

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF EL MIRAGE
EL MIRAGE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
14010 N. EL MIRAGE ROAD
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2011**

Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lana Mook at 6:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Lana Mook, Vice Mayor David Shapera, Councilor Roy Delgado, Councilor Jim McPhetres, Councilor Jack Palladino, Councilor Joe Ramirez.

Excused: Councilor Lynn Selby.

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 a matter, and (3) direct that a matter be put on a future agenda.

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 approving the Minutes of the Work session held Thursday, October 13, 2011, the Regular Council Meeting held Thursday, October 13, 2011, and the Regular Council Meeting held Thursday, October 27, 2011.
2. Consideration and action approving Resolution No 11-11-38 amendment to the City of El Mirage Personnel Policy Manual dated June 30, 2008, Section 3.1 Classified and Unclassified Service.
3. Consideration and action requesting that the Mayor and City Council give signature authority to the City Manager to approve an amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City of El Mirage and the Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA) dated July 1, 2010 to amend FY 2011/12 Funding Agreement – Valley Metro Mobility Services; Schedule B.
4. Consideration and action requesting that the Mayor and City Council give signature authority to the City Manager to approve the proposed amendments to the existing

ADA Paratransit Service Agreement by amending Section 4.6 – City Responsibility and attached schedules A & B.

Councilor Palladino made a motion to approve consent items 1 through 4 as presented; seconded by vice Mayor Shapera. Motion Carries 6-1 (McPhetres).

V. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Public Hearing – Conditional Use Permit – 11902 W. Thunderbird Rd.

Mayor Mook opened the public hearing at 6:03 p.m.

Mark Smith made a presentation regarding the request. The Planning & Zoning Commission and staff recommend approval.

No public comments were offered.

Mayor Mook closed the public hearing at 6:07 p.m.

B. Consideration and action on a request for a conditional use permit for auto repair in the Urban Corridor district at 11902 W Thunderbird Rd (Neil's Cabinets building).

Vice Mayor Shapera made a motion to approve conditional use permit as requested with the Planning & Zoning stipulations; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion Carries, unanimously

C. Public Hearing – Lost Water Recharge Credit Fees and Changes to the City Tax Code. (Items D & E)

Mayor Mook opened the public hearing at 6:09 p.m.

Robert Nilles, Finance Director made a brief presentation regarding the proposed changes in fees.

Rick Jardena, Red Oak Consulting made a brief presentation regarding cost of the lost water recharge credits by providing water services to customers located in the Surprise Original Townsite.

Rey Villanveua asks that the resolution be tabled. He feels the City of Surprise doesn't have all the answers.

Mayor Mook closed the public hearing at 6:31 p.m.

D. Consideration and action to adopt Resolution 11-11-39 to establish a new fee to recover the cost of water recharge credits lost by the City of El Mirage by providing water services to customers located in the Surprise Original Townsite.

Vice Mayor Shapera made a motion to approve Resolution R11-11-39 but delay the effective date of February 1, 2012; seconded by Councilor Palladino. Motion Carries, unanimously

- E. Consideration and action regarding Ordinance no. O11-09-16. An ordinance of the City of El Mirage, Arizona, relating to the privilege license tax; adopting "the 2010-11 amendments to the tax code of the City of El Mirage " by reference; establishing an effective date; providing for severability and providing penalties for violations.

Vice Mayor Shapera made a motion to approve Ordinance O11-09-16 as presented; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion Carries, unanimously.

VI. CITY MANAGER SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

City Manager Isom reported that as follow up to the towing service discussions, Chief Campbell reviewed the rotational tow calls for service over the past three months. If the City were to bring the total number of vendors to four, based on a 3-month average, the contract holders would each receive approximately 16 calls for service, per month, or double what they have averaged during this period. The additional contracts would also provide an adequate level of backup service should a vendor's equipment be down for repair or committed to other contractual obligations.

The City Manager reported that as part of City leaders' efforts to continue creating innovative opportunities for community involvement among our residents and others, I am happy to report that significant progress is being made on the City's new Community Garden project, located at the southeast corner of Thunderbird and El Mirage Roads. Thanks to Lowe's Home Improvement in Surprise, most of the components for the irrigation system were donated to the City and the system is now operational. If you've driven by the garden site today, you will see that trees now line its perimeter. These non-fruit bearing olive trees were donated to the City thanks to the extraordinary generosity of Swan Hill Nurseries in Waddell. As the garden project continues to expand, he wants to encourage residents, businesses, and others interested in this very worthwhile project to become involved. The December issue of the El Mirage News will have detailed information about how you can donate, volunteer, and have a garden of your own on the site.

Fire Chief Munding participated in the State Wide Vigilant Guard Exercise at the West Valley Regional Emergency Operations Center that included a simulation of a bomb detonation in downtown Phoenix. Participants included State and local agencies, area hospitals, the National Guard and various Federal agencies.

City Manager Isom reported that AZBO (Arizona Building Officials) hosted a conference at the Phoenix Convention Center that was attended by 1500+ Building, Code and Fire officials from around the world. El Mirage coordinated and recruited over 75 volunteers throughout the state to assist in making the week-long event a huge success.

The El Mirage Police Department recently participated in the 3rd annual Statewide Prescription Drug Take-Back event and collected just under 30 lbs. of discarded medications. The event is designed to reduce the risk of prescription drug abuse and increase awareness of this critical public health issue.

He reported that a soft opening will be held this weekend for the newly built Auto Zone on the corner of Thunderbird Road and Dysart Road. An official Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting will be coordinated by City Staff and the Surprise Regional Chamber of Commerce at a future date.

El Mirage Thompson Ranch Elementary School teacher, Kristie Martorelli, is one of five finalists for the Arizona Teacher of the Year Award. She is the first teacher from the Dysart Unified School District to be a finalist, especially as a reading interventionist. Only 39% of Thompson Ranch third-graders met or exceeded reading standards on the state standardized tests in 2005 and in 2011 that figure was 65%. Last year, all 47 of Martorelli's students met or exceeded standards on their assessment exams. The winner of the Arizona Teacher of the Year award will be announced at a luncheon November 17th.

Karlie O'Hearn, a 14-year old from El Mirage, has been selected as one of five 2011 holiday card artists by the Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at Phoenix Children's Hospital. Karlie was diagnosed with leukemia at age five and has been in remission after treatment at PCH. This year is the 25th anniversary of the Holiday Art fundraising project which has raised more than \$5 million since its inception in 1986. Cards can be purchased at all Valley Safeway Stores.

In observance of Veterans' Day tomorrow, November 11, 2011, we wish to thank and honor all those who have served and who currently serve in all branches of the United States Armed Forces.

VII. MAYOR'S COMMENTS and COUNCIL SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

Councilor McPhetres reassured everyone that the Palo Verde Nuclear Plant operates in a very safe environment.

Councilor Palladino reported of the change in CDAC requirements; projects must now create jobs.

Vice Mayor Shapera reported of his attendance at the DUSD.

Councilor Delgado reported of the Surprise Elementary. He reported of the possible cuts in CDBG and HOME funds. He also reported the usage at the Library has increased.

Mayor Mook attended an all-city staff meeting and presented each employee a commemorative coin. She presented a coin to each City Councilor. She reported of her attendance at the Sun City Elks Veterans event. She is also attending a Veterans Day Ceremony in Sun City on Friday.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Mook adjourned the meeting 7:01 p.m.



Lana Mook, Mayor

ATTEST:



Richard Saathoff, City Clerk

I hereby certify the foregoing minutes are a true and accurate record of the City of El Mirage Regular Council Meeting held November 10, 2011 and a quorum was present.



Richard Saathoff, City Clerk