



City of Maricopa

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council Regular Meeting

City Hall
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Mayor Nancy Smith
Vice-Mayor Amber Liermann
Councilmember Eric Goettl
Councilmember Vincent Manfredi
Councilmember Bob Marsh
Councilmember Henry Wade

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. Pastor Grady Root from Maricopa Springs Family Church gave the invocation and Councilmember Wade the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

Present: 4 - Councilmember Bob Marsh, Councilmember Eric Goettl, Councilmember Vincent Manfredi and Councilmember Henry Wade
Excused: 2 - Mayor Nancy Smith and Vice Mayor Amber Liermann

3. Proclamations, Acknowledgements, Awards and Presentations

3.1 [PRES 24-08](#)

The Mayor and City Council shall hear a presentation from Heinfeld, Meech & Co., P.C. regarding the audit of the City of Maricopa Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023, Highway User Revenue Fund Report, and the Single Audit Report. Discussion Only.

Finance Manager, Chris Evipirou introduced Christopher Heinfeld with Heinfeld, Meech & Co. Mr. Heinfeld reviewed the audit timeline and process. He detailed the scope of the audit services and the standards they followed. He provided a summary of the audit adjustments including corrections to misstatements, primarily to grant revenues. He discussed non-audit services provided and the responsibilities of the auditor and management. He reviewed other required communications and stated there were no disagreement on the findings. He detailed key areas of the annual comprehensive financial report in pages 13, 17, 27, 41, 73, 85, and 115. He provided single audit report highlights in page 9, and a summary of the entire report. He thanked the city and the Department of Business Administration and added that management and staff were cooperative through the entire process. He opened for questions.

The Presentation was heard.

4. Report from the Mayor

Councilmember Marsh thanked Heinfeld, Meech & Co. for the presentation. He reported attending the following events: The Global Water 20th Anniversary celebration, the Pinal Water Augmentation Authority meeting, and the Senior Advisory Committee meeting. He announced the upcoming Senior Lunch & Learn would be on

Friday and it would feature Development Services Director, Rodolfo Lopez as guest speaker. Councilmember Manfredi asked the community to be cautious and patient with construction on State Route 347.

5. Report from the City Manager

No items were reported.

6. Call to the Public

Peg Chapados, with Friends of the Library, discussed the agreement with the City and how the organization contributed money to the library. She thanked their members and library staff, especially Angela and Craig. She also thanked the citizens of Maricopa for supporting the book nook.

7. Consent Agenda

Councilmember Manfredi stated he had a requested to Move Agenda Item 7.5 to the end of the agenda.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Bob Marsh, seconded by Councilmember Eric Goettl, to Adopt the Consent Agenda with the exception of Agenda Item 7.5. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

7.1 [CON 24-15](#)

The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and take action to ratify the Purchase and Sale Agreement with The Paces Foundation, Inc, related to the sale of 4.00 acres of real property generally located south of W. Bowlin Rd between N. White and Parker Rd and N. High Lonesome Dr., Maricopa, Pinal County, Arizona, a portion of Assessor Parcel No. 502-03-012P, for \$1,132,560.00 and authorizing the City Manager to execute any future amendments to extend the Closing as he deems necessary and any closing documents related thereto. Discussion and Action.

This Contract was Approved.

7.2 [CON 24-16](#)

The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and take action to ratify the Purchase and Sale Agreement with Soho Housing Partners, LLC, related to the sale of 4.35 acres of real property generally located south of W. Bowlin Rd between N. White and Parker Rd and N. High Lonesome Dr., Maricopa, Pinal County, Arizona, a portion of Assessor Parcel No. 502-03-012P, for \$1,231,659.00 and authorizing the City Manager to execute any future amendments to extend the Closing as he deems necessary and any closing documents related thereto. Discussion and Action.

This Contract was Approved.

7.3 [IGA 24-06](#)

The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and take action to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the City of Phoenix to conduct maintenance and repair services for its public safety mobile, portable, and associated ancillary radio communications equipment. Discussion and Action.

This Intergovernmental Agreement was Approved.

7.4 [SUB24-03](#)

The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and take action to approve Subdivision Case

SUB24-03, Final Plat Lowe's at Southbridge Marketplace, a replat request for final plat approval to subdivide +/- 10.705 acres of land into one (1) Lot for a commercial subdivision. Discussion and Action.

This Subdivision was Approved.

- 7.6 [MIN 24-22](#) Approval of Minutes from the April 2, 2024 City Council Regular meeting. Discussion and Action.

The Minutes were Approved.

8. Regular Agenda and/or Public Hearings

- 8.1 [APP 24-03](#) The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and take action on making an appointment to fill the vacancy on the Senior Advisory Committee. Discussion and Action.

A motion was made by Councilmember Manfredi, seconded by Councilmember Goettl, to Appoint Patty Hess to the Senior Advisory Committee. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- 8.2 [RES 24-11](#) PUBLIC HEARING. A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Maricopa, Arizona, vacating and abandoning, without compensation, a portion of West Honeycutt Avenue generally located east of State Route 347 between the Union Pacific Railroad tracks and Desert Cedars Drive within the City of Maricopa. Discussion and Action.

Planner Alexander Bosworth presented ABDN 24-01, a request by the City to abandon a portion of West Honeycutt Avenue generally located east of State Route (SR) 347 between the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) tracks and Desert Cedars Drive. He detailed the public comment process and noted there were no comments received. He stated staff findings supported the abandonment and recommended approval of ABDN24-01. The public hearing opened at 6:30 p.m. There were no public comments. The hearing closed at 6:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilmember Marsh, seconded by Councilmember Wade, that this Resolution be Approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- 8.3 [RES 24-16](#) PUBLIC HEARING. A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Maricopa, Arizona, vacating and abandoning, without compensation, a portion of West Honeycutt Avenue generally located east of State Route 347 between the Union Pacific Railroad tracks and Desert Cedars Drive within the City of Maricopa. Discussion and Action.

Planner Alexander Bosworth inadvertently gave the presentation for Agenda Item 8.4 and noted that the correct corresponding presentation was the same as previously presented for Agenda Item 8.2. The public hearing opened at 6:32 p.m. There were no public comments. The hearing closed at 6:32 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilmember Goettl, seconded by Councilmember Marsh, that Resolution 24-16 be Approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- 8.4 [RES 24-13](#) PUBLIC HEARING. A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Maricopa, Arizona, vacating and abandoning, without compensation, a portion of North Maricopa Road and a portion of West Mercado Street, generally located east of N. Maricopa Rd. and North of West Mercado Street between W. Honeycutt Rd. and the

State Route 347 overpass within the City of Maricopa. Discussion and Action.

Planner Alexander Bosworth presented ABDN 24-002, a request by the City to abandon a portion of right-of-way on North Maricopa Road and West Mercado Street. He provided a map of the location, and detailed the public comment process noting that no comments were received. He reported staff findings supported the abandonment and recommended approval of ABDN24-002. The public hearing opened at 6:35 p.m. There were no public comments. The hearing closed 6:35 p.m.

A motion was made by Councilmember Wade, seconded by Councilmember Marsh, that this Resolution be Approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

8.5 **PRES 24-07**

The Mayor and City Council shall hear a 2023 Maricopa Police Department Annual Report Presentation from Police Chief Mark Goodman. Discussion Only.

Maricopa Police Department (MPD) Chief Mark Good presented the Maricopa Police Department's 2023 Report. He provided an overview of the contents in the presentation. He detailed the top 20 calls for service with a graph and discussed how the calls for service were received. Next, he reviewed the top 10 calls for service, from both community members and officer-initiated calls. He detailed the percentage of calls for service by priority. He provided graphs detailing the arrests data of 2023. He provided graphs detailing traffic citation data of 2023. He discussed the specialty units including the Traffic Unit, the School Resource Officers (SRO's), Animal Control, and the Public Safety Aides (PSA's). He highlighted the partnership with Maricopa Unified School District (MUSD) and noted they assumed full responsibilities of grants associated with the SRO's. He provided graphs with data for traffic citations, animal control and park ranger data. He discussed the 2023 accomplishments of the department including the 180 Day Plan, cultural remodeling, policy review, establishing relationships, collaborations with other city departments, staffing and enhancing the recruitment process. He discussed what was next for 2024 and opened the floor for questions.

Councilmember Goettl congratulated Chief Goodman and commended his report. He inquired about arrest statistics and the relation with the Pinal County Attorney's office. He expressed concerns with repeat offenders. Chief Goodman responded he met quarterly with County Attorney Kent Volkner and discussed similar concerns and stated they did an amazing job at balancing cases. Councilmember Goettl asked if there were any concerns with early releases or bail posted too low. Chief Goodman stated County Attorney Volkner had a good handle on addressing those issues.

Councilmember Wade commended the report. He asked about data on diversity and inclusion. Chief Goodman discussed diversity in hiring and elaborated. He discussed the meeting held by the Maricopa Black Chamber of Commerce with Ocean Kent and elaborated. Councilmember Wade commended the SRO's.

Councilmember Marsh congratulated Chief Goodman and the Police Department for a great 2023. Councilmember Goettl stated he looked forward to the 2024 and expressed support for the Police Department.

Councilmember Manfredi commended the 10 percent drop in crime and commended not having any priority H calls. He stated the quality of life was good in the city. He asked if the Police force was keeping up with the growth. Chief Goodman responded that he used data to drive those decisions and commended George Burger. Councilmember Manfredi asked if the city was at the right level for the current population and current crime trends. Chief Goodman responded they were doing good in staffing and there were several officers in training. He stated that in the summer

there would be approximately a full-staffed police department and elaborated on the opportunities that would allow.

The Presentation was heard.

7.5 **MISC 24-11**

The City Council shall discuss and possibly take action on approving a loan to Benjamin Bitter in an amount not to exceed \$650,000, which shall be paid back over a 30 year with fixed annual interest calculated based on the City's current investment rate of return +0.5% and authorizing the Mayor to execute the final loan document and deed of trust as approved by the City Attorney's office. Discussion and action.

Councilmember Manfredi opened the item and asked Councilmember Wade what his questions were. Councilmember Wade explained he wanted the item off from the consent section to have some transparent dialogue. City Attorney, Denis Fitzgibbons elaborated that this was to address the issue of dramatic change in mortgage rate prices. Deputy City Manager & Chief Financial Officer Matt Kozlowski explained that they used the rate of return of the city's investments and added a half point and elaborated why the loan was the best option. City Attorney Fitzgibbons elaborated.

Councilmember Goettl, thanked Matt and Denis for the information. He explained that as a Council, the decision was made that the City Manager needed to live in the community and elaborated.

A motion was made by Councilmember Wade, seconded by Councilmember Marsh, that this Miscellaneous Item be Approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

9. Executive Session

10. Adjournment

This meeting was Adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Certification of Minutes

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the City Council of Maricopa, Arizona, held on the 16th day of April, 2024. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 7th day of May, 2024.

Vanessa Bueras
City Clerk