



City of Maricopa

Meeting Minutes - Draft City Council Work Session

City Hall
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*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*

Tuesday, July 21, 2020

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

1. Call to Order

The City Work Session was called to order at 6:13 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Councilwoman Gusse was present via Zoom.

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

3. Agenda Items

3.1 [WSPRES 20-01](#)

The Mayor and City Council shall hear a presentation from Global Water Resources regarding an upcoming rate case filing.

Chairman, President and CEO of Global Water Resources (GWR), Ron Fleming along with Jon Corwin and Joanne Ellsworth, presented remotely via Zoom on the GWR rate case. He stated the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) required GWR to file a rate case on August 28th. He stated GWR voluntarily committed phased-in rate increases so that bills do not increase more than 5% in any year, and that no creases go into effect prior to January 2022. He gave a case rate process overview and timeline. He discussed notable operational and customer service improvements and financial health. J. Ellsworth detailed the rate case and level of investment into Maricopa and the costs to improve service levels. She detailed their approach to the rate case and ongoing projects. She discussed the rate consolidation, detailed the benefits and discussed good faith measures to keep rates lower and impact to customers. Ron Fleming opened the floor for questions.

Councilmember Brown asked how GWR determined low-income. Mr. Fleming stated it was determined by 300% of the poverty level, and the relief was up to \$700 on an annual base. Vice Mayor Smith expressed appreciation for low-income initiatives, the customer service improvements, and City program partnerships. She inquired if the rate case would look at any creative ways to reduce the hook-up fees to incentivize

economic development. Mr. Fleming stated that in this rate case they were not looking to change the hook-up fee tariffs and elaborated. Vice Mayor Smith asked how incorporating Red Rock raises the rate for Maricopa and how did it benefit the city. Joanne Ellsworth elaborated and Mr. Fleming reiterated. Discussion ensued.

Councilmember Vitiello thanked Mr. Fleming for the presentation. He asked for clarification if it meant that after three years the rate would have gone up to \$13 per month. Mr. Fleming responded it would be after the next four years. Discussion ensued regarding the consolidation. Mr. Fleming committed to making more time to explain to the Council the benefits of the consolidation. Councilmember Wade commended GWR for their work with the community. Discussion ensued. City Manager Horst further explained. Consensus was that GWR would come back with further information.

The Presentation was heard.

4. Adjournment

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Henry Wade, seconded by Councilmember Nancy Smith, to Adjourn at 7:28 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 work session of the City Council of Maricopa, Arizona, held on the 21st day of July, 2020. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 18th day of August, 2020.

**Vanessa Bueras
City Clerk**