



COUNCIL MINUTES

March 18, 2019

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 March 18, 2019 at 5:15 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

John Giles
Mark Freeman
Jennifer Duff
Francisco Heredia
David Luna
Kevin Thompson
Jeremy Whittaker

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

OFFICERS PRESENT

Christopher Brady
Dee Ann Mickelsen
Jim Smith

1. Review items on the agenda for the March 18, 2019 Regular Council meeting.

All of the items on the agenda were reviewed among Council and staff and the following was noted:

Conflict of interest: None.

Items removed from the consent agenda: None.

City Attorney Jim Smith stated that item 6-c is for the introduction of the ordinance. He added that at the April 1, 2019 Council meeting, language will be added clarifying that the vote would be for denial.

In response to a question posed by Councilmember Whittaker, City Manager Christopher Brady replied that Council may discuss item 6-c and asked Planning Director Nana Appiah to explain the reasons for denial.

Mr. Appiah reported that staff's denial is based on the future land use designation which is primarily mixed-use and employment. He pointed out that residential use is not a primary use for this area and would have a higher tendency to derail the intent of the General Plan. He noted that staff is aware that the parcel is only nine-acres whereas mixed-use and employment consists of a minimum of 25-acres, however, they believe this parcel will set a standard for the development of the area.

Economic Development Department Director Bill Jabjiniak commented on the increase in employment in the Elliot corridor. He commented that a residential development sends the wrong

message to the other employers in the area. He mentioned the Gateway Strategic Plan and that the City is working with the airport in order to keep the area non-residential.

In response to a question posed by Councilmember Freeman, Mr. Jabjiniak confirmed the properties to the south are vacant.

Applicant Brennan Ray, Burch & Cracchiolo, P.A., stated that there are a number of challenges with this land and he believes that residential is a good use for the property and that it will not set a negative trend for the Gateway Airport or the Strategic Plan.

In response to a question from Councilmember Whittaker, Mr. Smith explained that introduction of an ordinance is procedural in order to give notice to the public and that there will be a public hearing prior to adoption at the next Council meeting.

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

Councilmembers Freeman, Duff, Heredia, Luna, Thompson, and Whittaker:	National League of Cities – Congressional City Conference
Councilmember Thompson:	Capitol Hill Advocacy Day
Mayor Giles:	U.S. Conference of Mayors Boeing Ceremony – Qatar receives first of 24 AH-65E Apache Guardian Helicopters

Mayor Giles stated that he attended a Conference at the United Islamic Center of Arizona in Phoenix with Councilmember Luna to express the City's condolences and solidarity with the communities mourning the terrorist attack that occurred in New Zealand.

Councilmember Duff congratulated City staff for receiving the National League of Cities' Diversity award for the Facebook en Español page.

Councilmember Whittaker stated that local churches are looking for volunteers to assist people in the asylum process that need transportation and temporary two or three-day housing.

3. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

City Manager Christopher Brady stated that the schedule of meetings is as follows:

Thursday, March 21, 2019, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

4. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

JOHN GILES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

DEE ANN MICKELSEN, 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 18th day of March, 2019. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

DEE ANN MICKELSEN, CITY CLERK

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