

**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, June 2, 2015**

Minutes

I. ROLL CALL

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

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. PRESENTATION

- PI.** Presentation to El Mirage resident Jesse Escobar Gonzales, the recipient of the El Mirage Firefighter Association Charity/Dysart Education Foundation College Scholarship (Council)

Intergovernmental and PR Manager Amber Wakeman presented the achievements of Mr. Jesse Escobar Gonzales, stating he is a senior at Shadow Ridge High School, has a 4.0 GPA, ranked 52nd in his class, participated in junior and senior varsity football and has volunteered throughout the community. The scholarship is for books and incidentals and will be awarded \$500 per semester for his first year, for a total scholarship of \$1,000. Jesse is pursuing a career in business management.

Councilor Delgado presented a certificate from the City to Jesse Gonzales. The El Mirage Fire Fighters Charity Association wanted to raise funds for scholarships to residents of El Mirage and formed a partnership with Dysart Education Foundation (DEF) to achieve this goal. Councilor Delgado stated he is very pleased with the scholarship winner this year. Jesse was selected because of his academic excellence, community involvement and the need for financial assistance. With students like Mr. Gonzales, Councilor Delgado believes future leadership is in good hands. Councilor Delgado pointed out Jesse's journey has just begun and advised he continue with his current discipline. His family, friends and City of El Mirage are all supporting him.

Resident Monica Dorcey, who is a City Planning & Zoning Commissioner, a member of the Dysart Education Foundation College Scholarship Committee and currently Treasurer of the El Mirage Firefighters Association Charity added her congratulations to Jesse for his academic achievement, wished him the best and invited him back to report on how he is doing. She also congratulated and thanked the El Mirage Firefighters for going over and above what is required of them and for giving back to the community.

Firefighter Steve Kruzal stated the firefighters realize the rising costs of a college degree and are glad to be able to assist members of the community. He wished Jesse luck in his next step and is confident he will give back in the future.

2. Presentation by MAG Senior Engineer Robert Hazlett to provide updates on the Corridor Optimization, Access Management Plan, and System Study (COMPASS) (Development & Community Services)

Development and Community Services Director/City Engineer Jorge Gastelum introduced Bob Hazlett, Senior Engineering Manager at MAG. Mr. Hazlett explained the Vision Statement and Guiding Principles of the COMPASS project which are to 1) Preserve and promote transportation capacity; 2) integrate multimodal transportation; 3) support economic growth; 4) advance safety and security; 5) establish a unified and coordinated approach to land use access; 6) promote a transit-supportive development pattern; 7) encourage coordinated aesthetics; and 8) connect communities in a cost effective manner. He then explained four alternative plans along US-60 Grand Avenue that were researched and are currently concepts for consideration. The Formal Design Concept Report, Environmental Clearances, and Final Design will still be necessary and will require local, state and federal agencies' approvals. The next steps will be to conduct meetings with City Managers and Charter Partners. They will then brief member agency Councils and Advisory Boards and then prepare recommendations for Regional Council acceptance as illustrative projects in the Regional Transportation Plan.

Mayor Mook stated Mr. Hazlett has been the main person to promote the possibility of commuter rail along Grand Avenue with a stop in El Mirage. He has been in the forefront for the entire process along with City Engineer Jorge Gastelum and his staff.

Councilor Delgado asked what would be the access to Grand Avenue if there is an overpass at 107th Avenue and was advised that there would continue to be access ramps between Grand Avenue and 107th Avenue.

Vice Mayor Ramirez asked if there are plans to widen US-60 across the river where he stated there seems to be bottleneck. Mr. Hazlett explained the left turn lane is not long enough but that area will be expanded and ramps will provide a better traffic flow.

Councilor Palladino stated he would like to see an overpass to prevent being blocked by a train from 111th Avenue to Greenway. He would be glad to see an overpass there and thanked Mr. Hazlett for his presentation.

Councilor Selby thanked Mr. Hazlett for his presentation.

Councilor Jones stated his concern that the elimination of driveways could hurt local businesses but was advised by Mr. Hazlett that businesses would have one more-accessible entry rather than three or four which would be accomplished by better traffic flow and better exposure. Councilor Jones wanted to express his support of local businesses in this process.

Dr. Isom stated Mr. Hazlett has done an excellent job of bringing these improvements to the City of El Mirage expressed his thanks to Mr. Hazlett for the support he has provided to El Mirage.

Mayor Mook stated this information will be in the City of El Mirage Newsletter.

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.

Resident Gloria Espejo, spoke about the Pueblo Futuro subdivision. She complimented the Council for improvements to other parks and likes the YMCA. The park in Pueblo Futuro, however, has been neglected and has broken and burned equipment which poses a safety concern to children. She stated there seems to be a great deal of crime and graffiti in the park as well. She asked Council for ways to improve/repair their neighborhood park stating the current condition is affecting their property values. She stated she has also been researching their HOA registration.

Resident Pablo Ante stated he is a 10-year resident of Pueblo Futuro and is very concerned about how the HOA has neglected the community. He does not want an HOA because he believes they are not doing their job. There is graffiti and the equipment is in bad condition. Some residents do not pay dues and some residents do not know who to turn to resolve this issue.

Resident Mika Lopez has the same concerns as Ms. Espejo who spoke earlier. She is a 15-year resident in Pueblo Futuro and has been paying dues since 2007 but the residents do not know where the money is being spent. The park is a disgrace with lots of crime, graffiti and drugs yet the HOA is not doing anything about correcting

these matters. She wants to see the gangs removed from park, would like to know how her dues are being spent and wants to know where to get help. She would like to have the City remove the equipment in the park.

Mayor Mook and Dr. Isom have been working on the matter since they became aware of the problem.

Dr. Isom gave a history of the HOA that was established under Habitat for Humanity. They have been self-managed without the benefit of a formal management company. He has recommended hiring a professional management company to handle all the issues they have raised similar to other Habitat for Humanity communities in the region. Dr. Isom reported the reason he and the Mayor and Council did not attend their originally-scheduled HOA meeting to which they were invited was because they were notified by phone it was cancelled due to inclement weather. The City did not get any formal notice for the subsequent meeting last weekend though they will be attending when they are notified. The playground equipment can be deemed unsafe and staff can remove. Staff can advise them of grant opportunities to help replace equipment, lighting and irrigation. Dr. Isom discouraged disbanding the HOA and asked them to contact the City Manager's Office if they continue to have questions. Dr. Isom asked Police Chief Campbell to address the graffiti and crime in the area.

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, May 19, 2015. (City Clerk)
2. Consideration and action to approve the destruction of municipal documents that have reached the end of their retention period as authorized under A.R.S. §41-151.19. (City Clerk)

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

VI. REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Consideration and action to approve the purchase with Nexus IS Inc. for the renewal of the Cisco Smartnet maintenance agreement in an amount not to exceed \$45,500 utilizing Arizona State Contract ADSPO12-24622. (Information Technology)

IT Director Tom Bacome presented the background and history for the need of this maintenance agreement. This system has been in effect for some time and provides hardware warranty, technical support, and access to the website for software updates.

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to approve the purchase with Nexus IS Inc. for the renewal of the Cisco Smartnet maintenance agreement in an amount not to exceed \$45,500 utilizing Arizona State Contract ADSP012-24622; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (7/0).

- B.** Consideration and action to authorize the City Manager to enter into a CM@Risk contract with Sun Eagle Corporation, Project No. EM14-F0, to construct a secure parking area at the City Court in an amount not to exceed \$285,639. (Development & Community Services)

Development and Community Services Director/City Engineer Jorge Gastelum explained the necessity for the updated, more secure parking facility for the Municipal Court. This project will provide 20 secured parking spaces for municipal court and library employees. There will be a paved parking lot, perimeter fence, and security lighting. He then reviewed the site plan and costs for the total project. John Alvarez, President of Sun Eagle Corporation was available to answer questions.

Councilor Jones asked if this parking area would be able to accommodate growth and was advised by Director of Court Services Rod Wettlin that the interior Court facilities are currently at full capacity, therefore should there be growth, the Court would need to move to a larger facility.

Vice Mayor Ramirez commented 20 spaces are based on square footage of the Court facilities. He also stated he saw for himself the Court staff arriving for work in the morning with people walking around the vehicles and believes the current situation is not a safe situation.

Councilor Delgado gave thanks to all because of problems with the safety of the Library and wanted to know when construction would start. He was advised construction would begin June 15th.

Councilor Shapera feels they project was very well thought out.

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to authorize the City Manager to enter into a CM@Risk contract with Sun Eagle Corporation, Project No. EM14-F0, to construct a secure parking area at the City Court in an amount not to exceed \$285,639; seconded by Councilor Palladino. Motion carried unanimously (7/0).

- C.** Public hearing, closure of public hearing, followed by Council's consideration and action to amend a portion of the Pueblo El Mirage R.V. Resort final plat, referred to as "The Greens." (Development & Community Services)

Mayor Mook opened the Public Hearing.

