

# COUNCIL MINUTES

January 18, 2007

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 January 18, 2007 at 7:30 a.m.

## COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Keno Hawker  
Rex Griswold  
Kyle Jones  
Tom Rawles  
Scott Somers  
Mike Whalen

## COUNCIL ABSENT

Claudia Walters

## OFFICERS PRESENT

Christopher Brady  
Debbie Spinner  
Barbara Jones

(Mayor Hawker excused Vice Mayor Walters from the meeting.)

### 1. Review items on the agenda for the January 22, 2007 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: 5e, 5f, 5h, 7k, 8g, 8.1b, 8.1c, 8.1d, 8.1e (Hawker); 5h (Whalen); 7k, 8g, 8.1b, 8.1c, 8.1d, 8.1e (Rawles); 10a (Jones)

Items removed from the consent agenda: None

Items added to the consent agenda: None

### 2. Discuss and take action on the 2007 Major General Plan Amendment Process.

Planning Director John Wesley reported that this agenda item is in follow-up to staff's January 11, 2007 Study Session presentation regarding the proposed Major General Plan Amendment Process for 2007. He explained that at that time, the Council discussed amending the process for 2008 so that it would begin earlier, but stated that there were no suggestions for change to the proposed process for this year.

Mr. Wesley noted, for the benefit of Councilmember Griswold who was absent from last week's meeting, that the Council considered two items relative to this matter. He commented that the first item was modifying the definition of what constitutes a Major General Plan Amendment. Mr. Wesley stated that procedure would go through the Planning & Zoning Board (P&Z) like any other plan amendment and added that he anticipates the changes would come back to the Council for action in March. Mr. Wesley further indicated that the second item for consideration

by the Council was a revised process and schedule for Major General Plan Amendments for 2007, which is the issue currently before the Council for consideration.

Discussion ensued relative to Council input provided to staff at the January 11<sup>th</sup> Study Session including, but not limited to: beginning the process earlier in order for staff to accept Major General Plan Amendment applications in January, allowing staff additional time to work on the applications, and shortening the time between P&Z's and the Council's public hearings; that P&Z consider, under Major Amendment Definition criteria: "Any change in a non-residential land use classification of 20 or more contiguous acres to a residential land use classification" be modified to "zero or more contiguous acres to a residential land use classification;" and "Any change in a residential land use classification of 40 or more contiguous acres to another land use classification" be modified to "100 or more contiguous acres to another land use classification."

In response to a question from Councilmember Rawles, Mr. Wesley clarified that what Council is taking action on today is the 2007 Major General Plan Amendment Process Guide that is distributed to applicants and property owners for the preparation and submittal of an application for a Major General Plan Amendment. He added that Council's input with regard to changes to the General Plan would be processed through P&Z.

Councilmember Rawles noted that the suggestions made at the January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting by various Councilmembers to be forwarded on to P&Z were, in fact, not unanimous proposals.

In response to a question from Councilmember Griswold, Mr. Wesley advised that staff did not seek input with regard to the process from applicants and property owners who submitted applications for a Major General Plan Amendment in the past year.

Councilmember Griswold stated the opinion that it would be appropriate for staff to solicit feedback from those individuals and indicated that such input would only help to further streamline the process for applicants in the future.

It was moved by Councilmember Rawles, seconded by Councilmember Jones, that the application process and schedule for Major General Plan Amendments for 2007 be approved.

Mayor Hawker declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

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

Councilmember Jones: East Valley Chamber of Commerce Breakfast; Martin Luther King Day Breakfast and Parade; Stronger Neighborhoods Kickoff Meeting; Maricopa Association of Governments' (MAG) Human Services Coordinating Committee Meeting.

Councilmember Somers: Meeting with Casa Mia neighborhood leaders.

4 Scheduling of meetings and general information.

City Manager Christopher Brady stated that City Engineer Keith Nath would be retiring at the end of the month after almost 23 years of service to the City of Mesa. He acknowledged Mr. Nath's expertise and keen understanding of many technical issues and said that Mesa would be losing "a great asset."

Mr. Nath expressed appreciation to the Mayor, the Council, and the citizens of Mesa for the opportunity to serve the community.

Mayor Hawker thanked Mr. Nath for his service.

Mr. Brady stated that the meeting schedule is as follows:

Monday, January 22, 2007, TBA – Study Session

Monday, January 22, 2007, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 23, 2007, 7:30 p.m. – District Town Meeting (District 4)

5. Prescheduled public opinion appearances.

There were no prescheduled public opinion appearances.

6. Items from citizens present.

There were no items from citizens present.

7 Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 8:29 a.m.

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KENO HAWKER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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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 18<sup>th</sup> day of January 2007. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

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BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

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