

COUNCIL MINUTES

July 1, 2002

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 July 1, 2002 at 4:30 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Dennis Kavanaugh
Rex Griswold
Kyle Jones
Janie Thom
Claudia Walters
Mike Whalen

COUNCIL ABSENT

Mayor Keno Hawker

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mike Hutchinson
Debbie Spinner
Barbara Jones

Vice Mayor Kavanaugh excused Mayor Hawker from the meeting.

1. Review items on the agenda for the July 1, 2002 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:

Councilmember Walters declared a potential conflict of interest on agenda item 7a (Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement on behalf of the City of Mesa with the Unified School District No. 4) and said she would refrain from discussion/participation in this agenda item.

Councilmember Whalen declared a potential conflict of interest on agenda item 9b (Z02-18 – 540 to 550 block of S. Bellview [west side]) and said he would refrain from discussion/participation in this agenda item.

Vice Mayor Kavanaugh stated that agenda item 9d (Z02-20 – 6600 to 6700 block of South Mountain (east side) will be removed from the consent agenda.

2. Hear, discuss and consider the Parks and Recreation Plan.

Parks and Recreation Director Joe Holmwood and Leon Younger, President of Leon Younger & Pros, the consulting firm selected to facilitate the Parks and Recreation 2025 Plan process, addressed the Council relative to this agenda item.

Mr. Holmwood explained that the purpose of the Mesa Parks and Recreation Division Strategic Master Plan is to provide a broad policy and management framework to guide decision-making to meet the City's current and future recreational needs well into the 21st century. He stated that the Plan addresses the recreational programming, park maintenance, park land and recreation facility needs that are required to support Mesa residents over the next 25 years; that the development of the Plan has involved a variety of methods to obtain input from the public, key community leaders and staff focus groups, and that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board has evaluated the development of the Plan throughout the process, and at their July 11, 2002 meeting, the Board will review the Plan and make a recommendation.

Mr. Younger displayed graphics in the Council Chambers and provided a brief overview of the objectives, goals and strategies, strategic recommendations, and challenges of the Parks and Recreation Strategic Master Plan.

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Kavanaugh, City Manager Mike Hutchinson clarified that the purpose of today's presentation is to provide the Council with an update on the Strategic Master Plan. He said that it is his recommendation that the Council place this matter on a future agenda for formal action

Discussion ensued relative to the development of indoor recreational facilities and the associated operating costs; the fact that the Plan contains an evaluation process whereby projects will be prioritized according to the needs of the community; the fact that staff will provide the Council with periodic updates relative to the Plan's goals and objectives, and the defeat of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Facility bonds during the March 14, 2000 Primary/Special Election.

Councilmember Walters thanked Mr. Holmwood and Mr. Younger for the presentation.

Councilmember Griswold expressed appreciation for the fact that the Plan proposed greater connectivity among the City's bike trails.

Vice Mayor Kavanaugh stated that it is the consensus of the Council that this matter be placed on a future Regular Council Meeting agenda for Council action and also to provide an opportunity to obtain additional input from Mesa residents.

Vice Mayor Kavanaugh thanked everyone for their input.

3. Hear a status report on northeast Mesa street construction projects.

Development Services Manager Jack Friedline, City Engineer Keith Nath and Engineering Public Relations Supervisor Glenn Gorke addressed the Council relative to this agenda item.

Mr. Nath provided an historical overview of this matter and reported that the Red Mountain Freeway was originally scheduled to reach Higley Road by the fall of 2004, but as a result of efforts on the part of City staff, the construction schedule has now been accelerated, with a completion date of December 2002 or January 2003. He also noted that the Greenfield Road exit is scheduled to open in October 2002. Mr. Nath commented that in an effort to accommodate the end-of-freeway condition for northeast Mesa, the City has scheduled five roadway improvement projects and two utility improvement projects.

Mr. Nath displayed graphics in the Council Chambers and briefly outlined the various projects as follows:

- McDowell Road Improvements. Phase One – McDowell Road from Higley Road to Recker Road and Recker Road north of McDowell Road toward the Red Mountain Freeway. The project will commence July 2002 and is scheduled for completion by January 2003.
- McDowell Road Improvements. Phase Two – McDowell Road from Recker Road east to Power Road. The project will begin during Phase One construction and is anticipated to be completed in April 2003.
- Power Road Improvements. Delmond Drive to McDowell Road. The project is expected to begin in July 2002, with an anticipated completion date of January 2003.
- Thomas Road and Recker Road Improvements. It is anticipated the project will commence at the end of July 2002, with a completion date of January 2003.
- Higley Road Improvements. McDowell Road to the Red Mountain Freeway. The project is currently under construction with an anticipated completion date of November 2002.
- Val Vista Drive Improvements. Phase One – McDowell Road to the Southern Canal. The project is currently under construction with an anticipated completion date of December 2002.
- Val Vista Drive Improvements. Phase Two – McKellips Road to Thomas Road. The project is expected to begin in February 2003 and has an anticipated completion date of October 2003.
- 24" Water Line – Recker Road along Thomas Road across Power Road. This segment is expected to begin construction in October 2002, with an anticipated completion date of January 2003. The section from Power Road and Adobe Road to Recker Road, north on Recker Road to McDowell Road is expected to begin construction in December 2002, with an anticipated completion date of April 2003.
- High Pressure Gas Main and E-Streets conduit installation along Greenfield Road from McDowell Road south to the RWCD Canal. The project is expected to begin in July 2002, with an anticipated completion date of October 2003.

Mr. Gorke referred to the "Engineering Public Relations Plan" which was previously distributed to the Council and noted that the primary goal of staff is to educate the public about the northeast Mesa roadway projects and their long-term benefits for the entire community. He stated that staff will conduct public meetings relative to all of the major roadway projects, submit press releases to the local newspapers, mail informational flyers to Mesa residents, post construction information on the City's web site, and also advertise all construction projects on Mesa Channel 11.

Councilmember Thom expressed appreciation to staff for the presentation. She also suggested that when two streets at an intersection are scheduled for construction, such as Baseline Road and Gilbert Road, that only one street be repaired at a time to ensure that the surrounding residents and businesses are not severely impacted.

Vice Mayor Kavanaugh thanked staff for the presentation and noted that the City is working hard to accommodate the needs of a growing community.

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

There were no reports on meetings and/or conferences attended.

7. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

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

Thursday, July 4, 2002 – Study Session Cancelled

Monday, July 8, 2002, 3:00 p.m. – General Development Committee Meeting

Thursday, July 11, 2002, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Monday, July 15, 2002, 3:00 p.m. – Utility Committee Meeting

Monday, July 15, 2002, TBA – Study Session

Monday, July 15, 2002, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council Meeting

Thursday, July 18, 2002, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Thursday, July 25, 2002, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Mr. Hutchinson informed the Council that two Mesa Fire Department units have been dispatched to the Heber/Overgaard area to assist other firefighters in battling the Rodeo/Chediski fire.

8. Prescheduled public opinion appearances.

There were no prescheduled public opinion appearances.

9. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

DENNIS KAVANAUGH, VICE-MAYOR

ATTEST:

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

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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 1st day of July 2002. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

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