



## COUNCIL MINUTES

June 4, 2001

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 4, 2001 at 4:30 p.m.

### COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Keno Hawker  
Jim Davidson  
Bill Jaffa  
Dennis Kavanaugh  
Pat Pomeroy  
Claudia Walters  
Mike Whalen

### COUNCIL ABSENT

None

### OFFICERS PRESENT

Mike Hutchinson  
Neal Beets  
Barbara Jones

### 1. Review items on the agenda for the June 4, 2001 Regular Council Meeting.

All of the items on the agenda were reviewed among Council and staff with no formal action taken. There was specific discussion relative to the following items:

Mayor Hawker declared a potential conflict of interest on agenda item 7r (Baseline Road Widening, Horne to 24<sup>th</sup> Street. City of Mesa Project No. 98-41) and said he would refrain from discussion/participation in this item.

Mayor Hawker stated that agenda items 9a, 11, 13.1 and 13.2 will be added to the consent agenda.

Mayor Hawker stated that agenda item 14d will be removed from the consent agenda.

(With regard to agenda item 13.1, Councilmember Walters clarified that the intent of the salary increase for the Presiding City Magistrate is the establishment of an appropriate and competitive salary level in line with that of other Presiding City Magistrates in other local communities. Mayor Hawker added that any salary level adjustments will remain at the discretion of the Council.

### 2. Hear an update on energy supply and conservation strategies in the City's electric utility area.

Citywide Energy Conservation Task Force Chairman Denise Bleyde addressed the Council relative to this agenda item. Ms. Bleyde explained that at the request of City Manager Mike Hutchinson, a 15-member Task Force was formed to address current electric consumption

levels in homes, businesses and City facilities in the downtown area which are serviced by the electric utility. Ms. Bleyle advised that in this regard, the Task Force focused on the current energy consumption level in City buildings and developed more than 50 recommendations which were prioritized into Tier One and Tier Two levels (See Attachment). Ms. Bleyle stated that it is anticipated that such recommendations will reduce energy usage in City facilities by a minimum of 10% and noted that the Task Force will meet again in July to assess the program's success and to consider the implementation of more stringent measures.

Utilities Director Dave Plumb provided the Council with a brief update of the Electric Utility's efforts regarding the purchase of sixteen 800 kW gas-fired generators; the fact that installation is currently underway and should be completed by June 15; the fact that the units will be fully operational by June 29, and the fact that catalytic converters will be installed on the generators to permit the units to operate 24-hours a day.

Mr. Plumb noted that the Electric Utility has requested the assistance of Salt River Project (SRP) regarding the City's ability to access its share of the Arizona Public Power Pool prior to the currently established date of September and advised that SRP has agreed to provide energy for the month of June at a cost of \$175/megawatt hour, 7 days a week, 16 hours a day. Mr. Plumb added that negotiations are ongoing with reference to additional power supplies for the months of July and beyond.

Mr. Plumb informed the Council that staff has contacted the City's 20 largest electric customers regarding energy usage and conservation efforts and has also initiated various energy saving programs geared to residential customers including rebates for programmable thermostats, refrigerator buy-back and energy buy-back programs.

Mr. Plumb indicated that the Utilities Department is also the recipient of several national awards from the Utility Communications International for its energy and water conservation campaigns.

Councilmember Kavanaugh spoke in appreciation of the presentation and urged staff to contact the Arizona Energy Office and the Arizona Department of Commerce relative to consulting services that are available to public and private entities regarding energy conservation. Councilmember Kavanaugh also stated that consideration should be given to the establishment of a City Energy Management position.

Vice Mayor Davidson concurred with the comments of Councilmember Kavanaugh and suggested that staff seek input from Arizona Public Service (APS) and SRP regarding their assistance on City conservation campaigns.

Mr. Plumb spoke further regarding the 7-days/16 hours energy offer from SRP and anticipated peak loads for the summer.

Mayor Hawker expressed appreciation to SRP for its contributions to public power entities.

In response to a question from Councilmember Pomeroy, Ms. Bleyle explained that subsequent to a review by the Task Force of the current program, it will be the decision of management whether to implement Tier Two recommendations.

Mayor Hawker thanked staff for the presentation.

3. Discuss and consider a resolution urging the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors to partner with the City of Mesa and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community to fund the widening of a portion of Gilbert Road from the Red Mountain Freeway to the Beeline Highway – Resolution No. 7667.

Councilmember Kavanaugh voiced support for this agenda item and requested a brief presentation from staff regarding the intent of the proposed resolution.

Assistant to the City Manager Jeff Martin reported that in the past, a task force was formed, comprised of representatives from Maricopa County, the City and the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, to explore financing options for the completion of the widening of Gilbert Road from the Red Mountain Freeway to the Beeline Highway. Mr. Martin advised that the negotiations resulted in the County Board of Supervisors' unwillingness to issue bonds for this project.

Mr. Martin stated that the resolution was derived from a suggestion by Councilmember Pomeroy and commented that the intent of such resolution is for the City to form a partnership with the County and the Indian Community to widen Gilbert Road in an attempt to alleviate traffic congestion at the end-of-freeway conditions upon completion of the Loop 202. Mr. Martin added that staff has been advised that the Indian Community is amenable to participate in such a joint resolution, but noted that the County Board of Supervisors does not support its adoption.

Mayor Hawker suggested that the Council postpone adoption of the resolution pending concurrence by the Indian Community of the language contained in the resolution. Mayor Hawker also requested that the issue of a low-flow crossing be addressed. He emphasized that all feasible options must be considered in an effort to demonstrate the Council's commitment to resolve this matter.

Vice Mayor Davidson expressed concerns regarding the consideration of a low-flow bridge and stated the opinion that it may present a danger to the public. Vice Mayor Davidson also concurred with the comments of Mayor Hawker regarding postponement of adoption of the resolution by the Council.

Councilmember Pomeroy voiced support for passage of the resolution as it is currently written and stressed the importance of an ongoing dialogue with the County to resolve this issue.

Councilmember Whalen concurred with the comments of Councilmember Pomeroy.

It was moved by Councilmember Pomeroy, seconded by Councilmember Whalen, that Resolution No. 7667 be adopted.

Councilmember Jaffa voiced support for the comments of Mayor Hawker and also spoke in appreciation of County Supervisors Mary Rose Wilcox and Don Stapley for their support regarding this matter.

In response to a question from Councilmember Walters, Mr. Martin clarified that the agenda item is a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Mesa and is not a joint resolution with the Indian Community.

Carried unanimously.

4. Acknowledge receipt of minutes of various boards and committees.

- a. Economic Development Advisory Board Meeting held April 24, 2001.
- b. Historic Preservation Committee Meeting held May 10, 2001.

It was moved by Councilmember Pomeroy, seconded by Councilmember Kavanaugh, that receipt of the above-listed minutes be acknowledged.

Carried unanimously.

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

Councilmember Kavanaugh reported on his recent attendance at the National League of Cities' Information Technology and Communications Steering Committee meeting, which was held in Nashville, Tennessee. He reported on various issues including the convergence of telecommunications industries and their effect on local communities.

6. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

City Manager Mike Hutchinson stated that the meeting schedule is as follows:

Tuesday, June 5, 2001, 5:00 p.m. – General Development Committee meeting

Thursday, June 7, 2001, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Thursday, June 14, 2001, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Thursday, June 21, 2001, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Monday, June 25, 2001, TBA – Study Session

Monday, June 25, 2001, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council meeting

7. Prescheduled public opinion appearances.

There were no prescheduled public opinion appearances.

8. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 5:30 p.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 4<sup>th</sup> day of June 2001. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2001.

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BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

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Attachment



## City Manager Report

**Date:** June 1, 2001  
**To:** Mike Hutchinson  
**From:** Denise Bleyle  
**Subject:** Report from Energy Conservation Task Force

### **Purpose and Recommendation**

The purpose of this report is to present the recommendations from the City's Energy Conservation Task Force. The recommendations focus on ways to reduce energy consumption within City facilities during the summer months. The Task Force has come up with numerous ways to conserve energy in City buildings and believes the recommendations deemed appropriate and feasible by management should be implemented as soon as possible.

### **Background**

Utility companies across the western United States are dealing with an unfavorable energy supply and demand situation. Currently, we are facing high energy costs for the City's electric utility and as summer approaches, the demand for power, as well as our energy costs, will only increase. With staff in the process of marketing energy conservation tips to our customers, it is important for City employees to lead by example and enact similar conservation measures in our buildings.

In a proactive effort to lessen the demand on the City's utility and increase the supply available to our customers, a Citywide Energy Conservation Task Force was created to evaluate energy conservation options for City buildings. The Task Force was comprised of 15 members representing each City department (Attachment A). They were charged with examining the City's current energy consumption levels, making recommendations on options to conserve energy in City facilities, and developing and marketing the conservation tips to employees.

### **Discussion**

The Energy Conservation Task Force met four times over a two-week period. During this time, Task Force members evaluated many items, including the energy usage in City facilities in the downtown area, energy conservation practices in other municipalities and possible solutions for decreasing energy consumption by City employees. While it is necessary to practice energy conservation measures in all City facilities, the primary focus of the Task Force was on City buildings in the downtown

area, as these facilities are serviced by the City's electric utility.

The Task Force developed more than 50 recommendations that were prioritized into short term, intermediate term and long term implementation phases using the following criteria:

Short Term:	No cost, has staff support, easy implementation, no policy ramifications, no impact on customers
Intermediate Term:	Minimal cost, City Council approves, may have some staff resistance and some impact on customers
Long Term:	High cost, policy ramifications, high impact on staff and high customer impact

Finally, the prioritized recommendations were separated into two larger groups (Attachment B). Tier One represents items that received unanimous or close to unanimous support by Task Force members as feasible short-term options. Tier Two represents items the Task Force thought were worth discussing, but had more of a long-term focus with some impact on staff and/or customers. Much of the Task Force's discussion centered on decreasing the use of air conditioning and lighting items. It was noted that approximately 70 percent of utility bill usage is from air conditioning, 20 percent from lighting and 10 percent from miscellaneous items.

There were many Tier One recommendations that received unanimous Task Force support. For example, they felt it would be feasible to raise and set all City building thermostats to 76 degrees where applicable. Buildings that house computer equipment or cables that need to be kept at a cooler temperature and older buildings with poor insulation (such as 55 N. Center), would be exempt. They also noted the importance of turning off computers, monitors, copy machines, printers and other electronic equipment when not in use, as well as decreasing the amount of additional lighting in office areas.

In addition, the Task Force felt it was important for the City Manager to establish emergency protocol to deal with situations when energy usage hits a critical point. They felt it was important to target City buildings ahead of time that could be shut down in an emergency energy situation.

The Task Force also unanimously recommended offering a casual dress code during the summer months. Because building temperatures will be increased, they believed it is important to allow employees to dress more comfortably. The Task Force agreed the best way to handle casual dress code guidelines would be to leave them to the discretion of department managers and supervisors. The group thought an acceptable option would be to encourage departments to expand their Friday casual dress code to the rest of the week.

The Task Force was not comfortable making decisions on the closure of particular City buildings or making changes in business hours at this time. In general, most members supported various options for reducing service hours or closing facilities during the summer, but did not feel they had the authority to list these options as viable, short-term recommendations. Members were concerned with the impact these changes would have on the City's ability to provide quality customer service and instead decided to focus on measures that were the most efficient and the easiest to implement at this time. The Task Force will reconvene in July to review energy savings to date and determine if additional measures are needed.

The Task Force also discussed ways to communicate and market the final recommendations to employees. Various publicity avenues will include articles in the Intercom, Citywide e-mails, fliers and signs next to thermostats reminding employees to conserve energy. Members agreed the key to receiving buy-in from employees is to create a consistent energy conservation message that will be communicated to all employees. They stressed the importance of educating employees as to why we need to conserve energy and also to make our conservation efforts fun and worthwhile for employees. The Task Force held a Citywide contest to determine a slogan for our internal energy conservation efforts. The slogan that was selected by the Task Force is "ENERGY: Be a miser, use it wiser!" and will be used on all informational, educational and promotional materials.

The final recommendation of the Task Force was that the City continue most of the energy conserving efforts outlined in this report beyond the summer months. They believe the recommendations being proposed are effective energy conserving tools that should be practiced by employees year round.

### **Alternatives**

Should management choose not to adopt all of the Task Force's recommendations, there are many alternative possibilities.

1. Adopt only Tier One recommendations: Management would adopt only the recommendations that received unanimous or near unanimous support from the Task Force as a short-term option with little impact on staff and customers.
2. Adopt any combination of Tier One and Tier Two recommendations
3. Adopt none of the recommendations

### **Fiscal Impact**

The fiscal impact will depend on the number and type of recommendations that are

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adopted. There are many recommendations that represent no cost to the City.

**Attachment A**

**TASK FORCE MEMBERS**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Department/Division</u></b>
Denise Bleyle, Chair	City Manager's Office
Chris Albright	Facilities Maintenance
Lori Ball	Customer Service
Mike Barker	Information Services
Laura Brown	Solid Waste
Dan Delk	Fire
Brian Fellows	Transportation
Dale Furnas	Court
Heidi Gast	Marketing and Communications
Jackie Johnson	Code Compliance
Randy Lineberger	Police
Karla Thorstensen	Utilities
Carla Wagner	City Attorney's Office
David Williams	Facilities Maintenance
Debbie Yukolis	Community Services

## ATTACHMENT B

### Task Force Recommendations

**Tier One: Received unanimous or near unanimous support by the Task Force as viable, short term options**

- Raise and set thermostats to no lower than 76 degrees (buildings/rooms with special equipment that needs to be cooled or buildings with poor insulation are exempt)
- Offer casual dress code
- Turn AC off on evenings/weekends where appropriate to discourage people from working outside of their normal hours
- Turn off computers, monitors, copy machines, printers and other equipment when not in use and/or at night
- Turn off excess lighting in copy rooms, bathrooms, kitchens, etc.
- Do not use both task lights and overhead lights in offices – use one or the other
- Monitor use of conference rooms so lights/AC are off when room is not in use
- Establish building representatives to make sure their office area is “opened up” and “shut down” each day
- Ban floor heaters
- Close window blinds in rooms or open blinds in lieu of lights
- Have a contest for building that reduces energy consumption the most each month
- Encourage employees to use the stairs
- Encourage cleaners to turn off lights when finished and clean during off-peak hours
- Offer “Kilowatt Alert Days” program similar to “Ozone Alert Days”
- Make employees aware of energy usage each month
- Check refrigerator settings to make sure they are not too high
- Turn off hot water heaters in buildings that do not have showers (where feasible)
- Discourage or limit the use of portable fans
- Place energy conservation signs next to thermostats and light switches
- Reduce lighting – use emergency lighting in areas not frequented by the public
- Reduce level of night lighting in buildings
- Establish protocol for dealing with an emergency energy situation
- Shut down refrigerators in areas that have more than one
- Use marketing slogan – “ENERGY: Be a miser, use it wiser!”

**Tier Two: Recommendations that have a longer implementation focus, have associated costs or have some impact on staff and/or customers**

- Discourage or limit the use of personal appliances at desk (i.e. radios, clocks, lamps)
- Offer flexible work schedules
- Change to alternative summer hours of operation
- Reduce usage of Council Chambers for employee and outside groups during peak time – relocate to buildings already being cooled

- Reduce outdoor lighting where possible
- Expand and promote telecommuting
- Reduce number of vending machines in use
- Reduce vacuuming schedule by cleaning crew
- Alter AC in building to cool only the part in use – especially during off hours
- Make sure ballfield lighting is on only when fields are in use
- Consolidate operations to shut down a building or part of a building
- Install timers on water fountains
- Close buildings where critical services are not performed
- Install misers on vending machines
- Move summer youth programs to other buildings – consolidate programs
- Reduce summer service hours
- Install window tinting/sunscreens
- Consolidate employees work areas in order to shut down certain offices/buildings – use laptops to allow employees to be mobile
- Retrofit with programmable thermostats
- Eliminate Fleet Support Services 2<sup>nd</sup> shift – consolidate with 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> shifts
- Install new insulation for MAC or move programs to other buildings
- Hire energy management firm to conduct analysis/audit of usage in City facilities OR establish a City Energy Management position