

## COUNCIL MINUTES

May 11, 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 May 11, 2006 at 7:30 a.m.

### COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Keno Hawker  
Rex Griswold  
Kyle Jones  
Tom Rawles  
Janie Thom  
Claudia Walters  
Mike Whalen

### COUNCIL ABSENT

None

### OFFICERS PRESENT

Christopher Brady  
Debbie Spinner  
Barbara Jones

1. Review and provide direction on the program and operations of Able Body Labor, 851 East Main Street, as required by approval of the Council Use Permit.

Mayor Hawker stated that the Council has reviewed the May 11, 2006 City Council Report, which revealed that the residents located adjacent to Able Body Labor, and who initially expressed concerns regarding the business, have indicated that it has been operated appropriately during the past year. He noted that the residents had previously questioned whether the facility would attract potential criminal activity and if day laborers would loiter in the area.

Planning Director John Wesley addressed the Council and provided a brief overview of this agenda item. His comments included, but were not limited to, the following: that on May 16, 2005 when Able Body Labor obtained its Council Use Permit (CUP), the Council had stipulated that the business would be reviewed within one year; that staff observed the operation of the facility during the year and did not discern any activities outside of the adopted stipulations; that the business has maintained a clean and orderly appearance and the facility's bus has been parked behind the building and not on the street; and that Planning staff has consulted with the Police Department, Code Compliance, and Neighborhood Outreach and received no negative responses in regard to Able Body Labor. He added that it is staff's recommendation that Able Body Labor be permitted to continue its operation with no further requirement for annual review.

Mayor Hawker expressed support for staff's recommendation and stated that Able Body Labor offers "a suitable alternative" to facilitate the hiring of day laborers.

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Walters, Mr. Wesley clarified that if future concerns arose regarding the operation of Able Body Labor, staff would work with the business to comply

with the stipulations contained in the CUP. He added that if the matters were not resolved, staff would seek direction from the Council in this regard.

Mayor Hawker stated that it is the consensus of the Council that Able Body Labor be allowed to continue its operation with no further requirement for annual review.

Councilmember Rawles clarified that the Council would retain the ability to revoke Able Body Labor's CUP if the business failed to comply with the requirements contained therein.

Mayor Hawker thanked Mr. Wesley for the update.

## 2. Discuss naming of City facilities.

Acting Community Services Manager Trish Sorensen and Parks Director Bob White addressed the Council relative to this agenda item. Ms. Sorensen explained that several weeks ago, Councilmember Whalen brought forward a proposal that the Washington Activity Center be renamed after Margie Frost, a well-known community activist who recently passed away.

Ms. Sorensen displayed a PowerPoint presentation and offered a short synopsis of the City of Mesa's current practice of naming City facilities. (The complete PowerPoint presentation is available for review in the City Clerk's Office.) She reported that with the exception of the Parks and Recreation Division, there is no formal written process in place for the naming of City facilities. Ms. Sorensen explained that most City departments tend to utilize Parks and Recreation's naming criteria which includes the following:

1. The location of the facility, such as its geographic area, a landmark, street or a historic feature (i.e., Red Mountain Library, Pioneer Park, Augusta Ranch Park).
2. A recognized name in the surrounding community (i.e., Fitch Park, Dwight Patterson Field).
3. After an organization or individual, often to acknowledge a significant financial contribution (i.e., Gene Autry Park).

Ms. Sorensen further spoke regarding the naming guidelines used by Scottsdale, Tempe, Phoenix and Glendale.

Councilmember Griswold recounted his previous inquiries to staff with regard to the naming of City facilities. He said that he had suggested, for example, naming a City park after a long-time Park employee or perhaps a citizen who had made a significant monetary donation for the development or maintenance of a park. Councilmember Griswold noted that in both instances, staff informed him that such criteria did not conform to Mesa's policy. He added that he had requested that the Council be provided with an opportunity to discuss this issue and to assess whether modifications to the naming criteria for City facilities should be made.

Mayor Hawker stated that the only condition under which he would agree to modify the naming criteria of City facilities would be if an individual donated funds for the total development of a park and also agreed to establish an endowment for the ongoing operation and maintenance of the site.

Councilmember Whalen stated that he was approached by members of the community with regard to the proposal to rename the Washington Activity Center after Margie Frost because of her and her mother's involvement with the facility. He commented, however, that in reviewing the City's criteria for the naming of City facilities, he would prefer not to modify the policy because it may create problems for future Councils. Councilmember Whalen added, however, that his opinion in this regard is in no way meant to show disrespect to Ms. Frost and expressed appreciation for her dedicated service and commitment to the community.

Vice Mayor Walters spoke regarding her past experience as a member of the Mesa Schools Governing Board and the difficulty they encountered in selecting names for schools. She commented, as an alternative to Mayor Hawker's suggestion, that if the City already had plans to develop a specific park and an individual agreed to donate 100 percent of the development costs for the site, she would be willing to consider naming the facility after that person based on such criteria.

Mayor Hawker stated that per the comments of his fellow Councilmembers, it would appear as though the majority prefers that the current policy with regard to the naming of City facilities remain in effect.

Mr. White advised that staff would convey Mayor Hawker's above-referenced suggestion to the Parks and Recreation Board for possible revisions to the current policy.

Mayor Hawker thanked staff for the presentation.

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

Councilmember Thom: Pre-Grand Opening Breakfast and Tour of the Emergency Room at Mercy Hospital in Gilbert.

Vice Mayor Walters: Mesa United Way Fundraising Luncheon; East Valley Partnership Meeting; West Mesa Community Development Corporation Open House; Kino Junior High Swimming Event.

Councilmember Griswold: Homeowners Association Meeting regarding the Stonebridge development.

Councilmember Jones: Downtown Mesa Association Awards Ceremony.

4. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

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

Thursday, May 18, 2006, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Friday, May 19, 2006, 12:00 p.m. – Meet and Greet for Police Chief Candidate Finalists

Monday, May 22, 2006, 1:00 p.m. – Budget Hearing

Monday, May 22, 2006, TBA – Study Session

Monday, May 22, 2006, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council Meeting

Tuesday, May 23, 2006, 7:30 a.m. – Budget Hearing

Thursday, May 25, 2006, 7:30 a.m. – Budget Hearing

5. Prescheduled public opinion appearances.

There were no prescheduled public opinion appearances.

6. Items from citizens present.

There were no items from citizens present.

7. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 7:49 a.m.

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KENO HAWKER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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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 11<sup>th</sup> day of May 2006. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

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BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK