

COUNCIL MINUTES

January 19, 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 January 19, 1996 at 7:31 A.M.

COUNCIL PRESENT

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

COUNCIL ABSENT

Joan Payne

STAFF PRESENT

C.K. Luster
Joan Baier
Wayne Balmer
Dan Brewer
Richard Clore
Mark Coon
Mike Hutchinson
Lars Jarvie
Barbara Jones
Harry Kent
Wayne Korinek
Ron Krosting
Larry Lines
Rich Lorig
Jeff Martin
Frank Mizner
Ruth Anne Norris
John Oliver
Ellen Pence
Bryan Raines
Andrea Rasizer
Paula Sloan Rivera
Doug Tessororf
Judy Wessel
Mindy White
Larry Woolf
Others

OTHERS PRESENT

Wayne Brown
Al Carter
Charlie Deaton
Nell Evans
Dan Nowicki
Ralph Pew
Gloria Taylor
Fred Williams
Others

(Mayor Wong excused Councilmember Payne from the meeting.)

1. Hear and consider a request from Gloria Taylor Director of the East Valley Alcoholism Council concerning City co-sponsoring of a community event.

Gloria Taylor and Nell Evans, representing the East Valley Alcoholism Council (EVAC), and Al Carter, representing Mesa United Way, addressed the Council.

Ms. Taylor provided information concerning the Family Fun Festival, an event that will be coordinated by EVAC that has evolved from the Prevention Convention previously conducted at Mesa Community College. Ms. Taylor stated that profit and non-profit organizations will participate in the event and requested that the City donate various resources to support the event. Ms. Taylor expressed the opinion that the City of Mesa has been a leader in contributing to a drug-free, gang-free community.

Ms. Evans briefly outlined the entertainment that will be offered at the Family Fun Festival and distributed EVAC's Annual Report. Ms. Evans added that the event will be EVAC's major fundraiser for the year.

Mr. Carter indicated that the Mesa United Way is supportive of the event and expressed the opinion that the Family Fun Festival will enable many local agencies to showcase their services.

Ms. Taylor pointed out the location proposed for the Family Fun Festival on an aerial map and designated parking areas. Ms. Taylor added that the event will be highly publicized. In response to a question from Mayor Wong, Ms. Taylor stated that a portion of the items that the City has been asked to donate will be one-time contributions and that the event should attain additional sponsors in the future.

Councilmember Gilbert advised that he is an EVAC Boardmember. Councilmember Gilbert suggested that downtown groups, including the Mesa Town Center Corporation, the Convention and Visitor's Bureau, and Mesa United Way, engage in meetings and discussions to assure that all participants are aware of the financial commitment that will be required of each agency.

Councilmembers Gilbert and Stapley stated support for the Family Fun Festival.

Discussion ensued concerning EVAC's request for the City to lend the band shell, booths, and canopies from the Parks and Recreation Department. Mayor Wong expressed concern that should the City commit the items to EVAC at this time, another agency may request to rent the items. Assistant City Manager Mike Hutchinson advised that staff will evaluate cost issues and availability of the items and prepare a recommendation to the Council at a later date.

It was moved by Councilmember Stapley, seconded by Councilmember Boyd, that the City participate in co-sponsoring a community event for EVAC, contingent upon the cost and availability of the items requested.

The Mayor declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

2. Discuss proposed Spring Training facility project.

- a. Maricopa County IGA
- b. Mesa Municipal Corporation financing
- c. Proposed construction schedule
- d. Other

Mr. Hutchinson advised that the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors recently approved an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) to contribute \$17 million for Mesa's proposed Spring Training facility. Mr. Hutchinson said that the funds will be disbursed over the next 15 years but added that Mesa will receive \$6 to \$7 million initially. Mr. Hutchinson stated that the Municipal Development Corporation recently adopted a resolution authorizing a maximum of \$22 million in bonds to proceed with the City's portion of the stadium financing. Mr. Hutchinson indicated that both the IGA and resolution will be presented for the Council's consideration at the January 22, 1996 meeting.

Mr. Hutchinson outlined the proposed construction schedule and said that the facility should be completed in approximately one year. Mr. Hutchinson added that two separate bids will be solicited for the Hohokam and Fitch Park facilities. Mr. Hutchinson displayed a drawing of the proposed facilities and advised that the project is anticipated to cost \$28 million, a figure reduced from initial estimates through cost-saving measures. Mr. Hutchinson added that the Cubs have approved the design of the facilities.

Councilmember Gilbert stressed the importance of completing the project for a maximum of \$28 million.

Councilmember Boyd commended staff for negotiating with the Board of Supervisors and attaining a contribution from Maricopa County.

3. Hear a legislative report.

Government Relations Coordinator Jeff Martin provided the Council with an update concerning State legislative issues that may impact the City. Mr. Martin noted that a meeting with the Council and the Mesa Legislators is scheduled for Wednesday, January 24, 1996.

Mr. Martin stated that House Bill 2380 will reduce Mesa's Vehicle License Tax (VLT) revenues by an average of \$4.5 million per year over twenty years. Mr. Martin expressed the opinion that the VLT funds will be necessary for Mesa to maintain a sufficient level of police and fire services and recommended that the City oppose the bill.

Councilmember Boyd expressed the opinion that reduced VLT revenues would not impact Mesa's level of public safety because funds would be re-allocated to police and fire from other programs. Councilmember Boyd stated that programs such as parks, streets, and libraries may suffer from a reduction of VLT revenues.

Mr. Martin discussed a proposal to redistribute State Shared Revenues which would result in a significant increase in Pima County cities' proportion of funds, but would not increase Maricopa County cities' allocation. Mr. Martin recommended that the measure be opposed by

the City. Mr. Martin provided a review of House Bill 2260, a measure that would require the legislature to conduct greater analysis and consideration prior to voting on a state mandate. Mr. Martin stated that the bill will be supported by Arizona cities.

Two measures to assist the Williams Gateway Airport Authority were discussed by Mr. Martin and he recommended that the City offer its support to both bills. Mr. Martin commented on the State's increasing transportation needs and suggested that the City Council urge the legislature to consider the various options for new transportation funding to address state-wide needs.

Mr. Martin indicated that two bills which are anticipated to be re-introduced this year are the "garbage bill," which will expand the garbage collection mandate imposed on cities in 1988, and the uniform sales tax bill, which would pre-empt Mesa's local ordinance for its sales tax use. In response to a question from Councilmember Boyd, Mr. Martin advised that the purpose of the uniform sales tax bill is to maintain consistency among the jurisdictions.

Mayor Wong thanked Mr. Martin for the update.

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

There were no reports on meetings and/or conferences attended.

5. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

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

Monday, January 22, 1996, 5:30 P.M. - Regular Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 23, 1996, 7:30 A.M. - Redevelopment Committee

Wednesday, January 24, 1996, 12:00 P.M. - Council/Mesa Legislators

Friday, January 26, 1996, 7:30 A.M. - Study Session

Monday, January 29, 1996, 4:00 P.M. - Mayor/Council Candidate Orientation

Thursday, February 1, 1996, 4:00 P.M. - Policy Session

Wednesday, February 7, 1996, 7:30 A.M. - Council/Dobson Ranch Homeowners Association

Community Development Manager Wayne Balmer provided information concerning an upcoming Board of Adjustment Appeal to the City Council. Mr. Balmer requested that the Council refrain from discussing the issue with citizens but invite them to the Council meeting when the appeal is considered by the Council. Mr. Balmer noted that lobbying the Council prior to the date of the appeal is not permitted.

6. Review items on the agenda for the January 22, 1996 Regular Council Meeting.

All of the agenda items were reviewed among the Council and staff, with no formal action taken. There was particular discussion with regard to the following agenda items:

3. Acknowledge receipt of minutes and meetings of various boards and committees and consider action where appropriate.

*h. Police Committee meeting held January 16, 1996.

Mr. Luster commented on a photo-radar traffic enforcement proposal that was presented to the Police Committee. Mr. Luster requested that the Council advise staff at the Regular Council Meeting whether further evaluation of photo radar as a traffic enforcement device should occur.

9. Consider the following cases from the Planning and Zoning Board and possible adoption of the corresponding Ordinances:

- a. **Z95-102** The northwest corner of Elliot Road and Meridian Road. Rezone from AG to AG (Conceptual R1-9, R1-7, R1-9-PAD and R1-7-PAD-DMP) (160± acres). This case involves a conceptual Development Master Plan for residential development. Bojer Land/Ambrock L.P., owner/applicant.

THIS CASE WAS CONTINUED AT THE NOVEMBER 20, 1995 CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

P&Z Recommendation: No recommendation. Procedural denial. (Vote 3-3)

Mr. Balmer stated that the Planning and Zoning Board's 3-3 vote on this case indicates a procedural denial and therefore an ordinance has not been prepared. Mr. Balmer stated that certain members of the Board voted in opposition to the case indicating their opinion that since the General Plan has not been adopted for the area, granting a rezoning request would be premature.

Councilmember Gilbert requested that an aerial map encompassing a large area of the City be provided indicating pending zoning applications and current zoning. Councilmember Gilbert asked that the map include the Williams influence areas. Mr. Balmer advised that he will provide the Council with the map at the January 22, 1996 Study Session.

In response to a question from Councilmember Gilbert, Mr. Balmer explained that the purpose of conceptual zoning is to determine whether a request for rezoning is consistent with the General Plan and is likely to be approved when additional information is presented at a future date.

- *c. **Z95-109** The southeast corner of Baseline Road and Signal Butte Road. Rezone from AG to R1-6-DMP (Conceptual R-2, O-S and C-2) (841± acres). This case involves the development of a retirement community with 3000± dwelling units. Farnsworth Development, owner; Craig Ahlstrom, applicant.

Revised P&Z Recommendation:

Mayor Wong requested that this item be removed from the consent agenda.

7. Prescheduled public opinion appearances. (Maximum of three sneakers for five minutes per speaker)

There were no citizens prescheduled for this meeting.

8. Items from citizens present. (Maximum of three sneakers for five minutes per speaker)

There were no items from citizens present.

9. Adjournment.

It was moved by Councilmember Stapley, seconded by Councilmember Johnson, that the meeting adjourn at 9:09 A.M.

Carried unanimously.

WILLIE WONG, 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 19th day of January, 1996. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 13 day of February 1996

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK