

**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, November 3, 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 p.m.
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 Dan Dotson referenced the previous Council meeting when he made remarks regarding what he believed to be excessive noise at El Mirage Road and Peoria Avenue. He stated that noise produced by businesses on the south side of Peoria Avenue at 4:00 a.m. makes it difficult to sleep. An individual did contact him the following Friday though he did not get the caller's name and believed it was nothing more than a courtesy call from the City. He encouraged numerous neighbors from Pueblo El Mirage Resort, who were also in attendance at this meeting, to support his complaint. Mr. Dotson expressed that as more winter visitors arrive, more people will be affected by the noise. He stated that the noise from the businesses added to the sound of jets overhead and the temporary construction noise along El Mirage Road and added traffic along Peoria Avenue to the south has become excessive and unbearable. He requested that Council appoint a City staff member to investigate and find a resolution to this problem.

Resident and retired teacher Becky O'Connor stated she believes the 4:00 am noise is a real problem and she wants Council to help find a solution that is fair to both the residents and adjoining businesses. Her property is along Peoria Avenue and she wants to protect the value of her home.

Eleven-year full-time resident Lucille Williams stated the area referenced used to be a very quiet area but that is now changing. She stated her previous complaint about construction people not watering down the dust was handled immediately by City staff. She has also called about trucks speeding down Peoria Avenue but not much has changed; she said trucks roar down the short stretch of Peoria Avenue and then slam on their brakes at the traffic light at the corner of El Mirage Road. Peoria Avenue is the line between residential and industrial and since there is no buffer it is very loud day and night. Residents want to be there and enjoy themselves and she appreciates anything that the Council can do to mitigate the noise.

Dr. Isom reported staff has been very responsive and is working to address this complaint. He called on Chief McDonald who explained that in addition to meeting with residents and businesses in the area, an ordinance amendment is forthcoming. The Police Department is taking noise measurements and checking on neighboring cities to determine their best practices to assist with this ordinance amendment. City Engineer Jorge Gastelum advised a mason wall is meant to replace the current metal fence as part of the El Mirage Road construction project.

Mayor Mook stated the construction changes will not all happen overnight since this is the first of four phases. Mr. Dotson stated the El Mirage Road project is not the issue; it is the speeding and loud noises coming from the industrial area. Dr. Isom reported the timeframes of operation will be addressed in the forthcoming ordinance, best practices will be investigated and brought back to Council, and this matter will be expedited.

Councilor Shapera asked if trucks could use 121st Avenue to the south instead of Peoria Avenue and he was advised that that portion of 121st Avenue is not now open. Councilor Delgado stated he believed he could hear noise from Southwest Steel to the south during the nighttime hours. Dr. Isom stated there were new issues being expressed from the initial complaint and the entire matter would be investigated by Chief McDonald and solutions to traffic and hours of business will be considered in the upcoming meetings and ordinance amendment. Mayor Mook stated the staff will address this matter as soon as possible.

IV. 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 to approve minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held Tuesday, October 20, 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. (Finance)

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

V. REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Consideration and action to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with CareScape, Inc. for landscape maintenance services in City Parks, Facilities, and Right of Ways in the amount not to exceed \$267,594. (Public Works)

Deputy City Manager/Public Works Director Larry Dobrosky gave background information on the previous bid rejections and the authorization given to the City Manager to negotiate a contract that was in the best interest of the City. Several companies were contacted and CareScape, Inc. was being recommended because of their business philosophy, their approach and what they could bring to the City with new ideas, years of experience and costs within budget.

Councilor Shapera commented he believed this is a good contract with a good company.

Mayor Mook asked what other places they have worked and owner Mitchell Owens reported they have been in the Northwest Valley for 22 years and have 250 to 280 employees. Mr. Owen introduced CareScape employee Oscar Trujillo who has been with CareScape for 11 years; he has also been a resident of El Mirage since 1965, is a graduate of Dysart High School and stated he likes the recent changes and the positive direction the City is heading and is looking forward to working with El Mirage.

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract with CareScape, Inc. for landscape maintenance services in City Parks, Facilities, and Right of Ways in the amount not to exceed \$267,594; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (7/0).

VI. CITY MANAGER SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

The City Council may not act upon any matter in the City Manager's summary but may have general comment or questions. Items to be discussed will include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. New Employees

Deputy City Manager/Public Works Director Larry Dobrosky introduced two new Public Works employees. He first introduced Tai Dial who has over ten years of experience in Public Works with heavy equipment, streets and parks; most recently he worked for Litchfield Park and before that was with the City of Columbia, Tennessee. He is an El Mirage resident with six children and enjoys coaching volleyball and basketball. Mr. Dial thanked the City for hiring him and he looks forward to working here. Mr. Dobrosky then introduced Armando Hogan, who recently worked for the City of Glendale and who has much experience in landscape, right-of way, and streets and parks. He started his own business and does hardscapes, barbecues, decking and paving. Mr. Hogan stated he is glad to be here and thanked the City for hiring him.

2. Fall Festival Event

Dr. Isom reported the Fall Festival will take place on Friday, November 13th from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. at Gentry Park. There will be carnival rides and on Saturday, November 14th from 1:00 to 10:00 p.m. and carnival rides, food trucks, Dee jay music, community market and a beer garden with \$2.00 beer and \$3.00 Margaritas. Admission is free. Sponsors include Coco's Towing, Parks & Sons, APS, Walmart, Crescent Crown Distributing and 3 Amigos Tequila.

Dr. Isom also reported that Assistant City Engineer Chris Hauser has become the signature representative for the Relay for Life Event. The Relay for Life will take place at Gateway Park this coming Saturday and City Staff has raised \$6K for the American Cancer Society and the Relay for Life Event.

VII. 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 Jones stated he attended the Chamber of Commerce mixer in Surprise where he met many El Mirage and Surprise residents and received a lot of positive remarks.

Councilor Shapera stated an excellent job is being done on the Cactus Road Project.

Vice Mayor Ramirez reported an excellent job was done on the Ranchettes road work.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.



Lana Mook, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sharon Antes, City Clerk

I hereby certify the aforementioned minutes are a true and accurate record of the Regular El Mirage Council held on November 3, 2015 and a quorum was present.



Sharon Antes, City Clerk