WORK SESSION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF EL MIRAGE
EL MIRAGE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
14010 N. EL MIRAGE ROAD
6:00 P.M. TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2014

Minutes

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Lana Mook, Vice Mayor Joe Ramirez, Councilmember Roy Delgado, Councilmember Jim McPhetres, Councilmember Jack Palladino, Councilmember Lynn Selby, Councilmember David Shapera

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mook called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.
Pledge of Allegiance
Moment of Silence

III. PRESENTATION

P1. Presentation of the City of El Mirage FY 2013/14 Annual Financial Report (Finance)

Account Manager Christy Eusebio introduced Audit Manager Neil Galassi and Senior Auditor Aaron Van Winkle of Heinfeld, Meech & Company. The company specializes in audits of governmental entities such as cities and towns, county governments, special purpose governments and districts.

Mr. Galassi then presented the results of the audit by presenting a summary of audit results and an explanation of the content of the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). Financial highlights were discussed regarding governmental activities, business-type activities, general fund decrease, water infrastructure loans and water expense increase. Mr. Galassi concluded his presentation by explaining the comprehensive audit procedures.

Mr. Van Winkle reported on various sections of the report and noted who uses such a report. He pointed out that the report is used by other cities, grant agencies, the State Fire Marshall, bond rating agencies, economic development, investors (Bonds and Real Estate) and residents, and Council and management. Mr. Van Winkle also reviewed projections for the future and made recommendations.

Finance Director Robert Nilles gave an overview of the information presented and explained why it is so important for the City to do an annual audit. The City is

financially stable and improving, and assets continue to grow. This is the fourth consecutive year with a CAFR and staff is proud of this document.

Councilor Delgado stated he is very proud of the City Manager, Finance Department, and City Council for all their hard work.

Mayor Mook stated she found the comparison of the current audit to previous years important and complimented senior staff at a recent staff meeting because staff implements Council's policies. Council needs their expertise and knowledge to make it happen. She is very proud of the work Senior Staff provides.

Dr. Isom reported Council has done a good job of providing direction and staff has done a phenomenal job of interpreting Council's requests. He stated he appreciates the auditor's review and staff's willingness to understand the direction that Council articulates.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

The Work Session adjourned at 6:37 PM.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL MIRAGE EL MIRAGE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS 14010 N. EL MIRAGE ROAD FOLLOWING WORK SESSION - TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2014

Minutes

I. ROLL CALL

Present were: Mayor Lana Mook, Vice Mayor Joe Ramirez, Councilmember Roy Delgado, Councilmember Jim McPhetres, Councilmember Jack Palladino, Councilmember Lynn Selby, Councilmember David Shapera

II. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mook called the meeting to order at 6:45 P.M.
Pledge of Allegiance
Moment of Silence

III. PRESENTATION

P1. Presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation to resident Molly VanTienderen (Public Works and Mayor)

Recreation Supervisor Nick Russo stated 7 year-old Molly saw an issue in her community and decided to do something about it. She recommended the installation of trash receptacles along El Mirage Wash and 125th Avenue. Shortly after she came to Council in September, Mr. Russo met with Molly and her family and in October the trash receptacles were installed. This Certificate of Appreciation acknowledges how much Molly wants to make a difference in her community. Mayor Mook stated she believes this is the first of many ideas Molly will bring forward to the Council.

IV. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Citizens desiring to speak on a matter that IS NOT on this agenda may do so at this time. Comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes per person and shall be addressed to the City Council as a whole. At the conclusion of the Call to the Public, individual City Council Members may (1) respond to criticism made by those who have spoken (2) direct staff to review or respond to the matter, and/or (3) direct that the matter be put on a future agenda.

Cheryl LoGalbo expressed appreciation to outgoing Councilmember Jim McPhetres. She stated she would not want to be a Councilmember but she appreciates having someone trustworthy to hold this position.

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, November 6, 2014. (City Clerk)

2. Consideration and action to approve Resolution R14-12-22 authorizing the City's submittal of applications to the Maricopa County Community Development Division (MCCD) for FY 2015/16 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, and to execute subsequent award agreements. (Administration)

3. Consideration and action to accept the June 30, 2014 Annual Financial Report as an official record of the City of El Mirage. (Finance)

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to approve all items presented on the Consent Agenda; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (7/0).

VI. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Public hearing, closure of public hearing, followed by Council's consideration and action to recommend to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses & Control approval of an application for liquor license from Mr. Michael Basha for Food City, 12321 W. Grand Avenue. (Police Department)

Police Chief Steve Campbell explained the application is a name change to an existing business, Food City #89, located at 12321 W. Grand Avenue. There are no significant changes. It is a corporate change due to the passing of Mr. Eddie Basha. Records were checked with no significant differences. The Police Department has no issues with the item moving forward.

