



# City of Maricopa

## Meeting Minutes - Final City Council Regular Meeting

City Hall  
39700 W. Civic Center  
Plaza  
Maricopa, AZ 85138  
Ph: (520) 568-9098  
Fx: (520) 568-9120  
www.maricopa-az.gov

*Mayor Christian Price*  
*Vice-Mayor Henry M. Wade Jr.*  
*Councilmember Marvin L. Brown*  
*Councilwoman Julia R. Gusse*  
*Councilmember Vincent Manfredi*  
*Councilmember Nancy Smith*  
*Councilmember Rich Vitiello*

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Tuesday, February 5, 2019

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

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### 1. Call to Order

*The City Council Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. Maricopa Police Chaplain, Paul Ellis gave the invocation and Councilmember Brown led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.*

### 2. Roll Call

**Present:** 7 - Councilwoman Julia R. Gusse, Mayor Christian Price, Councilmember Nancy Smith, Councilmember Vincent Manfredi, Councilmember Rich Vitiello, Vice Mayor Henry Wade and Councilmember Marvin L. Brown

### 3. Proclamations, Acknowledgements and Awards

#### 3.1 [PROC 19-01](#) Black History Month Proclamation

*Mayor Price read the proclamation and proclaimed the month of February 2019 as Black History Month in the City of Maricopa and presented it to Reverend Arnold Jackson. He thanked him for his work with the Age-Friendly Advisory Committee. The meeting went into recess at 7:13 p.m.*

### 4. Report from the Mayor

*The meeting reconvened at 7:45 p.m. Mayor Price reported attending the Martin Luther King Jr. celebration at Copper Sky and the Senior Info/Expo. He reported on the Maricopa Meadows annual Disc Golf Tournament. He added that ACE Hardware partnered with the City to add disc golf baskets at Copper Sky to expand the championship courses. He reported attending the Central Arizona Governments (CAG) Legislative Days. Next, he reported speaking at the Maricopa Advocate Program (MAP) kick-off event and elaborated. Lastly, he reported meeting with the Governor's staff as part of the Arizona League of Cities and Towns and discussed legislative priorities.*

### 5. Report from the City Manager

*City Manager Rick Horst had no items to report. Mayor Price noted there would be a Strategic Planning Meeting on Thursday, February 7th, 2019 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.*

## 6. Call to the Public

*Susan Cameron, with the Maricopa Arts Committee, gave information on the upcoming Inside the Creative Mind lecture series. She announced the next series would be on Saturday, February 9th at 1 p.m. at the Maricopa Public Library, and would include presentations by Navajo weaver Tiffany Yazzie and Painter Kristal Hoeh. She stated that next month's lecture would be presented by Judith Zaimont and Herman Neuberger.*

*Shelly Gillespie unveiled the cover of the Copa Shorts Film Fest program by artist May-May Tallwing (AKA May Donahue). She also stated Mrs. Donahue was willing to volunteer for the Maricopa Arts Committee. She gave information on the featured films and invited everyone to attend the festival on February 23rd at the Maricopa High School Performing Arts Center and on February 24th at City Hall. She elaborated on the event and invited the public to participate. She acknowledged Councilmembers Vincent Manfredi and Nancy Smith for their support.*

## 7. Minutes

- 7.1 [MIN 19-07](#) Approval of minutes from the January 15, 2019 City Council Work Session.

**A motion was made by Councilmember Manfredi, seconded by Vice Mayor Wade, that the Minutes be Approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

- 7.2 [MIN 19-08](#) Approval of minutes from the January 15, 2019 City Council Regular meeting.

**A motion was made by Councilmember Manfredi, seconded by Vice Mayor Wade, that the Minutes be Approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

## 8. Consent Agenda

### Approval of the Consent Agenda

**A motion was made by Mayor Christian Price, seconded by Councilmember Nancy Smith, to Adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by unanimous vote.**

- 8.1 [GRAAC 19-01](#) The Mayor and City Council shall hear and possibly take action on acceptance of a grant and entering in a contract with the Arizona Department of Homeland Security in the amount of \$106,566 for the purchase of a vehicle and equipment for Operation Stonegarden. There is no matching requirement. Acceptance of the grant will also authorize the City Manager to sign the grant contracts and any related documents. Discussion and Action.

**This Grant Acceptance was Approved.**

- 8.2 [GRAAC 19-02](#) The Mayor and City Council shall hear and possibly take action on acceptance of a grant and entering in a contract with the Arizona Department of Homeland Security in the amount of \$55,000 for overtime and mileage under Operation Stonegarden. There is no matching requirement. Acceptance of the grant will also authorize the City Manager to sign the grant contracts and any related documents. Discussion and Action.

**This Grant Acceptance was Approved.****9. Regular Agenda/Public Hearings****9.1 MISC 19-08**

The Mayor and City Council shall discuss a future ordinance that will amend Section 2-71 of the City Code regarding regular meetings to amend the time for regular Council meetings and to authorize the City Manager to cancel regular Council meetings and to schedule work sessions. Discussion only.

