

COUNCIL MINUTES

January 5, 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 January 5, 2004 at 4:30 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Keno Hawker
Rex Griswold
Kyle Jones
Dennis Kavanaugh
Janie Thom
Claudia Walters
Mike Whalen

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

OFFICERS PRESENT

Mike Hutchinson
Debbie Spinner
Barbara Jones

1. Review items on the agenda for the January 5, 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: 6f, 6g, 6i (Hawker)

Items removed from the consent agenda: 9c, 9d, 11a

Items added to the consent agenda: 3a, 8e, 11b

2. Hear a presentation on the expansion of the CAP Water Treatment Plant and other water resource issues.

Utilities Manager Dave Plumb addressed the Council relative to this agenda item. He displayed graphics in the Council Chambers and provided a brief overview of the proposed expansion of the Central Arizona Project (CAP) Water Treatment Plant that is slated for Council approval at the ensuing Regular Council Meeting. (Agenda item 6i.)

Mr. Plumb reported that currently, potable water is produced in two locations within the City of Mesa. He explained that the first location is the Val Vista Water Treatment Plant, an operation jointly owned by Mesa and the City of Phoenix. He advised that this plant, which produces water supplied by the Salt River Project (SRP), serves the "City Zone," an area of the community west of the SRP Eastern Canal. Mr. Plumb noted that the CAP Water Treatment Plant, located in the vicinity of Brown and Sossaman Roads, serves the remainder of the City

and receives water from the CAP Canal. He also stated that the proposed expansion of the plant, which currently has a capacity of 48 million gallons a day (MGD), will provide an additional 24 MGD to increase production capacity to 72 MGD. Mr. Plumb added that although the ultimate capability of the site is 96 MGD, the City will most likely not expand the plant further, but instead will construct a south CAP facility in the vicinity of Signal Butte and Elliot.

Discussion ensued relative to the fact that Mesa would be better served by the construction of a third water treatment plant in the future (2012/2013 timeframe) to accommodate the fast growing southeast area of the City; Mesa's current water demands (peak and average day demands) and groundwater reserves; and average day usage at build out.

In response to a question from Mayor Hawker, Mr. Plumb clarified that the Pinal County Water Farm is a water resource and not a treatment facility. He explained that if warranted, it could provide an additional resource via an exchange that the City could use to meet raw water demand at the existing facilities. (The water collected from the farm would be put into the CAP Canal and a similar amount would be removed from the water treatment plant and returned to the farm.) He added that the Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) exchange is an additional water resource for the City of Mesa.

Further discussion ensued relative to the fact that Mesa's water resources far exceed its current demand due to ongoing efforts to "build up" the supply through its exchange program, groundwater storage facility at Roosevelt Lake, and recharge from the wastewater plants; and the fact that the City is currently facing a water shortage from the Salt River and Verde River systems (SRP water) that serve the "City Zone."

Councilmember Walters commented that she often receives telephone calls from her constituents who express concerns regarding Arizona's current drought conditions and whether the City should continue to expand in fear that its water supply will be depleted. She stressed the fact that although Mesa does have a sufficient water supply, it does not, however, have an adequate capacity to treat the water and that is the reason for the proposed expansion of the CAP Water Treatment Plant. Councilmember Walters commended staff for their efforts over the years in building one of the best water portfolios in the Valley, but cautioned that even with such extensive resources, it is imperative that Mesa residents continue to conserve water whenever possible.

Mayor Hawker thanked Mr. Plumb for the informative presentation.

3. Appointments to boards and committees.

Mayor Hawker recommended the following appointments to Boards and Committees:

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD

Tim Nielsen – Term Expires June 30, 2004

It was moved by Vice Mayor Kavanaugh, seconded by Councilmember Griswold, that the Council concur with the Mayor's recommendation and the appointment be confirmed.

Carried unanimously.

4. Acknowledge receipt of minutes of boards and committees.

- a. Board of Adjustment meeting held December 9, 2003.
- b. Finance Committee meeting held December 15, 2003.
- c. Historic Preservation Committee meeting held November 13, 2003.

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

Carried unanimously.

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

Councilmember Griswold noted that as a result of his daughter's recent marriage to a member of the Mesa Police Department, in an effort to avoid any appearance of a conflict, he has resigned as Chairman of the Police Committee and will now serve as Chairman of the General Development Committee.

6. Scheduling of meetings and general information.

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

Thursday, January 8, 2004, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Thursday, January 8, 2004, 9:30 a.m. – Utility Committee Meeting

Friday, January 9, 2004, 8:30 a.m. – Council Tour

Thursday, January 15, 2004, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

Thursday, January 15, 2004, TBA – Council Tour of Escobedo Housing Project

Tuesday, January 20, 2004, TBA – Study Session

Tuesday, January 20, 2004, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Council Meeting

7. Prescheduled public opinion appearances.

There were no prescheduled public opinion appearances.

8. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 5:20 p.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 5th day of January 2004. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

BARBARA JONES, CITY CLERK

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