



City of Maricopa

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Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council Regular Meeting

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

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. Legacy Church Pastor, Drew Anderson gave the invocation and Vice-Mayor Liermann led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

Present: 7 - Councilmember Bob Marsh, Councilmember Eric Goettl, Councilmember Vincent Manfredi, Mayor Nancy Smith, Councilmember Henry Wade, Councilmember Rich Vitiello and Vice Mayor Amber Liermann

3. Proclamations, Acknowledgements, Awards and Presentations

3.1 PRES 24-02

The Mayor and City Council shall hear a presentation from the University of Arizona Growth Initiatives Director, Malcolm Green.

University of Arizona (UA) Growth Initiatives Director, Malcolm Green gave a presentation on the Area of Innovation at the Arizona Experiment Station/Maricopa Agricultural Center (MAC). He gave background on the program stating that it started around February of 2020. He stated a year later they submitted an EDA Phase 1 Feasibility Study Application to get funding and in June 2022 they were awarded \$400K. He stated the feasibility study started August 2022 and was completed and presented to SLT in June 2024. He stated the 2024 Fiscal Year (FY) funding was approved in June 2023 and the Growth Initiative was added to the University of Arizona FY24 goals by Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR). He detailed the UA Maricopa Growth Initiative and explained portions of MAC acreage could be re-purposed for greater benefit. He provided some Maricopa Fast Facts, projections of growth, population, and major industries. He discussed the feasibility study including the purpose and vision. He provided site maps and discussed the potential opportunities, such as: innovative research to benefit AZ communities, a vibrant hub for businesses, and education opportunities. He provided a visual of what the site could look like and discussed the potential economic impact.

Mayor Smith thanked Mr. Green for the presentation. Councilmember Goettl thanked Mr. Green for his partnership with the City.

The Presentation was heard.

4. Report from the Mayor

Councilmember Vitiello gave information on the 7th annual Izzy Calderon Softball Tournament taking place on Saturday, February 10, 2024 at 7:30 a.m. He stated all proceeds went to the Calderon family and encouraged participation.

Councilmember Wade acknowledged the beginning of Black History Month and encouraged community involvement.

Councilmember Marsh gave a recap of the Senior Info/Expo and reported attending the Budget and Finance Subcommittee meeting. He reported on the State of the City Address and asked for a round of applause for the city staff who coordinated the event.

Councilmember Manfredi acknowledged the organizers of the Veteran's Parade and reported they were recognized as Community Champions at the State of the City Address. He announced the passing of the 2023 parade Grand Marshall Gene Wyant, a World War II veteran. He reported attending various transportation meetings, the Central Arizona Governments (CAG) legislative day, and a Rural Transportation Advocacy Council (RTAC) meeting. He elaborated on Propositions 416 and 417 and how they would affect funding for State Route (SR) 347.

Vice Mayor Liermann asked for a moment of silence for Gene Wyant. She gave a brief statement of when she met Mr. Wyant. Next, she stated the Art for the Heart would be held on Saturday, February 10, 2024 at Maricopa High School starting at 9 a.m. She added that proceeds would go to the American Heart Association.

Mayor Smith reported on the State of the City Address and directed those interested to the link available in the city website and newsletters. She gave an overview and stated the city was celebrating 20 years since incorporation. She reported on the Senior Info/Expo and commended Ron Smith, the Senior Advisory committee, and staff for coordinating the event. She stated she, along with City Manager, Deputy City Manager, Vice Mayor and Intergovernmental Affairs Director went to an Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) meeting to ask for funds and make sure they were not taken away.

5. Report from the City Manager

There were no items reported.

6. Call to the Public

Kent O'Jon stated that in celebration of Black History Month, the Maricopa Black Chamber of Commerce increased membership to 87 members.

George Arredondo announced he was a candidate for the Pinal County Board of Supervisors District 1. He stated he would be around the community learning about the districts concerns and provided a brief background. He stated he was a native Arizonian and elaborated on his experience. He commended the State of the City Address for reflecting on the history of Maricopa and Pinal County.

Kenneth shared census information and how it could be used to ask for grants. He stated that to get into some of the apartments in the area, there were stipulations on gross income and family size. He stated that as a single parent of one child, he could not afford to get an apartment. He recommended looking into equal opportunities for single people.

