

COUNCIL MINUTES

June 26, 1998

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 June 26, 1998 at 7:30 a.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Wayne Brown
Jim Davidson
John Giles
Keno Hawker
Bill Jaffa
Dennis Kavanaugh

COUNCIL ABSENT

Pat Pomeroy

STAFF PRESENT

C.K. Luster
Pauline Backer
Wayne Balmer
Neal Beets
Dennis Compton
Linda Crocker
Gil Damiani
Carl Geis
Glenn Gorke
Joe Holmwood
Barbara Jones
Harry Kent
Kari Kent
Peter Knudson
Ron Krosting
Dorinda Larsen
Larry Lines
Rich Lorig
Greg Marek
Jeff Martin
Keith Nath
Eric Norenberg
Terri Palmberg
Ellen Pence
Bryan Raines

STAFF PRESENT (CONT)

Andrea Rasizer
Jackie Redpath
Tom Remes
Jenny Sheppard
Jan Strauss
Ursula Strehphans
Walter Switzer
Jamie Warner
Mindy White
Paul Wilson
Jim Wright
Others

OTHERS PRESENT

Susan Cook
Tony Felice
Pat Gilbert
James McKnight
David Molina
Marian Porch
Robbie Sherwood
Tom Verploegen
Marilynn Wennerstrom
Others

Mayor Brown excused Councilmember Pomeroy from the meeting.

1. Review items on the agenda for the June 29, 1998 Regular Council meeting.

All of the items on the agenda were reviewed by Council and staff with no formal action taken. There was specific discussion relative to the following agenda items:

5. Consider the following contracts:

- *a. Bus Stop Improvements Phase 4, Installation of Bus Shelter Units.

In response to a question from Councilmember Jaffa, Mayor Brown advised that the new bus shelter units are more user-friendly than the older models. Mayor Brown added that Councilmember Jaffa's suggestions relative to the possibility of installing heat shading/reflective materials at the bus shelters should be the subject of a future Council Study Session.

- *b. Val Vista Drive and main Street Waterline and Arterial Overlay and Reconstruction, Main Street, Val Vista Drive to Power Road.

Councilmember Hawker indicated that he had a conflict of interest in connection with the matter currently under discussion which he wanted reflected in the minutes of the meeting and because of such conflict of interest he would refrain from discussing or participating in any manner in connection with same.

Mayor Brown advised that this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda.

- *d. Sossaman and Ray Roads, Phase I, Paving and Storm Drain Project.

Councilmember Hawker indicated that he had a conflict of interest in connection with the matter currently under discussion which he wanted reflected in the minutes of the meeting and because of such conflict of interest he would refrain from discussing or participating in any manner in connection with same.

Mayor Brown advised that this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda.

7. Consider the following resolutions:

- b. Adopting the budget for Fiscal Year 1998-99.

In response to questions from Councilmember Jaffa, Assistant to the City Manager Bryan Raines provided the Council with a brief update on the status of proposed impact fees which will be presented to the Council at their July 6, 1998 Regular Council Meeting.

- *e. Vacating a portion of a roadway located in The Commons at Country Green.

Councilmember Jaffa indicated that he had a potential conflict of interest in connection with the matter currently under discussion which he wanted reflected in the minutes of the meeting and because of such conflict, he would refrain from discussing and/or participating in any manner in connection with same.

Mayor Brown advised that this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda.

- *f. Extinguishing easements for public utilities and a one-foot, non-vehicular access easement and a temporary retention easement located in The Commons at Country Green.

Councilmember Jaffa indicated that he had a potential conflict of interest in connection with the matter currently under discussion which he wanted reflected in the minutes of the meeting and because of such conflict, he would refrain from discussing and/or participating in any discussion in connection to same.

Mayor Brown advised that this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda.

- *i. Authorizing the City Manager to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of

Mesa and Mesa Unified School District #4 for the funding for the Safe Schools Program.

In response to a question from Councilmember Jaffa, Acting Police Chief Jan Strauss advised that in accordance with an agreement between the Mesa Police Department and Mesa Public Schools, Mesa Police Officers are assigned to all of the high schools in the City and work in partnership with school campus security.

Councilmember Davidson recommended that the Police Department monitor, prepare and submit status reports on the Safe Schools Program to the Council on a regular basis.

2. Hear a report on the planned public information efforts associated with the Main Street Project.

Public Information Officer Andrea Rasizer informed the Council that a Project Team has been assembled to ensure a smooth construction process for the Main Street Project. Ms. Rasizer stated that staff is expending every effort to ensure that difficulties encountered in connection with the McKellips Road widening are not repeated and introduced the members of the Project Team present at the meeting.

