



# COUNCIL MINUTES

September 30, 2021

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 September 30, 2021, at 7:34 a.m.

## COUNCIL PRESENT

John Giles  
Jennifer Duff  
Mark Freeman  
Julie Spilsbury  
Kevin Thompson

## COUNCIL ABSENT

Francisco Heredia  
David Luna

## OFFICERS PRESENT

Christopher Brady  
Dee Ann Mickelsen  
Jim Smith

Mayor Giles conducted a roll call.

Mayor Giles excused Councilmembers Heredia and Luna from the entire meeting.

### 1. Review and discuss items on the agenda for the October 4, 2021, Regular Council meeting.

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

Conflict of interest: None

Items removed from the consent agenda: None

In response to an inquiry from City Manager Christopher Brady regarding Item 5-d, **(Approving and authorizing the City Manager to enter into a five-year Intergovernmental Agreement with the Town of Queen Creek to provide dispatch services by the Mesa Police Department, and payment of \$1,382,680 to Mesa for equipment and staffing costs associated with providing the services in the year 2022. The amount of the annual payment for the remaining four years of the Agreement will be reviewed and adjusted each year. (Citywide))**, on the October 4, 2021, Regular Council meeting agenda, Police Technical Services Division Manager Patrick Phelps displayed a PowerPoint presentation. **(See Attachment 1)**

Mr. Phelps mentioned the City of Mesa (COM) has been asked by the Town of Queen Creek to provide police dispatch services, in addition to the Fire dispatch services already being provided. He outlined the five-year intergovernmental agreement (IGA) would go into effect January 1, 2022, and the pricing is fixed for one year, then revised annually based upon call volume. He remarked the current contract levels are best estimates in terms of the current service Queen Creek is receiving from the County Sheriff's Office. He explained the agreement covers dispatch services, the radio channels for officers in their cars, as well as some limited support in the records section and Information Technology (IT). (See Page 2 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Phelps presented the Year 1 cost breakdown which includes one-time costs and support services costs, totaling approximately \$1.3 million. (See Page 3 of Attachment 1)

Mr. Phelps reported on the five-year costs that will be adjusted annually for anticipated increases in salary, in call volume, and growth in their sworn police force. (See Page 4 of Attachment 1)

In response to a question posed by Mayor Giles, Mr. Phelps confirmed the personnel costs are incorporated into what COM will charge the Town of Queen Creek and adjustments will be made annually for any unanticipated costs.

Responding to a question by Councilmember Freeman regarding whether the \$1 million personnel costs consist of new hires or existing personnel, Mr. Phelps said the Queen Creek dispatch channel will be a dedicated position and the call answering portion will be added to the existing pool, which will be sent to the appropriate dispatch channel. He continued by saying the Police side will have the dedicated dispatcher position and the Fire side is charged on a per call volume. He added the anticipated call volume is based upon population and the existing call volume with the County Sheriff's Office.

Mayor Giles thanked Mr. Phelps for the presentation.

Responding to the recommendation from Mr. Brady to update Council on the agreements for improvements around Mesa Gateway Airport under Items 6-a and 6-b, **(Approving and authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport Authority related to the design, construction, and maintenance of infrastructure in and around the intersection of Ellsworth and Williams Field Roads. (District 6), and (Authorizing the City Manager to execute an individual job order under Job Order Master Contract MA-19003185 with a value up to \$2,000,000 for the signalization, widening, and improvement of the intersection of Ellsworth and Williams Field Roads. (District 6))**, on the October 4, 2021, Regular Council meeting agenda, City Engineer Beth Huning displayed a PowerPoint presentation. **(See Attachment 2)**

Ms. Huning explained Items 6-a and 6-b are interrelated. She stated the IGA with the airport is to develop infrastructure on the east side and the second item is a contract to do some of the construction. (See Page 1 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Huning commented that opportunities for development on the east side of the airport are now becoming a reality. She remarked Legacy Sports, which is under construction, is committed to building part of Williams Field Road and expanding Ellsworth Road. She noted west of the airport property, proposed aeronautical uses adjacent to Ellsworth Road will trigger the need to build additional infrastructure, which tie back to Items 6-a and 6-b. (See Page 2 of Attachment 2)

