

**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, JANUARY 3, 2017**

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

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

III. PROCLAMATIONS

P1. Proclamation to recognize January, 2017 as Care Enough to Get in the Way Month. (Administration)

Public Relations Manager Amber Wakeman reported Leadership West is hosting the largest conference for youth in January 2017 to help teach children learn how to be leaders and report when they see something that could harm a classmate. Leadership West has asked all West Valley Cities that have schools involved in this project to support a proclamation declaring the month of January 2017 as Care Enough to Get in the Way Month and they will present this proclamation at their January Conference. Other West Valley cities supporting this project are the cities of Tolleson, Peoria, Avondale, Glendale and Buckeye.

Ms. Wakeman introduced Jennifer Rogers, Dr. Lily DeBlieux, Gina Godbehere, and Larry Tracey from Leadership West. Ms. Rogers thanked Council for support of the proclamation stating that this is one of the largest conferences for youth, police officers, teachers and volunteers to help students learn how to speak up and stand up in hopes to save a life. They want to open the lines of communication so no one is blamed and communities participate. They are encouraged by the support of the West Valley cities in this effort and appreciate the City of El Mirage Council for also supporting this proclamation.

Mayor Mook proclaimed January 2017 as Care Enough to Get in the Way Month. Arizona schools, students, parents, educators, Police Departments and community organizations are encouraged to engage in a variety of awareness and prevention activities to make our community safer for all children and adolescents.

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.

No citizen comment cards were received.

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 Special Council Meeting held Tuesday, November 15, 2016 and the Workshop and Regular Council Meeting held Tuesday, December 6, 2016. (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)
3. Consideration and action to reject the bids received for the Community Garden Relocation and Improvements, Solicitation Number: EM16-PK01 and authorize the City Manager to procure quotes from Job Order Contract (JOC) contractors. (Development & Community Services)

Councilor Shapera requested Item # 3 be removed from the Consent Agenda and Mayor Mook called for a motion to remove the item.

Councilor Shapera moved to pull Item #3 off the consent agenda; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Roll Call vote was called: Mayor Mook – Nay; Vice Mayor Ramirez – Nay; Councilor Delgado – Yea; Councilor Jones - Nay; Councilor Palladino – Nay; Councilor Selby – Yea; Councilor Shapera – Yea. Motion failed to carry (4/3) and Item # 3 was not removed.

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to approve Consent Agenda items as presented; seconded by Councilor Jones. Roll Call vote was called: Mayor Mook – Yea; Vice Mayor Ramirez – Yea; Councilor Delgado – Nay; Councilor Jones – Yea; Councilor Palladino – Yea; Councilor Selby – Nay; Councilor Shapera – Nay. Motion carried (4/3).

VI. REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Consideration and action to authorize the purchase of a Multiple Interactive Learning Objectives (MILO) Range Pro Training System from IES Interactive Training under GSA Contract #GS-00F-332CA in an amount not to exceed \$50,818.50 funded from police vehicle impound fees. (Police)

Police Chief Terry McDonald described the MILO training system and gave his opinion that it is a very impressive training tool that will allow El Mirage police officers to be prepared more so than they ever have been in the past. The MILO shoot must be done once a year to meet AZ POST standards. The tool provides over 5,000 actual scenarios to choose from as well as the ability to produce unique training scenarios. Council has been very supportive with the facility, vehicles and weaponry they have provided to the police department and this could not have been brought to Council without the support and approval of Dr. Isom. Chief McDonald also acknowledged other city staff in researching and preparing this item for Council's consideration; City Attorney Bob Hall provided sound legal advice, IT Director Tom Bacome assisted with the TS track, Finance Director Robert Nilles and Purchasing Administrator Cadle Collins worked with Lt. Randy Stewart on the quotes and proposal ultimately saving the City approximately \$8,000.

Assistant Police Chief Laura Liuzzo reported police officers previously relied on other agencies to complete required shoots and it has been difficult to get that time scheduled. Poor judgment gets officers killed and this simulation will prepare officers for any situation. The simulations portray real life situations with different types of weapons and different environments. Officers will receive decision skills, accuracy, tactics, verbal skills and de-escalation skills which are particularly important in this day and time. Chief Liuzzo can see this system being used to inform community members and the media about the split second judgments required in a number of different situations.

Lt. Randy Stewart reported he has used the MILO system through other agencies and is familiar with how the tool works and the opportunities it presents. It has become increasingly difficult to borrow time or equipment from other agencies. The equipment allows testing of officer's accuracy and judgment in realistic scenarios. It can also provide for the perspective of the offender so that the officers' response and actions can be evaluated and feedback can be provided in a training setting. Lt. Stewart stated one of the most effective tools of the MILO program is providing staff with the ability to evaluate and provide guidance of the officer's de-escalation skills.

Deputy Director Michael Ashley reported he reviews the body camera footage and a lot of the investigations on officers are about judgment. This is a very effective way to test officers' judgment and as an Internal Affairs officer, he could not be more supportive of this tool.

Police Chief McDonald added it would be installed for easy setup. He envisions officers, new and older, going through the scenarios. This program will improve the services to the community and he requested the support of the Council. The money to purchase this equipment does not come out of the General Fund, rather from collected police vehicle impound fees.

Mayor Mook stated it is appropriate and also necessary because of recent national situations. We cannot afford not to prepare our officers. Council is trying their best to give the Police Department what they need to do their jobs and go home safe.

Councilor Shapera asked how often they would need to qualify. Chief McDonald reported once a year but is difficult to schedule because of having to go to Surprise. Councilor Shapera asked if there was any live fire during the year and Chief McDonald reported yes and hoped a Shooter's World membership will assist with fulfilling the live fire requirement.

Dr. Isom asked Chief McDonald to address at this time (rather than later in the meeting) the "Shooters World" membership/contract with Shooters World for live ammunition practice.

Chief McDonald reported weather and distance to facilities has made live fire qualifying difficult. Other municipalities already have memberships/contracts for their employees at Shooter's World and a membership relative to their employment would allow El Mirage Police Officers to go to Shooter's World any time it is open. Officers can also make appointments to work with trainers. Lastly, the AR15 Program can be adapted by using smaller targets with a 25 yard capability through Shooter's World.

Councilor Delgado asked Lt. Stewart if they use a shoot/don't shoot scenario and he answered that while familiar with that system, El Mirage does not have a system like that one, however, another similar system is currently being developed.

Vice Mayor Ramirez asked how different this training is from academy training and Chief McDonald responded that it is very different and much more sophisticated. The system also provides for the purchase of a Taser application and AR15 application.

Councilor Jones stated he is familiar with the system and this version is an upgrade; he believes the training is very important.

Councilor Selby asked for clarification regarding live fire. Does the MILO System replace any requirement of live fire to which Chief McDonald answered it does not; annual live fire requirements are still required. Councilor Selby further asked if the City has insurance to cover this system or will it allow for monetary savings. Chief McDonald said he does not know of any insurance implications but after this next year with improved training, civil cases should be decreased.

Councilor Palladino stated he believes the system is a great idea to move the City and the Police Department forward.

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to authorize the purchase of a Multiple Interactive Learning Objectives (MILO) Range Pro Training System from IES Interactive Training under GSA Contract #GS-00F-332CA in an amount not to exceed \$50,818.50 funded from police vehicle impound fees; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (7/0).

- B. Consideration and action to approve Resolution R17-01-01 updating the locations for legal postings for agendas, public hearings and other publications requiring legal posting. (City Clerk)

City Clerk Sharon Antes reported this is an administrative action to change the physical address and the website address for legally required postings.

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to approve Resolution R17-01-01 updating the locations for legal postings for agendas, public hearings and other publications requiring legal posting; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (7/0).

VII. 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

Dr. Isom introduced Fire Chief Jim Wise to present his new employee. Chief Wise introduced Firefighter Zachary Mitchell who is a native Arizonan and has served two years with the City of El Mirage as a cadet. He is married with one child and enjoys spending time with family and being outdoors. He has started his own small business creating high-end cutlery. His father and grandfather are both firefighters. Firefighter Mitchell stated he is thankful for the opportunity to serve the City of El Mirage.

2. Public Safety Day – January 28, 2017

Public Relations Manager Amber Wakeman reported that on January 28th at Gateway Park from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm there will be an El Mirage Public Safety Day and Arizona Science Tech Festival. El Mirage Police and Fire Departments will have displays and demonstrations. Arizona Sci Tech will be on site and several Dysart Unified Schools will be participating. There will be a Kids Zone with all-free activities. There will also be a special performance by the internationally known Sun Master BMX High School Drill Show. Wal-Mart will provide door prizes.

3. Police Report on Shooters World.

Dr. Isom commended Police staff on their innovations with MILO and Shooter's World contracting for live fire requirements. The MILO fees will be coming from impoundment fees. Dr. Isom interacted with the Tolleson Police Chief regarding the concept of a contract with Shooter's World to do live fire shoots. Being in a controlled area with a range master and the ability to use all the equipment will better prepare police officers to keep the community safe and return to their family safely. The City is currently working on a contract with Shooters World for membership.

Dr. Isom asked Robert Nilles to speak to Council at this time regarding Police Department compression and equity adjustments. Mr. Nilles reported the CIP plan will be presented to Council at the next meeting and salary expenses are also planned with the same type of process. He further explained the wage proposals for FY 2017-2018 incorporating recent changes in the code and the Police MOU. Police equity within the Police Department would be addressed taking into account years of service. He explained the range of proposed and possible percentage increases to address these concerns. The process would be comparable to what was accomplished within the Fire Department last year. He stressed that no employee would lose any money because of these adjustments. Dr. Isom added that the years of service will not only be with their service in El Mirage but their years of service in the profession and pledged to serve the Police Department well and give them a clear direction as to where they stand with regard to the rest of the organization. They are and will continue to be treated in a fair and equitable manner. Chief McDonald stated he is pleased with the process which identifies areas where micro adjustments need to be made. He has been working closely with Ms. King, Dr. Isom and Mr. Nilles and it is his intent to bring in quality personnel to the El Mirage Police Department.

4. Report on Grand Opening Ceremony

City Clerk Sharon Antes reported the New City Hall Grand Opening Ceremony is scheduled for 9:00 am, Thursday, January 19th. A staff committee was formed that has been meeting weekly and ceremony details are being finalized.

Dr. Isom stated Councilmembers have all had an opportunity to tour the new City Hall since the move in day on December 16, 2016 and thanked the employees for a smooth transition. Some last minute issues are being addressed and once the new building has been dedicated, it will be a great source of pride throughout the community and a focal point of future development.

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.

Mayor Mook asked Ms. Antes to explain and provide details about the upcoming HOA Academy. Ms. Antes reported the Mayor suggested the possibility of an HOA Academy for El Mirage residents and formed a committee to organize this event. She explained there is confirmation for five consecutive Monday night comprehensive and free sessions beginning February 6, 2017, from 6 – 9 PM each evening. The application/registration form is on the City website and more promotion would occur during this month. She pointed out that one of the committee members, Laurie Carnal, was present at this meeting. Guest presenters who are experts in the field have confirmed their participation and she encouraged any interested resident to contact her for more information.

Councilor Shapera asked if the City Hall was under budget and City Engineer Jorge Gastelum confirmed that the project is still under budget.

Councilor Delgado thanked the Police Department regarding their assistance with a burglary at his home over the holidays. He appreciated their assessment and suggestions on improvements to security at the property and has since implemented those security measures. He also commented there are a few substantial pot holes in the construction area on Thunderbird Road and El Mirage Road heading south and requested they be identified and backfilled in the short term; Dr. Isom stated staff would work on this matter the following day.

Vice Mayor Ramirez stated he has received many complimentary calls for the City’s achievements on the new El Mirage Road. As a contractor himself, he advised of the need to heat and compact the dry asphalt for it to stay in place.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 pm.



Lana Mook, Mayor

ATTEST:


Sharon Antes, City Clerk

I hereby certify the aforementioned minutes are a true and accurate record of the Regular Council Meeting held on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 and a quorum was present.



Sharon Antes, City Clerk