



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, February 16, 2021

7:00 PM

City Council Chambers

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Wilson called the council meeting to order.

B. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Mayor Rizzi gave the invocation and Councilmember Gremmel led the meeting attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor Wilson
Vice Mayor Rizzi
Councilmember Evans
Councilmember Schroeder
Councilmember Biggs
Councilmember Nesser
Councilmember Gremmel

City 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
Fox Young, Program & Resource Coordinator
Liz Langenbach, Parks & Recreation Director
Mike Wever, Public Works Director
Jill Bright, Deputy City Clerk (remotely)

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Biggs moved, seconded by Councilmember Nesser to accept the consent agenda as presented.

Yes: 7 - Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Rizzi, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Schroeder, Councilmember Biggs, Councilmember Nesser and Councilmember Gremmel

No: 0

1. [21-049](#) Consideration of acceptance of agenda.

2. [21-050](#) Consideration of approval of minutes of the regular meeting of February 2, 2021.

E. AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS AND PROCLAMATIONS

3. [20-646](#) Recognition by the mayor and city council of individuals and/or organizations who have made donations to support city activities, programs and projects through the Friends of Apache Junction. Recipients may wish to make comments on their donation.

Friends of Apache Junction board president Dana Cannizzaro presented that in 2020 donors gave over \$74,500.00 to Friends of Apache Junction, Parks & Recreation, Paws and Claws Care Center and the Police Department. Ms. Cannizzaro presented the names of the corporate, organization and individual donors and thanked them.

F. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CURRENT EVENTS

4. [21-051](#) Announcement of current events from mayor and councilmembers.

Councilmember Biggs shared that the NJROTC car show was last weekend and it had a great turnout. He visited the Boys & Girls Club last week. The Star Family Event is March 13th.

Councilmember Nesser shared that the new Apache Junction Area Chamber of Commerce name and logo was released. She explained the Spring into Savings program that the Chamber is hosting. The Chamber's March Mixer is March 18th.

Mayor Wilson shared that we had a successful State of the City last week. The Food Bank received a new freezer and can now accept more food to donate. He visited Phoenix Mesa Gateway Airport today.

G. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

5. [21-052](#) City Manager's Report.

City Manager Bryant Powell recognized Vice Mayor Rizzi and Robin Barker for their donations to city organizations as well.

6. [20-677](#) Discussion and presentation by Stephen Herring of Republic Services on free dump week and update on Landfill activity.

Republic Services Municipal Relationship Manager Stephen Herring shared that as of today 1,290 residents have signed up for recycling services, which is about 12% of the community. Over 117 tons was brought into the dump for the quarterly free dump week last week. Free bulk service is being used by an average of 30% of residents.

7. [21-036](#) Discussion and update on corporate sponsorships, Friends of Apache Junction and the programs and resources of the Community Development Corporation (CDC).

Programs and Resourced Coordinator Fox Young provided an update on corporate sponsorships. The city received \$29,420.00 in revenue in 2020. Corporate sponsorships were Republic Services and SRP.

Mr. Young read the Friends of Apache Junction's mission statement and shared that they are an all volunteer board and give back 98% of all donations to the community. In 2020, they provided over \$46,500.00 for events, programs and improvements within the city.

Mr. Young read the AJ Community Development Corporations mission statement and shared that their current projects consist of the focal point, make a difference day and community revitalization. Their upcoming project is going to be to clean up the Fields of Dreams at the Boys & Girls Club. He presented the website and explained how residents can apply for help online.

H. PUBLIC HEARINGS

I. OLD BUSINESS

8. [21-060](#) Discussion and possible action on Resolution No. 21-04 authorizing an Inter-governmental Agreement with Pinal County for an Off-Leash Dog Park at the County Complex located at 575 North Idaho Road.

Vice Mayor Rizzi moved, seconded by Councilmember Nesser that Resolution No. 21-04 authorizing an Inter-Governmental Agreement with Pinal County for an Off-Leash Dog Park at the county complex located at 575 N. Idaho Road be approved.

Yes: 7 - Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Rizzi, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Schroeder, Councilmember Biggs, Councilmember Nesser and Councilmember Gremmel

No: 0

Parks & Recreation Director Liz Langenbach discussed the details of the 25 year Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Pinal County for an off-leash dog park in the retention basin at the county complex. The county is presenting this IGA for approval this week. The county will contribute to the electrical cost for irrigation system and drinking fountain operation. The lighting will be solar.

Councilmember Gremmel asked how parking will work. Ms. Langenbach responded that the park will be closed on the morning of the busiest day at the county complex and city staff will do maintenance during that time.

Councilmember Nesser asked about any amenities that will be available. Ms. Langenbach replied that the park will have three different fenced areas based on dog size. The entry area is double gated. There will be a lot of trees and shade. The drainage will flow around the dog park. The Art Commission is working on getting art there. She is anticipating the project to begin at the end of summer and to open next Spring.

9. [21-065](#) Presentation, discussion and consideration of Resolution No. 21-05 a resolution of the mayor and city council of the City of Apache Junction, Arizona, adopting policy guidelines and application procedures for the establishment of community facilities districts.

Councilmember Evans moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Rizzi that Resolution No. 21-05 adopting policy guidelines and application procedures for establishment of community facilities districts be approved.

Yes: 7 - Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Rizzi, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Schroeder, Councilmember Biggs, Councilmember Nesser and Councilmember Gremmel

No: 0

City Attorney Joel Stern shared that Zach Sakas of Sherman & Howard LLC will present and answer any questions.

Mr. Sakas explained that there is pending legislation regarding Community Facilities Districts (CFD). Laws have changed numerous times since the last time the city has created a CFD. In most cases the city council serves as the board members for the CFD but sometimes council will add two ex officio members.

10. [21-068](#) Presentation, discussion and consideration of Resolution No. 21-06, re-affirming support of the North-South Corridor alignment from U.S. 60 as detailed in the Pinal Regional Transportation Plan approved by the voters of Pinal County in November 2017.

Vice Mayor Rizzi moved, seconded by Councilmember Nesser that Resolution No. 21-06 which re-affirms support of the North-South Corridor alignment from US 60 as detailed in the Pinal Regional Transportation Plan approved by the voters of Pinal County in 2017 be approved.

Yes: 7 - Mayor Wilson, Vice Mayor Rizzi, Councilmember Evans, Councilmember Schroeder, Councilmember Biggs, Councilmember Nesser and Councilmember Gremmel

No: 0

Mayor Wilson explained that he asked for this to be on the agenda again so the new council can re-affirm support.

Public Works Director Mike Wever presented a map and background on the North-South Corridor alignment.

J. NEW BUSINESS

K. COUNCIL DIRECTION TO STAFF

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

11. [21-053](#) The next regularly scheduled Work Session is Monday, March 1st and the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting is Tuesday, March 2, 2021.

M. CALL TO PUBLIC

Wade Jones, 4550 N. Elmore in Mesa, just purchased property in Apache Junction and is asking that 22nd Avenue near the property be abandoned or be made a cul de sac on both ends. He would like to fence it. It is only gravel right now with a 66' easement that doesn't do anything.

Donna Carr, 2178 W. Virginia Street in Apache Junction, says that the older mobile homes in the parks are fire hazards. Her internet is not good and she would like better service. She knows someone that updates old computers and donates them to those who are on disability.

Vice Mayor Rizzi responded that the city would love to have Cox come in but it is very costly for Cox and they have to make sure they will have enough customers to support the initial cost to them.

N. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Wilson adjourned the council meeting.

ACCEPTED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2021, BY THE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF APACHE JUNCTION, ARIZONA.

SIGNED AND ATTESTED TO THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2021.

CHIP WILSON
Mayor

ATTEST:

JENNIFER PENA
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 _____, 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 2021.

JENNIFER PENA
City Clerk