

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF EL MIRAGE
EL MIRAGE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
14010 N. EL MIRAGE ROAD
TUESDAY, MARCH 4, 2014**

Minutes

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Lana Mook, Vice Mayor Joe Ramirez, Councilor Roy Delgado, Councilor James McPhetres, Councilor Palladino, Councilor David Shapera

Excused: Councilor Lynn Selby

II. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lana Mook at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence - Councilor Delgado requested they keep the two fallen officers from the City of Phoenix in their thoughts.

III. PROCLAMATION

Mayor Mook presented a Proclamation to declare the Month of March, 2014 as Shop, Give, Serve Local sponsored by Leadership West, an organization that supports small businesses, non-profits and individuals. She proudly joined other West Valley cities in endorsing this proclamation.

IV. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Resident Tony Caiola made the following comments: 1) the new water meters measures readings by units and he would like the readings to reflect usage in gallons, 2) he would like to know the cost to taxpayers for the YMCA including long-term maintenance, 3) he is concerned about charges for senior citizens at the YMCA, and 4) he believes holding the "festival" in the Community Garden would fail because it is an unsightly dirt lot and he would not participate if it was not held in the park. He further stated the City knows how to spend money but not make money.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed under the Consent Agenda will be voted on with one motion. If discussion is desired regarding any Consent Agenda item, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and voted on separately.

1. Consideration and action approving the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held Tuesday, February 4, 2014 and the Regular Council Meeting held Tuesday, February 18, 2014. (City Clerk)
2. Consideration and action to approve Resolution R14-03-08 authorizing submittal of a grant application to the Governor's Office of Highway Safety for officer overtime, portable breath testers, mobile speed enforcement, community education materials, and software totaling \$47,223 for continued enhancement of the Police Department's traffic safety initiatives. (Police Department)

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to approve all items listed under the Consent Agenda; seconded by Councilor Shapera. Motion carried unanimously (6/0).

VI. REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Consideration and action to adopt a Notice of Intent to change certain fees which could include adding, deleting, increasing or decreasing fees not sooner than 60 days from the date of posting the notice pursuant to A.R.S. §9-499.15 (Finance)

Accounting Manager Christy Eusebio explained the action for voting was to comply with State law mandating a 60-day Notice of Intent regarding fee changes to be posted on the website. Fees will be addressed at the budget retreat scheduled for April and voting on actual changes would be brought to Council after the 60-day notice period. She stated there are no new fees for water and sewer anticipated. Councilor McPhetres asked for confirmation that no fees changes were being voted on at this meeting but rather approval to post the 60-day notice. Ms. Eusebio confirmed action on any fee changes would take place at a future Council Meeting after the 60-day notice period.

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to approve the adoption of a Notice of Intent to change certain fees which could include adding, deleting, increasing or decreasing fees not sooner than 60 days from the date of posting the notice; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (5/1). Councilor McPhetres cast a Nay vote.

VII. CITY MANAGER SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Dr. Isom announced that Accounting Manager Christy Eusebio was elected by her peers to the five-member Government Finance Officers Association of Arizona (GFOAz) board. This is an impressive accomplishment and recognition of Christy's knowledge and experience in the area of government finance. As a Board Member, Christy will be responsible for promoting excellence in government financial management through leadership, education and communication. Congratulations to Christy.

Police Chief Steve Campbell introduced two new Police Department staff members. Code Enforcement Officer Marcie Stratton is a former Marine, has her Master's Degree in business and works with military assistance programs for military families. Reserve Officer Crystal Biaer is a former Police Officer from Tolleson. She took time out to have a family and Chief Campbell is looking forward to her two sons being officers in the

future. She has her Master’s Degree in Education and Counseling with an interest in assisting as a Police Volunteer and youth programs.

Dr. Isom reported on the tour of the YMCA building construction. The YMCA came about after a 2008 survey of El Mirage citizens that resulted in a desire for a recreational facility with a swimming pool. The agreement with the YMCA eliminates maintenance expenses for the City who is partnering with the YMCA resulting in no operating costs. The Northwest Valley Family YMCA will have one of the lowest rates of all their facilities, second only to Maryvale. The soft opening is anticipated in May or June.

Dr. Isom reported the 2015 budget process is underway and commended the Finance staff regarding the budget process. Open public sessions are working well and providing transparency in handling expenditures. This is the fourth year using this process. Some capital projects have been eliminated, spending has been reduced and the City continues to be frugal; the City’s financial outlook continues to be positive.

VIII. MAYOR’S COMMENTS and COUNCIL SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Councilor Palladino reported staff did a great presentation at the CDAC meeting and thanked staff for their efforts.

Councilor Delgado thanked Grants Administrative Coordinator Pat Gregan, City Engineer Jorge Gastelum and Civil Engineer Bryce Christo for their presentations at the CDAC meeting regarding sidewalks to keep wheelchair veterans safe and near Riverview School to prevent children from walking to school on the streets.

Vice Mayor Ramirez stated he has visited the new YMCA project site and thanks those who made the YMCA possible. It is a huge accomplishment with great possibilities to provide activities for children that weren’t available when he was a child.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Mook adjourned the meeting at 6:18 pm



Lana Mook, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sharon Antes, City Clerk

I hereby certify the foregoing minutes are a true and accurate record of the City of El Mirage and Regular Council Meeting held March 4, 2014 and a quorum was present.



Sharon Antes, City Clerk