

**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, July 7, 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**

Mayor Mook called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM  
Pledge of Allegiance; Moment of Silence

**III. PROCLAMATION**

**P1.** Proclamation to support Drowning Impact Awareness Month, August, 2015 (Fire)

Fire Chief Jim Wise reported that for the past 12 years, Phoenix Children's Hospital has asked communities throughout Arizona to support August as Drowning Impact Awareness Month. Drowning is the third most common cause of accidental deaths. In 2014, the Arizona Child Fatality Review Program identified 36 children (50% between 1 and 4 years of age) who died from drowning. The most effective interventions to avoid drowning are focused adult supervision, four-sided isolation fencing with self-closing/self-latching gate, and ability to swim by the age of 8.

Mayor Mook proclaimed "NOW, THEREFORE, the City of El Mirage proclaims and recognizes August 1 through 31, 2015 as DROWNING IMPACT AWARENESS MONTH in the City of El Mirage."

**IV. PRESENTATION**

**PR1.** Presentation by Arizona SciTech Festival, who has partnered with the City of El Mirage, for the next Public Safety/Youth Day Special Event to promote science and technology. (Administration)

Special Events Coordinator Jeffrey Anderson reported the next Youth Day event will be January 23<sup>rd</sup> and will be recreational as well as educational. The Arizona SciTech group attends events to encourage youth interest in science and technology.

Mr. Anderson then introduced Dr. Jeremy Babendure of the Arizona SciTech Festival. Dr. Babendure explained the festival is a series of statewide science related events held February through March. They are focused on STEM (science, technology, education and math) education and he reported there are 700+ collaborators, 380,000 estimated

attendees in 51 Arizona cities and towns with 400+ venues, 1,000+ events statewide and 98% visitor satisfaction. He pointed out there is science everywhere and the main purpose is to encourage students' involvement in STEM and empower communities through rural community festivals. Buckeye, Goodyear and El Mirage are currently partnering in the West Valley.

Councilor Delgado commented he believes this partnership will be great for El Mirage youth.

Vice Mayor Ramirez asked what could be done to make STEM a continuous program throughout the year and Mr. Babendure suggested classrooms could do a project that culminates at the festival event. This would be a continuing program that allows the public to see what youth are doing and also empowers youth.

Councilor Jones stated that as a former teacher he believes science enlightens and fascinates youth in these fields of study.

## V. 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.

No Public Comments cards were received.

## VI. 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, June 16, 2015. (City Clerk)

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

## VII. REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Consideration and action to re-appoint Frank Carnal and Justin McCarty and appoint Martin Crosby to fill the three vacant Planning & Zoning Commission seats for two year terms ending June 30, 2017. (Council)

**Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to re-appoint Frank Carnal and Justin McCarty and appoint Martin Crosby to fill the three vacant Planning & Zoning Commission seats for two year terms ending June 30, 2017; seconded by Councilor Palladino. (7/0)**

City Clerk Sharon Antes presented the Oath of Office to Frank Carnal and Martin Crosby; Justin McCarty was unable to attend this meeting and his oath will be presented at the next meeting.

- B.** Consideration and action to authorize the purchase of 57 handheld and 6 mobile radios, and related accessories under State Contract #ADSP013-036880 at a total price not to exceed \$380,000. (Police Department)

Police Chief Steve Campbell explained this item was previously approved by Council by way of the CIP budget approval with the cost spread over a number of years; rapidly changing technology and a buy-back program will allow purchase of all needed radios in this fiscal year rather than over time.

**Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to authorize the purchase of 57 handheld and 6 mobile radios, and related accessories under State Contract #ADSP013-036880 at a total price not to exceed \$380,000; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (7/0).**

- C.** Consideration and action to approve Ordinance O15-07-06 adopting the City's property tax levies for Fiscal Year 2015-2016. The primary Property Tax Levy is \$1,654,937 and the Secondary Property Tax Levy is \$2,030,000. The total levies for FY 2015-2016 are \$3,684,937. The total estimated combined property tax rate is \$3.844. (Finance)

Finance Director Robert Nilles stated that adopting the property tax levies is the last step in Council's fiscal responsibilities for FY 2015-2016. He showed graphs comparing El Mirage to other cities indicating El Mirage has the fifth lowest primary tax per capita and the fourth lowest secondary tax per capita; below the overall average for both tax categories. Mr. Nilles provided a slide presentation and handout to explain that the 2015 primary tax rate is \$1.73 on a value of \$95,862.819 which is a 0.94% increase over the 2014 rate. He further showed that the 2015 secondary tax rate is \$2.12 on a value of \$134,160,690 which is a 23.07% increase over the 2014 rate resulting from new state legislation that significantly changed the way property values are determined. Had there not been the new legislation and resulting increased calculations, the 2015 value would have been a 12.06% decrease from the 2014 rate. The new legislation results in differing tax bills for homeowners with the same home model because of the year the home was built, the homeowner age and income.

Mayor Mook requested that Mr. Nilles clearly convey to homeowners through graphs and charts, an explanation of the primary and secondary taxes in El Mirage in the next newsletter.

City Manager Dr. Spencer Isom thanked Mr. Nilles for doing such a good job explaining a very complex subject.

**Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to approve Ordinance O15-07-06 adopting the City's property tax levies for Fiscal Year 2015-2016. The primary Property Tax Levy is \$1,654,937 and the Secondary Property Tax Levy is \$2,030,000; seconded by Councilor Shapera. Motion carried unanimously (7/0).**

- D.** Consideration and action to give signature authority to the City Manager to enter into a professional services contract with Hayden Building Corp to provide design assistance for the new City Hall (Project No. EM15-F01) in an amount not to exceed \$56,411.00. (Development & Community Services)

Community Development Director/City Engineer Jorge Gastelum reported the selection process began in April with publication of the project and was followed by the acceptance of seven Statements of Qualifications of which the Selection Review Committee shortlisted to four top companies. Shortlist interviews were conducted in June and Hayden Building Corp was recommended for selection. The selection process complies with Arizona State Revised Statutes and is the same process that was followed for the CMAR selection for the Police Station and Recreation Facility with Pool (YMCA). Engineering negotiated Hayden Building Corp's scope of work and fee proposal in the amount not to exceed \$56,411 including Programming, Schematic Design, Design Development, Construction Documents and Other Expenses. Mr. Gastelum then introduced Mr. James Crean, Director of Business Development with Hayden Building Corporation.

**Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to give signature authority to the City Manager to enter into a professional services contract with Hayden Building Corp to provide design assistance for the new City Hall in an amount not to exceed \$56,411.00; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (7/0).**

- E.** Consideration and action to give signature authority to the City Manager to enter into a construction contract with Sunland Asphalt to reconstruct El Mirage Road from Gateway Park to Cactus Road in the total amount of, including 10% contingency, not to exceed \$7,003,414.00. (Development & Community Services)

Community Development Director/City Engineer Jorge Gastelum reported that after four years of preparation for the El Mirage Road project, the first of six construction phases has been reached. The first phase of construction will be on El Mirage Road from Gateway Park to Cactus Road; he then displayed a map of the area included. Mr. Gastelum explained the various bid options with varying types of construction received for this bid. The Base Bid from Sunland Asphalt with a base bid of \$6,366,739.80, plus a 10% contingency, was determined to be the successful bidder. The bid is for hot mix asphalt pavement with a design life of 20 years. Mr. Gastelum introduced Mr. Mark Soyster from Sunland Asphalt to answer any questions.

Councilor Delgado asked if there would be a layer of rubberized asphalt and Mr. Gastelum said there would be 1 ½ inches of rubberized base and 3 ½ inches of asphalt. Councilor Delgado asked what would be the percentage of rubber. Councilor Delgado asked if it would be a boulevard style street and Mr. Gastelum reported yes, it will include a median with trees in the center. Vice Mayor Ramirez stated he was told the industry standards determine the percentage of rubber to asphalt. Mr. Gastelum stated he will get the percentage for Vice Mayor Ramirez and Councilor Delgado. Councilor Delgado stated that the Durango Curve is 17-25% and it has stood up very well.

**Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to give signature authority to the City Manager to enter into a construction contract with Sunland Asphalt to reconstruct El Mirage Road from Gateway Park to Cactus Road in the total amount, including 10% contingency, of not to exceed \$7,003,414.00; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (7/0).**

### VIII. 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 requested Deputy City Manager Larry Dobrosky report on the accomplishments of the Public Works department. Since mid-June buildings in Gateway and Gentry Parks have been repainted. Areas identified in Gateway, Gentry and Basin Parks with dead trees/plants have been replaced. The Gateway field is currently closed for restoration. The Customer Service building has been renovated on the outside with paint and new landscaping. The playground equipment previously approved by Council has been ordered and replacement is scheduled to begin this week and continue through mid-August. Cameras have also been added for security. Vandalism has dropped because of security and the Police Department's efforts. Solar lights are being added to the four pocket parks for added safety. Stop bars have been re-painted on streets. The brick sealing at the Fire Station will be done as soon as weather permits. The Pavement Preservation Plan is underway. Parks and facilities maintenance are being divided into various sections to achieve better performance control; bids will be going out July 16<sup>th</sup>. The bids will be due August 14<sup>th</sup> and will be brought before Council in September. Two vacant areas on Cactus Road, east of El Mirage Road, will be landscaped to be consistent with other planters on Cactus Road nearest El Mirage Road.

Dr. Isom summarized by recognizing the dedicated staff supporting Mr. Dobrosky and the City. The Cactus median suggestion came from a citizen through the Council and the follow up action demonstrates the City's accessibility.

Dr. Isom reported this Council's fifth budget has been completed tonight and consists of a fully funded comprehensive Capital Improvements Plan. Another significant purchase for Public Safety is the tools to assist them in the performance of their jobs. Yesterday the Police Department swore in two new Police Officers. The hiring of the CMAR for the City Hall project provides the results residents voted for to improve the quality of life in this community. Approval of El Mirage improvements will provide amenities for new business and residents. He recognized the City's Special Events Coordinator Jeffrey

Anderson for bringing an abundance of energy to organize and improve community events. New Planning & Zoning Commissioners were given the Oath of Office tonight and he is proud they are going to be a part of the community. Public Works has shown just a part of the services they provide. He takes his hat off to Council, staff and members of the community for their support.

**IX. 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 attended the recent Police Department Ceremony and was honored to be there.

Councilor Delgado reported the CDBG Sidewalk project is complete and it will be a great improvement to the area.

Vice Mayor Ramirez is pleased with the starting phase for El Mirage Road and commented on the efficiency of the initial prep phase.

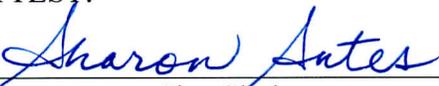
Mayor Mook stated the City has spent a lot of money tonight but she is very happy to see how staff has implemented Council’s policies on behalf of the citizens. Council sets policies but staff accomplishes those policies.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

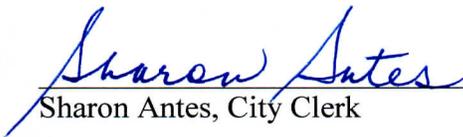
The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.

  
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Lana Mook, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Sharon Antes, City Clerk

I hereby certify the aforementioned minutes are a true and accurate record of the Regular El Mirage Council held on July 7, 2015 and a quorum was present.

  
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Sharon Antes, City Clerk