Ms. Huning presented the map of upcoming development in the next six to nine months. She pointed out State Route (SR) 24 is expected to be completed late 2022. She reported Legacy will be building Williams Field Road to connect Ellsworth to SR24, which runs north of the complex. She advised the agenda items bring the COM into the picture to construct the intersection of Williams Field and Ellsworth, install a signal, and then extend what is called Spine Road to the west on the airport property about 800 feet, which will connect to a potential aeronautical user on the west side. She mentioned a study will be completed to look at the alignment of Spine Road through the airport all the way up to Hawes Road that will provide options for the alignment as development proceeds. She said an upcoming project is to extend a 20-inch water line from SR24

to the entrance of the airport as the first phase and later the second phase will take the water line all the way to Pecos to provide more water to Southeast Mesa. (See Page 3 of Attachment 2)

Mr. Brady pointed out the airport is currently going through a process to select a master developer for the 300 acres north of the green line on the map. He indicated Spine Road will be very important to the master planned development and commercial development north of the airport. He said Legacy will be opening for events in the December/January timeframe and are already booking events.

In response to a question from Councilmember Freeman, Ms. Huning commented the dates shown are the completion dates. She added the items captured in Item 6-a include the intersection, Spine Road, and the study; and Item 6-b is to construct the intersection.

In response to a question from Councilmember Freeman regarding Item 5-d, **(Modifying fees and charges for the Mesa Fire and Medical Department to add a Fire Inspection Fee for Mobile Food Trucks related to the new requirement in the recently approved Mobile Food Vendor Code. (Citywide))**, on the October 4, 2021, Regular Council meeting agenda, Assistant Fire Marshal Kevin Bush explained the mobile food ordinance brought a new facet of inspection to the Fire Prevention Division. He said staff contacted other Authority Having Jurisdictions (AHJ) in the Valley to find out how others were handling the inspections; adding some were charging a fee and others were not, and then looked at the current model of charging for brick-and-mortar fire inspections in the City of Mesa to eventually come up with a \$50 fee for the mobile food vehicle inspections.

Assistant Fire Marshal Bush stated since mobile food vehicles are transient and travel across the Valley, an exception was added to the ordinance that if a mobile food preparation vehicle has already had a fire inspection from another AHJ within the past 12 months, an inspection is not required by the Mesa Fire Prevention Division and only a copy of that passing inspection would need to be provided.

Councilmember Freeman indicated his support for the fire inspection fee.

In response to a question from Mayor Giles regarding whether staff are comfortable that the COM is regulating food trucks in a uniform way compared to surrounding communities, Mr. Brady stated the language drafted is consistent with current state law and other cities.

Planning Director Nana Appiah elaborated that the licensing process was streamlined to make the process easier to get the license and included some items addressed under the license instead of the zoning ordinance.

In response to a question posed by Vice Mayor Duff regarding how food truck owners are being notified of the new guidelines, Business License and Revenue collection Administrator Tim Meyer remarked that letters were sent out from the peddler license list explaining the new code and the expectations on obtaining a license. He mentioned outreach is occurring to ensure the public knows where the forms are located online to complete the application.

Responding to a question from Vice Mayor Duff regarding the inspection deadline, Assistant Fire Marshal Bush indicated at the time of application the vendor will be asked if an inspection has been done in the past 12 months; and if not, the information to schedule a fire inspection with Mesa for their mobile food vehicle will be provided.

Mr. Brady informed Council that Item 10-a, **(Notice of Intention to adjust utility rates.)**, on the October 4, 2021, Regular Council meeting agenda, will be providing notice of intent and will come back to Council before introduction with options to reduce some rates on the water and wastewater side and possibly increasing fees on the solid waste side. He advised the suggested rates will be at the higher levels and will come back in November with the adjusted rates staff are proposing to Council as adoption.

In response to a question from Mayor Giles, City Attorney Jim Smith confirmed downward adjustments are allowed but the proposed rates cannot be increased.

2-a. Hear a presentation and discuss the State of the Court update.

Presiding City Magistrate John Tatz displayed a PowerPoint presentation and stated the State of the Court is strong due to the great judges, administrators, supervisors, and staff, despite the challenges that took place over the past year. **(See Attachment 3)**

Judge Tatz gave an update on the high points that have occurred over the past year. (See Page 2 of Attachment 3)

Judge Tatz shared the court filings numbers and resolved DUIs for Years 2019, 2020, and 2021 for the months April through August for comparison and noted that filings for August 2021 are higher than pre-pandemic. (See Pages 3 and 4 of Attachment 3)

Judge Tatz discussed the two new additions to customer service which include a Chatbot where the public can find answers online and payment kiosks to provide convenient access to make payments outside of the normal business hours. He mentioned both projects should be available early 2022. (See Page 5 of Attachment 3)

Judge Tatz indicated Community Court continues to be successful and added only two graduates have returned to the system with a new case in the past year. He pointed out there have been almost as many people referred to Community Court in the first seven months of 2021 as there were in all of 2020. He remarked Community Court is always up for expansion in the hopes to serve as many homeless as possible. He noted the Court now has seven navigators who are at every single court session on Monday and Wednesday afternoons. (See Pages 6 and 7 of Attachment 3)

Judge Tatz stated one development has been creating a separate docket for those designated seriously mentally ill (SMI). He pointed out the designation comes from the State of Arizona and will open further resources to the individual by assigning them to a clinic and a case manager from that clinic to work with, and the Court staff will then work directly with their case manager. (See Page 8 of Attachment 3)

Judge Tatz described the steps that have been taken to implement Domestic Violence Court and the training that occurred with the City of Gilbert and the Tucson Domestic Violence Court Team. He advised a kickoff meeting will be held October 12, 2021, with anticipation of starting early 2022. (See Page 9 of Attachment 3)

In response to an inquiry from Vice Mayor Duff regarding Community Court, Judge Tatz confirmed that the federal dollars that the City has been able to use towards homelessness and programming has been very helpful because the biggest challenge is housing. He mentioned having a roof over their heads allowed them to eliminate some of their challenges and take

advantage of the services being offered. He noted some of the biggest success stories over the last year and a half were people that were participating in the hotel shelter program.

Responding to a question from Mayor Giles regarding whether there is a stigma attached to the name Domestic Violence Court, Judge Tatz agreed to consider alternatives for the name. He pointed out Domestic Violence Court is different than Community Court or Veterans Court, in terms of the focus on making sure that the people who have committed these acts of domestic violence are getting the help that they need in a timely fashion. He said research shows in domestic violence situations, intervention needs to occur during the cycle and not months down the road.

In response to an additional question posed by Mayor Giles, Judge Tatz indicated there are more resources available for the SMI population, which is the reason to separate them from the regular Community Court. He explained the SMI model and the differences from Community Court. He mentioned the incentive of connecting with the clinic and following through could result in their cases being dismissed.

Mayor Giles thanked Judge Tatz for the presentation.

3. Acknowledge receipt of minutes of various boards and committees.

- 3-a. Economic Development Advisory Board meeting held on August 3, 2021.
- 3-b. Transportation Advisory Board meeting held on May 18, 2021.
- 3-c. Audit, Finance and Enterprise Committee meeting held on September 9, 2021.

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

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

- AYES – Giles-Freeman-Duff-Spilsbury-Thompson
- NAYS – None
- ABSENT – Heredia-Luna

Chairman Giles declared the motion carried unanimously by those present.

4. Current events summary including meetings and conferences attended.

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|---------------------------|--|
| Councilmember Thompson –  | District 6 tour – Chamber of Commerce<br>Apache Junction – Regional Development lunch  |
| Councilmember Spilsbury – | National Fall Prevention Day – grab bar installation<br>Lou Malnati's Pizzeria ribbon cutting<br>Copa Health tour<br>I Love Mesa Day events<br>Foster360 tour – Phoenix<br>Neighborhood services meeting |

Vice Mayor Duff –

Adelante y Exito Gala – Nycole Leyba recognized Mesa Chamber of Commerce – Women’s Business Connection

Mayor Giles –

State Capitol press conference – Domestic Violence Suicide prevention event

Councilmember Spilsbury, Vice Mayor Duff, and Councilmember Freeman stopped by the bus yards with donuts to thank the Mesa Public Schools bus drivers.

Councilmember Freeman reported Friday, October 1, 2021, the Mesa Police Department versus Mesa Community College (MCC) Alumni basketball game will take place at the MCC campus.

Vice Mayor Duff commented on Saturday, October 2, 2021, from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., Coffee with a Cop will be at Organic Bean Company at 40 N. McDonald, and in East Mesa at Knuckle Sandwiches located at 1140 N. Higley Road. She added Jarrod’s Coffee in Downtown Mesa will be having a ribbon cutting on Saturday to announce they will be serving hickory smoked brisket sandwiches every Saturday.

Mayor Giles thanked City staff for their hard work on the I Love Mesa Day events and the service projects that occurred that day.

5. Scheduling of meetings.

City Manager Christopher Brady stated that the schedule of meetings is as follows:

Monday, October 4, 2021, 5:15 p.m. – Study Session

Monday, October 4, 2021, 5:45 p.m. – Regular Session

6. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 8:25 a.m.

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JOHN GILES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

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DEE ANN MICKELSEN, 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 30<sup>th</sup> day of September 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

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DEE ANN MICKELSEN, CITY CLERK