Mayor Mook closed the Public Hearing.

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to recommend approval to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses & Control of an application for a liquor license from Michael Basha; seconded by Councilor David Shapera. Motion carried unanimously (7/0).

B. Oath of Office presentation for appointed Planning & Zoning Commissioner, Robyn Freberg, to complete the vacated seat by Councilor-elect Bob Jones, for the term December 2, 2014 to June 30, 2016. (City Clerk)

City Clerk Sharon Antes administered the Oath of Office to Planning & Zoning Commissioner Robyn Freberg to complete the vacated seat by Councilor-elect Bob Jones for the term December 2, 2014 to June 30, 2016.

Dr. Isom welcomed Mr. Freberg to the Planning and Zoning Commission. He then requested Councilor McPhetres join the residents in the audience for the swearing in of the new Council.

C. Swearing In and Seating of El Mirage Mayor and City Council members for the term December 2014 – December 2018. (Presiding Judge)

Presiding Judge B. Monte Morgan administered the Oath of Office to Lana Mook for Mayor and Bob Jones, Jack Palladino and Joe Ramirez for Councilmembers. New Council members were seated for the remainder of the meeting.

D. Consideration and action to appoint the Vice Mayor pursuant to El Mirage City Code, § 32.041-Vice Mayor. (Council)

Councilor Palladino recommended Joe Ramirez remain as the Vice Mayor and no other nominations were received.

Councilor Jack Palladino moved to approve the appointment of Joe Ramirez to the position of Vice Mayor; seconded by David Shapera. Motion carried unanimously (7/0).

VII. CITY MANAGER SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

The City Council may not discuss or act upon any matter in the City Manager's summary unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

Dr. Isom reported the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held Friday evening from 5:00-9:00 PM at Gentry Park in the El Mirage Civic Plaza. Santa will arrive by 5:15 PM to help light the tree and take photos with families.

The Farmers' Market for the month of December will be held at Gateway Park on Thursday, December 18th from 4:00-8:00 PM. Vendor Application Packets are available on the City's homepage or for more information please contact Pat Gregan (623)876-2973.

Residential property acquisitions for the Thunderbird Road Improvement Project are near completion. From the five identified residential properties, four have already been acquired and the fifth and last residential property is in escrow. All property owners were offered a fair market value for their properties and were also compensated to allow for the purchase of a replacement home and to cover moving expenses.

Councilor Selby heads the City's Community Uplift Program and is assisted by City staff liaison and Building Official Mary Dickson. He asked Ms. Dickson to make a short presentation on the progress of the work performed by this committee.

Ms. Dickson gave a history of the program and stated the Committee took part in the National Make a Difference Day which is a national day of volunteerism. An application has been submitted for the City of El Mirage; fourteen $10,000 awards are available for this type of project. The Committee was joined by 70 volunteers from Join Our Troops, Dysart Community Center, and Revive to complete several projects selected for the work day that included landscaping, painting, and exterior lighting repairs.

Dr. Isom congratulated Mary and the volunteers and pointed out that Councilor Selby has done a wonderful job leading this group.

Councilor Selby reported that while he headed the group, he did not do the work. Mary did 90% of the work in coordination and volunteers provided tools. The Fire Department assisted and he thanked Pat Gregan for finding a trailer with grant funds to house their supplies and tools. This project helps beautify the City of El Mirage.

Dr. Isom further reported on the mulch fire which started on November 22nd and was located in a County pocket. El Mirage, Glendale, Avondale, Surprise, and Peoria Fire Departments assisted. After it was determined there was no danger to life or property, the incident command was turned over to Rural Metro. There was some question regarding what happened after that. The City of El Mirage had no jurisdictional control over the mulch fire. The property owner was not a subscriber to Rural Metro and Rural Metro assumed an advisory role. There was no responsible entity for maintaining incident command on the site. The Mayor wrote to the Governor asking for assistance explaining the situation. All surrounding communities were affected. The City is assuming a partnership role on a regional basis to develop a solution to ensure this type of control question does not happen in the future.

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

The Mayor and City Council may not discuss or act upon any matter in the summary unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

Councilor Bob Jones thanked Council and the City Manager and stated he is proud to be on Council.

Councilor Palladino and Councilor Delgado welcomed Councilor Jones to the Council.

Vice Mayor Ramirez welcomed Councilor Jones to the Council. He also thanked Councilor Selby for helping to make El Mirage be a better community with the cleanup and volunteers working together.

Mayor Mook stated El Mirage is a great smaller City. There is good vision, plans in the making, and a major road improvement project underway.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 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 Regular Meeting held December 2, 2014 and a quorum was present.

Sharon Antes, City Clerk