

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL  
OF THE CITY OF EL MIRAGE  
EL MIRAGE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
14010 N. EL MIRAGE ROAD  
6:00 PM - TUESDAY, February 3, 2015**

**Minutes**

**I. ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Lana Mook, Vice Mayor Joe Ramirez, Councilmember Roy Delgado, Councilmember Bob Jones, Councilmember Lynn Selby, Councilmember David Shapera

Excused: Councilmember Jack Palladino

**II. CALL TO ORDER**

The Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Moment of Silence  
Silence Cell Phones & Pagers

**III. 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.

Resident Ronald Alonzo said he is pleased with the elected officials and the work they are doing for El Mirage; he also represents the silent majority who do not speak up. He is, however, disappointed in the Police Department because he had a hard time getting help from the police on a theft matter. Mayor Mook asked staff to follow up with Mr. Alonzo. Dr. Isom stated he and Chief Campbell have had previous discussions with Mr. Alonzo and they will continue addressing Mr. Alonzo's concerns.

**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 Workshop and Regular Council Meeting held Tuesday, January 20, 2015. (City Clerk)
2. Consideration and action to approve Resolution R15-02-03 authorizing submittal of a grant application to the Governor's Office of Highway Safety for officer overtime and instructional materials for the conduct of public safety presentations/demonstration. (Police Department)

**Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to approve all items listed on the Consent Agenda as presented; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (6/0).**

#### IV. REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Consideration and action to approve Resolution R15-02-02 to acknowledge the City's ongoing support for the use of photo enforcement technology as a tool to enhance public and police officer safety. (Police Department)

Police Chief Steve Campbell presented the facts regarding the upcoming renewal of the application for photo enforcement on Grand Avenue. Statistics from a recent traffic study indicates the photo enforcement tool reduces both speed and accidents. The study also showed that traffic free flow speeds have been normalized since the roadway has been redesigned, the number of collisions has dropped, and there has been a decrease in the number of activations. In 2013 there were 75,000+ activations and in 2014 there were 66,000 activations citywide. Chief Campbell reviewed all the statistics for the various intersections in El Mirage and pointed out that speeds, rear-end collisions and other accidents have decreased.

Mayor Mook asked whether overall safety factors have increased, decreased or remained the same since 2010. Chief Campbell reported there has been a trend of improvement with less collisions and a decreased number of injuries, saving lives and reducing the severity of injuries. Mayor Mook also asked about officer safety and Chief Campbell reported it would be impossible for the officers monitoring traffic to make a safe pullover on Grand Avenue. Enforcement without risk to officers and residents is a key factor in this type of program. It also increases the availability of officers to address other crimes in the City. Police Officer safety is very much improved with technology and allows for reallocation of resources. The average time involved in a citation is 10-15 minutes while an accident requires one hour or more.

Vice Mayor Ramirez stated he has personally witnessed the effect of having cameras slow traffic on Peoria Avenue and believes it is very much a safety factor. Councilor Selby stated the reduction in speed decreases the number of accidents and also the severity of those accidents.

**Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to approve Resolution R15-02-02 to acknowledge the City's ongoing support for the use of photo enforcement**

**technology as a tool to enhance public and police officer safety; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (6/0).**

- B. Authorization of the purchase of a backhoe from RDO Equipment in cooperation with HGAC contract IL 09-2086 in the amount of \$92,554.90.  
(Public Works)

Deputy City Manager/Public Works Director Larry Dobrosky reported the backhoe is a critical component for utility operations and is used daily. Utilizing a purchasing coop will save over \$70,000. Most utilities would be replaced every 5-10 years; the existing backhoe is 14 years old.

Councilor Shapera asked if the old one would be traded in and Mr. Dobrosky advised he wants to save the old one as backup and for small jobs.

Vice Mayor Ramirez commented the price is incredibly reasonable because in his line of business, he knows how much equipment costs. He commended staff for properly taking care of City equipment.

**Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to authorize the purchase of a backhoe from RDO Equipment in cooperation with HGAC contract IL 09-2096 in the amount of \$92, 554.90; seconded by Councilor Shapera. Motion carried unanimously (6/0).**

- C. Consideration and action to authorize the purchase of 38 Axon on-body cameras and related accessories under State Contract # ADSPO14-00004248, and to purchase a minimum three year agreement with Evidence.com for storage and retrieval of images, RMS Integration for an amount not to exceed \$167,500. (Police Department)

Police Chief Steve Campbell reported the proposed on-body cameras are from Taser International and will provide officers a recording of each citizen contact. A camera is provided to each police officer to allow for downloading and recharging. Concern was expressed regarding when to have the cameras on or off; the policies and procedures will be modeled after the Police Executive Research Forum of the International Association of Police and the Department of Justice. The cameras have a 10-year warranty with upgrades after three years and will enhance the safety of the citizens and officers.

Resident Cheryl Logalbo commented she believes the purchase of 38 on-body cameras is three times the number of cameras needed per shift. She stated her opposition to the cameras because she believes it is disrespectful to the officers showing a lack of trust. She gave an example of her handling a child with a drug problem and the officer filming intimate situations with her family. She also believes citizens will not talk to an officer with a camera and that citizens can be caught in embarrassing situations; she does not want to be on camera.

Mayor Mook discussed the demonstration at the Police Station held prior to the Council Meeting and asked Chief Campbell to explain the privacy measures. Chief Campbell explained the redaction and storage process. Anyone not related to the situation or minors would be blurred out on the video and any information regarding social security numbers, birthdates, etc., will be redacted. The officers will terminate recording in cases involving rape or domestic violence according to established policies. Officers must justify the period of time the camera is off.

Councilor Delgado liked the fact the camera is docked at the end of the shift and not shared and can only be retrieved when used as evidence with a chain of custody. He also liked the clarity of the camera and the safety provided to the officers.

Vice Mayor Ramirez approves of the number of units to be purchased because they are needed for all officers and detectives so each camera is specifically set up for each officer.

Chief Campbell reported there is a complete audit system and officers can view only but cannot edit or redact. If a prosecutor or defense attorney wants a copy of it, it is provided electronically.

Councilor Jones reported Taser provided an excellent demonstration showing how beneficial the cameras will be for the safety of the officers. They are portable and removable and can be utilized in blind areas to protect the officers.

**Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to authorize the purchase of 38 Axon on-body cameras and related accessories under State Contract # ADSPO14-00004248, and to purchase a minimum three-year agreement with Evidence.com for storage and retrieval of images, RMS Integration for an amount not to exceed \$167,500; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (6/0).**

## V. 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.

City Manager Dr. Spencer Isom introduced Director of Court Services Rod Wettlin to present three new Court Judicial Assistants Ricardo Salcedo, Sheena Muller, and Monee Miller. Mr. Wettlin commended Human Resource Director Sandy King and her staff for assisting in hiring new employees, especially during the holiday season.

Ricardo Salcedo graduated from Hawaii Pacific University with a degree in Political Science; he has been in the Phoenix area for 15 years and worked in administration.

Sheena Muller originally wanted to be a nurse before becoming involved with the legal profession; she comes from the City of Phoenix Prosecutor's Office where she worked as a legal clerk for 10 years.

Monee Miller has worked a majority of her life in law enforcement administrative support. Her husband and brothers are police officers in the City of Peoria.

**VI. 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 Delgado reported the camera presentation was excellent and the cameras will be beneficial to both citizens and Police Officers. He thanked Chief Campbell for inviting them to the presentation.

Vice Mayor Ramirez stated he originally had doubts about the cameras but after the presentation believes the cameras benefits far outweigh any disadvantages.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM.

  
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Lana Mook, Mayor

ATTESTED:

  
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Sharon Antes, City Clerk

I hereby certify the foregoing minutes are a true and accurate record of the Regular Council Meeting held on February 3, 2015 and a quorum was present.

  
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Sharon Antes, City Clerk