

# POLICE COMMITTEE MINUTES

July 12, 1999

The Police Committee of the City of Mesa met in the upper level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on July 12, 1999 at 4:02 p.m.

## COMMITTEE PRESENT

Pat Pomeroy, Chairman  
John Giles  
Bill Jaffa

## COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Wayne Brown  
Jim Davidson

## STAFF PRESENT

C.K. Luster  
Lin Adams  
Fred Conway  
Linda Crocker  
Luigi Digirolamo  
Barbara Jones  
Mike Kalember  
Richard Kasper  
Ron Krosting

## STAFF PRESENT (CONT.)

Ellen Pence  
Ron Poulin  
Andrea Rasizer  
Jan Strauss  
Others

## OTHERS PRESENT

Robbie Sherwood  
(See speakers listed below)

### 1. Conduct a public hearing concerning the proposed regulation of motorized skateboards.

Chairman Pomeroy welcomed those present and stated that now is the time and place for a public hearing concerning the proposed regulation of motorized skateboards. Chairman Pomeroy encouraged citizens to provide input regarding this important issue.

The following speakers spoke in favor of a near total ban on motorized skateboards (Option A) and expressed concerns relative to safety, the fact that youths do not receive any training and are unfamiliar with the rules of the road, liability issues, the fact that the motorized skateboards are not required to be licensed, the lack of age restrictions for users of the motorized skateboards, the fact that the skateboards are capable of traveling at high speeds, environmental issues, the fact that many youths oftentimes do not exercise proper judgement, and potential injuries to the users and innocent citizens involved in accidents:

Jayne Davidson	2542 East Lynwood
Fawn Finchum	3430 North Mountain Ridge, #30
Rob Hephner	1051 South Miller Street
Susan Hill	2412 East Edgewood
Karen Koszyk	2340 East Jensen Street

The following citizen spoke in favor of a near total ban based on the stipulation that enforcement would be stringent:

David Wright	2206 East Des Moines Circle
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The following speakers spoke in favor of establishing regulations governing the operation of motorized skateboards in the City of Mesa (Option B) rather than implementing a near total ban and stressed the importance of requiring the users of motorized skateboards to wear protective gear, noted the benefits of education, training, and familiarity with the rules of the road, stated the opinion that regulations will be easier to enforce than a total ban, provided various recommendations both in support of and opposition to an age restriction on the use of the vehicles, and commented that regulations will enhance safety:

Linda Distler	2440 East Wesleyan, Tempe
Larry Laurino	2570 West Medina
Brock Ramirez	2419 West Naranja

The following speakers spoke in opposition to the implementation of either a near total ban (Option A) or regulations (Option B) and expressed concern relative to drivers' safety if motorized skateboards must be operated in the streets rather than on sidewalks, spoke in opposition to age restrictions, stated the opinion that bicycle regulations should apply to motorized skateboards, noted that bicycle accidents occur more frequently than go-ped accidents, stressed the importance of allowing youths and other citizens the ability to utilize this inexpensive form of transportation without government intervention and added that parents, rather than government, should assume a pro-active stance with their children regarding rules, regulations and safety:

Ken Barton	2427 West Naranja
Larrin Dixon	1929 South Beverly
Spencer Laurino	2570 West Medina Avenue
Laurinda Newbold	12906 S. 131st Street, Gilbert
Ron Peterson	2319 North Horne
Shawn Peterson	2319 North Horne

The following citizens indicated that they did not wish to speak on this issue but provided the following written comments:

Larry Iseli	P.O. Box 42218	Opposes total ban, supports regulations
Caryl Jonas	2335 East Encanto	Opposes total ban, supports regulations
Daniel Koszyk	2340 East Jensen	Supports total ban
Ralph Sandagata	625 West McKellips	Opposes total ban, supports regulations
Cindy Simpson	625 West McKellips	Opposes total ban and regulations. Supports providing road safety education.

Chairman Pomeroy expressed appreciation to the speakers for their input and stated that the members of the Committee will briefly discuss this agenda item prior to adjourning the public hearing.

Committeemember Giles also thanked those present in the audience for their interest and spoke in favor of public input and in-depth discussion regarding this matter. Committeemember Giles stated that he supports Option B, the implementation of regulations, and indicated his interest in receiving additional information relative to whether City ordinances require the use of mufflers on motorized vehicles. Committeemember Giles added that discussion should also occur regarding prohibiting owners from increasing noise levels/and or speed levels on motorized vehicles. Committeemember Giles also commented that the Police Department should actively issue citations for violations of any regulations implemented by the City. Committeemember Giles indicated that he would recommend to the Council that Option A, the implementation of regulations governing motorized skateboards in the City of Mesa, be approved.

Committeemember Jaffa recommended that staff provide additional input relative to the various concerns expressed by the citizens and added that in his opinion regulating the vehicles rather than banning them is appropriate.

Chairman Pomeroy stated that he supports the adoption of regulations rather than the implementation of a total ban and stressed the importance of education in the traffic safety area.

Chairman Pomeroy informed the audience that the Committee's purpose was to conduct a public hearing on this issue and said that a vote of the Committee will not be taken at this time. Chairman Pomeroy reiterated his appreciation to the citizens for their interest and input in this important matter.

There being no additional citizens present wishing to speak on this matter at this time, Chairman Pomeroy declared the public hearing closed.

2. Adjournment.

It was moved by Committeemember Jaffa, seconded by Committeemember Giles, that the meeting of the Police Committee adjourn at 5:01 p.m.

Carried unanimously.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Police Committee Meeting of the City of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 12th day of July, 1999. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 1999

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BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK