

JUDICIAL ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

March 7, 2001

The Judicial Advisory Board of the City of Mesa met in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on March 7, 2001 at 6:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE PRESENT

Chairman John Kerr
James R. Hart, II
Judith O'Neill
Cecil Patterson
Joe Shipley
Marilyn Wilson

COMMITTEE ABSENT

James Keppel

STAFF PRESENT

Denise Bleyle
Kathleen Broman

1. Conduct a public hearing to receive comments on Magistrate Victor Ortiz.

Chairman Kerr explained the process that would be followed and advised that subsequent to the public hearing, the Board would conduct a public interview of Magistrate Victor Ortiz. Chairman Kerr commented that at the completion of the interview session, the Board would adjourn into an Executive Session for deliberations. Chairman Kerr added that following the Executive Session, the Board would reconvene the public hearing and announce its recommendation that will then be forwarded to the City Council.

Chairman Kerr stated that this is the time and place for a public hearing to receive comments on Magistrate Victor Ortiz and encouraged those present in the audience to complete speaker slips and present their comments to the members of the Board.

Ed Fields, a Mesa resident, explained that during a recent appearance before Judge Ortiz, he was limited in the length of time he was allowed to present his case as compared to the opposing party's and stated the opinion that Magistrate Ortiz did not listen to the evidence in a fair and judicial manner.

There being no further speakers present wishing to address the Board at this time, Chairman Kerr declared the public hearing closed.

2. Interview Magistrate Victor Ortiz.

Magistrate Victor Ortiz responded to a series of questions posed by the Boardmembers and thanked the Board for the opportunity to interview for reappointment to the position of Magistrate. Magistrate Ortiz stated that he enjoys the challenges of the position and would like to continue to serve the citizens of Mesa in this capacity.

Chairman Kerr thanked Magistrate Ortiz for his input.

(At 6:35 p.m., Chairman Kerr called for a short recess. The meeting reconvened at 6:40 p.m.)

3. Conduct a public hearing to receive comments on Magistrate Norine Richardson.

Chairman Kerr declared a public hearing for the purpose of receiving comments on the proposed reappointment of Magistrate Norine Richardson.

There being no citizens wishing to speak on this issue, Chairman Kerr declared the public hearing closed.

4. Interview Magistrate Norine Richardson.

The members of the Judicial Advisory Board posed selected interview questions to Magistrate Norine Richardson. Magistrate Richardson spoke in appreciation of the opportunity to address the Boardmembers and also stated the opinion that she brings great diversity and enthusiasm to the position and would like to continue to serve in this capacity.

Chairman Kerr thanked Magistrate Richardson for her input.

(At this time, the Board convened an Executive Session to discuss and consider the reappointments. Following the Executive Session, the meeting reconvened.

5. Discuss and make recommendations on the reappointment of:

A. Magistrate Victor Ortiz for a four-year term

It was moved by Boardmember Wilson, seconded by Boardmember Hart, that Magistrate Victor Ortiz be reappointed for an additional four-year term.

Chairman Kerr declared the motion carried unanimously.

B. Magistrate Norine Richardson for a two-year term

It was moved by Boardmember Shipley, seconded by Boardmember Patterson, that Magistrate Norine Richardson be reappointed for an additional two-year term.

Chairman Kerr declared the motion carried unanimously.

Magistrates Ortiz and Richardson thanked the members of the Board for allowing them to continue to serve the City of Mesa. Chairman Kerr, on behalf of the members of the Board, thanked both Magistrates for their hard work and dedication.

6. Adjournment.

Without objection the meeting of the Judicial Advisory Board adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Judicial Advisory Board meeting of the City of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 7th day of March, 2001. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

LINDA CROCKER, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

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