Development and Community Services Director/City Engineer Jorge Gastelum presented The Greens Final Plat at the Pueblo Resort. The resort includes single family dwellings, a golf course, RV sites and a community center. He then reviewed the specific area in a 1984 P.E.M. recorded plat showing 134 units, a revised 2006 P.A.D. approval for 60 units and the proposed 2015 Final Plat Revisions with 59 units in the specified area. Mr. Gastelum introduced Niels Roberts, Chief Executive Officer for Roberts Resorts, to answer any questions.

Mayor Mook stated she believed it is a very nice project. Mr. Roberts stated as soon as possible these 59 homes, similar to those in the Fairways, will be installed; they will be five feet off the street and provide more open space.

Councilors Shapera, Palladino and Jones all expressed their pleasure with the design and believe it will be a great addition to the resort. Council Delgado, too, is pleased with the design but asked if there would be enough fire hydrants. Mr. Gastelum has requested a Fire Department review to insure there are sufficient fire hydrants for the additions.

There were no Public Comments. Mayor Mook closed the Public Hearing.

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved amend a portion of the Pueblo El Mirage R.V. Resort final plat, referred to as "The Greens"; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (7/0).

- D.** Public hearing, closure of public hearing, followed by consideration and action to approve Resolution R15-06-11 setting miscellaneous fees and service charges. (Finance)

Mayor Mook opened the Public Hearing.

Assistant Finance Director Christy Eusebio reported miscellaneous fees are reviewed during the budget process to be sure the City is covering its costs. A Notice of Intent was posted pursuant to state statute for the required 60-days. There are no increases to the water, sewer and sanitation fees FY 2015/16 and there is a previously-approved recharge fee increase that was addressed in May, 2012 for years 2015-2021. The Schedule of Fees will be adopted July 1, 2015.

There were no public comments. Mayor Mook closed the Public Hearing.

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to approve Resolution R15-06-11 setting miscellaneous fees and service charges; seconded by Councilor Shapera. Motion carried unanimously (7/0).

- E.** Consideration and action to approve Resolution R15-06-12 adopting the FY 2015/16 Tentative Budget thereby setting the maximum expenditure limits for FY 2015-16. (Finance)

Finance Director Robert Nilles explained the budget process and presented the Tentative Budget. The FY 2015-16 budget is \$97,113,000 providing an increase of \$1,738,500 more than last year. The property tax rate will increase by \$0.30 from \$3.54 to \$3.84 because of a change in the State formula. The levy will increase by \$70,000 to cover voter approved debt. There will be no water, sewer, or sanitation rate increases. The recharge rate was previously approved per Red Oak Study. One-time increases of 3.33% for the Police employees and a 2% increase for other employees are included in this budget. Major projects are being completed. The next steps will be a Public Hearing to adopt the final Budget and Roll Call vote for property taxes scheduled for June 16, 2015. The Property Tax adoption is scheduled for July 7, 2015. Mr. Nilles reported there is \$435,000 to be added to the reserve fund. Mayor Mook inquired what the additional reserve might be used for and Mr. Nilles stated it could be used to compensate for any changes to the State Shared Revenues.

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to approve Resolution R15-06-12 adopting the FY 2015/16 Tentative Budget thereby setting the maximum expenditure limit for FY 2015-16; seconded by Councilor Delgado. 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 he had no current events at this time.

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 Shapera stated he attended the retirement ceremony for Officer Karin Mucci at the Police Department to recognize her 20 years of service.

Councilor Delgado reported he had just received word from the County Board of Supervisors that the City has been approved for total funding in the amount of \$579,827 requested for the City's CDBG project at the February 25, 2015 CDBG meeting. He thanked the Human Resources Department for help with ADP sign-in computer problems. And he noted he attended the first year anniversary of the YMCA opening and he feels the YMCA has been a great success for the City with 3,700 members.

Vice Mayor Ramirez, and Councilors Jones and Palladino also attended the YMCA one-year celebration. Vice Mayor Ramirez believes it is a great partnership and he was pleased to see residents utilizing the area. Councilor Jones was very impressed with the use and upkeep of the facility. Councilor Palladino reported his grandson loves day camp.

Mayor Mook stated she was sorry she was unable to attend but she has heard great things and it is paying off for our residents.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:36 PM.



Lana Mook, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sharon Antes, City Clerk

I hereby certify the foregoing minutes are a true and accurate record of the Regular El Mirage City Council Meeting held on Tuesday, June 2, 2015 and a quorum was present.



Sharon Antes, City Clerk