

COUNCIL MINUTES

October 24, 1997

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 October 24, 1997 at 7:35 a.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Wayne Brown
Pat Gilbert
John Giles
Dennis Kavanaugh
Wayne Pomeroy
Jim Stapley

COUNCIL ABSENT

Joan Payne

STAFF PRESENT

C.K. Luster
Pauline Backer
Denise Bleyle
Fred Conway
Linda Crocker
Lars Jarvie
Ron Krosting
Rich Lorig
Joe Noce
Ruth Ann Norris
Ellen Pence
Don Pfohl
Bryan Raines
Andrea Rasizer
Tom Remes
Becky Richardson
Doug Tessorndorf
Mindy White
Others

OTHERS PRESENT

Ralph Pew
Steve Schmidt
Others

Mayor Brown excused Councilmember Payne from the meeting.

1. Hear and consider a recommendation concerning a Request for Proposal for the Mesa-Phoenix Trunked Radio project.

Communications Director Don Pfohl informed the Council that efforts have been expended over the past five years towards obtaining compatible, independent, open-architecture trunked radio systems for the cities of Mesa and Phoenix. Mr. Pfohl explained that the compatible system would be connected to each other to form a valley-wide network and briefly outlined the proposal. Mr. Pfohl stated the opinion that the proposed project would provide Mesa and Phoenix with leveraging abilities and allow valley-wide roaming and interoperability to occur without additional cost.

Discussion ensued relative to the fact that the proposed open architecture standard is known in the public safety communications industry as Project 25, the fact that procurement of a digital, trunked radio system would replace all of Mesa's present radio systems and anticipated positive effects of the proposal particularly in the areas of Fire Service dispatching, automatic aid and valley-wide police operations.

Mr. Pfohl requested that the Council direct staff to prepare a Request for Proposal (RFP) to be released in March 1998 relative to the procurement of a digital trunked radio system for the City of Mesa.

In response to a question from Councilmember Kavanaugh, Mr. Pfohl discussed proprietary systems and stated the opinion that the open standard system would provide technical, operational and organizational benefits which are not available from proprietary systems.

Additional discussion ensued relative to the fact that the proposed system would provide 17 channels and almost double the capacity of the current system, open architecture systems versus proprietary systems, the possibility of opening the bidding system to allow proprietary competitors to participate in the process, the proposed RFP process, estimated system and personnel costs, and Federal Communication Commission (FCC) mandates.

Mayor Brown indicated that he would require a considerable amount of additional research and data prior to offering a recommendation relative to this proposal.

Vice Mayor Gilbert recommended that a joint meeting be held between the Mesa and Phoenix City Councils to discuss the proposed system and stressed the importance of public safety. Vice Mayor Gilbert added that Project 25 would involve significant infrastructure costs and that direct interaction between members of both City Councils would be beneficial.

Mayor Brown commented on the importance of determining that the services provided justify the costs involved and said that he concurred with Vice Mayor Gilbert's suggestion relative to scheduling a joint meeting between Mesa and Phoenix to review this issue. Mayor Brown recommended that a three-member Council committee be formed to pursue this matter.

Councilmembers Giles and Kavanaugh indicated their interest in serving on a Council board to meet with the Phoenix City Council for discussion and review of the proposed trunked radio system.

Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Pfohl for his presentation.

1.1. Consider a request to continue Zoning Case No. Z97-61, Development Master Plan for Las Sendas until December 1, 1997.

City Manager Charles Luster advised that a letter has been received from Mr. Ralph Pew, an attorney representing the applicant, on Zoning Case No. Z97-61.

Mayor Brown stated that he contacted Mr. Pew in response to Council's concerns that the applicant may request additional case continuances in the future. Mayor Brown said that he strongly recommended that the applicant request a continuance date that will allow sufficient time to accomplish the applicant's goals. Mayor Brown noted that the letter received from Mr. Pew requests a continuance to the December 1, 1997 Regular Council

Meeting and indicates that the extension will allow the applicant an opportunity to revise its Development Master Plan and contact adjoining property owners and City staff prior to the meeting.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Gilbert, seconded by Councilmember Giles, that Zoning Case Z97-61 be continued to the December 1, 1997, Regular Council Meeting.

Mayor Brown declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

2. Acknowledge receipt of minutes of meetings of various boards and committees.

- a. Crime Prevention Advisory Board meeting held October 15, 1997
- b. Parks and Recreation Board meeting/Retreat held October 15, 1997

It was moved by Vice Mayor Gilbert, seconded by Councilmember Giles, that receipt of the above listed minutes be acknowledged.

Mayor Brown declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

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

Mayor Brown 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:

Thursday, October 30, 1997, 4:00 p.m. - Fire Committee Meeting

Monday, November 3, 1997, 5:45 p.m. - Regular Council Meeting

Thursday, November 6, 1997, 4:00 p.m. - Council Policy Session

Mr. Luster indicated that the November 15, 1997 tour of the East Mesa Drainage Site has been canceled and that the meeting will be rescheduled at a later date.

In response to a question from Mayor Brown, Assistant to the City Manager Ellen Pence advised that Independent Counsel Gary L. Stuart is conducting interviews relative to allegations concerning Judges Reeb and Forster. Ms. Pence indicated that she will contact Mr. Stuart and request that he provide an anticipated timetable for completion of the investigation.

5. Prescheduled public opinion appearances (maximum of three speakers for five minutes per speaker).

Mayor Brown advised that there were no prescheduled public opinion appearances.

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6. Items from citizens present (maximum of three speakers for five minutes per speaker).

Mayor Brown advised that there were no items from citizens present.

7. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 8:26 a.m.

WAYNE BROWN, 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 Study Session of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 24th day of October 1997. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 20th day of November 1997

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK