



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

apachejunctionaz.gov
Ph: (480) 982-8002

Tuesday, August 15, 2023

7:00 PM

City Council Chambers

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

C. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor Wilson
 Vice Mayor Schroeder
 Councilmember Nesser
 Councilmember Heck
 Councilmember Johnson
 Councilmember Cross
 Councilmember Soller

Staff in Attendance:

Bryant Powell, City Manager
Matt Busby, Assistant City Manager
Jennifer Pena, City Clerk
Joel Stern, City Attorney
Al Bravo, Public Information Officer
Michael Pooley, Police Chief
Evie McKinney, Deputy City Clerk

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Vice Mayor Schroeder moved, seconded by Councilmember Nesser to approve the Consent Agenda.

Yes: 7 - Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Schroeder, Councilmember Nesser, Councilmember Heck, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember Cross and Councilmember Soller

No: 0

1. [23-423](#) Consideration of acceptance of agenda.

2. [23-424](#) Consideration of approval of minutes of the regular meeting of August 1, 2023.
3. [23-428](#) Consideration of approval of entering into a contract with Viasun Corporation for the construction of curbing for the Apache Trail medians between Ironwood Drive and Ocotillo Drive. The work would be through Pinal County cooperative job order contract No.175623 in the amount of \$345,520.75 plus a 10% contingency for unforeseen change orders in the amount of \$35,552.07 for a total project cost not to exceed \$380,072.82. Work will result in curbing to facilitate roadway drainage and protection to the next phase of median beautification improvements. Work is planned to take place between October to November 2023.

E. AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

F. REGIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL UPDATES

4. [23-425](#) Brief summary of intergovernmental updates from mayor and councilmembers.

Councilmember Heck gave an update on recent data shared by the Greater Phoenix Economic Council, (GPEC). GPEC's mission is to encourage and create growth in the business development market in the greater Phoenix area. Trends are positive, the economy is growing, as well as growth in the number of homes and the value of homes. Cost of living in the greater Phoenix metropolitan area is 3.8% above the national average.

Councilmembers Soller and Cross recently attended a two day seminar with the Morrison Institute. Points of discussion included housing shortage, community outreach to the tribal communities for increased technology services, clean energy efforts, municipal water regulations, education involvement and teacher retention, and public safety initiatives for police officer preservation.

Vice Mayor Schroeder shared the Pinal Regional Transportation Authority voted to manage the organization without the assistance from Central Arizona Government.

Mayor Wilson offered an invitation to the Arizona Department Of Transportation meeting scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on August 16, 2023, at the Multigenerational Center, to discuss the opening of State Route 88.

G. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

5. [23-426](#) City Manager's Report.

City Manager Bryant Powell shared a video created by the One Water - Our Water campaign group, which includes Apache Junction Water District and Arizona Water Company. These two companies serve water to the residents of Apache Junction, and the video educated where the water comes from that is distributed by both organizations.

6. [23-427](#) Announcement of Current Events.

Public Information Officer Al Bravo shared the following upcoming events:

- * Level Up Your Business, offered by the City and the Chamber of Commerce, September 7, 2023, 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. at Central Arizona College located at 805 S. Idaho Rd, Room F115, Apache Junction
- * Books and Brews, August 17, 2023, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., HandleBar Pub and Grill on Apache Trail
- * Garden Party, August 18, 2023, 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., Multigenerational Center, 1035 N. Idaho Rd
- * Fairytale Faire, August 19, 2023, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Multigenerational Center, 1035 N. Idaho Rd

Please visit www.apachejunctionaz.gov to see all the upcoming community events.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS**7. [23-429](#) Consideration of application for a new Series 6 Bar Liquor License for Super Skies Dining & Dance Hall, 945 E Scenic Street, Apache Junction, AZ. 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 Soller moved, seconded by Councilmember Nesser that the application for a Series 6 Bar Liquor License submitted by Amy S. Nations on behalf of Super Skies Dining and Dance Hall, located at 945 E Scenic St. be recommended for approval to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control.

Yes: 7 - Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Schroeder, Councilmember Nesser, Councilmember Heck, Councilmember Johnson, Councilmember Cross and Councilmember Soller

No: 0

City Clerk Jennifer Pena stated the city received an application for a new Series 6 Bar Liquor License from Super Skies Dining and Dance Hall on July 17, 2023, and the notice of posting was placed at the establishment on July 25, 2023.

The posting requirement has been met with no comments from the public. Correspondence related to inspections of the premises for safety and code compliant matters have been received from the Apache Junction Police Department, Building and Safety Division, Planning and Zoning Department and the Superstition Fire and Medical District. All four entities find compliance with the inspection requirements and recommend approval.

The Planning Department did note that this establishment exists as a Lawful Nonconforming Use. A Letter of Lawful Nonconformity was issued by the City to a previous owner, which is transferrable. Also to note, a fire had caused structural damage within the past year. All permits were properly pulled and repairs and inspections have been approved.

Council inquired on the recent fire damage and the operation of the establishment. The applicant responded that the kitchen area was not affected by the fire.

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

I. OLD BUSINESS

J. NEW BUSINESS

K. COUNCIL DIRECTION TO STAFF

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

M. CALL TO PUBLIC

Jane Brown, Val Vista Rd, Apache Junction shared her concerns regarding water rates with the Apache Junction water companies and water conservation efforts.

Donna Carr, 2178 W. Virginia St, Apache Junction commented on the homeless situation, crops being grown in Arizona and shipped overseas, and Pinal County reporting and funding.

Andre Meek, 1327 S. Belair Rd, Apache Junction voiced concerns regarding the homeless increase in Arizona, and supports continued efforts to work together to bring relief to these individuals. He also stated the benefits of rain harvesting and suggested it be encouraged more for irrigation purposes.

Leonard W. Jeffery, Desart Investments LLC, requested help from Council to obtain an address for the property he has been trying to develop into a facility to house the homeless veterans. This property is located behind the Greyhound Park in Apache Junction. He has incurred more expense due to the installation of a fence to keep people out. Joining Mr. Jeffery was an individual sustaining on a generator for a trailer at this property because the City will not work with him to issue the proper permits to obtain water and electric service. He announced he has given up on building this development but just wants his title cleared with an address. He stated the issue in Apache Junction is not the homeless but rather the City does not want affordable housing.

George Schroeder, 2444 W. Virginia St, Apache Junction commented on the services offered from Development Services and Code Enforcement.

Vice Mayor Schroeder requested detailed information be shared with Council from staff regarding the property issues mentioned by Mr. Leonard Jeffery.

Councilmember Soller addressed comments made earlier in the meeting regarding the current water levels in Arizona and the availability of the Colorado River water.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Wilson adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

ACCEPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2023, BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF APACHE JUNCTION, ARIZONA.

SIGNED AND ATTESTED TO THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2023.

WALTER "CHIP" WILSON
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 _____, 2023. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2023.

JENNIFER PEÑA
City Clerk