

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF EL MIRAGE
EL MIRAGE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
10000 N. EL MIRAGE ROAD
6:00 PM – TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2017**

Minutes

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Lana Mook, Vice Mayor Joe Ramirez, Councilor Roy Delgado, Councilor Bob Jones, Councilor Lynn Selby, Councilor David Shapera
Excused: Councilor Jack Palladino

II. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.
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.

No Public Comment Cards were received.

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 Regular Council Meeting held Tuesday, February 21, 2017. (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 approve Items 1 and 2 as presented on the Consent Agenda; Seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (6/0).

V. REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Consideration and action to adopt a notice of intent to change certain fees which could include adding, deleting, increasing or decreasing fees not sooner than 60 days from the date of posting the notice pursuant to A.R.S. Section §9-499.15. (Finance)

Assistant Finance Director Christy Eusebio explained this request for a Notice of Intent is required by state statute to be approved by Council and posted for 60 days prior to taking action. These User Fees are reviewed annually during the budget process to be sure fees are set properly to recover costs and to add or delete as needed. This Council request is only for the posting of the Notice of Intent. The agenda item to request approval of the Miscellaneous Fee Schedule is tentatively scheduled for May 16 which is the first meeting after the 60-day posting requirement. The only change this year is the Primary and Secondary Tax Rates were reduced. The Levy will remain the same as last year.

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to adopt a Notice of Intent to change certain fees which could include adding, deleting, increasing or decreasing fees not sooner than 60 days from the date of posting the notice pursuant to A.R.S. Section §9-499.15; seconded by Councilor Jones. Motion carried unanimously (6/0).

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

Dr. Isom asked Public Works Management Administrator Nick Russo to introduce the Public Works employee. Mr. Russo introduced Oscar Chavez as the new Utilities Technician Trainee who comes from the private sector. He lives in Buckeye with three children ages 9, 7 and 4 who keep him busy. Oscar enjoys going to the gym and runs as much as he can. Mr. Chavez received his CDL just last week and is currently working on his Water/Wastewater certification. Mr. Chavez thanked the City for the opportunity to work for the City and Mayor Mook welcomed him as a new employee.

2. FY 2017-18 AzMT Changes

Human Resource Director Sandy King gave a brief history of the formation of the Arizona Metropolitan Trust (AzMT) benefit pool noting that after a feasibility study and invitation to 16 entities to join, the founding members of the pool included El Mirage, Avondale, Apache Junction and Youngtown and began July 1, 2012.

AzMT is a public entity pool formed under the provisions of ARS §11-952 and §11-952.01 and operates like an insurance company owned by its member entities. The pool is governed by member-appointed Trustees. The Trustee must be a City Manager and the Alternate Trustee must be from senior management.

In 2012 AzMT had four entities, 751 employees, four Medical/Rx plans and a budget of \$6,908,905. As of January 1, 2017, AzMT now has nine entities, 2,618 employees (with 6,000+ members), four Medical/Rx plans and a budget of \$27,880,982. There is also one dental plan, 1 vision plan, Basic & Voluntary Life/AD&D EAP, Telemedicine and Short and Long-Term Disability in the current plan.

She advised that changes on July 1, 2017 will include an offer of membership to Paradise Valley (making 10 entities in the pool), additional pre-certification items to the Medical coverage, a few items removed from the Rx coverage because of availability over the counter, a number of increases in some of the co-pays, and available buy-up coverage in the Dental and Vision plans including coverage for dependents to age 26.

Medical/RX rates have not increased over the past three years and there will be a 4% average increase for 2017-18. The dental rates for the base plan will have an average 2.5% increase and the vision rates for the base plan will average a 48% increase, each with four tiers. Premiums range from \$6 to \$18 vs. current rates of \$4 to \$12.

The Wellness Program will continue to focus on Early Detection/Lifestyle through on-site screening and utilize health and other data collected to target future programming. In 2017/18, employees will have an opportunity to be eligible for a free or reduced Fitbit by participating in the upcoming Health Risk Assessment.

Human Resource Manager Dawn Hailey reported there will be an Open Enrollment Event on May 9, 2017 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in these Council Chambers. Lunch and refreshments will be served, vendors will be present to answer questions or provide information, Employee Benefit Guides will be distributed and prizes will be raffled. Open Enrollment runs from May 9 - 23, 2017 and all benefit eligible employees must log into ADP for the ADP Online Enrollment during this period.

Mayor Mook asked how many employees participate and if most covered their families as well and Ms. Hailey stated approximately 140 or 80-90% of eligible employees participate. Mayor Mook also stated she has used this insurance and has had absolutely no issues at all. She has promoted the program to other entities and is happy the pool is selective in the entities allowed to participate; she also likes the Wellness Program because it is proactive towards healthy living and preventative care.

Ms. King stated Dr. Isom is very supportive and a great ambassador for the growth of the Trust. Dr. Isom gave credit to Ms. King who came up with the initial proposal and has continued to work toward making the trust a reality and sustaining its growth

from an initial 700 bodies to now 6,000 members. It has been his pleasure to serve as Chair and work with the Trust as it has grown and he congratulated Ms. King and Ms. Hailey for their efforts to keep benefit costs stable for the organization.

3. Fire Department Premier Level EMS Agency Certificate

Fire Chief Jim Wise advised Council that the El Mirage Fire Department has recently achieved the requirements necessary to be designated at the Premier Level in the Arizona State Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma System Premier EMS Agency Program (PEAP). He stated PEAP has two categories of EMS participation levels: the "participating level" is where the EMS agency satisfies at least three of the five PEAP requirements, and the "Premier Agency" is where the EMS agency satisfies all five requirements. He introduced Fire Captain Darrell Tirpak and gave him a special thanks for staying within budget while accomplishing this goal. He also introduced Battalion Chief Chris Richardson to report on the process required to achieve the Premier Level designation. BC Richardson stated this project has been a long process and explained the five requirements for achieving premier status; 1) documenting agency leadership commitment to PEAP, 2) developing a Quality Improvement (QI) program, 3) collecting and submitting electronic EMS patient care reports as an AZ-PIERS participating agency, 4) active attendance and participation in applicable Data and Quality Assurance (DQA) initiatives, and 5) ensuring data feeds back into the QI program to inform the analysis and improvement of care.

Mayor Mook asked if most fire departments have this certification Chief Richardson responded that he did not have specific stats but believed there are approximately 20 to 30 statewide who have this status; he added that this is the highest certification possible. Mayor Mook congratulated the El Mirage fire department for reaching this level of proficiency and achievement.

Dr. Isom recognized Chief Wise for being an example of the development at the Fire Department in the administrative staff and for providing the crew with the direction and ability to pursue and achieve this goal.

4. Water Billings

Dr. Isom updated Council on the previously reported 19 water accounts that were under-billed (11 businesses, two HOAs, two City of El Mirage, eight residential - one in El Mirage and seven in the City of Surprise) that will be notified of the under-billing, reasons for the under billing, and provided with payment methods. Customers will be directed to call Customer Service Director Carrie Smith with any questions. He noted that the billings have been corrected and there have been no phone calls received referencing what would have been a noticeable difference.

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.

Mayor Mook requested City Clerk Sharon Antes to update Council on the recently conducted HOA Academy.

Ms. Antes reported the 5-week HOA Academy was concluded Monday, March 6, and noted that Mr. and Mr. Frank Carnal (present in the audience) and Councilor Jones attended. She noted the final Academy session involved staff from various departments who explained their respective responsibilities and how they relate to HOA activities. She advised that Customer Service Director Carrie Smith, Planning & Zoning Administrator Jose Macias, Sgt. Chris Culp, Assistant Police Chief Laura Liuzzo and she, too, all gave PowerPoint presentations relative to their respective areas of expertise. After each Academy session evaluation forms were reviewed and she was happy to report that all five sessions were predominately rated as either "Excellent" or "Very Good." Comments were received about how much the attendees appreciated the Academy and how much they learned. The focus of the Academy was to provide an HOA overview but communication between HOA board members, Board members and HOA residents, residents and HOA Management companies, and the City and HOAs was stressed and highlighted. Overall, the Academy was very well attended and well received; and discussions will be had on when/if to conduct a future academy.

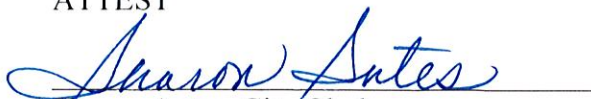
Mayor Mook agreed the Academy was a success and cited several major takeaways were that the City cannot and does not enforce HOA CC&Rs and that residents are meant to first call their respective management companies with problems within their HOAs. She also stated she is very proud of the employees who organized, participated and presented at this Academy.

VIII. **ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 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 Meeting held on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 and a quorum was present.


Sharon Antes, City Clerk