

COUNCIL MINUTES

February 5, 1996

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 February 5, 1996 at 4:45 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Willie Wong
Jerry Boyd
Pat Gilbert
T. Farrell Jensen
Dale Johnson
Joan Payne
Jim Stapley

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

C.K. Luster
Wayne Balmer
Neal Beets
Linda Crocker
Mike Hutchinson
Barbara Jones
Harry Kent
Wayne Korinek
Ron Krosting
Frank Mizner
Keith Nath
Ruth Anne Norris
John Oliver
Ellen Pence
Bryan Raines
Harold Stewart
Doug Tessororf
Mindy White
Ralph Wisz
Others

OTHERS PRESENT

Dan Nowicki
Others

1. Discuss and consider a status report and request to proceed with project for widening McKellips Road from Country Club Drive to Gilbert Road.

Public Works Manager Harry Kent, Traffic and Streets Director Ron Krosting, Deputy City Engineer Keith Nath and Real Estate Services Director Doug Tessororf addressed the Council relative to this agenda item.

Mr. Kent advised that a public meeting to solicit citizen input was held on Wednesday, January 24, 1996 at Kino Junior High School. Mr. Kent reported that approximately 125 citizens attended the hearing and reviewed the preferred alignment.

Mr. Krosting provided the Council with statistics relative to traffic volumes on McKellips Road from Country Club Drive to Gilbert Road. Mr. Krosting stated that the Red Mountain Freeway is anticipated to open to McKellips Road by July 1998 and added that this measure will substantially increase traffic volumes on McKellips Road. Mr. Krosting reported that the Red Mountain Freeway will not be expanded to Gilbert Road until 2006 and to Power Road by 2008. Mr. Krosting expressed the opinion that a six-lane roadway is required to handle anticipated traffic volumes.

Mr. Nath provided the Council with a brief summary of the January 24, 1996 public hearing and advised that a majority of the citizens in attendance requested that the City construct sound walls to buffer roadway noise. Mr. Nath added that citizens also expressed concern relative to aesthetics and safety hazards.

Discussion ensued relative to raised medians on Gilbert Road, the possibility of adding left turn lanes, landscaping, particularly on Gilbert Road, and the implementation of an incentive program to encourage citizens to replace removed trees.

Mr. Tessendorf reported that the project will encompass the purchase of 82 parcels of land for approximately \$1.2 million. Mr. Tessendorf stated that there are no buildings or homes that will have to be relocated and discussed project deadlines and scheduling.

In response to a request from City Manager Charles Luster, Mr. Kent briefly addressed the issue of traffic disruption during construction. Mr. Kent stated that staff has discussed the goal of maintaining two traffic lanes in the busy direction but added that if this option is not feasible, only one lane in each direction will be open.

Discussion ensued relative to project construction phases, traffic congestion, and the fact that the widening of the road will impact a large number of citizens.

Councilmember Gilbert stressed the importance of improving the entire project area, including landscaping and sound walls, to ensure that the road as well as the neighborhoods are enhanced.

Councilmember Boyd reiterated his concerns relative to the traffic congestion which would result from the construction.

In response to a question from Mayor Wong, Mr. Nath advised that the project will cost approximately \$11 million. Mayor Wong expressed the opinion that this issue should be on the agenda of a future Council meeting to allow citizen input to occur.

Mr. Luster informed the Council that staff will further address this issue and that the matter will be the subject of a future Council meeting.

2. Appointments to boards and committees

Mayor Wong recommended the following appointments to Boards and Committees:

BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE MAG REGIONAL POLICY

Steve West - To fill the unexpired term of Tom Rhodes

It was moved by Vice Mayor Jensen, seconded by Councilmember Stapley, that the Council concur with the Mayor's recommendation and the appointment be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

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

Mayor Wong advised that there were no reports on meetings and/or conferences attended.

4. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

City Manager Charles Luster advised that the meeting schedule is as follows:

Wednesday, February 7, 1996, 7:30 a.m. - Joint Breakfast Meeting with Dobson Ranch Homeowners' Association

Friday, February 9, 1996, 7:30 a.m. - Council Study Session

5. Review items on the agenda for the February 5, 1996 Regular Council Meeting.

All of the agenda items were reviewed among the Council and staff, with no formal action taken. There was particular discussion with regard to the following agenda items:

9. Consider the following case from the Planning and Zoning Board and possible adoption of the corresponding ordinance:

- a. **Z95-114** The 6500 and 6600 blocks of East Delmon Drive. Rezone from R1-9 to R1-7 (4.165 acres). This case involves the development of a 20 lot single residence conventional subdivision. East Valley Free Will Baptist Church, owner;

Jack Anderson, applicant. **CONTINUED FROM THE JANUARY 22, 1996 CITY COUNCIL MEETING.**

Mr. Balmer advised that the applicant has requested that this case be withdrawn.

10. Consider that a traffic control program utilizing photo radar be implemented.

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Jensen, City Manager Charles Luster advised that a public hearing relative to the proposed utilization of photo radar will occur at the February 20, 1996 Regular Council Meeting.

6. Adjournment.

It was moved by Councilmember Stapley, seconded by Councilmember Boyd, that the meeting adjourn at 5:29 P.M.

Carried unanimously.

WILLIE WONG, 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 5th day of February, 1996. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 23rd day of February 1996

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK