

COUNCIL MINUTES

March 15, 1996

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 15, 1996 at 7:30 A.M.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Willie Wong
Jerry Boyd
Pat Gilbert
T. Farrell Jensen
Dale Johnson
Jim Stapley

COUNCIL ABSENT

Joan Payne

STAFF PRESENT

Wayne Balmer
Neal Beets
Linda Crocker
Mike Hutchinson
Rich Lorig
Jeff Martin
Frank Mizner
Ruth Ann Norris
John Oliver
Ellen Pence
Bryan Raines
Kevin Snow
Harold Stewart
Doug Tessororf
Mindy White
Ralph Wisz
Others

OTHERS PRESENT

Dan Nowicki
Others

Mayor Wong excused Councilmember Payne from the meeting.

1. Review applications and staff recommendations concerning the F.Y. 1996-97 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Investment Partnerships, and Emergency Shelter Grant proposed projects.

Community Development Manager referred to a staff report containing proposed recommendations for Council consideration relative to CDBG, Investment Partnerships and Emergency Shelter Grant projects. Mr. Balmer informed the Council that funding requests have dramatically increased over the past fiscal year and noted that requests in excess of \$8 million have been received and that only \$3 million available funding is anticipated.

Discussion ensued relative to the fact that HUD can guarantee only 45% of the funding allocated to the City of Mesa last year, a public hearing on this issue scheduled to occur at the Monday, March 18, 1996 Regular Council Meeting, staff's recommendation that the Council consider a resolution relative to this issue at the April 1, 1996 Regular Council Meeting, Area 5, and the contents of the report prepared for the Council's review and consideration.

Mayor Wong thanked Mr. Balmer for his presentation.

2. Review recent bids for sorting and marketing of recyclable materials. (Please refer to backup material for item 7g on the Regular Council Meeting agenda.)

Solid Waste and Facilities Director Jack Friedline noted that staff is requesting Council authorization to execute a five year (plus extensions) contract with Valley Recycling Works of Chandler to sort, process and market the recyclables collected in the co-mingled blue barrel program.

Discussion ensued relative to the bid process, the fact that approximately 24,000 tons of co-mingled recyclables will be involved in the contract, costs, program expansion, the current blue-barrel program, the development of a promotional program to educate citizens, long-term markets, revenue sharing, possible alternatives and anticipated fiscal impact on the City of Mesa.

In response to a question from Councilmember Gilbert, Mr. Friedline stated the opinion that the inclusion of chipboard and magazines into the recycling program will benefit City of Mesa.

Mayor Wong thanked Mr. Friedline for his report.

3. Consider placing on the regular Council Meeting agenda a resolution adopting the Williams Regional Planning Study and Land Use Policy as discussed at the Policy Session on March 7.

Community Development Manager Wayne Balmer noted this issue was discussed at the March 1996 Council Policy Session and noted staff's proposal that a resolution be approved at the Monday, March 18, 1996 Regular Council Meeting to adopt the Williams Regional Planning Study and incorporate the Study into the on-going update of the City of Mesa's General Plan.

Discussion ensued relative to General Motors Proving Grounds, Mesa General Plan Advisory Committee recommendations, aircraft overflights, and the fact that the final draft of the Williams Regional Study was adopted unanimously by the Williams Gateway Airport Authority Board.

It was moved by Councilmember Gilbert, seconded by Councilmember Stapley, that the recommendations of staff be approved.

Mayor Wong declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

4. Hear a legislative report.

Government Relations Coordinator Jeff Martin briefly outlined pending legislation and recommended City of Mesa's positions relative to the proposed measures. (See Attachment A.)

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

Mayor Wong advised that there were no meetings and/or conferences attended to report on at this time.

6. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

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

Monday, March 18, 1996, 5:30 p.m. - Regular Council Meeting

Friday, March 22, 1996, 7:30 a.m. - Council Study Session

Wednesday, March 28, 1996, 7:30 a.m. - Utility Committee Meeting

7. Review items on the agenda for the March 18, 1996 Regular Council Meeting.

All of the items on the agenda were reviewed among the Council and staff with no formal action taken.

8. Prescheduled public opinion appearances. (Maximum of three speakers for five minutes per speaker.)

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

9. Items from citizens present. (Maximum of three speakers for five minutes per speaker.)

Mayor Wong advised that there were no items from citizens present.

10. Adjournment.

It was moved by Councilmember Stapley, seconded by Councilmember Johnson, that the meeting adjourn at 8:33 a.m.

Carried unanimously.

