

**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, MAY 3, 2016**

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 Municipal Clerks' Week May 1 – May 7, 2016
(City Clerk)

City Clerk Sharon Antes stated the International Institute of Municipal Clerks and the Arizona Municipal Clerks Association wish to recognize the 47th Annual Municipal Clerks Week, May 1-7, 2016, with this proclamation. The purpose is to recognize the vital role of municipal clerks in local government. From maintaining official council minutes, ordinance books and all records and documents of the municipality to administering elections and being a key liaison between local government and its' citizens, the role of the municipal clerk is multifaceted and essential to serve the changing needs of the community.

Mayor Mook then proclaimed to hereby recognize the week of May 1 - May 7, 2016 as Municipal Clerks Week, and further extend appreciation to Municipal Clerk, Sharon Antes, and to all Municipal Clerks for the vital services they perform and their exemplary dedication to the communities they represent.

- P2.** Proclamation declaring the week of May 8 – May 14, 2016 as Economic Development Week (Development & Community Services)

Economic Development Specialist Tom Doyle reported the International Economic Development Council is 90 years old. Economic Development is a revenue generator by attracting sustained businesses that produce sales taxes supporting needed City services. The City's recent capital improvements of Thunderbird and El Mirage Road renovations and construction of a new Fire Station, Police Station and City Hall all contribute to make El Mirage attractive to

commercial investments. Economic Development week is an opportunity to reflect on accomplishments while looking toward the future as new opportunities develop.

Mayor Mook then proclaimed the week of May 8 through May 14, 2016 as Economic Development Week.

P3. Proclamation to declare May 15 – 21, 2016 as National Public Works Week (Public Works)

Acting Public Works Director Nick Russo reported that since 1960 the American Public Works Association has endorsed National Public Works Week. Across America, thousands of municipalities take this opportunity to energize and educate the public on the importance of Public Works to their daily lives. Public Works is always there.

Mayor Mook then proclaimed the week of May 15-21, 2016 as National Public Works Week in the City of El Mirage and called upon all citizens and civic organizations to acquaint themselves with the issues involved in providing public works and to recognize the contributions which public works officials make every day to the health, safety, comfort and quality of life of citizens.

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.

Ryan Novo of the YMCA reported achieving approximately 67% of their goal for the annual fundraising campaign. He stated the campaign will continue through the end of May and all donations are welcome. Emphasis is being placed on increasing programs for before and after school, preparing for summer camp, fighting child obesity, and implementing summer swim lessons to reduce the number of drownings in Arizona.

Councilor Delgado asked the dollar amount represented by the 67% and was told by Mr. Novo that \$18,835 has been raised thus far.

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.

- I. Consideration and action approving the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held Tuesday, April 19, 2016. (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).

VI. REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Public hearing, closure of public hearing, followed by consideration and action to approve a Conditional Use Permit for a Wireless Communication Facility (Small Cell Site) at 14955 N. Dysart Road, and to authorize the City Manager to enter into a lease agreement. (Development & Community Services)

Development and Community Services Director Jorge Gastelum presented the Conditional Use Permit for Verizon Wireless – Smartlink. The location for this CUP is Well Cite #6, Dietz Crane, 14955 N. Dysart Road and involves 1.3 acres under the Civic Service Use with zoning of SN (Suburban Neighborhood). Mr. Gastelum reviewed maps and showed pictures of the area. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval at the April 12, 2016 Public Hearing with a 4-0 vote. Public comment at the P&Z Public Hearing was concern for the aesthetics. An email was also received regarding possible health risks. The applicant will prepare an independent assessment of radio frequency (RF) levels. SmartLink representatives Eric Kaneshiro, Project Manager, and Marck Sawyer, Land Use Specialist, were present to answer questions.

Mayor Mook asked if this project was safe and whether Verizon is in compliance with FCC regulations. Mr. Kaneshiro stated Verizon worked to make this installation visibly pleasant and compressed the site to make it more pleasing aesthetically. The cell towers can be painted any color the City chooses to blend in. Setbacks from residences are consistent with Code requirements and FCC compliance meets safety standards.

Councilor Delgado stated his concern for too many cell towers in the City and also asked why these were not palmtannas or towers that resembled palm trees. Mr. Kaneshiro explained that the palmtannas are used for macro sites because the bases are much larger. This request is for a micro design that is much smaller in order to fit the space and to fill a smaller area of coverage. Councilor Delgado asked how many more antennas will be requested for the City and Mr. Kaneshiro responded that it depends on the need and is difficult to provide a specific number at this time. As the need expands, there will be a need for more sites. Mayor Mook stated she would rather see skinny poles instead of giant poles looking like palm trees.

