



City of Maricopa

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Meeting Minutes - Final 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, March 5, 2024

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. Community of Hope Church Pastor, Rusty Akers gave the invocation and Councilmember Wade led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

Councilmember Manfredi and Mayor Smith present remotely.

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 24-06](#)

The Mayor and City Council shall hear a presentation from Dr. Lopeman on the successes of the Maricopa Unified School District.

Maricopa Unified School District (MUSD) Superintendent, Dr. Lopeman acknowledged the MUSD board members present in the audience. She gave a presentation on MUSD including its growth, enrollment, talent retention, and competitive compensation. She discussed teacher shortages in the County and how MUSD compared. She talked about the Portrait of a Graduate and discussed the success of three alumni. She acknowledged the three A Grade schools in the district and announced there were plans to build a new middle school. She thanked the Mayor, Council and city staff. Vice Mayor Liermann acknowledged board members present, Torri Anderson and Anne Marie Knorr. Councilmember Wade commended Dr. Lopeman.

The Presentation was heard.

4. Report from the Mayor

Councilmember Marsh reported on his injury and thanked Councilmember Goettl and Vice Mayor Liermann for their support. He announced he filed the documents to be on the ballot for councilmember.

Councilmember Goettl reported attending the Maricopa Fire/Medical Department's pinning ceremony and elaborated. He commended all the men and women who were

recognized at the ceremony.

Mayor Smith stated she was present remotely because she was headed to Washington D.C. She stated that Councilmember Goettl, Councilmember Wade and she would be meeting with several congress people and senators' office to discuss necessary funds to address issues with State Route (SR) 347 and elaborated.

Councilmember Wade recognized the Youth Council for attending a session at the house senate and commended Representative Martinez and Senator Shoppe. He reported meeting with the newest member of the house, Representative Jevin Jodge and elaborated.

Vice Mayor Lierman acknowledge Representative Teresa Martinez in the audience and thanked her for her work with the youth.

Councilmember Vitiello stated the Izzy Calderon Fundraiser Softball Tournament was cancelled numerous times due to rain and was rescheduled for Saturday (March 9) at Copper Sky. He stated funds would go to the Calderon family to help with medical expenses.

Vice Mayor Lierman reported attending the 20th Anniversary of the Maricopa Little League and stated she threw the first pitch with Police Chief Goodman. Councilmember Vitiello added that Police Chief Goodman would throw the first pitch at the tournament on Saturday.

5. Report from the City Manager

There were no items reported.

6. Call to the Public

Elizabeth Howell gave information on the Shred-A-Ton to be held on Saturday, April 20 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the north overflow parking at Copper Sky. She noted the event was moved to April to accommodate requests to have it after tax filing season.

Tommy Ronca supported Councilmember Vitiello run for County Board Supervisor. He thanked City Manager Horst for Lakeview Park and stated the little league community appreciated it. He encouraged anyone running for office to visit the Province community.

On behalf the Cultural Affairs and Arts Advisory Committee (CAAAC), Peg Chapados announced that the second public art display contest was up and running and the theme was, The Cultures of Maricopa. She stated the submission deadline would be April 1st and the exhibit would be displayed at the library from April through October of 2024. She stated the current exhibit sold three art pieces. Lastly, she thanked Councilmember Rich Vitiello and his family for his service and supported his run for County Supervisor.

Kelly Anderson thanked Councilmember Vitiello for his contributions to the community. She thanked him for the support she received from him, and supported his run for County Supervisor.

Tori Anderson announced the Seeds of Change gala was moved to October to align with Domestic Violence Awareness month. She stated it would be held October 19th at Harra's Ak-Chin and the theme would be All that Glitters. She thanked Councilmember Vitiello and supported his run for County Supervisor.

Representative Teresa Martinez thanked Councilmember Wade for participating with the Youth Council. She commended Councilmember Vitiello and supported his run for County Supervisor.

