



City of Maricopa

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council Regular Meeting

City Hall
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Mayor Christian Price
Vice-Mayor Nancy Smith
Councilmember Amber Liermann
Councilmember Vincent Manfredi
Councilmember Bob Marsh
Councilmember Rich Vitiello
Councilmember Henry M. Wade Jr.

Tuesday, October 5, 2021

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

1. Call to Order

The City Council Regular Meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Community of Hope Pastor, Rusty Akers gave the invocation and Vice Mayor Smith led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

Councilmember Vitiello was present telephonically.

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

3. Proclamations, Acknowledgements and Awards

3.1 [PROC 21-04](#) National Fire Prevention Week Proclamation

Mayor Price invited the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and the Maricopa Fire/Medical Department to accept the proclamation. He read the proclamation and proclaimed October 3rd through the 9th as Fire Prevention Week in the City of Maricopa.

Read

3.2 [PRES 21-22](#) Acknowledgement of the donation by the Maricopa Seniors

Peg Chapados, President of Maricopa Seniors introduced the organization's Board and advisors including: Vice President Lynn Bernier, Secretary Ron Bernier, and board members Joan Kockzar, Helen Smith (present), Shelly McClaren and Oliver Smith (not present). She talked about the success of the Lockbox Program and thanked the Maricopa Fire/Medical Department and CERT. She announced that in appreciation, Maricopa Seniors would donate four laryngoscopes to the Maricopa Fire/Medical Department. Next, she announced the creation of a new non-profit, fund-raising organization called, Maricopa Fire Fighters Charities that would advocate in support of the Maricopa Fire/Medical Department and CERT. She stated the organization would be looking for an inaugural board and elaborated on the process. She directed anyone interested in joining to contact her either in person or by email at pgchoa@msn.com.

She acknowledged Maricopa Fire/Medical Chief, Brady Leffler, CERT Director of Operations, Michael Grant, Will Sherwood and Tim Gehrke.

The Presentation was heard.

3.3 [PROC 21-05](#) Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation

Mayor Price invited Tori Anderson from Against Abuse Inc. to accept the proclamation and invited everyone present for the proclamation to the front. He read the proclamation and proclaimed October, 2021 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City of Maricopa.

Read

3.4 [PRES 21-20](#) Recognition of State Representative Bret Roberts

The Mayor and Council stepped to the front and invited Bret Roberts to join them. He gave a brief background of Mr. Roberts community roles including former elected constable and most recently a former elected member of the Arizona House of Representatives. He announced that Mr. Roberts was moving with his family to North Carolina, and in appreciation for his advocacy and his role in attaining funding for the Riggs Road overpass at State Route (SR) 347, Mr. Roberts was presented with a key to the city. Mr. Roberts gave a brief statement thanking Mayor Price, Dale Wiebusch, Todd Baughmann with the Policy Development Group and the community for all their efforts on the SR 347 overpass bill.

The Presentation was heard.

4. Report from the Mayor

Councilmember Marsh reported the following events and meetings he attended: The Maricopa Arts Council meeting, the Parks, Recreation and Library (PRL) Committee meeting, the Capitol Morning Scoop, participation as judge in the Salsa Night Market, the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting at Copper Sky, a Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC) meeting, a Pinal County Water Augmentation Authority meeting, and a Maricopa Historical Society meeting.

Councilmember Manfredi reported on the Salsa Night Market. He commended Bret Roberts and commended his advocacy for education and transportation in Maricopa.

Vice Mayor Smith gave information on the Dodie Londen Excellence in Public Service series. She stated it was a competitive process and announced Councilmember Liermann was selected to participate, and noted that out of twelve applicants from Arizona she was the sole accepted applicant from Pinal County. Next, she announced that October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month and as a survivor, and in celebration she would give pink tin mints to anyone in the audience. She stated there were various art events happening and reported attending the Artist Town Hall. She announced the following upcoming events: An art exhibit on October 12th at the new Community Center from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., a Maricopa Friends of the Arts meeting on October 13th at 5:30 p.m. at the Library, a Poetry Slam at Honeycutt Coffee at 6 p.m., and the Senior Lunch & Learn on medicare.

Councilmember Wade acknowledged the recent passing of Beth Mundell, owner of Rockstart Arizona Cheer, Tumbling and Dance and former Maricopa High School coach. He commended her role in the community and commended the service that

was held in her honor.