Vice Mayor Ramirez stated he can see the number of cell towers expanding because of the wide use of technology and he, too, is concerned about any

potential health risk? Mr. Kaneshiro reported they routinely submit FCC compliance reports with permits that include the required health report and they are in compliance with FCC regulations.

Councilor Jones asked if the cell towers are safe and Mr. Kaneshiro stated he was not a scientist and could not answer specifically. When further pressed by Councilor Jones, Mr. Kaneshiro stated they strictly adhere to FCC requirements. Councilor Jones inquired if the Verizon towers are only for Verizon customers. Mr. Kaneshiro responded that the macro towers can handle more than one carrier but the micro is exclusive to the carrier. Mr. Gastelum added that there are now ten micro towers, adding the one being requested tonight would make 11, and two more are currently being considered. Councilor Jones asked about other companies coming in and adding even more cell towers to which Mr. Gastelum replied that while that is a possibility there are City Code restrictions to help control the proliferation; 1000 feet between towers is required on private property.

Councilor Shapera pointed out the City has already approved other companies but many are placed on utility poles.

Mayor Mook opened the Public Hearing

El Mirage resident David Sausmack stated he lives in the house next to Dysart Well Site; he first thanked Council for the effective landscaping at the water tank area. He then stated he would like to see the cell tower painted the same color as the tank because the tank is painted the same color as the wall. He also implored Council to be cautious when considering the health risks and stated that distance from neighboring homes is extremely important from his research on the matter.

Amy Sausmack thanked the Mayor and Council for being advocates and stated her concern with the safety factor; Mr. Sausmack is a cancer survivor, hence, their close attention to this matter.

Mayor Mook stated she, too, is concerned regarding health issues.

Vice Mayor Ramirez asked Mr. Kaneshiro who benefits from the installation of these cell towers and he answered that micro sites benefit close areas; the macro site umbrella gives larger area coverage.

Mayor Mook closed the Public Hearing.

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to approve a Conditional Use Permit as presented with the stipulation that the City select the color of paint for the tower and contingent on receipt of appropriate health certification; seconded by Councilor Palladino. Motion passed 6/1; Councilor Delgado voted Nay.

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:

Report on Police Explorers

Police Chief Terry McDonald introduced Sgt. Chris Culp to report on the Police Explorers group. Sgt. Culp reported the First Explorer Spaghetti Fundraising Dinner netted \$2,000 and was very well supported by 100+ residents. These donations provide the opportunity for Explorers to participate in competitions across the state. They also provide uniforms, gear and training equipment. Plaques were handed out to organizations that supported the event.

Explorer Luna reported on the recent Peace Officer Memorial at the State Capitol. The memorial represents fallen officers from the year prior and is attended by fallen officers' families.

Seven Explorers attended the 2016 Los Angeles County Explorers Competition in Cascade, California on April 1-3 where they participated in an extensive program for two straight days with 331 Explorers from 30 posts represented. He thanked supporters and presented them with commemorative plaques of appreciation.

He also stated the El Mirage Police Explorers will be competing at the POST Academy that will take place for two weeks in June in Marana, Arizona.

The Special Olympics Torch Run

Chief McDonald introduced Assistant Police Chief Laura Liuzzo to report on the upcoming Special Olympics Torch Run.

Assistant Chief Laura Liuzzo first acknowledged Sgt. Culp for his commitment to the Explorers and also thanked the Fire Department for their support and assistance at the Spaghetti Fundraising Dinner.

She stated runners from the Police Department will collect the Special Olympics Torch at approximately 11:40 AM on Thursday, May 5th. They will be running on Grand Avenue from Greenway Road to 99th Avenue. Everyone is invited to come out and cheer them on, especially as they pass City Hall at approximately 11:50 AM. There are 85,000 officers participating across the country with the purpose of raising awareness for the Special Olympics.

S.T.E.P. U.P. Program

City Clerk Sharon Antes presented information regarding the STEPUP Program through Maricopa County Elections Department. The acronym stands for Student Teen Election Pollworkers Understanding the Power of civic duty. It is designed for high school students to work at the election polls coming up in August and November. They get paid for training and working the day of the election and they receive an excused absence and credit from their school. She provided all Council members and others in the audience with brochures, flyers and applications regarding the program and encouraged spreading the word to all teenagers who might be interested in working at the election polls; not only do they get paid but it is a way to provide hands-on experience with the election process.

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.

There were no Council comments.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.



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 Meeting held on May 3, 2016 and a quorum was present.



Sharon Antes, City Clerk