Robin Davis, Hidden Valley resident, thanked Councilmember Vitiello for his years of service. She commended him for being involved with the Hidden Valley community and coming to their community meetings and seeking resident's input. She stated that she was a member of the Pinal County Transportation Advisory Committee and the Pinal County Open Spaces and Trails Committee and supported his run for County Supervisor.

MUSD Board Member, Anne Marie Knorr commended Councilmember Vitiello, thanked him for his dedication to the City of Maricopa and his run for County Supervisor.

Christian and Lewis with the Be Awesome Coalition gave stats on how family dinners helped with teenage issues. They elaborated on how delays on SR 347 were affecting critical family time and asked the community to help bring attention to the issue by visiting 347Facts.com and enter an email that would be sent out to the ADOT Board of Directors, the Arizona State Legislators and the Governor. They added that paper copies would be available and be hand delivered by Mayor Smith to the ADOT Board.

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 [RES 24-10](#) A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Maricopa, Arizona, approving and adopting the Fourth Amendment to the Development Agreement between the City of Maricopa and Property Reserve Arizona, LLC, an Arizona limited liability company in compliance with A.R.S. §9-500.05. Discussion and Action.
- This Resolution was Approved.**
- 7.2 [MOU 24-01](#) The City Council shall discuss and take action to approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Mesa for the purpose of attending law enforcement training hosted by the City of Mesa Police Department and authorize the Chief of Police to execute the MOU and any documents necessary for the training. Discussion and Action.
- This Memorandum of Understanding was Approved.**
- 7.3 [SUB 24-02](#) The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and take action to approve Subdivision Final Plat Amendment Case # SUB23-17, for the Maricopa Grand Professional Village. This is an amendment request to combine three (3) lots encompassing approximately 0.124 acres of land into one (1) lot. Discussion and Action.
- This Subdivision was Approved.**
- 7.4 [CON 24-08](#) The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and take action to approve the Purchase and Sale Agreement with Sunflower Consulting, LLC, related to the sale of 2.21 acres

of real property generally located at the southeast corner of N. White and Parker Rd and W Bowlin Rd, a portion of Assessor Parcel No. 502-03-012P, for \$1,156,000.00 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.

- 7.5 [CON 24-09](#) The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and take action to approve the Purchase and Sale Agreement with Sky Way Holdings, LLC, related to the sale of 2.26 acres of real property generally located at the southeast corner of N. White and Parker Rd and W Bowlin Rd, a portion of Assessor Parcel No. 502-03-012P, for \$1,250,000.00 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 [CON 24-10](#) The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and take action to approve the Purchase and Sale Agreement with High Mark Investing, LLC, related to the sale of 2.29 acres of real property generally located at the southeast corner of N. White and Parker Rd and W Bowlin Rd, a portion of Assessor Parcel No. 502-03-012P, for \$1,200,000.00 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.

- 7.7 [CON 24-11](#) The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and take action to approve the Purchase and Sale Agreement with Freeway Consulting, LLC, related to the sale of 1.95 acres of real property generally located at the southeast corner of N. White and Parker Rd and W Bowlin Rd, a portion of Assessor Parcel No. 502-03-012P, for \$1,020,072.00 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.

- 7.8 [MIN 24-13](#) Approval of Minutes from the February 20, 2024 City Council Regular meeting. Discussion and Action.

The Minutes were Approved.

8. Regular Agenda and/or Public Hearings

- 8.1 [PRES 24-04](#) The Mayor and City Council shall hear an update on the Pinal County Transportation Maintenance and Improvement Fund.

Pinal County Deputy Director of Public Works, Celeste Garza provided a PowerPoint Transportation Maintenance and Improvement Fund Update. She stated that road maintenance and repair in Pinal County was primarily funded through three revenue sources: the Vehicle License Fund, the Highway User Revenue Fund, and stated it was renewed by voters in 2005 and would expire in 2026. She emphasized that it was not the same as Propositions 417 and 469. She stated the Transportation Maintenance and Improvement Fund supported the maintenance, preservation, and repairs of roadways. She stated the revenue was shared between the County and its ten municipalities, and distributed on a population-based formula. She detailed the ways that funding was used. Next, she elaborated on the County's funding goals

including improving public safety, managing growth, protecting taxpayers and air quality. She provided charts with generated revenue in recent fiscal years and a pie chart on how funding was distributed based on population. Next, she turned the presentation over to Deputy City Manager, Ben Bitter to discuss projects within City limits.

Deputy City Manager Bitter commended Celeste Garza and noted she was a great partner to have in the County. He presented Road Maintenance Fund facts and data. He provided examples of projects with contributions from the Road Maintenance Fund including SR 347 widening, fiberoptic backbone, Maricopa-Casa Grande (MCG) Highway beautification, MCG road resurfacing and sidewalk on John Wayne Parkway.

Celeste Garza resumed the presentation by providing current statistics on Pinal County including population and timeline for their public awareness campaign. She explained that if the maintenance fund expired, it would lead to transportation cuts for Pinal County, all cities, and towns and would impact transportation investments. She stated the Open House meeting for the City of Maricopa would be on Wednesday, March 20th at the library from 5 to 7 p.m. She directed the public to PreservingPinal.com for information.

Councilmember Goettl emphasized that this was not a new tax and explained it would be a renewal to allow the revenue source to continue. Ms. Garza confirmed that it would be a twenty-year renewal.

City Manager Horst stated that in 2005, when the tax was renewed, it was with a 73% voter approval rate. He stated if it was not approved, the cost to rebuild roads would be higher.

The Presentation was heard.

8.2 **MISC 24-03**

The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and provide direction to staff regarding the Public Art Display policy. Discussion and Action.

City Manager Horst provided a brief background on the creation of the Art Task Force. He stated that on October 17, 2017 the task force presented their findings to City Council which included the development of an Arts Display Policy for public facilities. He stated it was discussed and directed to come back for approval as the item was introduced as a presentation only. He stated the item did not come back for approval, but city staff implemented a policy similar to the proposed policy at staff level. He stated the Cultural Arts and Affairs Advisory Committee (CAAAC) had brought back the art displays three times per year, and as part of the proposed policy they included a 15% commission for any art sales from the display. He stated this item sought direction from Council to continue or discontinue the policy and to determine what those funds should be dedicated to. He stated that since 2021 the total commissions collected was \$159 but anticipated an increase.

Councilmember Goettl stated it was important to imagine long-term help and determine how the city wanted to support the arts community. He proposed formalizing the 15% commission on art sales and directing staff to create an account for those funds to help support the arts. Vice Mayor Liermann supported Councilmember Goettl's proposal to create an art fund to support the arts.

City Manager Horst confirmed direction was to come back with an item to formally adopt a policy and procedure, continue to collect the 15% commission on art sales, and create an art fund to be carried year to year and be available, and once finalized they could determine the best way to use those funds.

Discussed**8.3** **MISC 24-04**

The Mayor and City Council shall discuss and take action on accepting the resignation of Councilmember Vitiello. Discussion and Action.

Councilmember Goettl commended Councilmember Vitiello and thanked him for being a great mentor. He stated he looked forward to having him as County Supervisor and thanked him.

Councilmember Marsh commended Councilmember Vitiello and supported his run for County Supervisor. Councilmember Wade commended him as well and stated he believed he would do a great job as County Supervisor. Vice Mayor Liermann shared memories of Councilmember Vitiello and commended him for being a voice for the community.

Councilmember Vitiello reminisced his initial run for Council and stated he loved to serve. He thanked all the members of Council, the staff, the community, and his family. He stated he looked forward to continuing to serve the City of Maricopa, along with the other cities and towns of Pinal County.

A motion was made by Councilmember Wade, seconded by Councilmember Marsh, to accept Councilmember Rich Vitiello's resignation, effective April 1, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

9. Executive Session**10. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 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 5th day of March, 2024. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 2nd day of April, 2024.

Vanessa Bueras
City Clerk