Ms. Rasizer noted that the main goal of the Project Team is to create a positive image for redevelopment efforts and the Streetscape Project and stressed the importance of developing and implementing a strong, positive marketing program and minimizing the impacts of construction on businesses in the area.

Discussion ensued relative to the need for open, consistent communication, the placement of abundant signage informing pedestrians of access alternatives to the various businesses, the Main Street Project's theme, "Changing Main Street – It's a Start," the utilization of banners, the development and distribution of a project newsletter, a Project Hot Line Number that has been established (644-3800), the fact that Project Team members Glenn Gorke and Susan Cook will serve as liaisons during the process, and the fact that weekly informational meetings will be held at Coffee Talk and all concerned and/or interested citizens will be encouraged to attend to hear updates and provide input.

Ms. Rasizer informed the Council that Mesa Matters will continue to provide project updates and outlined various informational venues that will be utilized to heavily publicize and communicate all aspects of the project. Ms. Rasizer stressed the importance of assuming a pro-active approach and emphasized that City staff will expend every opportunity to work together with the businesses in the area to address any and all areas of concern.

Mayor Brown thanked Ms. Rasizer for the update and commended the members of the Project Team on their efforts.

3. Hear a presentation, discuss and consider a plan for implementing Council districts.

Assistant to the City Manager Jeff Martin introduced Marion Porch to the members of the Council and advised that Ms. Porch was instrumental in coordinating the City of Glendale's transition from an at-large to a district system form of government. Mr. Martin added that Ms. Porch also assisted the City of Peoria and the Town of Surprise in their districting efforts.

Ms. Porch informed the Council that Glendale's districting system was the result of a citizen initiative and reported that Glendale was divided into six districts requiring equal population and equal electors which created a variety of problems. Ms. Porch stated that the districting process is extremely intense and involved and stressed the importance of establishing an in-house team to assist in the process.

Discussion ensued relative to the importance of hiring an independent outside consultant, the fact that the

Justice Department has stringent requirements and their approval must be received prior to the adoption of a districting plan, the fact that although the Justice Department has sixty (60) days to review the proposed plan, the Department may require revisions which would extend the review/approval process, staff's goal to complete the development of a proposed districting plan for submittal to the Department of Justice by the end of the current calendar year, the Request for Proposal (RFP) process, mailings to citizens and the importance of soliciting extensive citizen input relative to this issue, and the development and distribution of a "Citizens' Kit" which will contain basic information, including population figures and blank maps of the City, to allow citizens an opportunity to present their proposals on the creation of the various districts.

In response to questions and comments from Councilmember Hawker relative to the appropriateness of selecting a consultant prior to establishing the five member Commission, City Attorney Neal Beets commented that a limited number of consultants possess the type of experience required for this particular type of process. Mr. Beets added that other cities have reported that the consulting firm the Rose Institute provided excellent service and added that the Institute possesses specific experience in dealings with the Department of Justice.

It was moved by Vice Mayor Giles, seconded by Councilmember Kavanaugh, that staff's recommendations relative to a proposal for implementing a district system be approved.

Mayor Brown declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

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

- a. Crime Prevention Advisory Board meeting held June 17, 1998.
- b. Design Review Board special meeting held June 16, 1998.
- c. Housing and Human Services Advisory Board meeting held May 21, 1998.
- d. Parks and Recreation Board meeting held June 11, 1998.

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

Mayor Brown declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

5. Consider appointments to boards and committees.

Mayor Brown recommended the following appointments to Boards and Committees:

BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS

Randy Carter – Term to expire June 30, 2001

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Robert T. Bartel – Term to expire May 16, 2000

POLICE DEPARTMENT PENSION BOARD

Detective Don Vogel – Term to expire June 30, 2002

It was moved by Vice Mayor Giles, seconded by Councilmember Kavanaugh, that the Council concur

with the Mayor's recommendations and the appointments be confirmed.

Mayor Brown declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

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

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

7. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

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

Monday, July 6, 1998, 5:45 p.m. - Regular Council Meeting

Thursday, July 9, 1998, 7:30 a.m. - Study Session/Policy (Items from the July 2, 1998 Study Session and the July 9, 1998 Policy Session will be combined and discussed at this meeting)

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

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

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

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

10. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 8:47 a.m.

Carried unanimously.

WAYNE BROWN, 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 26th day of June 1998. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this ____ day of _____ 1998

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK