

COUNCIL MINUTES

December 16, 2004

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 December 16, 2004 at 7:32 a.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Keno Hawker
Rex Griswold
Kyle Jones
Tom Rawles
Janie Thom
Claudia Walters
Mike Whalen

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mike Hutchinson
Barbara Jones

1. Review items on the agenda for the December 20, 2004 Regular Council meeting.

All of the items on the agenda were reviewed among Council and staff and the following was noted:

Conflicts of interest declared: 4d (Hawker); 6a (Griswold); 6e (Whalen); 9a (Walters)

Items removed from the consent agenda: 3g, 4c

2. Discuss and consider an age/income exemption for annual household alarm permit fees.

Councilmember Jones and Councilmember Whalen declared potential conflicts of interest and said they would refrain from discussion/participation in this agenda item.

City Manager Mike Hutchinson noted that the Police Committee referred this item to the Council without a recommendation.

Police Commander Richard Clore addressed the Council relative to a proposal to amend the current ordinance, which exempts residents aged 65 and over from paying the annual household alarm permit fee of \$10. He noted that age-based exemptions are legal, but staff is recommending that the exemption be eliminated and replaced by a fee that is levied according to the Federal poverty guidelines.

Vice Mayor Walters, a member of the Police Committee, explained that when this item was brought before the Police Committee, Councilmember Jones, serving as Chairman, declared a

potential conflict of interest. She stated that her preference was to consider the poverty level guideline only, and that Councilmember Rawles, also a member of the Committee, preferred to consider the poverty level guideline for persons aged 65 and over relative to the fee exemption.

Councilmember Griswold recalled that the \$10 annual fee was implemented as a means of annually updating the City's record of current telephone numbers and contact information for residents with home alarm systems.

Discussion ensued relative to the fact that no one should be exempt from paying the annual permit fee.

It was moved by Councilmember Rawles, seconded by Councilmember Thom, that staff prepare an amendment to the ordinance that provides for the payment of an annual \$10 household alarm permit fee with no exemptions.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES -	Hawker-Griswold-Rawles-Thom-Walters
NAYS -	None
ABSTAIN -	Jones-Whalen

Mayor Hawker declared the motion carried unanimously by those voting.

3. Further discussion and consideration of the FY 2004-05 Priority Workplan.

Special Assistant to the City Manager Eric Norenberg advised that the 2004-05 Priority Workplan (a copy is available for review in the City Clerk's Office) has been updated. He explained that the highlighting contained in the document indicates a new or modified item based on input received from the Council at the October 28, 2004, Planning Session.

Mayor Hawker reported that the Valley Metro Rail Board is considering a program similar to a City of Phoenix program in which the Solid Waste Department competes against private providers in a bidding process in order to obtain the most cost effective collection service. He requested that consideration of this approach be addressed at a future Study Session.

Discussion ensued relative to the fact that efficiency should be addressed throughout the organization; and that the Boeing Corporation offered to assist the City regarding these issues.

Further discussion ensued relative to the fact that the City of Chandler contracted with a private provider for refuse collection; that the Phoenix model enables City departments to compete with the private sector; and that page 34 of the Workplan addresses the subject of benchmarking the performance of City departments that are comparable to private and public sector organizations.

Councilmember Rawles noted that the County implemented a similar bidding process for fleet maintenance activities. He advised that the County department successfully competed against the private sector, which resulted in changes that substantially reduced costs.

Councilmember Griswold referred to page 14 of the Workplan, and expressed the opinion that expanding Channel 11 coverage to include televising the Police Committee Meetings would

promote better understanding and awareness in the community. He requested information regarding the cost to televise a committee meeting.

Mr. Norenberg advised that staff would address the comments and requests made by the Council. He also noted that members of the public could access the Workplan on the City's website.

Mayor Hawker thanked staff for the presentation.

4. Acknowledge receipt of minutes of boards and committees.

- a. Ad Hoc Redevelopment Advisory Committee meeting held November 16, 2004.
- b. Economic Development Advisory Board meeting held November 2, 2004.
- c. Fire Committee meeting held November 16, 2004.
- d. Human Relations Advisory Board meeting held October 27, 2004.
- e. Transportation Advisory Board meeting held October 19, 2004.

It was moved by Councilmember Rawles, seconded by Councilmember Griswold, that receipt of the above-listed minutes be acknowledged.

Carried unanimously.

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

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Vice Mayor Walters: | Lehi Annual Meeting.
Kickoff event for the Special Olympics Soccer Tournament. |
| Councilmember Thom: | Report on proposed water treatment plant in District 6 and Central Arizona Project (CAP) water sales to the State of Nevada. |
| Councilmember Griswold: | Falcon Field Business Owners' Meeting.
Meeting with Congressman Flake's office.
Arizona Department of Transportation Meeting regarding freeway landscaping. |

6. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

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

Monday, December 20, 2004, TBA – Study Session

Monday, December 20, 2004, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council Meeting

Thursday, December 23, 2004, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session – Cancelled

Thursday, December 30, 2004, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session – Cancelled

Monday, January 3, 2005, TBA – Study Session

Monday, January 3, 2005, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council Meeting

7. Prescheduled public opinion appearances.

There were no prescheduled public opinion appearances.

8. Items from citizens present.

Tom Dorn, representing United Road Services, addressed the Council relative to the City's standard procedure regarding the availability of drafts of Requests for Proposals (RFP) prior to review by the Council. He stated the opinion that representatives of Cactus Towing received a copy of the draft towing RFP, which was not available to other potential bidders.

Mayor Hawker explained that a draft of the RFP was included in the Council meeting packet materials, and that the meeting packet is a matter of public record.

Deputy City Attorney Joe Padilla advised that draft RFP's are not normally included in the Council packet, but the draft of the towing RFP was included due to the fact that the RFP was discussed during a prior Council meeting. He concurred with Mayor Hawker that all materials included in the Council Meeting packet are considered to be public records.

Chad Gammage, 458 West 3rd Avenue, representing Daryl's Towing, reported that he has a tape recording of a conversation in which the City of Mesa's Materials Management Director, Sharon Seekins, states that the draft RFP is not available prior to Council approval. He expressed the opinion that representatives of Cactus Towing received information that was not made available to other potential bidders.

9. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 9:14 a.m.

KENO HAWKER, 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 16th day of December 2004. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

baa