

COUNCIL MINUTES

March 2, 1998

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Regular Council Meeting in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on March 2, 1998 at 5:45 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Wayne Brown
Pat Gilbert
John Giles
Dennis Kavanaugh
Joan Payne
Wayne Pomeroy
Claudia Walters

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

POLICE OFFICER
PRESENT

Robert Nesbit
Roy Dunkelbarger

OFFICERS PRESENT

C.K. Luster
Neal Beets
Barbara Jones

Invocation by Reverend Daniel A. Turner, Red Mountain United Methodist Church.

Pledge of Allegiance by Carter Raines, Cub Scout Troop #241.

Presentation of the annual State of the City address and the City's 1997 Annual Report.

Mayor Brown welcomed the members of the audience to the first Regular Council Meeting that is being televised at the newly renovated Council Chambers. Mayor Brown announced that the City Council Meetings are now being broadcast with closed captions.

Mayor Brown presented the following State of the City address:

Tonight I would like to talk with you about some of the wonderful things that are going on in our city. I would also like to give you a bird's eye view of some of the things I see in the future.

We spent the past year concentrating on Mesa neighborhoods. When I think of the word neighbor, my first image is naturally the family who lives next door, across the street, down the block. But my vision of a neighbor is more than the person who lives nearby. To me, a neighbor includes the schools, churches, parks, even the businesses near where we live, and the residents near where we work. In fact, I see the entire City of Mesa as one big neighborhood, and that's the theme for this year's address and for our annual report. We've called it Mesa: A community of neighbors.

As you listen to this report, you'll learn about our work to energize the spirit of Mesa neighborhoods: projects which got people out from behind their locked doors and backyard fences. You'll learn about programs such as neighborhood watch, national night out, and neighborhood cleanups. You'll hear about ideas which didn't cost very much money because we relied on the time, energy and caring of City neighbors as well as staff.

Our neighborhoods are diverse and unique -- many are new. While it may be a challenge to get to know your neighbor in a new neighborhood, Mesa residents have shown time again that they are up to the task. So are the folks who live in our older, established neighborhoods. They also are working hard to find ways to preserve the integrity and

character of the neighborhood they call home. Let me share with you a few thoughts on the condition of our city -- and mention some of the many City volunteers and employees who work to make our city even better.

We're working hard to build better neighborhoods. And to be a better neighborhood takes being a good neighbor -- which is something that our Neighborhood Office staff believe in and preaches. This office is a one-stop shop where citizens call to learn how to take an active role in making their neighborhood stronger. We believe that helping neighbors help each other is the key. If you need help, please call one of our staff members like Tanya Collins who has excelled as a helper for many years, or Karen Kurtz or Debbie Driscoll,.... they are great people and are glad to help. If you want some testimonials of the cooperation this office provides just ask volunteers like Irene Pine of the Morris Street project, or Bev Tittle-Baker of the Broadway area or Stephanie Wright of the Northwest area.

Staff couldn't do their job without these volunteers, nor could the volunteers do as well without the assistance of staff. It is indeed a team effort. One of our outstanding volunteers, Debra Duvall was named Co-Woman of the Year for her efforts on the Planning and Zoning Board and the Downtown Development Committee. Trust me, she acknowledges the help from staff and other volunteers in achieving this award.

We're working hard to protect our neighborhoods. This is a primary goal of our police and fire departments, and the past year proved to be one of positive changes, expanding services and heroic events. Ask Police Chief Jarvie about this year's Police Officer of the Year, Officer Walter Knox.

Officer Knox received the Lifesaving award for giving CPR to a child who had stopped breathing. He also received the Medal of Distinction Award for rescuing a man from a burning apartment. Just ask Police dispatcher Barbara McReynolds. She worked very hard during a severe summer power outage, and was named Telecommunicator of the Year for her work. Or ask Fire Captain Terry Self and Firefighter Jeff Mitchell. In one of the most celebrated rescue attempts ever in Mesa, the two employees, along with many other City and agency employees, rescued two brothers from the top of a 120-foot utility tower. Not only did this daring rescue receive national attention; it earned Captain Self the State Firefighter of the Year award.

Simply put, we must all feel safe in our homes, schools and businesses, and the police and fire departments are filled with people dedicated to keeping our city safe. We're working to keep our neighborhoods economically viable. We're well on our way to achieving our vision to attract thirty-five hundred new jobs during the next five years. Even more residents will be able to live and work in Mesa. We understand the needs of small business, which is the backbone of our economy. The vibrant growth of small business contributes to the fiscal health of our city. We're out there helping businesses to locate in Mesa, and also helping existing businesses to grow along with our city.

We're working to rejuvenate Mesa's oldest neighborhood in the heart of the city. The improvements in this building, along with modernizing the Mesa City Plaza just behind us and expanding the main library just across the street, holiday lighting, landscaping on main street are excellent examples of the new life being breathed into our downtown.

We're teaming up to build a better city. Teamwork is vital to any community's success, and it's how we back up our motto - great people, quality service. Through teamwork, city employees and volunteers like you work together to solve problems and to continually look for ways to improve what we do.

It's all about being a good neighbor, and our commitment to quality begins with continuous quality improvement. Just ask the employees in our Solid Waste division. They received the Gold Medal Team Quality Award from the American Public Works Association.

We're providing essential services to our neighborhoods -- water, wastewater service, natural gas, recycling, refuse collection, streets -- just to name a few. Mesa is one of Arizona's best-built cities, with dependable, well-planned services. Just ask the employees in our Electric Department. They treat our 15,000 electric customers like neighbors. For example, the Electric employees know which residents need constant power for medical reasons and call those homes if a power outage occurs. During an emergency, they can even arrange to provide portable generators. We're helping neighborhoods have opportunities to come out and play -- and our residents don't have to travel very far. Many of the Valley's award-winning parks, recreation and cultural opportunities are right here in our own backyard --

whether it's great golfing, swimming in the sunshine, sports, children's programs, museums, libraries, or watching a game at our brand new baseball stadium. Besides opening the new Hohokam Stadium last year, we broke ground for the Red Mountain Multi generational Center, which will be completed later this year.

We also drew record crowds with the Great Dinosaur Extinction Exhibition at the Mesa Southwest Museum. And the Arizona Museum for Youth played host to British royalty during the UK/AZ Festival. We also established the City's first public art fund, which eventually will lead to placing public art around municipal facilities and throughout the community. We're taking time to care about our neighbors. This past year, City employees reached out to the community to strengthen our neighborhoods and help citizens in need. The best example is the Employees Community Spirit Program, which provides volunteer and fund-raising opportunities for employees to help make our city a better place to live. City employees contributed nearly \$200,000 for Valley charities -- proving that giving back to the community is an important part of being a caring employee.

We're protecting our environment, which is a key to keeping neighborhoods clean and beautiful. We take this charge seriously. That's why we created the Environmental Programs division, which takes a proactive approach to ensure that the City and local industry comply with federal and state environmental laws. We're helping people to get around our neighborhoods. For example, the Red Mountain Freeway was extended into Mesa to McKellips and Alma School roads -- two months ahead of schedule. That may not sound like a major task but we spent many hours negotiating with the State Department of Transportation and the MAG Regional Council to accomplish that. The City Council and staff recently worked closely together for a two year acceleration of the Red Mountain freeway to Gilbert Road. Teamwork, innovation and cooperation were the ingredients which caused this to move forward.

Another example helps Mesa cyclists. We're now one of the few cities in the nation to have bike detectors buried in the streets. The detectors allow lights to turn green faster for bicyclists. And for passengers who ride the bus, we added eight new bus stop shelters and benches, making our bus system more comfortable to use. For the motorists who get stuck behind a bus on a busy street we added bus pull out bays. Many more are planned for the next few years.

And, finally, we're making city government work better for you. Government naturally works better when citizens are actively involved in their community. Continuing a tradition of being neighborly, Mesa residents and businesses spent more time helping each other in 1997 than ever before. On one day alone, more than 1,000 volunteers contributed more than 5,000 hours to clean up parks and landscaping, and repaint facilities. This is a classic example of the public-private partnership between the City and its residents.

These are only a very few examples of Mesa's commitment to our neighborhoods. But what really counts in Mesa are the people ... you, our residents who call Mesa your home; you, our visitors who briefly enjoy the amenities; you, our volunteers who have Mesa's best interests at heart.

What truly makes Mesa a great community is the people who take pride in working and living here, those who make the effort to help each other. Our City motto says it best: great people, quality service. That's our vision for Mesa. It's where we are today and where we're headed in the future.

So, what will be the headlines about our community during 1998 and beyond? With no apologies to the headline writers of the world, let me write them for you:

Here's one headline: Foreign trade at Williams Gateway Airport becomes economic boost. Here's another: Mesa voters overwhelmingly approve arts and entertainment center. And another: Citizen involvement reaches all-time high for Mesa. Listen to this one: Small business growth leads to more jobs for Mesa residents. And this one: Widening of McKellips Road ends. Here's another: Blighted areas transformed into thriving neighborhoods. This one may be too farfetched but it's still a vision: Building of Red Mountain Freeway accelerated and completed by year 2002. And one more: Survey says citizens rate all Mesa services as excellent. And here's one I'm anxious to read: Mesa voters overwhelmingly approve the half-cent quality of life sales tax!!

While we might not read these headlines word for word in the near future, I think they accurately reflect our goals for our community. They can be achieved ... with the help of our citizens, businesses and visitors. A major part of your help requires us all to get out and vote. March 10th, one week from tomorrow is election day. You and your neighbors can help the progress of your city by voting. Please mark your calendars. Please take your neighbors and vote on March 10th!

Before I close, I thank this City Council for their commitment to Mesa, for their thoughtful deliberations on issues, for their diversity of opinions, and for their good policy making. I want to thank former Mayor Wayne Pomeroy and Claudia Walters for their willingness to step in and fill the vacancies we had on the City Council. I thank City Manager Charles Luster for his thoughtful and precise efforts in turning council policy into reality. And to the 3,200 employees, my thanks for your day-to-day pride in doing the best possible job for Mesa.

No matter where you live, communication is the key to successful neighborhoods, which, in turn, leads to a successful city. I encourage you to take the first step: Meet your next door neighbor...then meet another...and then another. Simply getting to know your neighbors will lead to so many benefits...for you, for your neighborhood, and for our entire city. We welcome you to Mesa's community of neighbors. I can't imagine a better city than Mesa. Thank you.

1. Approval of minutes of previous meetings as written.

It was moved by Councilmember Giles, seconded by Councilmember Pomeroy, that the minutes of February 13, 17, and 20, 1998 be approved.

Carried unanimously.

2. Consider all consent agenda items.

At this time, all matters on the consent agenda were considered or were removed at the request of a member of the Council. All items identified in these minutes with an asterisk (*) were approved with one Council action.

It was moved by Councilmember Pomeroy, seconded by Councilmember Giles, that the consent agenda items be approved.

Carried unanimously.

3. Consider the following liquor license applications.

*a. ALAN R. PAYNE, LT. GOVERNOR

Special Event License application of Alan R. Payne, Lt. Governor, for Gilbert Kiwanis Club, a three-day charitable event to be held Friday, March 6, 1998, Saturday, March 7, 1998 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Sunday, March 8, 1998 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at 6001 S. Power Road, Williams Gateway Airport.

*b. AMANDA M. PLACE, VICE PRESIDENT

Special Event License application of Amanda M. Place, Vice President for The Centers for Habilitation, a one-day charitable event to be held Tuesday, March 17, 1998 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:59 p.m., at 1160 Fiesta Mall, Houlihan's.

*c. KERRY J. DUNNE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Special Event License application of Kerry J. Dunne, Executive Director, for East Valley Partnership, a three-day civic event to be held Friday, March 20, 1998 from 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., Saturday, March 21, 1998 from 12:00 Noon to 12:00 Midnight, and Sunday, March 22, 1998 from 12:00 Noon to 7:00 p.m., at Macdonald/Main to 1st Street.

*d. JUSTIN M. HATHAWAY, PRESIDENT

Special Event License application of Justin M. Hathaway, President, for Carl Hayden Community Foundation, a one-day charitable event to be held Tuesday, March 17, 1998 from 5:30 a.m. to 1:00 a.m., at 1216 W. Southern Avenue, Bennigan's.

*e. JAY O. MEANS, AGENT

Person transfer Bar License for Country Club Bowl, 140 N. Country Club Drive. This transfer is from John David Caprise, Agent, The Caprise Organization, Inc. to Jay O. Means, Agent, Country Club Rec., Inc.

*f. JOHN H. DESHETLER, INDIVIDUAL

Person transfer Bar License for Nifty Fifties, 1749 W. Main Street. This transfer is from Merry Margaret Ohara, Individual, Nifty Fifties to John H. Deshetler, Individual, Nifty Fifties.

*g. GEORGE A. MITCHELL, AGENT

Person transfer Beer and Wine Bar License for Mitchell's Ripe Tomato Cafe, 745 W. Baseline Road. This transfer is from John Millard, Individual, Ripe Tomato Cafe to George A. Mitchell, Agent, Mitchell's of Mesa, Inc.

*h. LULU HASOU, INDIVIDUAL

New Beer and Wine Store License for J&M Market, 1350 W. University Drive. The license previously held at this location by Frank J. Saco, Individual, Star Light Market, will revert back to the State.

*i*i. ERNESTO A. RASCON, AGENT

New Beer and Wine Store License for Mercado Y Carniceria El Rancho, 303 E. Southern Avenue. The license previously held at this location by Alvaro Corral Palacios, Agent, Super Carniceria Y Mercado Palacios, Inc., will revert back to the State.

*j. ERNESTO A. RASCON, AGENT

New Beer and Wine Store License for Mercado Y Carniceria El Rancho, 330 S. Gilbert Road, #11. The license previously held at this location by Ernie A. Rascon, Etal, Mercado Y Carniceria El Rancho, will revert back to the State.

*k. PAUL BEER, AGENT

New Beer and Wine Store License for 7-Eleven Store 2081-32393, 4354 E. Baseline Road. This is a new business, no previous liquor licenses at this location.

*l. IYAD S. RADI, AGENT

New Beer and Wine Store License for Valley Market, 760 S. Alma School Road. The license previously held at this location by John Koza, Individual, Valley Market, will revert back to the State.

*m. ALFONSO CRISPO, AGENT

New Restaurant License for Crispo's Pizzeria Restaurant, 1235 S. Gilbert Road. This is a new business, no previous liquor licenses at this location.

*n. ANDREAS D. KNOEPFEL, AGENT

New Restaurant License for Joey's Only Seafood Restaurant, 2706 E. University Drive, #F-6/7. This is an existing business, no previous liquor licenses at this location.

4. Consider the following contracts.

- *a. One-year renewal of the annual contract for maintenance of deep well pumps on City owned wells in Maricopa and Pinal Counties as requested by the Utility Operations Division.

The Purchasing Division recommends exercising the second and final one-year renewal option with the primary contracts for Maricopa County and Pinal County to the original lowest overall bidder, B.L. Weber Group. Annual pump repairs on wells for Maricopa County are estimated at \$70,000.00 and repairs on wells for Pinal County are estimated at \$80,000.00. The combined award is then \$150,000.00 based on estimated requirements.

It is also recommended that we exercise the second and final one-year renewal option with the secondary contract to the original second lowest overall bidder, Navajo Pump & Supply to provide for a backup source for both Maricopa and Pinal locations in case of multiple pump malfunctions or breakdowns.

- *b. One-year renewal of the annual supply contract for leather gloves for warehouse inventory to be used by various departments.