WILLIE WONG, MAYOR

ATTEST:

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

Attachment

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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 15th day of March, 1996. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 30th day of May 1996

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

ATTACHMENT

March 13, 1996

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL
THROUGH: C. K. LUSTER
MIKE HUTCHINSON
FROM: JEFF MARTIN
SUBJECT: Legislative Update

The purpose of this report is to provide you with an update on state legislative issues that may impact the City.

OLD BILLS

HB2500 Redistribution of Vehicle License Tax (VLT) Revenues

A number of bills have been introduced to shift a portion of the VLT revenues that cities and counties receive in order to fund state highways in Maricopa County. This bill was introduced by the chairman of the House Transportation Committee, Jerry Overton. The bill includes a provision to divert any growth in VLT revenues over three percent, contingent upon the voters approving an additional sales tax or an extension of the sales tax for transportation. The bill was approved by the House Transportation Committee but has subsequently been held in the Rules Committee and is dead for now.

Additional Funding for Transportation

City staff continues to work with the Speaker's office to consider a mechanism to fund our state wide transportation needs. These needs include: completing the Valley freeway system; funding for maintaining these state highways once they are built; and, and adding lanes to nearly all of the existing freeways in the Valley, such as the Superstition. One option under discussion is a referendum to extend the state sales tax to gasoline.

Once the state budget is adopted in the next week, we are told that the Legislature will turn much of its attention to this issue. From our discussions thus far, there seems to be a great deal of support from communities around the state. The exception to this is the City of Phoenix which has yet to take a position on the issue and is much more interested in transit since their freeways are funded. Also, there are plans to do some polling on this subject to determine if there is adequate support among the voters to continue with this effort. Should this proposal die, a bill to divert a portion of the VLT could resurface.

SB1036 Military Reuse Zone

This bill would allow for the immediate establishment of a Military Reuse Zone triggered by a long term lease between the airport authority and the federal government. The current law calls for the establishment of such a reuse zone once the air base property is conveyed which may take quite some time. The bill has passed the Senate and the House Ways and Means Committee. The bill includes an emergency clause and will become effective upon signature by the Governor. Also, there is funding in the state budget for the marketing assistance program at Williams for next fiscal year for \$350, 000.

HB2260 Unfunded State Mandates

This bill would require more analysis and consideration by the Legislature before imposing a state mandate on local government. The bill passed the House last week but is not likely to make it out of the Senate. The bill would require a fiscal analysis to be conducted on any bill which includes a mandate on the cost to local government prior to consideration by a legislative committee. The bill would also require a separate vote by the House and Senate on the matter of imposing a state mandate. The bill reflects the federal Mandate Reform Act of 1995. The bill has passed the House and now goes to the Senate Government Reform Committee chaired by Senator Stan Barnes.

HB2419 Redistribution of State Shared Revenues

This bill to redistribute a portion of state shared revenues as a matter of "tax equity" was never heard in the committee it was assigned to and is dead at this point. The bill would have changed the formula for distributing state shared revenues to increase the allocation to the City of Tucson and a number of rural cities and towns.

HB2430 Uniform Sales Tax Base

Representative Lori Daniels introduced this bill to mandate a uniform sales tax base in state law. The bill would give the Legislature control over the city's local sales tax base. The bill was approved by the House Ways and Means Committee, but has not moved any further and is considered dead since the deadline for bills to be approved in their house of origin has passed.

SB1355 Block Grant Administration

This bill was introduced to establish a state commission to develop a plan to implement the massive federal changes that are anticipated in the federal block grant area. The commission would include a number of local government and nonprofit representatives. The bill has passed the Senate and been assigned to the House Human Services Committee for consideration.

SB1384 Tobacco Regulation

The tobacco industry is moving a bill through the Legislature to preempt city and county authority to further regulate smoking in places of public accommodation. As introduced, the bill would have also invalidated the local initiative that will be considered in Mesa later this month. This problem was addressed in committee in the Senate, but the bill still preempts the right of citizens to initiate similar regulations on smoking in Arizona after April 1, 1996. The bill will be heard in the House Commerce Committee where it will likely pass.

It is recommended that the City Council oppose this effort to preempt further local regulation of smoking in places of public accommodation.

SB1346 Waste Collection; Private Companies

Once again, the waste management companies in Arizona are attempted to get the Legislature to preempt the authority of cities. This bill would have required a city to either contract for five years with the private garbage collection company which has been serving a newly annexed area or reach a settlement with that company. The bill has been held in the Senate majority caucus and has been withdrawn by its sponsors.