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 4, 2018 **7:00 PM** **City Council Chambers**

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Serdy called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Waldron gave the invocation and Councilmember Evans led the meeting attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. ROLL CALL

Staff in attendance:
Bryant Powell, City Manager
Matt Busby, Assistant City Manager
Anna McCray, Assistant to the City Manager
Joel Stern, City Attorney
Kathy Connelly, City Clerk
Thomas Kelly, Chief of Police
Larry Kirch, Development Services Director
Al Bravo, Public Information Officer
Heather Patel, Sponsorship/Partnership Programs Administrator
Shane Kiesow, Public Works Manager

Present:	6 -	Mayor Serdy Councilmember Barker Councilmember Evans Councilmember Rizzi Councilmember Struble Councilmember Waldron
Excused:	1 -	Vice Mayor Wilson

D. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilmember Barker and seconded by Councilmember Rizzi that the consent agenda be accepted as presented and that the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 City Council Work Plan be adopted.

1. 18-357 Consideration of acceptance of agenda.

The agenda was accepted.

Yes:	6 -	Mayor Serdy, Councilmember Barker, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Rizzi, Councilmember Struble and Councilmember Waldron

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Vice Mayor Wilson

2. 18-358 Consideration of approval of minutes of regular meeting of August 7, 2018.

The minutes were approved.

Yes: 6 - Mayor Serdy, Councilmember Barker, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Rizzi, Councilmember Struble and Councilmember Waldron

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Vice Mayor Wilson

3. 18-370 Consideration of approval of minutes of special meeting of August 20, 2018.

The minutes were approved.

Yes: 6 - Mayor Serdy, Councilmember Barker, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Rizzi, Councilmember Struble and Councilmember Waldron

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Vice Mayor Wilson

4. 18-369 Consideration of adoption of the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 City Council Work Plan.

The Fiscal Year 2018-2019 City Council Work Plan was approved.

Yes: 6 - Mayor Serdy, Councilmember Barker, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Rizzi, Councilmember Struble and Councilmember Waldron

No: 0

Excused: 1 - Vice Mayor Wilson

E. AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

5. 18-349 Recognition by the mayor and city council of individuals and/or organizations who have made donations to support city activities, programs and projects. Recipients may wish to make comments on their donation.

Sponsorship/Partnership Programs Administrator Heather Patel recognized the various donors that contributed to programs and services in the city in the last quarter. They included:

Apache Junction Unified School District (AJUSD) employees through payroll deductions towards the Apache Junction Police Department Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program.

Gene and Edith Berry, Becky and Sidney Gardner, Charles and Constance Klement, Kim Tomczak, Olga Nowlin Trust, and the Freda J. Warren Living Trust for their contributions to the Paws and Claws Care Center.

Glennda Kirk with the Walmart Supercenter for donations toward the Apache Junction Police Department community outreach efforts.

Matt Nichols, Arizona Crane, and Merrill Orr for their donations of public art and installation of the art towards enhancing the community.

Rich Sterba for his contributions to the Summer Reading Program.

Shelly Shull of the Allstate Foundation for their contribution in neighborhood revitalization.

Ms. Patel reported since 2016, 948 donors have contributed a total of $387,257 that have aided in the support of 38 projects.

Mayor Serdy publicly recognized and thanked Roger Hacker who historically has led these efforts and did these presentations but has since retired, currently working for the city in an interim part time capacity. Mayor Serdy also thanked Merrill Orr for his donation of the public art and everyone who was a part of getting it installed.

F. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CURRENT EVENTS

6. 18-359 Announcement of current events from mayor and councilmembers.

Councilmember Barker stated that she along with the rest of council attended the Arizona League of Cities and Towns conference and described the sessions she attended.

Councilmember Rizzi discussed a session she attended at the League conference. Ms. Rizzi mentioned her attendance at a recent Pinal Partnership breakfast at which tourism was the topic and how important it is to the area.

Vice Mayor Wilson apologized for being late to tonight's council meeting due to his brother's physician's visit.

Councilmember Evans announced this Saturday morning at 7:00a.m. planting for the community garden will take place. Ms. Evans discussed the League conference and presented a short powerpoint presentation to share information on the various sessions she attended. Following the League conference, the Maricopa Associatoin of Governments (MAG) asked Ms. Evans to be on the MAG opioid committee. Ms. Evans reported that six mobile home parks recently sold for $42,000,000 in the city which could turn into a short-term rental issue currently experienced by other cities.

Councilmember Struble commented the League conference and sessions were awesome as well as getting to know others city council members and mayors to share stories and commiserate with issues being faced in individual communities. Mr. Struble also mentioned the Pinal Partnership Breakfast and commented about the high quality professional marketing materials Pinal County has prepared for tourism. Mr. Struble commented that the Lost Dutchman State Park had 183,000 visitors last year.

Mayor Serdy informed the audience that Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport is continually announcing new flights, the most recent is an airline with a new flight schedule to the san Diego area. Mayor Serdy also reported that the roundabout opened and people seem to be navigating it just fine. Mayor Serdy commented that tonight is the first paperless council meeting which he does not like but understands it saves staff time and resources.

G. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

7. 18-360 City manager's report.

City Manager Bryant Powell provided kudos to the public works streets crew who responded swiftly after normal working hours to the back to back storm events in the city on August 23rd and 24th. Over four inches of rain fell over the four storms this year. Mr. Powell also thanked the residents and council for being patient in the cleanup efforts which can take days after safety issues have been attended to. Mayor Serdy stated the city has 166 miles of surface roads that are well maintained by public works and asked residents to remain patient after storms hit, that street sweepers will be forthcoming.

Mr. Powell recognized Parks and Recreation employee Jill Ruot as receiving the National Parks and Recreation Association Aquatic Professional of the Month featured in their magazine.

Mr. Powell also informed council that several years back city management decided to follow presidential proclamations for half-staff flags. At the time, notifications from the state of Arizona Governor's office were consistently late in the day on the day that flags were to be flown at half staff which led to confusion and frequent disruption in staff's work in order to get flags at half-staff. Since the change in administrations, notices from the Governor's office have been much more timely and staff will be informed that the city will now follow notices from the Governor's office.

Mr. Powell mentioned councilmembers have requested business cards with the mission and vision statements and that those are available.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

8. 18-344 Consideration of application for an interim permit, new license, corporation, Series 10 liquor license for 88 Trails Corporation, doing business as Shell, 1571 W. Apache Trail, Apache Junction, AZ 85120. The next step in the 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. This item was continued from the August 20, 2018 special meeting.

City Clerk Kathy Connelly stated that all departments are in favor of the approval. The applicant was present. No members of the public chose to speak. Councilmember Barker suggested discussion on the nonconforming monument sign which is in the right-of-way and if the council may wish to place a condition of approval on the item.

Councilmember Evans asked Development Services Director Larry Kirch if anyone came and spoke to development services when the gas station changed hands after foreclosure. Mr. Kirch responded no and stated he sent a letter advising the new owner the sign is nonconforming due to its placement being in the right-of-way which needs to be corrected. Ms. Evans stated this type of issue needs to be a recorded document so a potential buyer knows about it prior to buying and knows it must be dealt with instead of tying it to the liquor license request at hand.

Councilmember Rizzi stated she feels the liquor license is a separate issue from the sign issue and council should keep them separate. She expressed concern for the way the city is attempting or not attempting to be supportive of the small businesses in the community and be cognizant of not losing small businesses as they are struggling. Ms. Rizzi wants city staff to have the mindset to help these people through the process.

Councilmember Barker moved and Councilmember Evans seconded that the application for an interim permit, new license, corporation, series 10 liquor license for 88 Trails Corporation, doing business as Shell, 1571 W. Apache Trail, 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 Struble and Councilmember Waldron

No: 0

9. 18-345 Consideration of application for a new license, corporation, Series 9 liquor store license for Circle K store #3444 located at 2933 S. Tomahawk Road, Apache Junction, AZ 85119. The next step in the 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. This item was continued from the August 20, 2018 special meeting.

City Clerk Kathy Connelly explained the location of this particular location which already has a series 10 liquor license but is now seeking a liquor 9 license which is a full liquor license and that all departments responded with no concerns to the request. No member of the public wished to speak on the item. Councilmember Rizzi moved and Councilmember Evans seconded that the application for a new license, corporation, series 9 liquor license for Circle K Store #3444 located at 2933 S. Tomahawk Road, 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 Struble and Councilmember Waldron

No: 0

10. 18-346 Consideration of application for a new license, corporation, Series 9 liquor store license for Circle K store #2741647 located at 2341 S. Ironwood Drive, Apache Junction, AZ 85120. The next step in the 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. This item was continued from the August 20, 2018 special meeting.

City Clerk Kathy Connelly explained the location of this particular location which already has a series 10 liquor license but is now seeking a liquor 9 license which is a full liquor license and that all departments responded with no concerns to this request. Councilmember Waldron moved and Councilmember Rizzi seconded that the application for a new license, corporation, series 9 liquor license for Circle K Store #2741647 located at 2341 S. Ironwood Drive, 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 Struble and Councilmember Waldron

No: 0

I. OLD BUSINESS

J. NEW BUSINESS

11. 18-368 Presentation and discussion by Pinal County's Office of Emergency Management on the 2018 Pinal County Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

Public Works Manager Shane Kiesow introduced the proposed 2018 Pinal County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and stated this item will return to council for consideration of support of a resolution for approval of the CWPP at the next regularly scheduled council meeting. Pinal County Office of Emergency Manager Chuck Kmet provided a presentation on the CWPP which included what a CWPP is, outreach efforts involved in the update to the plan since 2009, history and past council actions, and the benefits to Apache Junction. Mr. Kmet stated the approval of the plan provides for grant opportunities but does not bind the city to any policy, project or expenditures.

City Manager Bryant Powell expressed his thank you to Chuck Kmet and his team at the county for their outreach during storm events.

12. 18-372 Discussion and presentation of proposed Resolution No. 18-27, declaring as a public record that certain document filed with the city clerk entitled "2018 Amendments to Apache Junction City Code, Vol. 1, Chapter 3: Administration, Article 3-7: Procurement Procedure", repealing any conflicting provisions; providing for severability; and declaring an emergency.

City Attorney Joel Stern explained the proposed changes to the city's procurement policy that was worked through by numerous departments. The resolution for this item will return for council consideration of approval at the next regularly scheduled council meeting.

13. 18-371 Discussion and presentation on proposed Ordinance No. 1462 adopting the "2018 Amendments to the Apache Junction City Code, Vol. 1, Chapter 3: Administration, Article 3-7: Procurement Procedure" repealing any conflicting provisions; providing for severability; and declaring an emergency.

City Attorney Joel Stern explained the proposed changes to the city's procurement policy that was worked through by numerous departments. The ordinance for this item will return for council consideration of approval at the next regularly scheduled council meeting.

K. COUNCIL DIRECTION TO STAFF

There were no council direction to staff items.

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

14. 18-361 Executive Session at 6:00 P.M. and Work Session at 7:00 P.M. for Monday, September 17, 2018 in the city council conference room and city council chambers located at 300 E. Superstition Boulevard, Apache Junction, Arizona, respectively.

Councilmember Waldron moved and Councilmember Rizzi seconded that an executive session at 6:00p.m. and a work session at 7:00p.m. be held on Monday, September 17, 2018 in the city council conference room and city council chambers located at 300 E. Superstition Boulevard, Apache Junction, Arizona, respectively.

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

No: 0

15. 18-362 Executive Session at 6:00 P.M. and Work Session at 7:00 P.M. for Tuesday, September 18, 2018 in the city council conference room and city council chambers located at 300 E. Superstition Boulevard, Apache Junction, Arizona, respectively. Other meetings if necessary.

Councilmember Waldron moved and Councilmember Barker seconded that an executive session at 6:00p.m. and a work session at 7:00p.m. be held on Tuesday, September 18, 2018 in the city council conference room and city council chambers located at 300 E. Superstition Boulevard, Apache Junction, Arizona, respectively.

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

No: 0

M. CALL TO PUBLIC

Curtis Fonger appeared at Call to the Public to express his sorrow in losing his wife Marta St. James in recent days to pancreatic cancer three and a half weeks following diagnosis. Mr. Fonger shared information on Marta's background and her love for animals, born on Animal Day, a national celebratory day in Buenos Aires. Animals were a big deal with Ms. St. James who particularly loved dogs. A GoFundMe in Ms. St. James' name has been set up on Facebook for donations to be collected, 100% of which will be donated to the Paws and Claws Care Center. Mr. Fonger informed council that today the amount so far received totaled $7,000 with a final goal of $10,000 which he hopes is met soon.

Mr. Fonger stated a memorial will take place for Ms. St. James at the Superstition Mountain Museum ampitheatre. Date and time to be announced.

CM Rizzi, Mayor Serdy, and VM Wilson shared comments regarding Marta and encouraged people to donate to the GoFundMe to honor Ms. St. James.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Serdy adjourned the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

ACCEPTED THIS_____ DAY OF_____, 2018, BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF APACHE JUNCTION, ARIZONA.

SIGNED AND ATTESTED TO THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2018.

_____
JEFF SERDY
Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
KATHLEEN CONNELLY
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 19th day of June, 2018. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2018.

KATHLEEN CONNELLY
City Clerk