

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF EL MIRAGE
EL MIRAGE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
14010 N. EL MIRAGE ROAD
5:00 PM – THURSDAY, November 19, 2015**

Minutes

I. ROLL CALL

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

Excused: Councilmember Lynn Selby

II. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Silence Cell Phones & Pagers

III. SPECIAL AGENDA

- A.** Consideration and action to accept a grant award in the amount of \$71,503.35 from the Tohono O’odham Nation to fund the City Hall Veteran’s Memorial Project and authorize execution of a Grant-in-Aid Agreement with the Tohono O’odham Nation as required by Article VI, Section 1(f) of the Constitution of the Tohono O’odham Nation. (Administration)

Grants Coordinator Janeen Gaskins explained the original grant to Tohono O’odham Nation had been approved for park enhancements but the participants could not implement the grant as required by the grantor. The City then re-applied for a grant to construct a Veterans’ Memorial at the new City Hall. The project will include an essay contest for El Mirage students with the goal of inspiring research. Winning essays will provide for scholarships, sponsorships and memorializing of Arizona Veterans’ contributions. A celebration will take place during the grand opening ceremony to thank the Tohono O’odham Nation for their contribution. She informed Council, staff and the public that the application was well received and the City was awarded more than was asked for in the application; the award was increased to \$71,503.35. Council action was to enter into an agreement with the Tohono O’odham Nation to accept the grant funds.

Councilor Jones stated he is very excited to see this program instituted and looks forward to the change.

Councilor Palladino stated he is very excited with this project.

Councilor Shapera inquired about a clarification on the grant wording that stated “El Mirage students who live in El Mirage” and wondered about El Mirage residents who might attend charter schools; Dr. Isom responded this could be addressed and included if the Council so desired. Mayor Mook stated there could be clarification to include any student who lives in El Mirage but might attend a school not in El Mirage. Council Shapera then commented he believed that schools would be unable to help students and that the requirement of 150 hours of research might be very difficult for students to achieve. Dr. Isom pointed out final requirements are not yet determined and adjustments can be made for the competition.

Councilor Delgado thanked Ms. Gaskins for acquiring the grant. Ms. Gaskins reported it was a team effort and information from her predecessor, Pat Gregan, was very helpful.

Dr. Isom stated that as the grant developed, the team work of a phenomenal staff became very apparent and he complimented and thanked all who worked on this project.

Vice Mayor Ramirez stated he is very excited about the project. It is a positive project for our City and he believes the project is one of the most beautiful things he has ever seen.

Mayor Mook stated she was excited to see the renderings and she can't wait for the final product; she thanked Ms. Gaskins.

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to approve the acceptance of a grant award in the amount of \$71,502.35 from the Tohono O'odham Nation to fund the City Hall Veteran's Memorial Project and authorize execution of a Grant-in-Aid Agreement with the Tohono O'odham Nation as required by Article VI, Section 1(f) of the Constitution of the Tohono O'odham Nation with consensus of flexibility in administering the grant as described; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion passed unanimously (6/0)

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- B. For discussion and consultation with the City Attorney, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03, regarding a legal demand on a zoning issue. (Administration)

Vice Mayor Ramirez made a motion to convene into Executive Session at 5:12 PM; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (6/0)

Vice Mayor Ramirez made a motion to close the Executive Session and reconvene into Special Session at 6:04 PM; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (6/0)

V. SPECIAL AGENDA (RESUMED)

- C. Consideration and action to affirm the City's position relative to a legal demand on a zoning issue. (Administration)

Mayor Mook made a motion pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes Section §12-1134 (E), to approve the uses as previously set forth in I-2 zoning for the entire parcel #501-45-014K and that the parcel also retain the existing zoning of EI on the eastern 10 acres and CP for the western 10 acres, with all associated procedures as required under I-2, EI and CP; seconded by Vice Mayor Ramirez. Motion carried unanimously (6/0)

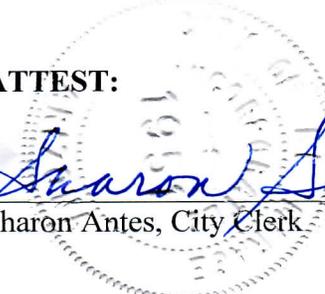
VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM.



Lana Mook, Mayor

ATTEST:




Sharon Antes, City Clerk

I hereby certify the aforementioned minutes are a true and accurate record of the El Mirage City Council Special Meeting held on Thursday, November 19, 2015 and a quorum was present.



Sharon Antes, City Clerk