The Purchasing Division recommends exercising the first of two one-year renewal options with the original low bid by Western Safety & Supply at \$15,120.00 plus 6.80% sales tax of \$1,028.16 for a total of \$16,148.16.

- *c. Two replacement Police Motorcycles as requested by the Police Department.

The Purchasing Division recommends authorizing purchase from the State of Arizona contract with Valley Kawasaki for two assembled motorcycles at \$16,716.91 including assembly charge and tax on the equipment.

- *d. Annual supply contract for repair clamps as requested by Materials & Supply.

The Purchasing Division recommends accepting the low bid by Arizona Water Works for annual purchases estimated at \$55,000.00.

- *e. One replacement medium volume copier as requested by the Police Department.

The Purchasing Division recommends authorizing purchase from the State of Arizona contract with Danka Business systems at \$11,858.00 plus 6.8% sales tax of \$806.34 for a total of \$12,664.34.

*f. Wastewater Manhole Rehabilitation Project.

This project involves the rehabilitation of wastewater manholes in various parts of the City.

Recommend award to low bidder, Joseph Painting Company, in the amount of \$68,480.00.

*g. Country Club Drive Landscaping Improvements, Phase I.

This project involves installing new landscaping in various areas adjacent to the roadway between Broadway Road and McKellips Road.

Recommend award to low bidder, Valley Rain, in the amount of \$417,162.05.

*h. City Well No. 26 Equipping and Lindsay and Brooks Reservoir Roof Repairs.

This project involves installing a pump, motor, and piping on a previously drilled potable water well. Also included is minor repairs to the roofs of the Lindsay and Brooks reservoirs.

Recommend award to low bidder, RegCon, Inc., in the amount of \$402,658.18.

5. Introduction of the following ordinances and setting March 16, 1998 as the date for the public hearing on these ordinances.

(Note: City Council introduction of ordinances does not necessarily reflect City Council approval of these ordinances. Introduction of ordinances sets in motion the public posting and advertising process for ordinances so that the City Council can hear from concerned citizens at the public hearing.)

- a. Code Amendment: Pertaining to the Zoning Ordinance and the building regulations of the Mesa City Code, amending Title 11, Chapter 13, Section 2 regarding swimming pool enclosures; and adopting a new Chapter 7 of Title 4. (Two Options).

Mayor Brown advised that staff has presented the Council with two separate ordinances for consideration.

In response to a request from Mayor Brown to highlight the two proposed options, Community Development Manager Wayne Balmer explained that staff has analyzed the feasibility of modifying the current pool fencing ordinance to allow self closing, self latching doors as a barrier between residences and swimming pools. Mr. Balmer noted that this alternative fencing option, Option A, has received the approval of the Fire Department and the Planning and Zoning Board. Mr. Balmer added that Option B would not allow the self closing, self latching mechanisms.

Mr. Marvin Teutsch, representing Roltec Services, 1526 West Griswold, Phoenix, spoke in favor of the self-closing, self latching option and urged the Council to support the adoption of Option A. Mr. Teutsch briefly discussed the high quality latching merchandise that his company sells and expressed the opinion that the high-quality equipment is dependable.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Teutsch for his comments.

In response to a question from Councilmember Giles, Mr. Balmer explained that the City's Building Inspections Department would provide pool owners with a list of approved self-latching products that may be utilized. Mr. Balmer added that City staff will review the proposed hardware when City residents apply for pool permits.

Zoning Administrator John Gendron advised that should the Council adopt Option A, staff would develop a draft set of policy guidelines which will include equipment quality standards. Mr. Gendron added that the proposed guidelines, once approved by the Council, would be made available to all pool builders and door companies throughout the City of Mesa.

Councilmember Giles stated that his personal preference is not to approve Option B and expressed the opinion that the current pool fencing ordinance is a secondary barrier ordinance. Councilmember Giles pointed out that the current interpretation of the ordinance does not require fencing around the pool and added that fencing compliance may be met by placing a secondary barrier, such as a screen door, on the rear door of residences leading to swimming pool areas. Councilmember Giles said that he has used self latching hinges in the past and reported that eventually, the latches cease to operate and must be replaced. Councilmember Giles stressed the importance of maintaining secondary barriers.

It was moved by Councilmember Giles, seconded by Councilmember Kavanaugh, that Option B be approved.

Vice Mayor Gilbert stated that he would not support the motion and added that although Councilmember Giles has presented a number of valid points, in his opinion Option A meets the City's objective to assist families in protecting their children. Vice Mayor Gilbert added that despite any Council action, the ultimate safety responsibility rests on the family, their diligence and water-safety awareness. Vice Mayor Gilbert commented that he supports the recommendation of the Fire Department, and prefers Option A.

Councilmember Walters expressed the opinion that the self-latching mechanisms may prove to be safer than pool fence gates which pool owners have a tendency to prop open. Councilmember Walters added that although she understands the concerns expressed by Councilmember Giles, she does not support the adoption of Option B.

Mayor Brown announced that during the preceding Council Study Session, Zoning Administrator John Gendron reported that almost every other city and town in the surrounding area utilize the equipment contained in Option A.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Giles-Kavanaugh-Pomeroy
NAYS - Brown-Gilbert-Payne-Walters

Mayor Brown declared the motion failed.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Gilbert, seconded by Councilmember Walters, that Option A be approved and that a public hearing on the issue be scheduled for the March 16, 1998 Regular Council Meeting.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brown-Gilbert-Payne-Walters
NAYS - Giles-Kavanaugh-Pomeroy

Mayor Brown declared the motion carried by majority vote.

*b. **Z97-9** 2704 East McKellips Road. Rezone from R1-9 to C-2 (1± acre). This case involves development of an Auto Zone.

- *c. **Z97-104** The 6000 block of East Brown Road (north side). Site Plan Modification (4± acres). This case involves the development of a strip commercial center and athletic club.
- *d. **Z98-2** The 5400 block of East McLellan Road (north side). Rezone from R-4-DMP to R-2-PAD-DMP (10± acres). This case involves the development of a 116 unit condominium subdivision.
- *e. **Z98-7** The 2700 block of East McKellips Road (north side). Rezone from R1-9 to C-2 (6± acres). This case involves development of an office building and mini-storage.
- *f. **Z98-8** Parcels 8 through 14 of "Parkwood Ranch". Rezone from R1-9-DMP to R1-9-PAD, R1-7, R1-6 and R1-6-PAD with a DMP overlay (161± acres). This case involves the establishment of zoning for the parcels in the second phase of "Parkwood Ranch".
- *g. **Z98-11** The 5400 block of East Southern Avenue (north side). Rezone from R1-7 (Conceptual O-S) to O-S (4± acres). This case involves the development of an office complex.
- *h. **Z98-12** The northwest corner of Elliot Road and Meridian Road. Rezone from AG to R1-7, R1-6, and R1-6-PAD as part of a DMP (160± acres). This case involves the development of a single residence Development Master Plan.
- *i. Prohibiting parking on the west side of 48th Street from a point 160 feet south of Main Street to a point 1,142 feet south of Main Street and from a point 1,474 feet south of Main Street to Broadway, on Medina Avenue from Alma School Road to a point 275 feet east of Alma School Road, on the north side of Emelita Avenue from a point 300 feet west of Sycamore to a point 625 feet west of Sycamore, and on the north side of Emelita Avenue from a point 745 feet west of Sycamore to a point 900 feet west of Sycamore; prohibiting parking from 10:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m. on the west side of Fraser Drive from Impala Avenue to Javelina Avenue, on the east side of Fraser Drive from Impala Avenue to a point 240 feet south of Juanita Avenue, on the south side of Javelina Avenue from Solomon to Horne, on the north side of Javelina Avenue from Solomon to a point 204 feet east of Fraser Drive, and on the north side of Javelina Avenue from Fraser Drive to Horne; including Sericin from McDowell Road to Preston Street in Section 10-3-17 of the Mesa City Code "Special Stops Required" and increasing the speed limit from 35 mph to 40 mph on Eighth Street from Decatur Street to the west City limits as recommended by the Traffic Safety Committee.

6. Consider the following resolutions.

- *a. Vacating a portion of right-of-way on South 96th Street; Sierra Ranch Subdivision - Resolution No. 7164.

Right-of-way is no longer needed.
- *b. Authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement between Broadway Manor Street Lighting Improvement District and the City of Mesa for the operation and maintenance of street lighting facilities within the Broadway Manor subdivision Resolution No. 7165.
- c. Submitting to the qualified electors of the City of Mesa, Arizona, at the General Election on May 19, 1998, the question of increasing the City's transaction privilege (sales) tax Resolution No. 7166.

Mayor Brown advised that the City's independent advisors, Fred Grossfeld and Christa Severns, representing the firm Grossfeld/Severns, Inc., will provide a brief overview of a survey that was conducted relative to this agenda item.

Mr. Grossfeld provided the Council and audience with a brief synopsis of survey questionnaire results relative to a proposed increase in the City's transaction privilege (sales) tax. Mr. Grossfeld reported that approximately 85% of the survey respondents were extremely satisfied with the quality of services provided by the City of Mesa. Mr. Grossfeld stated that the most serious concerns expressed by the respondents included juvenile crimes, traffic congestion, extensive real estate development/growth and the availability of transit. Mr. Grossfeld added that although Mesa residents consider the current City services, parks/recreation facilities/services and library services adequate, they are concerned that these services will not meet future demands.

Mr. Grossfeld reported that minimal difference exists between citizen support for a 1/4 cent sales tax increase and a 1/2 cent sales tax increase. Mr. Grossfeld added that the citizens also clearly support the proposed increase to expand police/fire/paramedic services, left turn arrows at intersections, computerized traffic signals, expanded recreational programs, library services, and added bus pullouts.

Mr. Grossfeld stated that as part of the focus group portion of the survey, it was determined that 23% of the respondents would prefer an 800 seat and 250 seat performing arts/entertainment facility and nearly double that number would support a 1600 seat and 250 seat facility. Mr. Grossfeld advised that this number represents future planning which was present throughout all of the research that was conducted.

Discussion ensued relative to steps initiated by Mr. Grossfeld and Ms. Severns to protect and preserve the integrity of the survey; focus group participants; and screening questions.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Grossfeld for his comments.

In response to a request from Mayor Brown, Assistant City Manager Mike Hutchinson provided a brief presentation relative to this agenda item.

Mr. Hutchinson advised that staff is recommending that a proposal for a 1/2 cent sales tax be placed on the ballot of the May 19, 1998 General Election for voter approval and explained that the proposed sales tax would be divided into two categories: 1/4 cent for operational costs and 1/4 cent for capital costs. Mr. Hutchinson reported that the 1/4 cent increase for capital costs would be eliminated in approximately eight years and the remaining 1/4 cent would remain in effect.

Discussion ensued relative to proposed projects including increased library services, expanded parks and recreation projects, neighborhood park and museum improvements, bike paths, fire protection, a joint Police/Fire training facility, and arts and entertainment facilities.

Mr. Hutchinson stated that the consultant is recommending that a 600 seat and a 1600 seat theatre be constructed and also commented on the construction of additional park 'n ride lots and freeway advancement funding.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Hutchinson for his overview.

Bill Brando, 61 South Macdonald, spoke in opposition to the placement of a sales tax increase question on the ballot of the General Election. Mr. Brando expressed the opinion that the citizens are already overtaxed and urged the Council not to support this issue.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Brando for his input.

Councilmember Kavanaugh pointed out that the Council is not considering the implementation of a tax but rather providing an opportunity to allow the voters to decide upon the issue. Councilmember Kavanaugh

stated that he supports the proposed ½ cent sales tax with the elimination of 1/4 cent tax following an eight-year period of time. Councilmember Kavanaugh expressed the opinion that the proposal provides accountability and will benefit the citizens of Mesa.

