

UTILITY COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 13, 1999

The Utility Committee of the City of Mesa met in the lower level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on May 13, 1999 at 9:52 a.m.

COMMITTEE PRESENT

Bill Jaffa, Chairman
Dennis Kavanaugh
Pat Pomeroy

COUNCIL PRESENT

Jim Davidson

STAFF PRESENT

C.K. Luster
Linda Crocker
Mike Hutchinson
Barbara Jones
Frank Mizner
David Plumb
Others

OTHERS PRESENT

Craig Ahlstrom
Kathy Lee
Harlow Peterson
Chuck Russell
Paul Trentor
Others

1. Discuss and make recommendations concerning the Salt River Project (SRP) RS 18 project.

In response to a request from Chairman Jaffa, Planning Director Frank Mizner provided the audience with a brief overview of the site selection process for new power line corridors and a new power substation in southeast Mesa. Mr. Mizner stated that Salt River Project (SRP) formed a community working group comprised of approximately 30 representatives from the area to study and identify the best location for the project. Mr. Mizner stated it was SRP's intention to present the Council with an overview of their proposal and respond to any questions regarding the site selection process and ultimately receive a recommendation of support from the City Council. Mr. Mizner presented maps of the preferred location to the Committee.

Kathy Lee, Governmental Relations Representative for SRP, stated that the community working group was requested to pursue mitigation efforts around Site I, which is one of the two alternative locations for this substation. Ms. Lee introduced Paul Trentor with the firm Dames & Moore and explained that the company initiated the public process effort and performed environmental studies for this project. Ms. Lee also introduced SRP staff members Harlow Peterson and Chuck Russell.

Discussion ensued relative to the location of the proposed route, the fact that the community working group has approved the site, efforts that have been expended to relocate the 230 line to eliminate tall structures in front of the station and SRP's criteria for selecting their proposed route.

Chairman Jaffa stated that SRP has been working with the City and residents/businesses in an effort to gain support prior to presenting their proposal to the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC). Chairman Jaffa

expressed appreciation to SRP for their willingness to address a number of concerns expressed by the residents.

In response to a request from Committeemember Pomeroy, Craig Ahlstrom, representing Farnsworth Development Company (FDC), provided input relative to concerns that were previously expressed by his company regarding the effects of SRP's project on an adjacent 900 acres of land owned by FDC. Mr. Ahlstrom reported that SRP has indicated a willingness to work with FDC in an effort to mitigate impacts on the adjacent acreage and address a variety of concerns.

Committeemember Pomeroy expressed concern regarding the close proximity of the site to the 900 acres owned by FDC, but stated that as long as the company is willing to accept SRP's proposal, he will vote in support of the project.

Chairman Jaffa thanked Mr. Ahlstrom for his input and stressed the importance of ensuring that SRP expends significant effort to work with FDC.

Committeemember Kavanaugh commended SRP on their efforts and stated the opinion that the proposed site appears appropriate for the project. Committeemember Kavanaugh stressed the importance of expending mitigation efforts to minimize the impact of the project on future development in the area.

Mr. Mizner responded to questions from Chairman Jaffa and noted that this particular site was previously zoned for commerce park development. Mr. Mizner stated that from a land use issue, the project is compatible.

Chairman Jaffa requested that SRP provide in-depth details of the proposed landscaping at SRP's next meeting with the City Council.

It was moved by Committeemember Kavanaugh, seconded by Committeemember Pomeroy, to recommend to the Council that Site 1 be approved for the location of the RS 18 Project, subject to mitigation efforts proposed by Salt River Project, including landscaping, relocation of transmission lines, setbacks and minimized visibility of facilities.

Carried unanimously.

2. Adjournment.

Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 10:29 a.m.

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Utility Committee Meeting of the City of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 13th day of May 1999. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this ____ day of _____ 1999

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK