



City of Maricopa

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Meeting Minutes - Final City Council Special Meeting

Mayor Christian Price
Vice-Mayor Peggy J. Chapados
Councilmember Marvin L. Brown
Councilwoman Julia R. Gusse
Councilmember Vincent Manfredi
Councilmember Nancy Smith
Councilmember Henry M. Wade Jr.

Tuesday, October 16, 2018

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

Maricopa Unified School District Joint Meeting

1. Call to Order

The City Council and Maricopa Unified School District Joint Meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members present from the Maricopa Unified School District Board: Board Member Torri Anderson, Board Member Joshua Judd, Board Member Patti Coutre, Board President Anna Marie Knorr. Board Member Dr. Gary Miller was not present.

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

3. Agenda Items

3.1 [PRES 18-27](#)

The Mayor and City Council and the Maricopa Unified School District (MUSD) Board shall hear a presentation from Maricopa Police Chief, Steve Stahl and MUSD Superintendent, Doctor Tracey Lopeman updating the City on school safety issues. Discussion Only.

Maricopa Unified School District (MUSD) Superintendent, Doctor Tracey Lopeman gave a presentation on MUSD Multidisciplinary Safety Team. She stated the team would include the district/school, staff, police, fire, parents, students and behavioral health professionals. She stated the team would do community policing by identifying and problem-solving school issues that could potential turn violent. She stated the team would meet at regular intervals and situationally as incidents necessitate. She stated the team would be at both police and district levels. She explained why collaborations were critical to the effectiveness of school safety. She stated a multidisciplinary approach to school safety and threat assessment had gained traction towards preventing violence in schools and the community. She stated the collaboration would include training to recognize and report concerns before a situation turns violent. She elaborated on the benefits of training. She detailed the 3 factors of the threat assessment process; identify, assess and manage. Next, she discussed collaborative relationships and turned the presentation to Maricopa Police Department Chief, Steve

Stahl.

Chief Stahl elaborated on the 5 member police team dedicated to community response specific to school safety. He stated the 5 members went to the schools and performed on-site threat assessments. He discussed some of their findings and recommendations such as having all vendors check-in at the front desk. He announced a grant was submitted for \$300,000 to the Department of Justice and a preliminary notification was received that it was accepted for approximately half of the amount. He elaborated that they were awaiting further information on where that funding was going. He elaborated on school safety and then opened the floor for questions.

Councilmember Wade asked when and where the multidisciplinary team met and whether it was opened to the public. Chief Stahl responded information would be going out from MUSD asking for volunteers to participate in the team. A brief discussion ensued on the next steps.

Vice-Mayor Chapados inquired what the approach would be for true community engagement and involvement. Dr. Lopeman responded they would be using the Superintendent Advisory Councils and elaborated. Chief Stahl added that the behavioral units from each of the schools were already working extremely well.

Councilwoman Gusse asked who decided who to call first and determined whether to close the school depending on the situation. Chief Stahl stated that by protocol, in case of an emergency, 911 would get the call first. He stated the role of the Police Department when it came to closing the school was advisory and the school made the final determination.

Board Member Coutre stated that MUSD valued the opinion of MPD and followed their advice. She asked what the timeline was for establishment of the teams. Dr. Lopeman responded that they would like the teams established before winter break and elaborated.

Board Member Anderson expressed concerns that there would not be any School Resource Officer (SRO) at the middle schools and stated she would like to figure out what the cost would be for the district to provide them. She noted the implementation of the community patrol and asked how they could go back to having SROs. She also asked how many schools and districts were going with the new community policing protocol. Next, she asked if the COPS Grant, to put in cameras and apps, would be in line with board policy and the protocol of each school. She expressed concerns with the cameras and students privacy. Chief Stahl

Chief Stahl explained that due to an increase in calls for service and workload, 2 SRO's were pulled out of the middle schools. He stated there was still a need for them and that the on-on-one interaction between the students, officers, school staff and parents was extremely important in building trust in the community and the police department. He stated the cost to replace the SROs would be \$113,000 per officer and elaborated. He stated that other cities do not do community policing and elaborated. He addressed the concern about cameras and student's privacy. He stated they would only make recommendations based on training of best practices on where to put the cameras for best optimization. He elaborated that based on assessments the weakest areas were ingress and egress points and the parking areas.

Board President Knorr asked if there the County and the State could participate in the process at any level and possibly contribute to it. Chief Stahl explained that at some

level they do and elaborated. Dr. Lopeman added that both the MUSD Board and MPD recognized the importance of SROs and elaborated.

Councilmember Wade asked if they would reach out to community members of diverse backgrounds who might see community policing as a hindrance. Dr. Lopeman elaborated. Chief Stahl stated that the right Multidisciplinary Team members would help break through. He stated members could be from different backgrounds.

Councilwoman Gusse stated that the lack of SRO's was a concern for everyone however there was no funding. Chief Stahl elaborated on the COP Grant for SROs and elaborated on federal funding.

Mayor Price discussed financial obligations and the COPS Grant for SROs. He stated that municipalities had limited resources and could not staff SROs in all schools within their jurisdiction. He stated the city would continue to talk with elected representatives and noted that the federal government needed to take a large step to provide funding. He stated that more would be gained if all contributed something instead of pointing fingers. He further elaborated about legislature and pressing elected officials in a group effort. Board President Knorr concurred it was a joint effort and commended tonight's joint meeting.

The Presentation was heard.

3.2 **PRES 18-30**

The Mayor and City Council and the Maricopa Unified School District (MUSD) Board shall hear a presentation on the newly enacted SB 1529 as it relates to desegregation funds provided to MUSD; potential impacts of SB 1529 to City residents; and other general issues that impact both the City and MUSD. Discussion Only.

Mayor Price stated that a meeting had been scheduled with Dr. Lopeman, City Manager Horst, Representative Vince Leach, ATRA and other stakeholders to discuss Desegregation Funding but it was canceled due to an incident at MUSD. Superintendent Dr. Lopeman thanked the City Council and the MUSD Board for their commitment to the community. Next, she gave a PowerPoint presentation on Desegregation Funding: Access and Equity for all Students. She defined the term desegregation as pertaining to Desegregation Funding and proceeded with a historical summary. She stated that in 1993 MUSD received an Office of Civil Rights (OCR) complaint and entered into agreement with the OCR. She stated that per the agreement a MUSD identified a Five-Year Plan with twelve specific goals regarding assessments and bench marks and elaborated. She elaborated on funding and stated that in 2018 the Arizona Legislature passed SB 1529 which amended ARS § 15-910. She stated SB 1529 required desegregation related expenses to be paid from a secondary property tax rather than a primary property tax. She explained that SB 1529 attempted to shift the tax burden from the State to property owners by labeling the desegregation levy as a secondary levy; however it did not change the constitutional definition of taxes subject to the 1% limit. She stated that per ARS § 15-972: Boards of Supervisors are responsible for determining if the 1% limit would be exceeded by cumulative primary taxes from various taxing districts that apply to each parcel. If so, a Board of Supervisors must apply a credit against the primary property taxes that the property owners owe. The amount is then deducted from the school district's levy and the State provides additional State aid for the school district to make up for the reductions. She explained that even if legislation did not change the definition of taxes subject to the 1% limit, desegregation taxes were clearly still subject to the 1% limit. She explained the Board of Supervisors voted to include the desegregation levy in calculating the 1% limit, and it might be in violation of ARS 15-972. She explained the impact to property owners was and estimated cost of approximately \$45 each year per

\$100,000 assessed value but added that the overall estimated difference in taxes from 2017/2018 to 2018/2019 was estimated to be only 12 cents per \$100,000 assessed value. She detailed Desegregation Funding in MUSD. She stated MUSD received \$1.291 million to support English Language Acquisition each year and broke it down in detail. She opened the floor for questions.

Councilmember Smith stated she was upset with the way State Legislation rolled out the state bill without any warning or discussion with MUSD in order for MUSD to share information with the City and members of the district. She stated did not see the court mandate as continuous funding and added that MUSD should have goals to work themselves out of desegregation funding. Discussion ensued. Dr. Lopeman stated that \$1.29 million dollars was critical to the district and elaborated they had contingency plans, knowing that it may be temporary. Discussion ensued. Board Member Joshua Judd commented on the impact of Desegregation Funds statewide. He elaborated on the importance of funding for schools in Arizona. He asked Dr. Lopeman what could be done to put pressure on changing this the legal way. Discussion ensued. Councilmember Smith discussed the sale of state property as a possible solution. Dr. Lopeman explained that the only districts affected by it were the Tucson Unified School District (TUSD) and MUSD. She elaborated on the action of TUSD and stated that depending on the outcome of that litigation, it could put it on suspension.

Councilmember Brown discussed school funding in the state of Arizona in comparison to other states in the country. Councilmember Wade asked Intergovernmental Affairs Director, Dale Wiebusch to comment on the legislation. Mr. Wiebusch elaborated on what could be expected during the next legislative session.

Councilwoman Gusse stated that Councilwoman Romero from the City of Tucson produced a resolution in opposition and asked if it was something City of Maricopa could do. Mayor Price responded that legal strategies would be more appropriately at an executive session. He stated it was not too late, and that Pima County was leading the direction.

Board Member Anderson stated that MUSD made it an issue in their legislative agenda because it was unconstitutional since it was not a voter approved. She reiterated the funds were necessary, but the issue was that it was not voter approved.

Mayor Price gave closing comments on the issue of sustainable funding.

The Presentation was heard.

4. Executive Session

5. Adjournment

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Peggy J. Chapados, seconded by Councilmember Nancy Smith, to Adjourn at 7:04 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 special meeting of the City Council of Maricopa, Arizona, held on the 16th day of October, 2018. I further certify that the meeting was duly

called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 6th day of November, 2018.

Vanessa Bueras
City Clerk