

**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, JUNE 6, 2017**

Minutes

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Lana Mook, Councilmember Roy Delgado, Councilmember Bob Jones, Councilmember Lynn Selby, Councilmember David Shapera

Excused: Councilmember Jack Palladino

Note: Vice Mayor Joe Ramirez passed away on 6/2/2017.

II. CALL TO ORDER

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence --

Mayor Mook specifically noted this moment of silence was in honor of the passing of Vice Mayor Ramirez and expressed thoughts and prayers for Jack Palladino recovering from kidney surgery

Silence Cell Phones & Pagers

III. PROCLAMATIONS

P1. Proclamation to recognize June 14, 2017 as the 242nd Birthday of the United States Army (Administration)

Public Relations Manager Amber Wakeman reported on June 14, 1775, the Second Continental Congress, representing the citizens of 13 American colonies, authorized the establishment of the Continental Army and for the past 242 years, the U.S. Army's central mission has been to fight and win the nations wars. Citizens of El Mirage have proudly served and made the ultimate sacrifice for our nations' freedom while serving in the United States Army and other branches of our nation's military. She presented Staff Sgt. Nathan Lucero from the United States Army with the City's framed proclamation to take back to the Acting Secretary of the U.S. Army, Honorable Robert M. Speer.

Mayor Mook proclaimed June 14, 2017 to be UNITED STATES ARMY'S 242ND BIRTHDAY and expressed appreciation on behalf of the people of El Mirage to the United States Army and to the dedicated soldiers who have served in it over the 242 years it has been in existence.

IV. PRESENTATION

P2. Presentation by Willdan Financial Services regarding an addendum to the Dysart Ranchettes Irrigation rate study to add cash flow projection information (Finance)

Assistant Finance Director Christy Eusebio introduced Keith Burnett of Willdan Financial Services, Inc. who summarized the operations cost of producing irrigation water using actual data for the full year of 2015. He explained costs for electricity, staffing costs and the actual cost per acre foot paid to CAP for recharge giving an annual cost of \$75,455. City costs per hour were \$52.11 or \$1.04/k gallons. The current rate being charged of \$20.97 per hour represents approximately \$0.41 per 1,000 gallons. Mr. Burnett gave revenue projections for the next five years using the charge of \$52.11/hour and annual escalating losses through FY 2021/22 ranging from (\$21K) to (\$107K). Full cost recovery would require a charge of \$72.62/hour.

Dr. Isom thanked residents of the Dysart Ranchettes who attended the Public Meeting held last Thursday evening in which staff listened to the Ranchettes owners regarding the Dysart Ranchettes irrigation system. He noted that the intent of the meeting was to hear the Ranchettes owners concerns and gather their input. It was clear from that meeting that irrigation is very important to the Ranchettes owners and their desire was for the operation to continue. He explained how and why the investigation began and acknowledged the hours of time staff has researched the matter. Historically, the City has not charged the cost of the water and, in fact, there are even differences of opinions as to the true cost of operation. He stated that as City Manager his job is seek consensus from the Council taking into account the resident information received. From his observation and in reviewing the comments received from the residents as well as Council members, his conclusion is that the charges for irrigation should remain the same as today and the matter will be closed at this time unless Council desires to bring it up again in the future. The study proposes a higher rate and suggests the City is subsidizing the irrigation operation but he stands by his recommendation to keep the rate the same for now. He also referenced an unsigned policy of operation that was found in the files and that was also provided by resident Mr. Freberg and asked City Clerk Antes to pass out copies of the policy to Council and the audience. He explained there is a City Code foundation to the policies and he will be using the Code and past precedent to update the polices for distribution to the Ranchettes owners, and asked for cooperation from owners to continue to work on and improve efficiencies wherever possible. He requested Mr. Freberg and other residents present to take this message back to other owners not present this evening. Dr. Isom continued by expressing a brief history of recent accomplishments through sound fiscal management and believes that by following these principles, the operation of the irrigation system can continue. He then asked Council for any questions or comments.

