

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

June 6, 1997

The Transportation Committee of the City of Mesa met in the lower level meeting room of the City Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on June 6, 1997 at 7:30 a.m.

COMMITTEE PRESENT

Pat Gilbert, Chairman
John Giles
Dennis Kavanaugh

COMMITTEE ABSENT

None

COUNCIL PRESENT

Jim Stapley

STAFF PRESENT

C.K. Luster
Wayne Balmer
Neal Beets
Mike Hutchinson
Barbara Jones
Harry Kent
Vicki Kerr
Jeff Martin
Bryan Raines
Becky Richardson
Denise Samuel
Debbie Vickman
Others

OTHERS PRESENT

Chris Moeser
Dan Nowicki
Ron Rich
Burl Teague
James Timm
Others

1. Further discussion concerning a proposal to adjust T-hangar rates and other fees at Falcon Field Airport.

Community Development Manager Wayne Balmer informed the Committee that the last rate adjustment at Falcon Field Airport occurred in January 1988. Mr. Balmer stated that during the May 23, 1997 Transportation Committee meeting staff recommended that rates and fees be increased by 20%. Mr. Balmer explained that based upon Committee's recommendation, staff has developed alternatives to the proposed 20% rate increase. Mr. Balmer suggested that a rate review be conducted on an annual basis. Mr. Balmer provided an overview of staff's report and briefly described three rate increase options. Mr. Balmer advised that staff recommends Option A which would provide a 10 percent increase on August 1, 1997, a 5 percent increase on July 1998 and 5 percent on July 1999.

Mr. Balmer advised the Committee that staff conducted a comparison of the proposed rates and fees at Falcon Field Airport with the current rates and fees of eight local airports and determined that the proposed increase at Falcon Field Airport would place the Airport in the middle range for rates and fees charged.

Ron Rich, 2757 East Lawndale Circle, informed the Committee that the aviation industry in general has been experiencing difficulties over the past several years. Mr. Rich suggested that the rates only be increased 5% until such time that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) overcomes its problems. Mr. Rich questioned the progress of the development of notification letters regarding the proposed deposit requirement for placement on Falcon Field Airport's waiting list.

Burl Teague, 945 North Pasadena, an Airport user for approximately thirty years, additionally questioned the status of the notification letters relative to the deposit requirements. Mr. Teague suggested that the City consider reviewing T-hangar rates on an annual basis.

Mr. Balmer advised that at the June 2, 1997 Regular Council Meeting, Council approved requiring a deposit in the amount of one-months rent in order to be placed on Falcon Field Airport's waiting list. Mr. Balmer stated that a letter is being prepared explaining the fee.

James Timm, President of the Arizona Pilots' Association, Phoenix, recommended that the Committee consider implementing a 5% increase at this time and review in one year to determine if additional increases are warranted. Mr. Timm advised the Committee regarding the City of Phoenix' waiting list fee.

In response to questions from Committeemember Giles, Mr. Balmer explained that individuals who utilize the airport are eligible to rent the airport storage units. Management Assistant II Vicki Kerr explained that a T-hanger is approximately 1,000 square feet.

Committeemember Giles emphasized the importance of maintaining a policy that storage units be utilized by citizens associated with the airport or the aviation industry. Committeemember Giles compared the price for a 400 square foot storage unit in the private sector with the storage units available at Falcon Field Airport and expressed the opinion that a 10% increase would be fair. Committeemember Giles noted the importance of being sensitive to the airport users and indicated support of Option A.

Committeemember Kavanaugh stated the opinion that a 20% increase is justified but that the increase should be phased in. Committeemember Kavanaugh concurred with Committeemember Giles regarding a 10% increase for the storage units and stated support of Option A.

It was moved by Committeemember Kavanaugh, seconded by Committeemember Giles, to recommend to the Council that the adoption of Option A be approved.

Carried unanimously.

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2. Adjournment.

It was moved by Committeemember Kavanaugh, seconded by Committeemember Giles, that the Transportation Committee meeting adjourn at 7:54 a.m.

Carried unanimously.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Transportation Committee meeting of the City of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 6th day of June 1997. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 20th day of June 1997

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK