



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, August 4, 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 Struble 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
Eric Yuva, City Prosecutor
Al Bravo, Public Information Officer
Thomas Kelly, Chief of Police
Arnold Freeman, Police Captain
E'lan Vallender, Senior Economic Development Specialist
Raquel Schatz, Public Works Project Engineer
Dana Martin, Tax Auditor
Kelly Martin, Park Ranger Supervisor
Jill Bright, Deputy City Clerk (remotely)

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Wilson that the agenda be accepted as presented, the minutes of the regular meeting of July 21 be approved and Resolution No. 20-28 be approved, committing local funds from the General Government Grants and Subsidies Funds in the amount of \$62,181 for Saguaro Drive Roadway Improvements as part of the FY20/21 CDBG Regional Account application to the Arizona Department of Housing.

1. [20-351](#) Consideration of acceptance of agenda.

2. [20-352](#) Consideration of approval of minutes of the regular meeting of July 21, 2020.

3. [20-375](#) Consideration of Resolution No. 20-28, committing local funds for Saguaro Drive Roadway Improvements as part of the FY20 CDBG Regional Account application to the Arizona Department of Housing.

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

F. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CURRENT EVENTS

4. [20-353](#) Announcement of current events from mayor and councilmembers.

Councilmember Struble thanked the non profits for their hard work with providing shelter, food and water during these especially hot days.

Councilmember Evans shared that the AJ Community Development Corporation completed a couple service projects during July. She stated that Make a Difference Day will be on October 10, 2020 of this year and is beginning to look for donations and volunteers.

Vice Mayor Wilson has none.

Councilmember Barker has none.

Councilmember Schroeder wished all candidates good luck tonight.

Councilmember Rizzi wished all candidates good luck.

Mayor Serdy stated that today is election day and encourages the community to continue to support our local businesses.

G. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

5. [20-354](#) City Manager's Report.

City Manager Bryant Powell shared he is happy to report that checks have begun to go out to local small businesses from the AJ CARES Act grant funds.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

6. [20-369](#) Presentation, discussion, public hearing and consideration of Resolution No.

20-24 a resolution of the mayor and city council of the city of Apache Junction, Arizona, declaring as a public record that certain document filed with the city clerk entitled "2020 Amendments to the Apache Junction City Code, Volume I, Chapter 11: Noise".

Mayor Serdy stated that the Resolution No. 20-24 and Ordinance No. 1492 will be heard together.

7. [20-371](#) Presentation, discussion, public hearing and consideration of Ordinance No. 1492 an ordinance of the mayor and city council of the City of Apache Junction, Arizona, amending Apache Junction City Code, Volume I, by adding new Chapter 11: Noise, and adopting by reference that certain document filed with the city clerk entitled "2020 Amendments to the Apache Junction City Code, Vol. I, Chapter 11: Noise"; providing for severability; providing for penalties; repealing any conflicting provisions; and declaring an emergency.

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Councilmember Schroeder that Resolution No. 20-24 and Ordinance No. 1492 be continued to a work session on Monday, August 17th, 2020 and a regular council meeting on Tuesday, August 18, 2020.

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

No: 0

Mayor Serdy stated that the Resolution No. 20-24 and Ordinance No. 1492 will be heard together.

City Attorney Joel Stern stated that these items will come back at the next set of meetings for council to vote on as decided at last night's work session.

Mayor Serdy opened the public hearing.

Jeff Bartlett, 108 N. Meridian, stated that he does not agree with the emergency clause and is not for anymore regulations or ordinances.

Mayor Serdy closed the public hearing.

City Attorney Joel Stern explained what an emergency clause is.

Council decided to remove the emergency clause.

I. OLD BUSINESS

J. NEW BUSINESS

8. [20-361](#) Presentation and discussion of Resolution 20-27 renewing the Old West Highway Redevelopment Area (Discussion Only).

Senior Economic Development Specialist E'lan Vallender shared that the Old West Highway Redevelopment Area needs to be renewed by October 1st and will slide into a ten year renewal period. The public hearing will be scheduled for August 18, 2020.

9. [20-356](#) Presentation and discussion for vacation of the dedicated Right-of-Way on the

South half of the 33 foot Right-of-Way, located at 15th Avenue from Old West Highway to Wickiup Road, for the purpose of consolidating parcels for the development of the Apache Junction Office Warehouse.

Public Works Project Engineer Raquel Schatz explained what a dedicated Right-of-Way is and explained that the city cannot gift it and must sell it. Ms. Schatz stated that the city will sell it based on fair market value by bid. The city received one bid and upon council approval staff can proceed with the sale of it.

10. [20-357](#) Presentation and discussion on the extinguishment of a Federally Patent Easement extinguishment for the North half of the 33 foot easement, located at 15th Avenue from Old West Highway to Wickiup Road, for the purpose of consolidating parcels for the development of the Apache Junction Office Warehouse.

Public Works Project Engineer Raquel Schatz explained what a Federal Patent Easement is and showed a map of exactly where the easement is.

K. COUNCIL DIRECTION TO STAFF

11. [20-350](#) Presentation, discussion, and possible direction to staff on the implementation of the 2.5% step increase which was funded in the approved Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Final Budget.

Councilmember Barker moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Wilson that the 2.5% step increase which is funded in the approved Fiscal Year 2020-2021 budget be implemented retroactive to the first full pay period in July be approved.

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

No: 0

City Manager Bryant Powell explained that council has approved dollars in the budget allocated for a step increase to city staff. Mr. Powell stated that city staff is awesome and has not stopped working during the pandemic. Based on the budget he feels comfortable recommending approval for the step increase.

Mayor Serdy reiterated what Mr. Powell stated.

Councilmember Barker stated that she attended a MAG meeting this morning and learned that TPT is up 2.3% due to people buying more online and the help of the increased unemployment amount being dispersed.

Councilmember Evans stated that she couldn't be more proud to work with city staff and firmly believes that city staff deserves this step increase. She would like to begin the process of a police department salary review.

Councilmember Rizzi asked if the police department can receive hazard pay from the AJ CARES Act Grant funds. Mr. Powell replied that it is something that staff is looking into now.

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

12. [20-355](#) Executive Session at 6:00 P.M. and Work Session at 7:00 P.M. for Monday,

August 17, 2020. Executive Session at 6:00 P.M. and Work Session at 7:00 P.M. for Tuesday, August 18, 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 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, August 17, 2020 and an Executive Session at 6:00 P.M. and Work Session at 7:00 P.M. for Tuesday, August 18, 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

Bryan Soller, 220 E. 13th Avenue, thanked AJ Police Department and the council for approving the step increase. He explained that it is hard to get and retain good quality officers and agrees that the pay study for police officers must be done.

George Schroeder, 2444 W. Virginia Street in Apache Junction, asked why we have Black Lives Matter and we don't need help telling people that we have idiots out here. He wants his wife's name off Republic Services. He speaks five languages. When he says stop, he means it.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Serdy adjourned the council meeting at 7:41 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

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