Councilor Shapera stated he was present at the Public Meeting last Thursday and agrees with the City Manager's proposal.

Councilor Delgado stated he wanted to meet with Dr. Isom to review some of the numbers in the study and while Dr. Isom recommended putting the study aside for now, he stated he would be happy to me with Councilor Delgado at any time.

Councilor Selby had no comment.

Councilor Jones stated he attended the meeting and it was heartwarming to hear the Ranchettes residents passion and he thinks this is the right decision. It was an opportunity for citizens and government to work together and come to a working solution and he believes this is the right solution at this time.

Mayor Mook stated sometimes there is a need to take a second, third and fourth look at things to come to the best solution. Staff has done an excellent job of trying to figure all the angles and what would be best. Setting this aside is the best policy and working with the Ranchettes residents is no different than working with residents in other parts of the City to address their unique characteristics from the downtown area to the HOA's and the non-HOA's. They each have their own issues that are important to them and irrigation is certainly important to the Ranchettes. This Council owes it to all citizens to do what is in the best interest of each area.

Dr. Isom explained another concern he has is the age of the well and he believes if the City continues to manage finances appropriately, some money can be set aside; he recommends doing so simply because of the age of the well.

Ranchettes owner Doug Hood addressed Council and stated he appreciates the fact that they were heard. He stated he supports the City Manager's recommendation to set the matter aside but stated the Ranchettes owners are still seeking ways of revamping the way they irrigate so they use less gallons. He thanked Council for the time to speak.

Ranchettes owner Robyn Freberg thanked the City Manager and Council on behalf of the Ranchettes owners. He stated he wants to work toward finding ways to save money and wants to discuss their ideas and suggestions with the City and try to get the costs down. He thanked Council and staff.

V. 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.

VI. 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 to authorize the Deputy City Manager/Finance Director to make budget transfers as necessary for FY 2016-17 to adjust fund and department balances to comply with annual audit. (Finance)
2. Consideration and action to authorize the Deputy City Manager/Finance Director to make budget adjustments for FY 2017/18 to adjust the balance of FY 2016/17 carry forward projects. (Finance)

Councilor Jones moved to approve all items listed on the Consent Agenda as presented; seconded by Councilor Shapera. Motion carried unanimously (5/0).

VII. REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Consideration and action to approve Resolution R17-06-12 authorizing Amendment No. 2 to the Cooperative Agreement between Maricopa County administered by its Human Services Department and the City of El Mirage to renew the existing Agreement pursuant to the automatic renewal clause in Paragraph 3 for an additional three years Federal Fiscal Years 2018, 2019, and 2020 to participate in the CDBG, HOME and ESG Urban County programs. (Administration)

Intergovernmental Manager Amber Wakeman explained this Cooperating Agreement for Federal FY 2018, 2019 and 2020 allows the City to participate in the CDBG, HOME and ESG Urban County Programs after June 17, 2017.

Councilor Jones moved to approve Resolution R17-06-02 authorizing Amendment No. 2 to the Cooperative Agreement between Maricopa County administered by its Human Services Department to renew the existing Agreement pursuant to the automatic renewal clause in Paragraph 3 for an additional three years Federal Fiscal Years 2018, 2019 and 2020 to participate in the CDBG, HOME and ESG Urban County Programs; seconded by Councilor Shapera. Motion carried unanimously (5/0).

- B. Consideration and action to approve an amendment to an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for police dispatch services between the City of El Mirage and the City of Tolleson. (Finance)

Deputy City Manager/Finance Director Robert Nilles explained the amendments to the Tolleson Police Dispatch Agreement that included reviewing annual fee increases, responsibilities for upgrades to equipment and software, and administrative fees.

Councilor Shapera pointed out there are three dispatchers and a supervisor position and he requested those positions be advertised on the City of El Mirage Human Resources website page when Tolleson has a need to hire dispatch personnel; he stated they are really well-paid jobs and he would like to see El

Mirage residents get an opportunity to apply. Mr. Nilles stated he will address that issue with Wendy Jackson of the Tolleson Human Resources Department.

Councilor Jones stated it is an excellent idea by Councilor Shapera and concurred with the request.

Councilor Jones moved to approve an amendment to an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for police dispatch services between the City of El Mirage and the City of Tolleson; seconded by Councilor Shapera. Motion carried unanimously (5/0).

C. Public hearing and closure of public hearing to permit any taxpayer to be heard in favor of or against any proposed expenditure or tax levy. (Finance)

Mayor Mook opened the Public Hearing; having no public comment requests, she closed the Public Hearing.

Mayor Mook received a late Public Comment Form and allowed for it at this time:

Resident Barry Knight addressed Council regarding raising fowl in the City limits. He stated he lives on West Larkspur and described a situation with his neighbor that escalated last Sunday with fowl running loose in his yard. The neighbors blocked his driveway and prevented him from going to church until the Police arrived 45 minutes later. They have also added extensions to their shared wall. Mr. Knight believes chickens carry disease and draw flies, pigeons are also being drawn to the area because of the chicken feed, and now other neighbors are also bringing in chickens and building chicken coops. He provided information on the number of deaths in 40 dates caused by salmonella as well as pictures of his neighbor's chickens. He requested Council consider changing the City's policy regarding raising chickens in city limits.

Mayor Mook directed staff to investigate and stated every effort would be made to find a solution.

Councilor Shapera addressed Chief McDonald and stated he is concerned about the reported 45 minutes response time. Chief McDonald advised Councilor Shapera he will look into this matter and get back to him.

Dr. Isom asked Chief McDonald to identify a person Mr. Knight can call directly regarding this ongoing issue.

D. Consideration and action to convene in a Special Meeting to finally determine and adopt estimates of proposed expenditures pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1710. Adoption of Budget. (Finance)

Councilor Jones moved to convene into a Special Meeting to finally determine and adopt estimates of proposed expenditures pursuant to

A.R.S. § 41-1710 Adoption of budget; seconded by Councilor Shapera. Motion carried unanimously (5/0).

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF EL MIRAGE
EL MIRAGE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
10000 N. EL MIRAGE ROAD
TUESDAY, JUNE 6, 2017**

E. SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

SP1. Consideration and action to approve Resolution R17-06-11 to finally determine and adopt the FY 2017-2018 proposed spending limitation and budget. (Finance)

DCM/Finance Director Mr. Nilles explained the changes that have been made since the Tentative Budget was adopted. There is an increase in the General Fund Revenue of about 3.5%. There will be no rate, fee or tax increases, Capital Improvement Projects are nearing completion, housing values are growing significantly, and the business community is beginning to take note of improvements. He then reviewed the CIP General Fund numbers and reserve amounts. State shared revenues have been provided from the state and the estimated population for El Mirage has topped 35,000 this year which means more state shared revenues than in the past. The City is projecting from state estimates about \$3.3M from state shared sales tax, \$4.3M for state shared income tax and almost \$1.5M for vehicle license tax. The revenue and expenses are still the same as the Tentative Budget. There were transfers in and out of certain line items. Mr. Nilles then reviewed these transfers and increases in some line items.

Councilor Jones moved to approve Resolution R17-06-11 to finally determine and adopt the FY 2017-2018 proposed spending limitation and budget; seconded by Mayor Mook. Motion carried unanimously (5/0).

F. Consideration and action to close the Special Meeting and reconvene into Regular session (Finance).

Councilor Jones moved to close the Special Meeting and reconvene into Regular Session; seconded by Councilor Shapera. Motion carried unanimously (5/0).

G. Consideration and action to recommend to the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors the reappointment of Councilor Roy Delgado (primary) and appointment of Mayor Lana Mook (alternate) to the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) for FY 2017–18. (Administration)

Intergovernmental Manager Amber Wakeman explained these appointments to the CDAC Committee are required by July 10, 2017.

Councilor Jones moved to recommend to the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors the reappointment of Councilor Roy Delgado (primary) and appointment of Mayor Lana Mook (alternate) to the Community Development Advisory Committee (CDAC) for FY 2017-18; seconded by Councilor Shapera. Motion carried unanimously (5/0).

VIII. 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 Autumn Grooms as the new Grants Writer and Assistant to the City Manager. She was previously the Communications and Grants Director for the Sparta Area School District in Sparta, Wisconsin, a position which included grant writing, management, marketing and public relations skills. Prior, Ms. Grooms spent 10 years as a journalist with the LaCrosse Tribune, Autumn also worked for the YWCA of the Coulee Region in Wisconsin in development and grant writing. Ms. Grooms has an undergraduate degree in human services from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, a Master's degree in Cultural Foundations of Education from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and is pursuing her Doctorate in Public Administration from West Chester University in Pennsylvania. Ms. Grooms thanked Council and stated she is glad to be here and is busy getting settled.

Dr. Isom summarized by noting this is the Council's sixth budget being approved and reminded Council of the uncertainty of their first budget which resulted in the implementation of the first Capital Improvements Plan and working to obtain the first ever rating from the rating agencies. This Council also had the ground breaking of the Fire Station, brought back fire fighters and many other projects that have been achieved. He stated there is a great deal of collaboration on this Council and with the community and as City Manager, he works very hard for both the Council and the community and is proud of the things they have done even with challenges along the way. He believes the biggest achievement is the stability that has been provided for a very qualified work force. Mr. Nilles identified the status of utility rates and Dr. Isom reminded Council of their pledge in regard to those rates and that they have held that promise; the Council also made a pledge and kept the property taxes stable for the citizens. Dr. Isom commended Council and Vice Mayor Ramirez, in his absence, and wants to work with this Council to continue the progress. He advised of the need to address upcoming revenue changes with the absence of Redflex that was the underpinning of two major expenses, Public Safety and the Northern Parkway construction commitment. He pointed out his commitment to Council and staff in recognizing the quality of very caring and dedicated employees and doing everything within reason to continue that recognition and making improvements in the coming year.

IX. 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.

Councilor Shapera stated he will be attending a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math) meeting at NAU this week and has been asked to discuss a community concern as well as a school concern. He stated many children do not know how to swim and he would like to propose a program where Thompson Ranch students (as the inaugural school), be able to get swimming lessons at the YMCA as an after-school project. He envisioned students being picked up at the school and taken to the YMCA and parents could pick up the students at the Y after their lessons. He stated he and the Principal thought possibly the local HOA, PTSA or other fund raising events could make this program viable. His idea is to teach students how to swim and in the process introduce both students and parents to the YMCA and generate more membership and support at the Y.

Councilor Shapera stated his second suggestion is to have an electric vehicle charging station located somewhere in El Mirage. One of the locations he is suggesting is the Grand Avenue and Thompson Ranch Road intersection in the area where the construction equipment is currently located. He believes if there was a Tesla and other electric vehicle recharging station in that location it could be identified in GPS and trade magazines; signs could be installed to advertise and direct business down Thunderbird Road to the post office and other downtown businesses and would "put El Mirage on the map." He stated APS works with Tesla and others to achieve this and he could see no cost to the City. He would like to request staff to work on this and determine feasibility.

Councilor Selby stated that he feels the swimming program idea would help increase YMCA enrollment and reduce City funds now being donated to the YMCA.

X. **ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 pm.



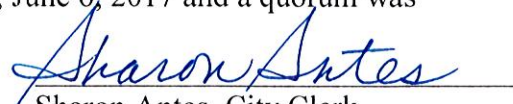
Lana Mook, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sharon Antes, City Clerk

I hereby certify the aforementioned minutes are a true and accurate record of the regular El Mirage City Council meeting held on Tuesday, June 6, 2017 and a quorum was present.



Sharon Antes, City Clerk