*City Manager Horst detailed the current practice for council meeting including the work session at 6p.m., followed by the regular meeting at 7p.m. He explained that on occasions there was no work session agenda at 6 p.m. and it caused confusion and wait time. He added that work sessions often wrapped up early and left a wait period until the regular meeting commenced. He explained that the current format allowed staff to present legislation during the work session with the expectation that a formal action by the City Council would follow immediately during the regular session and it did not allow sufficient time for review and constituent feedback.*

*Councilmember Smith, indicated that she appreciated the efficiency of time and consolidation of the meetings. She encouraged the public to provide feedback.*

*Councilmember Vitiello inquired if they would have the ability to change it once approved, if necessary. City Manager Horst responded that Council had the ability to change it as they saw fit through the same process of a minimum of two weeks.*

*Vice Mayor Wade asked for clarification on the proposed times being decided on. City Manager Horst clarified that the two items being decided on were; whether to eliminate the work session, and call them only when necessary; and the time of the regular meeting.*

*Mayor Price spoke in support of the proposed work session changes and the process of items presented at one council meeting and for action at a later one. He expressed concerns on whether other council members had the ability to take time off from work to attend meetings and with the public's ability to attend as well. He stated he would like to see flexibility on the time meetings can get started and elaborated. He emphasized the importance of checks and balances in government and expressed concerns with the proposed change that would allow the City Manager to cancel meetings. He discussed potential situations and worst-case scenarios. City Manager Horst clarified the intention of the proposed change and suggested adding, "With the consensus of the Mayor."*

*City Attorney, Denis Fitzgibbons further elaborated that per code, there had to be a Council Meeting at least once a month. A brief discussion ensued and City Manager Horst stated they would come back with a few options for the Council.*

*Councilmember Smith stated she would like to hear from council members who worked out of town. Councilwoman Gusse stated she would not like to overburden constituents and stated that it was getting harder to commute into town from State Route (SR) 347. She added that personally, she had to leave an hour early from work to attend council meetings. She stated the later the meeting, the better for constituents that wanted to participate. Vice Mayor Wade agreed with the later time, to allow the residents that commuted in SR 347 enough time to attend.*

*Councilmember Manfredi elaborated that currently the work sessions started at 6 p.m.*

*and stated he liked the idea of starting the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. A brief discussion ensued regarding the pros and cons of potential times.*

**Discussed**

**9.2**      **MISC 19-07**

The Mayor and City Council shall discuss a future ordinance that will amend Section 2-82(3)(a) of the City Code regarding Council standing subcommittees to eliminate the Marketing and Communications Subcommittee, eliminate the Personnel and Benefits Subcommittee, eliminate the Legislative Affairs Subcommittee and revise the Budget, Finance and Operations Subcommittee. Discussion only.

*Mayor Price clarified that standing sub-committees were used extensively in the past, but several of them had not met for some time. City Manager Horst clarified that the item was not in reference to the Boards, Committees and Commissions to which the City Council appointed people. He recommended the Personnel and Benefits Sub-Committee be eliminated because personnel issues were nuanced and highly regulated. He stated the benefits portion could be covered as part of the budget process. He explained the Legislative Affairs Council Subcommittee had never met and the Marketing and Communications Subcommittee had not met in a long time. He recommended the Budget, Finance and Operations (BFO) be revised to the "Budget and Finance Sub-Committee."*

*Councilwoman Gusse stated she was part of the Personnel and Benefits Subcommittee and inquired if information would be received from staff regarding health benefits. City Manager Horst elaborated on open enrollment, MOU's (Memorandum of Understanding) discussions, and the fitness program. He added that council could always create an Ad Hoc committee to address special issues.*

*Vice Mayor Wade asked for clarification on whether unions would have the opportunity to give input. City Manager Horst responded they would receive the same information through the union negotiation process. He explained he actively met with the Fire and Police Departments to understand all issues. Mayor Price further elaborated that the meet and confer process would still apply and would ultimately be approved during a regular meeting. Mayor Price further elaborated on the possibility of creating Ad Hoc committees when special circumstances called for it.*

*Councilwoman Gusse recalled a situation when a previous City Manager gave education benefits to a chosen few and asked if there would be something in place to prevent similar situations. City Manager Horst responded educational benefits were an equal opportunity that was available on a first come, first serve basis. A brief discussion ensued.*

**Discussed**

**10.      Executive Session**

**A motion was made by Councilmember Marvin L. Brown, seconded by Councilmember Vincent Manfredi, to go into Executive Session at 8:29 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.**

**10.1      ES 19-01**

The Maricopa City Council may go into executive session for the purpose of discussion or consultation with the City attorney and designated representatives of the City in order to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding entering into a Purchase and Sale Agreement, Escrow Instructions and Development Agreement with Maricopa Auberge, LLC, for a portion of the Copper Sky Commercial

Property, and the potential terms thereof, to give staff direction on how to proceed with this agreement and for legal advice regarding same, pursuant to A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3) and (A)(4).

**11. Adjournment**

**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 5th day of February, 2019. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 19th day of February, 2019.

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**Vanessa Bueras**  
City Clerk