



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, September 1, 2020

7:00 PM

City Council Chambers

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Serdy called the council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

C. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor Serdy
Vice Mayor Wilson
Councilmember Barker
Councilmember Evans
Councilmember Rizzi
Councilmember Schroeder
Councilmember Struble

Staff in Attendance:

Bryant Powell, City Manager
Matt Busby, Assistant City Manager
Joel Stern, City Attorney
Jennifer Pena, City Clerk
Al Bravo, Public Information Officer
Thomas Kelly, Chief of Police
Larry Kirch, Development Services Director
Kelsey Schattnik, Development Services Planner
Heather Hodgman, Public Works Management Analyst
Jill Bright, Deputy City Clerk (remotely)

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Wilson to accept the consent agenda, to approve the minutes of August 18, 2020 and to approve award of contract to Cactus Asphalt for the crack seal of select city streets.

1. [20-415](#) Consideration of acceptance of agenda.
2. [20-416](#) Consideration of approval of minutes of the regular meeting of August 18, 2020.

3. [20-422](#) Consideration of approval of award of contract to Cactus Asphalt for the crack seal of select city streets. The work would be through Pinal County cooperative job order contract No. 175923 in the amount of \$136,303.97, plus a 10% contingency for unforeseen change orders and in the amount of \$13,630.00, for a total project cost not to exceed \$149,933.97. Work will result in a preserved street surface for the streets as presented and discussed for the FY20/21 CIP & Street Maintenance Plan at the June 16, 2020 City Council work session, work is planned for Fall, 2020.

Yes: 7 - Mayor Serdy, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilmember Barker, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Rizzi, Councilmember Schroeder and Councilmember Struble

No: 0

E. AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

4. [20-407](#) Presentation of thank you letter to Glenn Perkins Educational Foundation acknowledging the generous donation of \$20,000.00 to the Apache Junction Public Library.

Library Director Pamela Harrison was unable to make the meeting so this item could not be presented and will be moved to the September 15, 2020 council meeting.

5. [20-421](#) Presentation of proclamation designating September 17th - 23rd as Constitution Week. Karen Barks of the Daughters of the American Revolution will be present to accept the proclamation.

Mayor Serdy proclaimed September 17th - 23rd as Constitution Week and presented the proclamation to Karen Barks from the Daughters of the American Revolution.

F. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CURRENT EVENTS

6. [20-417](#) Announcement of current events from mayor and councilmembers.

Councilmember Struble thanked all of the first responders for protecting us from the fires. He reminded the community that there are non profits in the community that help with food and showers with no questions asked.

Councilmember Evans stated that the Community Development Corporation is working on the Make a Difference Day in October and has two project lined up. Due to COVID it will not be as large as an event as last year.

Vice Mayor Wilson has nothing.

Councilmember Barker has nothing.

Councilmember Schroeder has nothing.

Councilmember Rizzi has nothing.

Mayor Serdy expressed how rough this summer has been and thanked the fire fighters for fighting the fires.

G. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**7. [20-419](#) City Manager's Report.**

City Manager Bryant Powell shared that our Police Department often receives letters of gratitude for our Police Officers and they are very grateful for them.

Mr. Powell reminded the community that the city is accepting applications online for board and commissions until September 15th and then interviews and appointments will be done during October council work sessions and meetings.

Mr. Powell reminded council that census counting is still occurring until October 30th and it is important to be counted. Census workers will begin going door to door for those who still need to be counted.

8. [20-424](#) Discussion and presentation by Stephen Herring of Republic Services on free dump week and an update on Solid Waste, Recycling and Disposal Services contract.

Stephen Herring of Republic Services stated that this quarter, 121 tons were dumped in the landfill during free dump week and that there are currently 1,205 residents signed up for recycling services, which is about 11% of residents.

Councilmember Rizzi asked how bulk trash pick up is going. Mr. Herring replied that is going great and definitely being utilized by residents.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS**9. [20-426](#) Presentation, discussion, public hearing and consideration of Ordinance No. 1495, case PZ-7-20, a proposed city initiated corrective rezoning of 151 and 183 N. Palo Verde Dr., located near the northeast corner of Palo Verde Dr. and Apache Trail, from Medium Density Single-Family Detached Residential (RS-10M) to High Density Multiple-Family Residential (RM-2) to allow the usage of multi-family housing as intended by the original zoning designation.**

Vice Mayor Wilson moved, seconded by Councilmember Barker that Ordinance No. 1495 be read by title only and the reading of the entire ordinance be waived.