Councilmember Liermann reiterated Mrs. Mundell's role in the community and added that many of her students were mourning her passing. She thanked Vice Mayor Smith for recognizing her acceptance into the Dodie Londen program. She stated she was excited to represent Pinal County and added the program would start in October and end in May. She briefly reported on her experience as judge in the Salsa Night Market.

Mayor Price echoed the sentiments on Beth Mundell and recalled when her business was showcased at a previous State of the City Address on small businesses overcoming obstacles. He stated she would be missed by the community. Next, he announced that the State of the City Address would be on Wednesday, October 20th and encouraged those interested in attending to RSVP as soon as possible because spots were filling up fast.

5. Report from the City Manager

City Manager Horst introduced new Digital Communications Manager, Quinn Konold and Director of the Office of Engineering and CIP Development, Ben Bitter and gave a brief background of their experience.

6. Call to the Public

Tori Anderson gave information on the services provided by Against Abuse Inc. She spoke in support of the school override and encouraged the community to vote yes. She directed anyone with questions to email her at torianderson@musd20.org or her personal email at torilanderson@gmail.com.

Ed Michaels with the Vote Yes Committee spoke in favor of Proposition 457. He gave information on the voting process including that it was an all mail-in ballot that all registered voters would receive by mail. He stated the Votes Yes Committee recommended all ballots be mailed prior to October 26th. He noted that all ballots postmarked by November 2nd or earlier would be accepted. He stated the Pinal County complex was a designated drop-off at 19955 N Wilson Ave. Building #100 Maricopa, AZ 85139. He emphasized that it would not be a new tax, but a continuation of the tax already in place.

Councilmember Manfredi discussed his initial opposition to school overrides and talked about how he changed his mind. He discussed the importance of school and education and spoke in support of the school override.

Councilmember Liermann discussed her experience as a school counselor and spoke in support of the school override. She emphasized how it would benefit the students.

Councilmember Wade spoke in support of the school override and discussed the benefits.

Vice Mayor Smith discussed her conservative background, and stated that she voted in support of the last school override based on facts. She spoke in support of the current override and stated it was needed.

Councilmember Marsh spoke in support of the school override.

Mayor Price stated he supported the override as well.

7. Consent Agenda

Approval of the Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilmember Bob Marsh, seconded by Vice Mayor Nancy Smith, to Adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

- 7.1 [MIN 21-53](#) Approval of Minutes from the September 21, 2021 City Council Regular meeting. Discussion and Action.

These Minutes were Approved.

- 7.2 [RES 21-40](#) A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Maricopa, Arizona, accepting public improvements and maintenance responsibility for the local internal streets within Tortosa subdivision Parcel G, into the City Street/Road Maintenance System. Discussion and Action.

This Resolution was Approved.

- 7.3 [RES 21-41](#) A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Maricopa, Arizona, accepting public improvements and maintenance responsibility for the local internal streets within The Lakes at Rancho El Dorado, Parcel 49-50, into the City Street/Road Maintenance System. Discussion and Action.

This Resolution was Approved.

8. Regular Agenda and/or Public Hearings

- 8.1 [PRES 21-21](#) The Mayor and City Council shall hear a presentation by Adam Saks, Executive Director of the Maricopa Economic Development Alliance. Discussion only.

Adam Saks, Executive Director of the Maricopa Economic Development Alliance (MEDA) gave a PowerPoint update. He provided information on the prospect activity referred to the City from economic development partners for fiscal year 2020-2021. He discussed the prospect proposals submitted to MEDA from March 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021. Mayor Price elaborated on economic development. Councilmember Manfredi commended Mr. Saks and asked if prospectors inquired at all about education. Mr. Saks responded that one of the greatest assets in Maricopa was the well educated diverse work force and elaborated. Discussion ensued. Mr. Saks stated a new advertisement was in the works for Site Selector Magazine and elaborated. City Manager Horst elaborated.

The Presentation was heard.

9. Executive Session

10. Adjournment

Mayor Price reminded the community that the second regular council meeting of the month scheduled for October 19, 2021 was cancelled due to the State of the City Address being held on Wednesday, October 20, 2021. He stated a special meeting would be called for Tuesday, October 12, 2021.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Nancy Smith, seconded by Councilmember Amber Liermann, to Adjourn at 8:33 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

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 October, 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 2nd day of November, 2021.

Vanessa Bueras
City Clerk