7. Consent Agenda

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Bob Marsh, seconded by Councilmember Rich Vitiello, to Adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 7.1 [CON 24-04](#) The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and take action on approving the first amendment to the Subrecipient Agreement with Pinal County for FY2022 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding. Discussion and Action.
- This Contract was Approved.**
- 7.2 [RES 24-07](#) A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Maricopa, Arizona, accepting public improvements and maintenance responsibility for all local internal streets within Sorrento Parcel 11, into the City Street/Road Maintenance System. Discussion and Action.
- This Resolution was Approved.**
- 7.3 [RES 24-08](#) A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Maricopa, Arizona, accepting public improvements and maintenance responsibility for Sorrento Blvd Phase 2 within the Sorrento subdivision, into the City Street/Road Maintenance System. Discussion and Action.
- This Resolution was Approved.**
- 7.4 [SUB23-16](#) The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and take action to approve Subdivision Case # SUB23-16, Final Plat for Maricopa City Complex a Re-Plat of Lot 4 of Block Plat for City of Maricopa Complex, a request for an amendment to Block Plat for City of Maricopa Complex, Fee No. 2024-005125. Discussion and Action.
- This Subdivision was Approved.**
- 7.5 [CON 24-05](#) The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and take action to ratify the Purchase and Sale Agreement and Escrow Instructions with Maricopa Investments, LLC, related to the purchase of 2.59 acres of real property generally located at the southwest corner of W. Honeycutt Ave and N Maricopa Rd, Accessor Parcel No. 510-29-001B for \$1,698,840.00 and authorizing the City Manager to execute this agreement, any future amendments to extend the Closing as he deems necessary and any closing documents related thereto. Discussion and Action.
- This Contract was Approved.**
- 7.6 [RES 24-09](#) A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Maricopa, Arizona, repealing the approval of Resolution 23-74 relating to the exchange of a portion of right of way in Section 28 of Township 4 South, Range 3 East of the Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, generally located west of the current alignment of N. Maricopa Road south of W. Honeycutt Avenue for a portion of real property generally located at the southwest corner of the intersection of W. Honeycutt Road and N. Maricopa Road. Discussion and Action.
- This Resolution was Approved.**
- 7.7 [MIN 24-08](#) Approval of Minutes from the January 16, 2024 City Council Regular meeting and the

January 30, 2024 City Council Special meeting. Discussion and Action.

The Minutes were Approved.

8. Regular Agenda and/or Public Hearings

8.1 APP 24-01

The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and take action on making an appointment to fill the vacancy on the Cultural Affairs and Arts Advisory Committee. Discussion and Action.

Councilmember Manfredi nominated Mecca Hunter for appointment in the Cultural Affairs and Arts Advisory Committee (CAAC). Mayor Smith nominated May McCarthey to the CAAC.

A motion was made by Councilmember Goettl, seconded by Vice Mayor Liermann, that the nominees be Appointed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

8.2 PRES 24-03

The Cultural Affairs and Arts, Parks and Recreation and Senior Advisory Committees will present their goals and objectives to the Mayor and City Council for fiscal year 24/25.

Senior Advisory Committee (SAC) Chair, Elizabeth Howell thanked the Council for their appointments and recognized Ron Smith for his coordination of the Senior Info/Expo. She thanked library staff: Angela Howell, Craig Ward, Brenda Campbell, Nick Brooks, Kelly Keleman, Travis Orian and Marlene Pearce. Next, she stated the SAC identified three (3) high-priority items for the Future's Planning and elaborated on the following: Priority One- A new, larger Senior Center. Priority Two- Improve the Maricopa Express Transit (MET) and Dial-a-Ride Service. And Priority Three- Assistance from city staff in coordinating the Senior Info/Expo. Next, she recommended the following changes to Resolution No. 23-52: Section (e) to read, "Be available to partner with community organization to educate, inform, and improve the quality of life for seniors." Delete section (g) as the Community Center already does that. Combine sections (h), (i) and (j) under "work with and support existing senior programs." And add "Advocate for senior transportation services within the city." Amend Section 4, item (c) to "Any member who is absent for three (3) consecutive meetings or is absent to any three (3) meetings over a four (4) month period, without contacting the chair person, shall be considered as having resigned their position." She stated the changes would help met the goals.

Vice Mayor Lierman asked if the requests were in order by priority. Mrs. Howell responded. Councilmember Marsh commended Mrs. Howell.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC), Vice-Chair Jeanine Edaakie gave a PowerPoint presentation on the city's Trail System. She stated PRAC requested partnering with the city to enhance and publicize the trail system. She stated PRAC would like to provide suggestions for improvement plans prior to implementation. She stated PRAC would also like to provide idea for marketing the system and provide feedback prior to implementation. She stated the goal of the trail system was to provide accessible connectedness for the health and well-being of citizens. She listed the areas of improvement like additional signage, include a QR code to a mobile application or website, more lighting and seating in shaded areas. She also recommended signage and installation of dog waste bag stations, and working with Homeowner's Association (HOA's) for maintenance. Lastly, she recommended a professionally produced video for marketing and noted the calculated costs were between \$5,000 to \$15,000.

PRAC member Brandon Aeschleman presented on playgrounds. He stated the PRAC wanted to focus on attractions with a focus on heights/tiers, safety and accessibility. He discussed the ideas to build attractions into the landscaping, playgrounds with padding all over, at least three tiers, separate tot play area, lots of shades, benches, big slides, plenty of things to climb, accessibility for handicap and wheelchair bound kids and covered areas/grills. He stated people would drive to Maricopa if playgrounds had all the proposed factors, he stated it would live up to the "iconic" destination, and residents would be proud of it.

Valerie Marsh presented an Archery Range Proposal for an outdoor, competition-level range within the Maricopa city limits. She listed the benefits of archery and the interest in the community. She stated the Maricopa Archers set up a Facebook page on December 7th and received 70 request to join on the first day and elaborated. She stated the 2023 USA Archery Arizona State Outdoor Championship drew 800 participants and their families to Phoenix. She concluded the presentation and opened the floor for questions.

Councilmember Goettl commended the presentations and dedication to the discussion. Vice-Mayor Lierman thanked the members for their work. Mayor Smith asked V. Marsh if she was a member of PRAC and asked who the chair was. V. Marsh verified she was not and Chair Tom Davis approached the podium. He verified that the archery was one of the three goals proposed by PRAC.

Councilmember Wade asked if the group had the opportunity to present the program to vendors and the community? And how had it been received? Committee member Michael Higashi stated they had talked with Genesis Archery and they were willing to provide bows to the club and to schools to start a program. He stated Maricopa High School was interested in a High School level program. Councilmember Goettl asked about the preliminary talks with Shield. Mr. Higashi added that Shields wanted to sponsor them.

Cultural Affairs and Arts Advisory Committee (CAAAC), Chair Peg Chapados acknowledged the committees Council liaisons Councilmembers Goettl and Wade. She asked all CAAAC members to stand for recognition and welcomed new member May and Mecca. She discussed the committees 2023 objectives in detail. Next, she detailed the 2023 goals including: Create and update a list of arts and cultural resources, events, programs and activities in the city: Continue public art displays: Facilitate an annual joint committee brainstorming session prior to the annual Future Planning session: and Provide feedback to the Council. She followed with their 2024 goals including: Continue the public displays : Offer solo artist gallery opportunities: Assist with a public info/input session on the proposed arts complex: Invite arts and cultural groups to present at committee meetings; Increase visibility in the community by leveraging City marketing resources and options: Explore ways to use cuisine to promote cultural awareness and appreciation: Offer ways to experience more cultural elements; Find cost-neutral ways to promote the committees objectives. She stated an arts complex considerations were the affordability, acoustics, aesthetics, adaptable/flexible design, economic driver, and an anchor for more. She opened the floor for questions.

Councilmember Wade commended Peg Chapados and the committee. Councilmember Vitiello commended the presentations and the committees. Mayor Smith stated Council and staff would review the goals and presentations before the Future's Planning to assess what was doable within the year. She thanked the committees.

The Presentation was heard.

9. Executive Session

There was no executive session.

10. Adjournment

This meeting was Adjourned at 7:35 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 6th day of February, 2024. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 20st day of February, 2024.

Vanessa Bueras
City Clerk