

COUNCIL MINUTES

May 7, 1996

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Budget Review Session in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on May 7, 1996 at 7:30 a.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

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

COUNCIL ABSENT

Joan Payne

COUNCIL-ELECT PRESENT

Mayor-Elect Wayne Brown
John Giles
Dennis Kavanaugh

STAFF PRESENT

C.K. Luster
Vince Anderson
Wayne Balmer
Neal Beets
Jack Caroline
Tanya Collins
Linda Crocker
Gerry Gerber
Joe Holmwood
Mike Hutchinson
Barbara Jones
Harry Kent
Wayne Korinek
Lynn Kusy
Jeff Martin
Mark Meyers
Frank Mizner
Ellen Pence
Ray Pittman
Bryan Raines
Kit Savagian
Harold Stewart
Others

OTHER PRESENT

Richard Blake
Ed Burns
Tom Verploegen
Others

(Budget Review Session items 8 through 14 were discussed at the May 6, 1996 Budget Review Session.)

Mayor Wong excused Councilmember Payne from the meeting.

15. Community Development Department - Wayne Balmer

Community Development Manager Wayne Balmer briefly highlighted the contents of an organizational chart of the department which was distributed to the Council and Council-Elect. Mr. Balmer advised that MEGACORP is being reorganized into two divisions, the

Redevelopment Division and the Economic Development Division. Mr. Balmer introduced members of staff to the Council and Council-Elect.

a. Redevelopment Program - #5260

Mr. Balmer advised that the department is currently in the process of hiring a Redevelopment Director for redevelopment activities and discussed the responsibilities of the department. Mr. Balmer referred to material distributed to the Council which contains recommendations from the Downtown Development Committee relative to capital budget priorities in the Town Center area for Fiscal Year 1996-97. (See Attachment A.)

In response to a question from Councilmember Gilbert, Assistant City Manager Mike Hutchinson advised that the Voit Companies' proposal will be presented to the Council within the next thirty days.

Discussion ensued relative to proposed budget items, requests from the Council to further discuss the issue of funding allocations for redevelopment activities, the Urban High School proposal, and funding recommendations submitted by the Downtown Development Committee.

b. Economic Development Division - #5550

Economic Development Director Harold Stewart advised that approximately 9,000 new jobs have been created in Mesa during the last two years as a result of existing, expanding and new commercial developments within the City. Mr. Stewart discussed staff additions and stressed the importance of increasing economic development efforts.

Discussion ensued relative to foreign trade zones, the availability of land for job growth, the importance of infrastructure in attracting new companies and improved transportation access, Williams Gateway Airport, Falcon Field Airport, and business retention and expansion efforts.

In response to a question from Councilmember-Elect Giles relative to the Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC), Mr. Balmer stated the opinion that membership in the organization provides the City of Mesa with a high level of exposure and identity. Mr. Balmer added that GPEC's marketing programs assist the City in attracting companies to Mesa. Mr. Stewart discussed the benefits which are received as a result of GPEC's coordination efforts, particularly in relation to the private sector on a regional basis.

Discussion ensued relative to GPEC and Councilmember Boyd recommended that this issue be the subject of a future Council Policy Session.

c. Planning Program - #5900

Planning Director Frank Mizner briefly highlighted the activities of the Planning Department and discussed the recent Census and adoption of the new Mesa General Plan. Mr. Mizner noted that the Planning Department has requested the addition of a Planner I position.

Discussion ensued relative to the development of residential development guidelines, regional planning issues, the importance of focusing efforts on congestion management and open space planning, and the Williams Regional Planning Study.

d. Community Development Program - #8060

Community Development Specialist Kit Savagian noted that the department's budget does not contain requests for additional staffing. Ms. Savagian provided the Council with a brief overview of the activities and goals of the Community Development Department.

e. Airports

1. Falcon Field Program - #8800

Airport Director Mark Meyers briefly discussed the contents of an organizational chart distributed to the Council. Mr. Meyers advised that the proposed budget reflects \$2.5 million for the airport's capital outlay program for the upcoming year. Mr. Meyers noted that of the \$2.5 million, 90% is received from both Federal and State grants.

Discussion ensued relative to the purchase of 34 acres of land, proposed future land purchases, blacktopping, implementation of a drainage study, a Federal application which has been submitted for a noise study, marketing and active leasing programs, resident concerns, T-hangars and maintenance, tenant issues, and airport planning and development.

2. Williams Gateway Airport Reuse

Executive Director Lynn Kusy advised that a reuse plan update has just been completed and noted that the plan contains the entire air force base including the campus area, the golf course and other users within the facility. Mr. Kusy added that an additional study, an area transportation plan, has also been initiated and advised that the plan is being developed in conjunction with Maricopa County.

Discussion ensued relative to plan funding, signage and landscaping proposals, efforts to secure grants, leasing efforts and available space, the fact that 1,000 jobs have been generated, revenues, an archeological program and future airport goals.

16. Community Services Department - Wayne Korinek

a. Community Aid Program - #7600

Community Services Director Wayne Korinek introduced members of staff to the Council and advised that the Community Services Department operates 13 programs under 15 different responsibility centers. Mr. Korinek noted that the proposed budget does not contain any requests for additional staff.

b. Golf Course Program - #7100

In response to a question from Mayor Wong, Mr. Korinek discussed golf course fees and charges.

- c. Parks Maintenance & Development Program - #7200
Parks, Recreation & Cultural Bonds - #9750

Mr. Korinek advised that estimated expenditures this year are approximately \$9.5 million compared to an estimated \$16.5 million for the next fiscal year. Mr. Korinek explained that the increase is the result of a reorganization within the department. Mr. Korinek reported that the department maintains and operates 50 parks, 98 retention basins, and discussed the fact that four new parks have been developed. Mr. Korinek noted that a substantial increase in the demand for services exists within the community and added that limited resources are available to meet the expanding requirements of various programs.

Discussion ensued relative to capital improvements, volunteers, maintenance, and proposed projects, the Red Mountain multigenerational center, the Gene Autry Tennis and Volleyball Center, schools, replacement vehicles, computer hardware and departmental goals.

- d. Recreation and Cultural Program - #7300
Aquatics Program - #7400
Library Program - #7500
Community Center Program - #7700
Southwest Museum Program - #7600
Museum for Youth Program - #7850
Cemetery Program - #8100

Mr. Korinek briefly outlined programs and stated that the department's goal is to continue to focus on youth. Mr. Korinek discussed the Self Esteem program, funding requirements, school availability for programs, and supplemental requests.

Councilmember Gilbert stressed the importance of funding youth programs. Councilmember Gilbert indicated that modifying priorities may be necessary in order to fund required programs. Councilmember-Elect Giles concurred with Councilmember Gilbert's comments.

Discussion ensued relative to Junior High School pools, the Dinosaur exhibit at the Southwest Museum, the Mesa Grande Ruins, and the Museum for Youth's expansion and increased attendance.

Mr. Korinek informed the Council that space is extremely limited at the City cemetery and reported that the facility manages 600 to 700 burials per year. Mr. Korinek added that two road improvement projects have been implemented which improved access and parking.

Mr. Korinek provided statistics concerning the East Mesa Library and noted that circulation has increased 53% since last year.

In response to a question from Councilmember Gilbert, Library Director Vince Anderson discussed proposed changes in the East Mesa Library's hours of operation.

Neighborhood and Community Assistance Director Tanya Collins advised that the recently implemented Neighborhood Assistance Office will be located in the former Mayor/City Manager's office over the next six to eight months. Ms. Collins advised that plans are underway to hire a Neighborhood Assistance Coordinator and discussed the goals of that position. Ms. Collins advised that the office plans to develop and distribute information relative to City activities and proactively seek solutions to neighborhood problems.

Discussion ensued relative to the Community School program, and the PAY program and members of the Council requested additional information relative to expanding the PAY program and the Community School program.

e. Mesa Housing Authority Program - #8650.

Mr. Korinek provided the Council and Council-Elect with a brief overview of the Mesa Housing Authority program.

17. Break

Mayor Wong declared a recess at 10:14 a.m. and the meeting resumed at 10:26 a.m.

18. Town Center Corporation Funding

Mr. Ed Burns, President and Chief Financial officer of Cox Communications and President of the Mesa Town Center Corporation and Executive Director Tom Verploegen addressed the Council and Council-Elect relative to this agenda item.

Mr. Burns referred to a copy of a proposed Fiscal Year 1996-97 budget which was previously presented to the Council and highlighted revenues and expenses contained in the proposal.

Discussion ensued relative to Ultimate Imaginations, the M-Car Race, parking management, event entrance fees, vacant buildings in the Town Center area, and services provided by the Town Center Corporation.

19. Community Aid Issues

a. Community Aid Programs

1. Fine Arts Requests

Arts Administrator Gerry Gerber provided the Council and Council-Elect with a brief overview of the Museum and Cultural Advisory Board funding requests. Ms. Gerber advised that applicant interviews were conducted by a review panel and noted that full funding for all nine applicant organizations has been recommended. Ms. Gerber discussed a request for a \$10,000 mini grant contingency and provided justification for the request. Ms. Gerber reported that the total amount requested is \$157,932.

Discussion ensued relative to the Caledonian Pipe Band, the application process, art programs and funding in other communities, the fact that the National Endowment for the Arts has been reduced by 40%, and increased funding requests contained in the proposed budget.

Mr. Holmwood discussed the Mesa Historical Museum funding request and noted that last year the Society received a grant from the City of an amount not to exceed \$69,000 for operation assistance for the facility. Mr. Holmwood added that the City entered into an agreement with the Museum and reported that the Museum has complied with all stipulations set forth by the City. Mr. Holmwood noted that the Society is requesting funding in an amount not to exceed \$72,000 and noted that the funding will allow increased hours and improvements to the building.

2. Human Services Requests

Vice Mayor Jensen indicated that he had a potential conflict of interest in connection with the matter now under discussion which he wanted recorded in the minutes of the meeting, and because of such conflict of interest, he would refrain from voting upon or otherwise participating in any manner in connection with same.

Tanya Collins introduced Human Services Coordinator Karen Kurtz and Human Services Advisory Board Chairman Richard Blake to the Council and Council-Elect.

Ms. Kurtz outlined funding requests presented for human services operations and commented on funding priorities and the process initiated to evaluate proposals. Ms. Kurtz reported that the Boys and Girls Club request has increased by \$10,000 and explained that the increase would cover the cost of added scholarships for their summer youth program. Ms. Kurtz added that EVAC is in the process of expanding their facility and a \$21,000 increase in funding has been recommended to cover the cost of the expansion. Ms. Kurtz noted that other recommendations for funding include a \$2,000 increase in the Minority Achiever program, an \$8,500 increase in the Autumn House funding, and a \$9,000 increase in the funding allocation for the Serrine Adult Day Care organization.

Discussion ensued relative to inflationary increases and program expansions.

3. Housing Requests

Housing Director Jack Caroline discussed recommended funding requests and discussed the Housing Advisory Board recommendations. Mr. Caroline advised that three organizations have applied for funding for housing related programs and advised that information relative to the requests has been distributed.

Discussion ensued relative to Housing for Mesa, transitional housing programs, funding sources and levels, the importance of assisting the homeless, and the fact that the City of Mesa does not presently operate a facility for homeless single adults.

20. Direction from Council

City Manager Charles Luster recommended to the Council that the Friday, May 17, 1996 Council Study Session be extended to allow sufficient time to review budgetary matters. Mr. Luster added that requests for additional information from the Council and Council-Elect will be provided by staff.

21. Adjournment

Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

Carried unanimously.

WILLIE WONG, MAYOR

ATTEST:

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

Attachment

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Budget Review Session of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 7th day of May, 1996. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 30th day of May, 1996

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

ATTACHMENT A

6. Review and Prioritize Capital Budget Redevelopment Projects for FY 96/97:

DDC members discussed capital budget priorities for Fiscal Year 1996-97. Staff provided the members with a list of possible project activities which the Committee expanded and prioritized. The DDC considered the estimated capital expenditures needed to implement the Downtown projects and made recommendations concerning phasing of the improvements. Preliminary budget estimates were also suggested for Fiscal Year 1997-98 for two of the recommended projects. The Downtown Development Committee's recommendations are detailed below.

<u>Project Priority</u>	<u>FY1996-97</u>	<u>FY1997-98</u>
#1: Main Street Streetscape Improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colonnade removal program (including removal and replacement of sidewalks and landscaping improvements) • Streetlight and pedestrian light improvements 	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
#2: Northeast Quadrant Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construct temporary volleyball facilities for amateur and professional league play • Land acquisitions 	\$ 2,100,000*	\$ 4,500,000**
		* DDC recommends that the \$ 100,000 funding be taken from the current fiscal year if appropriate
		** DDC recommendation includes infrastructure improvements being made in FY1997-98
<p>The DDC also recommended the expenditure of \$25,000 to complete a structural analysis and adaptive reuse study for the Irving School building.</p>		
#3: Urban High School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land acquisitions • Infrastructure improvements 	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
#4: Performing Arts Center		**Support Bond Funding Proposal**
#5: Museum Clustering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land acquisitions as recommended in the Mesa Southwest Museum Five-year Master Plan and Phase II improvement project for Arizona Museum for Youth 		**Support Bond Funding Proposal**
#6: Site No. 14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land acquisition 	\$ 500,000	