homeowners to store their recreational vehicles in the rear one-quarter (1/4) of their lot. Mr. Petrie said that the ordinance also allows temporary front yard parking, for a maximum of 72 hours, for loading and unloading purposes.

Discussion ensued relative to the definition of recreational vehicles, justification for regulating the parking and storage of the vehicles, the fact that because of lot configurations, it is not always possible for homeowners to store their recreational vehicles in the rear quarter of the lot, and the fact that although the current regulations are effective and do address a variety of concerns, the ordinance does not classify boats, utility trailers or truck campers as RVs and they are not subject to the same parking requirements.

Community Development Manager Wayne Balmer commented that an increasing number of single-family homes are being built on smaller lots and the result is that homeowners are leaving their trailers and boats in their driveways and negatively impacting the aesthetics of the neighborhood.

Mr. Petrie advised that staff conducted a survey comparing Mesa's regulations with those of other valley jurisdictions and noted that Mesa's ordinance regarding RV storage requirements is more restrictive than most, with Tempe and Maricopa County being the two exceptions. Mr. Petrie discussed staff's recommendation that the ordinance be modified to allow residents to park recreational vehicles in side yards behind a fence rather than in the rear one-quarter of the lot and that boats, cab-in campers (when not mounted to a pick-up bed) and utility trailers also be required to adhere to the same regulations as recreational vehicles.

Mr. Petrie explained that the proposed revisions to the ordinance would require the above listed items to be stored behind the front line of the house and to be screened by a 6-foot fence. Mr. Petrie stressed the importance of improving the overall aesthetic stability of neighborhoods and adopting regulations that address a wider variety of citizen concerns.

Councilmember Kavanaugh spoke in support of staff's recommendations and commented that the proposed modifications would provide added flexibility and improve the overall aesthetics of the neighborhoods.

Councilmember Pomeroy and Vice Mayor Giles also spoke in support of the proposal.

Discussion ensued relative to whether tent trailers and/or boats covered by tarpaulins would be allowed under the City's current and/or proposed regulations, the fact that violations have been enforced on a complaint received basis and staff's policy of addressing obvious multiple violations should they be identified at that same time, staff's estimate that approximately 500 complaints are received by the department on an annual basis, the notification and citing processes implemented by the City, and the fact that approximately 97% of the violations are corrected on a voluntary basis.

Councilmember Hawker expressed concern relative to the fact that an increasing number of homes contain very small side yards and commented that a tent trailer parked right up against the side wall would dominate that wall and may negatively affect a neighbor's view out of his/her side window. Councilmember Hawker recommended that consideration be given to implementing a use permit system, which would provide both neighbors an opportunity to address the issue.

Councilmember Jaffa spoke in support of staff's recommendations and noted that specific CC&R's in various neighborhoods may also regulate the placement of these vehicles/recreational items.

In response to a question from Councilmember Davidson, Mr. Petrie stated that Mesa's regulations would remain the most stringent among neighboring communities even with the addition of the proposed modifications.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Giles, seconded by Councilmember Kavanaugh, that staff's recommendations be approved.

Carried unanimously.

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

- a. Fire Committee meeting held April 14, 1999.
- b. Parks and Recreation Board meeting held April 8, 1999.

Councilmember Hawker commented on the fact that the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board reflect that the Boardmembers have been asked to contact their Senators and Congressmen and request that they support the reactivation of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Councilmember Hawker recommended that the City of Mesa prepare a resolution in support of this program.

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

Carried unanimously.

6. Consider the following recommendations from the Parks and Recreation Board:

- a. Extending the existing golf professional concession agreement with James E. Mooney for one additional year, beginning September 1, 1999 and terminating on August 31, 2000.

It was moved by Councilmember Pomeroy, seconded by Vice Mayor Giles, that the recommendation of staff be approved.

In response to a question from Mayor Brown, City Manager Charles Luster discussed staff's recommendation that the contract not be bid at this time and that the agreement with Mr. Mooney be extended for an additional

one-year period of time. Mr. Luster added that Mr. Mooney, who has had the contract with the City since 1992, has carried out his responsibilities in an exemplary manner.

Parks and Recreation Director Joe Holmwood informed the Council that the contract has not gone out to bid because of uncertainties that exist regarding the Rio Salado Crossings Project and possible future impacts on Riverview Golf Course.

Councilmember Hawker expressed concern relative to the fact that the contract has not been put out to bid and commented that he was not aware of the possibility that the golf course may be impacted by the Rio Salado Crossings Project.

Councilmember Pomeroy informed the Council that the original contract with Mr. Mooney was for a period of three years and that previous extensions were approved for the last two years. Councilmember Pomeroy spoke in support of granting the additional one-year extension as recommended by staff.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brown-Davidson-Giles-Jaffa-Kavanaugh-Pomeroy  
NAYS - Hawker

Mayor Brown declared the motion carried by majority vote.

- b. Naming the new community park site at Crismon Road and East Coralbell Avenue adjacent to Superstition Skyline High School as Superstition Skyline Park.

Councilmember Pomeroy indicated that he would prefer that the new community park site be named Skyline Park rather than Superstition Skyline Park.

Mr. Holmwood commented that a variety of suggestions were received and explained that staff is recommending that the park site contain the word 'Superstition' to assist citizens in locating the park.

It was moved by Councilmember Kavanaugh, seconded by Councilmember Jaffa, that the recommendation of staff be approved.

Carried unanimously.

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

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

8. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

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

Thursday, April 29, 1999, 7:30 a.m. – Council Study Session

Thursday, April 29, 1999 – Transportation Committee Meeting – Immediately following the Study Session

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

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

10. 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.

11. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 8:29 a.m.

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WAYNE BROWN, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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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 April, 1999. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 1999

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BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK