



City of Apache Junction, Arizona

Meeting Minutes City Council Meeting

Meeting location:

City Council Chambers
at City Hall
300 E. Superstition Blvd
Apache Junction, AZ
85119

www.ajcity.net
Ph: (480) 982-8002

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

7:00 PM

City Council Chambers

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Serdy called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Mayor Wilson gave the invocation and Councilmember Schroeder led the meeting attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Mayor Serdy
Vice Mayor Wilson
Councilmember Barker
Councilmember Evans
Councilmember Schroeder
Councilmember Struble

Excused: 1 - Councilmember Rizzi

Staff in Attendance:

Bryant Powell, City Manager
Matt Busby, Assistant City Manager
Joel Stern, City Attorney
Thomas Kelly, Police Chief
Jennifer Pena, City Clerk
Al Bravo, Public Information Officer
Larry Kirch, Development Services Director
Kent Fowler, Police Officer
Michael Weber, Public Works Director

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Councilmember Evans to accept the consent agenda.

Present: 6 - Mayor Serdy
Vice Mayor Wilson
Councilmember Barker
Councilmember Evans
Councilmember Schroeder
Councilmember Struble

Excused: 1 - Councilmember Rizzi

1. [19-487](#) Consideration of acceptance of agenda.
The agenda was accepted.
2. [19-488](#) Consideration of approval of minutes of the regular meeting of October 1, 2019.
3. [19-494](#) Consideration of approval of an agreement with the Arizona Department of Homeland Security for fiscal year 2019 grant funds in the amount of \$30,092 to purchase handheld radios for the Apache Junction Police Department.
4. [19-496](#) Consideration of approval of Resolution No. 19-27 authorizing the City to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Ak-Chin Indian Community for Proposition 202 funding in the amount of \$16,865.58 to purchase safety equipment for the Apache Junction Police Department SWAT team.
5. [19-499](#) Consideration of approval of Resolution No. 19-28 authorizing the first amendment to the intergovernmental agreement between the city and Pinal County for household hazardous waste pickup program participation.
6. [19-501](#) Consideration of approval of the agreement between the city and Advanced Chemical Transport, Inc for the November 2019 and February 2020 household hazardous waste events in the amount of \$80,000.

E. AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

7. [19-445](#) Presentation of proclamation designating the week of October 23, 2019 through October 31, 2019 as "Red Ribbon Week".
Mayor Serdy read the proclamation. Apache Junction Police Chief Thomas Kelly was present to accept the proclamation.
8. [19-480](#) Presentation of proclamation designating Saturday, October 26, 2019 as "Make a Difference Day".
Mayor Serdy read the proclamation. Former Councilmember Dave Waldren and Heidi Geldis from the Chamber of Commerce were present to accept the proclamation.

F. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CURRENT EVENTS

9. [19-489](#) Announcement of current events from mayor and councilmembers.

Councilmember Barker stated she along with Councilmember Rizzi and Vice Mayor Wilson were invited by Mayor Hartke of the City of Chandler, to visit the Innovation Center in the downtown area. The Innovation Center is an entrepreneur incubation development program that specializes in helping engineers, inventors, entrepreneurs, and other people with their ideas who know how to create, but not necessarily how to build a profitable, scalable business around it. They help these entrepreneurs move forward from idea to investment partners. The other part of the Innovation Center called 249 that is a membership based workshop. They have a 3-D printer, wood working tools, metallurgy, and many other types of tools.

Vice Mayor Wilson also spoke on the Innovation Center and how impressive the facility is.

He also attended the Town of Superior's inaugural Burro Run. He thought it might be a fun event for Apache Junction and reflect more of the communities history.

Councilmember Struble announced the Halloween event on October 26th, and in the morning will be the first *Make a Difference Day* for the community. The event will be from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. There are 3-4 projects the volunteers will be working on. The event is aimed at cultivating a sense of pride in the community with various projects such as landscaping, clean-up and neighborhood enhancements. The city is still taking volunteers, he encouraged people to contact city hall.

He announced the AJ Idol competition will be on the last Sunday of January and encouraged the K-12 kids to audition. More information could be found at the AJkidsidol facebook page.

Mayor Serdy stated the Public Work crews are still out in the community cleaning up the streets and neighborhoods from the flooding and storm damage caused a few weeks ago and thanked everyone for their patience.

At last night's Council Work Session, council announced there would be an Open House on the residential solid waste proposal.

He commented on the last two year's *State of the City* address, and this coming year significant focus will be on the many events the City of Apache Junction holds.

G. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

10. [19-490](#) City Manager's Report.

City Manager Bryant Powell stated Mayor Hartke had contacted him after Council's visit and commented the founder of Chandler was AJ Chandler.

He announced roughly 100 volunteers are slated for *Make a Difference Day*. Donations from the City Councilmembers and business owners exceeded \$5,000.

He announced overseeding could not occur at Flatiron Park due to several factors, so the community will not see green turf this winter.

He announced Superintendent Dr. Krista Anderson was present to talk briefly on the school district's election coming up in a few weeks.

11. [19-492](#) Discussion and update with Apache Junction Unified School District Superintendent Dr. Krista Anderson.

Dr. Krista Anderson presented a 30 minute update on the school bond and override election coming in November.

She covered issues such as what items at the schools needed to be repaired, updated or added. What the bond election will address and what the override ballot measure would help with.

She provided information on how it would impact the taxes a homeowner currently pays, and provided a Powerpoint presentation.

12. [19-497](#) Presentation, discussion and update on the .2% sales tax dedicated to fund roadway maintenance and repairs.

City Manager Powell stated every year the city provides a report on the 0.2% sales tax that is dedicated to fund roadway maintenance and repairs.

He turned the presentation over to Assistant City Manager Matthew Busby.

Mr. Busby stated Ordinance 1406, which was adopted December 2, 2014, created the incremental sales tax designated specifically for roadway maintenance and repairs here in the City. The tax has a sunset time frame of 10 years, so in March of 2025 the 0.2% tax will cease.

The report includes revenue from the tax and where the funds were spent.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

13. [19-505](#) Consideration of application for a special event license for applicant Heidi Geldis, for the Apache Junction Chamber of Commerce Festival of the Superstitions event to be held at Flatiron Community Park located at 100 N. Apache Trail, Apache Junction, AZ. 85120, on Saturday, November 9, 2019. The next step in this process is for the council to hold a public hearing on the application and make a recommendation for approval or denial to be forwarded to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control.

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Councilmember Evans to recommend approval of the special event liquor license to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control.

Yes: 6 - Mayor Serdy, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilmember Barker, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Schroeder and Councilmember Struble

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Councilmember Rizzi

Mayor Serdy combined item 13 and 14 as the applicant was the same for the different events.

Heidi Geldis from the Chamber of Commerce spoke on the Blues and Brews event and the Festival of the Superstitions.

Mayor Serdy opened the public hearing, receiving no comments from the public he closed the public hearing.

14. [19-506](#) Consideration of application for a special event license for applicant Heidi Geldis, for the Apache Junction Chamber of Commerce Superstition Blues and Brews event to be held at Flatiron Community Park located at 100 N. Apache Trail, Apache Junction, AZ. 85120, on Saturday, March 21, 2020. The next step in this process is for the council to hold a public hearing on the application and make a recommendation for approval or denial to be forwarded to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control.

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Councilmember Evans to recommend approval of the special event liquor license to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control.

Yes: 6 - Mayor Serdy, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilmember Barker, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Schroeder and Councilmember Struble

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Councilmember Rizzi

This item was combined with item 13.

15. [19-507](#) Consideration of application for extension of premises/patio permit for applicant James Wesley Johnson, for the VFW #9399 located at 133 N. Saguaro Drive, Apache Junction, AZ. 85120. The next step in this process is for the council to hold a public hearing on the application and make a recommendation for approval or denial to be forwarded to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control.

Councilmember Evans moved, seconded by Wilson to recommend approval of the patio extension to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control.

Yes: 6 - Mayor Serdy, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilmember Barker, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Schroeder and Councilmember Struble

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Councilmember Rizzi

The applicant Mr. Johnson was unable to attend but a representative was present to discuss the patio extension for the VFW #9399. She stated the patio extension was done over the last 9 months as they had voted to go non-smoking within the building. The patio area is a closed area so access to it is limited from the inside only.

Mayor Serdy opened the public hearing, receiving no comment from the public he closed the public hearing.

16. [19-508](#) Consideration of application for a bingo license for applicant Edward Bergin, for the Golden Sun RV Resort located at 999 W. Broadway Ave., Apache Junction, AZ. 85120. The next step in this process is for the council to hold a public hearing on the application and make a recommendation for approval or denial to be forwarded to the Arizona Department of Revenue.

Councilmember Vice Mayor Wilson moved, seconded by Councilmember Evans to recommend approval of the bingo license application to the Arizona Department of Revenue.

Yes: 6 - Mayor Serdy, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilmember Barker, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Schroeder and Councilmember Struble

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Councilmember Rizzi

The applicant was not present.

Mayor Serdy opened the public hearing, receiving no comments he closed the public hearing.

I. OLD BUSINESS

J. NEW BUSINESS

17. [19-374](#) Consideration of annual appointments and reappointments to Construction Board of Appeals, Health and Human Services Commission, Municipal Property Corporation and Public Arts Commission. Council interviewed applicants for these positions at the October 14th work session and may take this opportunity to fill the positions.

Mayor Serdy opened up the nomination process.

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Councilmember Evans to appoint Ryan Buys to the Public Arts Commission to fill the position of practicing professional (code 2-9-2 #3) for a term to expire on October 31, 2023.

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Councilmember Evans to appoint Jared Hamm to the Public Arts Commission to fill the position of a regional business representative (code 2-9-2 #5) for a term to expire on October 31, 2023.

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Councilmember Evans to appoint Liz Nickluss to the Public Arts Commission to fill the position of a person with an interest of the history of Apache Junction or State of Arizona (code 2-9-2 #4) for a term to expire on October 31, 2023.

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Councilmember Schroeder to appoint Gretchen Klett to the Public Arts Commission to fill the position of practicing artist (code 2-9-2 #1) for a term to expire on October 31, 2023.

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Wilson to appoint Ann Coe to the Public Arts Commission to fill the position of practicing artist (code 2-9-2 #1) for a term to expire on October 31, 2022.

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Councilmember Evans to appoint James Jackson to the Public Arts Commission to fill the position of person with an interest in visual, performing arts, etc., (code 2-9-2 #2) for a term to expire on October 31, 2022.

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Councilmember Evans to appoint Katrina Steinberger to the Public Arts Commission to fill the position of person with an interest in visual, performing arts, etc., (code 2-9-2 #2) for a term to expire on October 31, 2022.

The next appointments were for the Health and Human Services Commission.

Councilmember Evans moved, seconded by Councilmember Barker to reappoint Mary Erickson to the Health and Human Services Commission for a term to expire October 31, 2022.

Councilmember Evans moved, seconded by Councilmember Struble to appoint Syri Gerstner to the Health and Human Services Commission to fill the vacancy for which the term expires October 31, 2020.

The next appointments were to the Municipal Property Corporation.

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Councilmember Evans to appoint Terry Reynolds to the Municipal Property Corporation for a term to expire October 31, 2022.

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Wilson to reappoint Dave Hentsche to the Municipal Property Corporation for a term to expire October 31, 2022.

Yes: 6 - Mayor Serdy, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilmember Barker, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Schroeder and Councilmember Struble

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Councilmember Rizzi

K. COUNCIL DIRECTION TO STAFF

L. SELECTION OF MEETING DATES, TIMES, LOCATIONS, AND PURPOSES

18. [19-491](#) Executive Session at 6:00 P.M. and Work Session at 7:00 P.M. for Monday, November 4, 2019 and Executive Session at 6:00 P.M. and Work Session at 7:00 P.M. for Tuesday, November 5, 2019 in the city council conference room and city council chambers located at 300 E. Superstition Boulevard, Apache Junction, Arizona, respectively; and other meetings if necessary.

Councilmember Evans moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Wilson that an Executive Session at 6:00 P.M. and Work Session at 7:00 P.M. for Monday, November 4, 2019 and Executive Session at 6:00 P.M. and Work Session at 7:00 P.M. for Tuesday, November 5, 2019 in the city council conference room and city council chambers located at 300 E. Superstition Boulevard, Apache Junction, Arizona, respectively; and other meetings if necessary.

Yes: 6 - Mayor Serdy, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilmember Barker, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Schroeder and Councilmember Struble

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Councilmember Rizzi

M. CALL TO PUBLIC

Andrea Sims, 1060 W. Tepee St., spoke on the Apache Junction School District upcoming election. She wanted to clarify a few comments made by Dr. Anderson on Proposition 432 and 433.

Ken Coburn, 384 N. Valley Drive, requested the council review the ordinance that would change the acreage requirement for storage containers. He suffered significant loss of belongings in the recent flood.

Jodi Ehrlich, 10235 E. Clodview, Gold Canyon, expressed her appreciation to the city council for their support of the school district and the working relationship the two have. She also commented on the need for the community to support the ballot measures this November.

Terry Reynolds, 1121 S. Lawther Dr., expressed concerns with the trash contract. He feels misinformation has been presented to the Council and he will be meeting with the City Manager to discuss his concerns.

George Schroeder, 2444 W. Virginia St., spoke on his bill increase for garbage collection. His street was destroyed by the flooding and as the sweeper came through the rocks were thrown into his yard. Mr. Schmidt provided him with drawings of drains that reflected drains that were removed from the street. He would like to see code enforcement do a better job with the problem properties in the city.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Serdy adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m.