Vice Mayor Gilbert and Councilmember Pomeroy concurred with Councilmember Kavanaugh's remarks and spoke in support of placing a ½ cent sales tax increase proposal on the ballot of the May 19, 1998 General Election.

Councilmember Giles commented on the fact that the City of Mesa is constantly being compared to surrounding cities and expressed the opinion that the sales tax proposal, if approved, will expand library hours and parks and will provide funding for additional swimming pools at the City's schools. Councilmember Giles also spoke in support of funding to improve transportation and increase public safety personnel.

Councilmember Walters spoke in support of the proposal and emphasized the importance of constructing additional bus pullouts in Mesa and expanding transportation services. Councilmember Walters commented that she strongly supports the issue.

Councilmember Payne expressed concerns relative to the proposal and stated the opinion that the survey questions relative to public safety issues were posed in a manner which did not provide the respondents with sufficient prior funding information upon which to base an opinion. Councilmember Payne noted that statistics indicate that crime is decreasing in Mesa and stated the opinion that the 1/4 cent sales tax may not be eliminated following an eight-year period as proposed. Councilmember Payne said the proposal does contain a number of valid issues but she cannot support the issue as presented.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Gilbert, seconded by Councilmember Kavanaugh, that the question of increasing the City's transaction privilege (sales) tax be submitted to the qualified electors of the City of Mesa at the May 19, 1998 General Election and that Resolution No. 7166 be adopted.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brown-Gilbert-Giles-Kavanaugh-Pomeroy-Walters
NAYS - Payne

Mayor Brown declared the motion carried by majority vote and Resolution No. 7166 adopted.

7. Consider the following ordinances.

- *a. Increasing the speed limit from 30 mph to 40 mph on Hawes Road from Baseline Road to Guadalupe Road; and prohibiting southbound left turns onto Southern Avenue from the driveway with a centerline located approximately 475 feet east of Westwood; as recommended by the Traffic Safety Committee - Ordinance No. 3443.
- b. Increasing in the year 2000 and thereafter the salary for the Office of Mayor to \$2,800 per month and City Councilmember to \$1,400 per month, but not increasing the salary for the current Mayor and City Councilmembers - Ordinance No. 3445.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Gilbert, seconded by Councilmember Walters, that Ordinance No. 3445 be adopted.

Vice Mayor Gilbert pointed out that the proposed salary increase, if approved, will not benefit the members of the City Council serving in their current terms of office. Vice Mayor Gilbert added that should any member of the Council be elected to additional terms in office, the increased salary would then become effective.

Vice Mayor Gilbert stated the opinion that the proposed increase represents a fair increase in compensation and briefly commented on the extensive responsibilities and time demands of the positions.

Councilmember Kavanaugh concurred with Vice Mayor Gilbert's remarks and said that the positions are challenging both in terms of time and finances. Councilmember Kavanaugh pointed out that if the salary increase is approved, the increase will be the first one in over 14 years and stressed the importance of remaining competitive in attracting qualified applicants for City Council positions. Councilmember Kavanaugh also expressed the opinion that the Councilmember positions should remain part time.

Councilmember Walters briefly commented on the time demands of the position and stated the opinion that dissatisfied citizens should vote to remove from office those Councilmembers who they believe are not carrying out the responsibilities of their position rather than penalize the entire Council by voting not to provide just compensation. Councilmember Walters spoke in strong support of the proposed salary increase.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES - Brown-Gilbert-Giles-Kavanaugh-Pomeroy-Walters
NAYS - Payne

Mayor Brown declared the motion carried by majority vote and Ordinance No. 3445 adopted.

*c. Amending Sections 110, 210, 220, 260, 330, 350, 433, 510 and 810 of the Mesa Personnel Rules; adding new Sections 370 and 437; and repealing conflicting ordinances - Ordinance No. 3444.

8. Adjournment.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Gilbert, seconded by Councilmember Pomeroy, that the Regular Council Meeting adjourn at 7:38 p.m.

Carried unanimously.

WAYNE BROWN, MAYOR

ATTEST:

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 2nd day of March 1998. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this ____ day of _____ 1998

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK