

COUNCIL MINUTES

June 8, 2006

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 June 8, 2006 at 7:53 a.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Keno Hawker
Rex Griswold
Kyle Jones
Tom Rawles
Scott Somers
Claudia Walters
Mike Whalen

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

OFFICERS PRESENT

Christopher Brady
Debbie Spinner
Barbara Jones

1. Hear a presentation on the proposed Zoning Code update.

Zoning/Civil Hearing Administrator Gordon Sheffield introduced Leslie Gould, Director of Planning Services for the consulting firm of Dyett and Bhatia of San Francisco, California. He advised that the last complete update of the Zoning Code occurred in 1988. Mr. Sheffield explained that a Zoning Code is a tool utilized to enact a General Plan. He noted that a change in one area is likely to impact another area of the Code, and therefore the Code should be considered in its entirety. He added that in June of 2005, the Council directed staff to initiate an update process.

Mr. Sheffield advised that the American Planning Council and the American Institute of Certified Planners recommend that a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) be followed by a Request for Proposals (RFP) in order to first identify consulting firms qualified to address the project and then to request proposals from the qualified firms. He reported that four of the six qualified consulting firms submitted proposals. Mr. Sheffield noted that the panel formed to review the four proposals was comprised of five City staff members (four from Planning and one from Redevelopment) and four representatives of the City's Advisory Boards (one each from Planning and Zoning, Design Review, Historic Preservation and Downtown Development). He advised that the panel selected the consulting firm of Dyett and Bhatia.

Mr. Sheffield outlined several of the objectives of the update process:

- Update the Code to be consistent with the General Plan.
- Modernize the entitlement and public review processes.

- Update the land use and overlay districts.
- Review the development standards and design guidelines.
- Ensure compliance with the Arizona Revised Statutes, including the “Growing Smarter” legislation.

Mr. Sheffield stated that the community is now experiencing stable growth. He noted that the General Plan focuses on stable neighborhoods, industrial development, and reinvestment in maturing neighborhoods. Mr. Sheffield added that the Plan also encourages infill and the development of mixed use and transit-oriented development (TOD). He said that an overall goal is to reduce the “guess work” in order to make the development process more predictable for both staff and the developer. Mr. Sheffield advised that Michael Dyett, who was unable to be present at this meeting, would serve as Project Manager and that Ms. Gould would serve as Deputy Project Manager. He reviewed their qualifications, and stated that Ms. Gould would present an overview of the update process.

Ms. Gould advised that zoning is an important tool utilized by communities to obtain the desired types of development. She stated that her firm would focus on the City of Mesa’s requirements and only recommend necessary changes. She added that the philosophy of their firm is to propose “the least regulation to do the job.”

Ms. Gould said that in addition to working closely with City staff, the public participation plan would create opportunities for two-way communication, enrich participation through education, and structure the process to achieve results. She outlined several of the public participation activities, including community forums and workshops, surveys, stakeholder interviews, and newsletters. Ms. Gould provided a brief description of other zoning projects addressed by her firm for the cities of San Diego, Santa Monica, and Pomona, California; Chicago, Illinois; Portland, Oregon; Palm Beach, Florida; and Cincinnati, Ohio. She stated that their firm is committed to operating within the framework of the City’s schedule and budget.

Mayor Hawker noted that the City of Mesa has several unique areas, such as the Citrus Area, the Desert Uplands, downtown and the freeway corridor that require special consideration. He added that the City would like to provide some flexibility to foster creativity in development.

Discussion ensued relative to the fact that the Williams Gateway Airport area is important to the City as a future employment center; that the community is sensitive to the issue of property rights; that presently a proposed expansion of a non-conforming use requires the property to be rezoned; and that vertical zoning could be utilized to address infill projects.

Responding to a question from Mayor Hawker, Ms. Gould stated that information on the zoning practices of neighboring cities would be included in their report.

Councilmember Rawles noted that City staff is involved in many aspects of the update process, and he suggested that guidelines be established to schedule staff time and internal resources.

Mr. Sheffield assured the Council that staff would continue to properly address the normal responsibilities of the division.

Mayor Hawker thanked Ms. Gould and Mr. Sheffield for the presentation.

2. Discuss and take action on appointments to City Council committees.

Mayor Hawker recommended the following appointments to City Council committees:

Finance Committee	Councilmembers Walters (Chairperson), Rawles and Griswold
Fire Committee	Councilmembers Griswold (Chairperson), Rawles and Jones
General Development Committee	Councilmembers Rawles (Chairperson), Whalen and Walters
Police Committee	Councilmembers Whalen (Chairperson), Jones and Somers
Transportation Committee	Councilmembers Somers (Chairperson), Walters and Griswold
Utility Committee	Councilmembers Jones (Chairperson), Whalen and Somers

It was moved by Councilmember Rawles, seconded by Councilmember Somers, that the Council concur with the Mayor's recommendations and the appointments to City Council committees be confirmed for the period of June 2006 until June 2008.

City Attorney Debbie Spinner advised that the new State legislation changing the dates of the City's General Election requires that the appointments be extended until January 2009.

Councilmember Rawles offered an amendment to the motion, which was accepted by the seconder, that the Council concur with the Mayor's recommendations and the appointments to City Council committees be confirmed for the period of June 2006 until January 2009.

Carried unanimously.

3. Appointments to boards and committees.

Mayor Hawker recommended the following appointments or reappointments to Boards and Committees:

<u>BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT</u>	<u>Expiration of Term</u>
Craig Boswell	June 30, 2009
Garrett McCray	June 30, 2008
Michael Clement	June 30, 2009
Diane Von Borstel	June 30, 2009

<u>BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS</u>	<u>Expiration of Term</u>
Frank Jimenez	June 30, 2009
Sat Guru Singh Khalsa	June 30, 2009
Michael Williams	June 30, 2009

<u>DESIGN REVIEW BOARD</u>	<u>Expiration of Term</u>
Wendy LaSueur	June 30, 2009
Peteris Berzins	June 30, 2009
Vincent DiBella	June 30, 2009

DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE Expiration of Term

Christine Close	June 30, 2009
Gary Gallagher	June 30, 2009
Jeffrey Jarvis	June 30, 2009

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD

Dale Easter	June 30, 2008
Raul Cardenas	June 30, 2009
Vern Mathern	June 30, 2009

FIRE DEPARTMENT PENSION BOARD

Ty Perkins	June 30, 2010
------------	---------------

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

The Honorable Barbara Jarrett	June 30, 2009
Jared Smith	June 30, 2009

HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD

Matthew Whitaker	June 30, 2008
Eleanor Yopez	June 30, 2007
Theresa Benelli	June 30, 2009
Robert Blaylock	June 30, 2009
Mark Tompert	June 30, 2009

HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD

Charles Brown	June 30, 2009
Jerry Davis	June 30, 2008
Amy Ricks	June 30, 2009
Barbara Thelander	June 30, 2009
Raymond Jones	June 30, 2009
Linda Starr	June 30, 2009

JUDICIAL ADVISORY BOARD

Michael Cowan	June 30, 2009
The Honorable David Talamante	June 30, 2009
Marlon Branham	June 30, 2009

LIBRARY BOARD

Kay Henry	June 30, 2009
Sharon Corea	June 30, 2009
Jaime Herrera	June 30, 2009

MERIT SYSTEM BOARD

Expiration of Term

Jill Bonewell

June 30, 2009

MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Larry Woolf

Not Applicable

MUSEUM & CULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

Pat Esparza

June 30, 2009

Christa Cloutier

June 30, 2009

Andrea Soto

June 30, 2009

Sacajawea Ramona Tecumseh

June 30, 2009

PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

Reggie Dye

June 30, 2009

Russ Gillard

June 30, 2009

Jeff Kirk

June 30, 2009

Dina Lopez

June 30, 2009

PERSONNEL APPEALS BOARD

Pat Esparza (Alternate Member)

June 30, 2009

Donna Kohlhase

June 30, 2009

PLANNING & ZONING BOARD

Alex Finter

June 30, 2009

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD

Ken Cole

June 30, 2009

Heather Moos

June 30, 2009

Mayor Hawker announced the sad news that Bob Saemisch, who was to be reappointed to the Planning and Zoning Board, passed away. He added that Paul-Andre Hoss, proposed for appointment to the Transportation Advisory Board, would be unable to serve as he is moving out of the City. Mayor Hawker recommended the appointments to Boards and Committees with these two exceptions.

Vice Mayor Walters stated that Mr. Saemisch, an architect, would be remembered for his service to the community and for the design of many buildings in the City of Mesa. She also noted that Mr. Saemisch volunteered his design services to non-profit groups, an example of which is the expansion of the Child Crisis Center.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Walters, seconded by Councilmember Jones, that the Council concur with the Mayor's recommendations and the appointments be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

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

Councilmember Griswold:	Meeting with a development group regarding a future hotel in the Falcon Field Airport area.
Mayor Hawker:	Opening of the San Tan freeway.
Vice Mayor Walters:	Convention and Visitors Bureau Board Meeting. Farewell reception for ASU Polytechnic Provost Dr. Jakubowski.
Councilmember Jones:	Neighborhood meeting at the Washington Park Center.

5. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

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

- Thursday, June 15, 2006, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session
- Thursday, June 22, 2006, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session
- Monday, June 26, 2006, TBA – Study Session
- Monday, June 26, 2006, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council Meeting
- Thursday, June 29, 2006, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session
- Wednesday, July 5, 2006, TBA – Study Session
- Wednesday, July 5, 2006, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council Meeting
- Thursday, July 6, 2006, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session
- Wednesday, July 12, 2006, TBA – Study Session
- Wednesday, July 12, 2006, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council Meeting

6. Prescheduled public opinion appearances.

There were no prescheduled public opinion appearances.

7. Items from citizens present.

There were no items from citizens present.

8. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 8:38 a.m.

KENO HAWKER, 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 8th day of June 2006. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

baa