City Clerk Jennifer Pena read Ordinance No. 1495 by title only.

Vice Mayor Wilson moved, seconded by Councilmember Rizzi that Ordinance No. 1495, as read by the city clerk, be approved and adopted.

Yes: 7 - Mayor Serdy, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilmember Barker, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Rizzi, Councilmember Schroeder and Councilmember Struble

No: 0

Planner Kelsey Schattnik explained that this rezoning is city initiated and the request is to correct the zoning to RM-2. Staff received no public comments regarding this request to rezone.

Mayor Serdy opened the public hearing.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Serdy closed the public hearing.

10. [20-427](#) Presentation, discussion, public hearing and consideration of Ordinance No. 1494, case PZ-5-20, a proposed city initiated corrective rezoning of 210 N. Ironwood Dr., located near the northwest corner of Ironwood Dr. and Apache Trail, from a split zoning of Recreational Vehicle Park (RVP) and General Commercial (B-1) to General Commercial (B-1) to allow the entire property to be developed under commercial standards as intended by the original zoning designation.

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Councilmember Rizzi that Ordinance No. 1494 be read by title only and the reading of the entire ordinance be waived.

City Clerk Jennifer Pena read Ordinance No. 1494 by title only.

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Wilson that Ordinance No. 1494, as read by the city clerk, be approved and adopted.

Yes: 7 - Mayor Serdy, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilmember Barker, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Rizzi, Councilmember Schroeder and Councilmember Struble

No: 0

Planner Kelsey Schattnik explained that this rezoning is city initiated and the request is to correct the zoning to B-1. Staff received no public comments regarding this request to rezone.

Mayor Serdy opened the public hearing.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Serdy closed the public hearing.

11. [20-374](#) Consideration of application for a series 009 (liquor store) liquor license application for Circle K Store #1556 located at 2360 W. Broadway Avenue. The next step in the process is for the council to hold a public hearing on the application and make a recommendation of approval or denial to the Arizona Department of Liquor License and Control.

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Wilson that the application for a location & owner transfer, Series 9 (liquor store) liquor license for Circle K Store #1556, submitted by Kim Kwiatkowski, be recommended for approval to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control.

Yes: 7 - Mayor Serdy, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilmember Barker, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Rizzi, Councilmember Schroeder and Councilmember Struble

No: 0

City Clerk Jennifer Pena explained that this is a series 9 liquor license application for Circle K and that city departments have completed their inspections and recommend approval.

Mayor Serdy opened the public hearing.

There were no public comments.

Mayor Serdy closed the public hearing.

12. [20-373](#) Consideration of application for a series 010 (beer and wine store) liquor license application for Apache Marketplace located at 420 N. Apache Trail. The next step in the process is for the council to hold a public hearing on the application and make a recommendation of approval or denial to the Arizona Department of Liquor License and Control.

Vice Mayor Wilson moved, seconded by Councilmember Barker that the application for an Interim Permit & New License, Series 10 (beer and wine store) liquor license for Apache Marketplace, submitted by Andrea Lewkowitz, be recommended for approval to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control.

Yes: 7 - Mayor Serdy, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilmember Barker, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Rizzi, Councilmember Schroeder and Councilmember Struble

No: 0

City Clerk Jennifer Pena explained that this is a series 10 liquor license application for Apache Marketplace and that city departments have completed their inspections and recommend approval.

Mayor Serdy opened the public hearing.

Resident Donna Carr asked if there is a limit on how many liquor licenses can be issued in Apache Junction.

City Attorney Joel Stern stated that the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses mandates liquor licenses in the city and that city council just makes a recommendation to the state department.

Mayor Serdy closed the public hearing.

I. OLD BUSINESS

J. NEW BUSINESS

13. [20-401](#) Presentation, discussion and consideration of entering into an agreement with Advanced Chemical Transport, Inc. for the November 2020 and March 2021 household hazardous waste events in the amount of \$80,000.

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Councilmember Rizzi that the agreement with Advanced Chemical Transport Inc., for the November 2020 and March 2021 household hazardous waste events in an amount not to exceed \$80,000.00 be approved.

Yes: 7 - Mayor Serdy, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilmember Barker, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Rizzi, Councilmember Schroeder and Councilmember Struble

No: 0

Public Works Management Analyst Heather Hodgman explained that the city is planning two future household hazardous waste events for November 2020 and March 2021 at the Public Works yard. City staff is requesting the agreement with Advanced Chemical Transport, Inc. be approved in order to host these events.

K. COUNCIL DIRECTION TO STAFF

14. [20-425](#) Discussion and possible direction to staff to conduct research and "full cost estimates" for a 50x80 flag along with the design, engineering, construction, lighting, and ongoing maintenance of the flag and pole.

Councilmember Rizzi moved, seconded by Councilmember Barker that this project be appointed to Parks & Recreation for more research to be done with the group proposing this project and that city staff come back in one month with an update.

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

No: 1 - Councilmember Evans

Mayor Serdy explained the request by city residents to have a giant United States flag installed and flown at Flatiron Park.

City Manager Bryant Powell explained that this is a research project and there are significant costs associated with it. He stated that council needs to provide direction on how much they want the city and staff involved in this project.

Councilmember Evans stated that she has a ton of questions. She said that it sounds like a resident initiated project and does not believe that the city should be involved until the community raises the money and has more research done.

Mayor Serdy stated that it does not cost the city money to have staff research it.

Councilmember Rizzi stated that the group has already raised \$4,500.00 and she loves the idea of this project. She would like to get more information before council shoots it down.

Councilmember Barker did research online and found that the flag itself costs \$3,000.00 - \$7,000.00 depending on the quality. She believes the group that proposed this idea should do the research and get all of their ducks in a row and then present a plan to the council.

Councilmember Schroeder stated that city staff has not even researched or done work on his proposed dark sky ordinance so the group would have more success researching it themselves as he believes city staff only researches things that are their ideas.

Vice Mayor Wilson likes the idea but believes the group should do a lot of the research and that city staff should do some as well.

Mayor Serdy stated that the group would pay for the engineering and all costs related to the project but needs approval from the city first.

Councilmember Evans asked how this flag that will need to be lit up effect the dark sky ordinance.

Councilmember Struble thinks it is a great project but thinks liability and future costs needs to be considered. He has always known flags like this to be done on private property. He believes the group proposing this should do the research first and then bring it back to council.

Mayor Serdy believes this flag would increase tourism to Apache Junction.

Councilmember Rizzi asked how busy the art commission is right now and if they could take this on. City Manager Powell replied that they are still working on funding and do not have a full agenda as of now.

Councilmember Evans believes that this should start with the Parks & Recreation department as it will be in one of their parks.

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

15. [20-418](#) Executive Session at 6:00 P.M. and Work Session at 7:00 P.M. for Monday, September 14, 2020. Executive Session at 6:00 P.M. and Work Session at 7:00 P.M. for Tuesday, September 15, 2020 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 Barker moved, seconded by Councilmember Rizzi that an Executive Session at 6:00 P.M. and Work Session at 7:00 P.M. for Monday, September 14, 2020 and that an Executive Session at 6:00 P.M. and Work Session at 7:00 P.M. for Tuesday, September 15, 2020 be held 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: 7 - Mayor Serdy, Vice Mayor Wilson, Councilmember Barker, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Rizzi, Councilmember Schroeder and Councilmember Struble

No: 0

M. CALL TO PUBLIC

Jeffrey Mitchell, 351 N. Meridian Road, explained that the flag project will just bring more problems to the city. He suggested other projects that would be more suitable for increasing tourism, such as a wall to honor veterans. He said that funds for this project are being raised illegally.

Donna Carr, 2178 W. Virginia Street, in Apache Junction, stated that she was going to talk about the CARES Act funding but got her questions answered. She spoke about the cargo containers in the city. She is worried about wildlife being killed by the fires. She stated that Arizona Game and Fish is accepting donations to help the wildlife.

Jeff Barlett, 108 N. Meridian Drive, brought up the need for public transportation in Apache Junction and that council should be discussing this.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Serdy adjourned the council meeting at 8:15 pm.

ACCEPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2020, BY THE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF APACHE JUNCTION, ARIZONA.

SIGNED AND ATTESTED TO THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2020.

JEFF SERDY
Mayor

ATTEST:

JENNIFER PEÑA
City Clerk

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
CERTIFICATION

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 the City of Apache Junction, Arizona, held on the _____ day of _____, 2020. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2020.

JENNIFER PEÑA
City Clerk