

COUNCIL MINUTES

June 7, 2021

The City Council of the City of Mesa met in a Study Session in the lower-level meeting room of the Council Chambers, 57 East 1st Street, on June 7, 2021, at 5:15 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT

John Giles
Jennifer Duff
Mark Freeman
Francisco Heredia
David Luna
Julie Spilsbury*
Kevin Thompson

COUNCIL ABSENT

None

OFFICERS PRESENT

Christopher Brady
Holly Moseley
Jim Smith

(*Councilmember Spilsbury participated in the meeting through the use of video conference equipment.)

1. Review and discuss items on the agenda for the June 7, 2021, Regular and Special Council meetings.

All of the items on the agenda were reviewed among Council and staff and the following was noted:

Conflict of interest: None

Items removed from the consent agenda: 6-c

In response to a request from Councilmember Freeman regarding Item 6-c, **(ZON21-00191 (District 1) Within the 2200 block of North Center Street (west side). Located north of McKellips Road and east of Country Club Drive (24.42± acres). Rezone from Agricultural (AG) and Light Industrial (LI) to Public/Semi Public (PS). This request will allow for development of a public facility. Valerie Ah Yong - Engineering Department, City of Mesa, applicant; City of Mesa, owner.)**, on the June 7, 2021 Regular Council meeting agenda, Deputy Transportation Director Erik Guderian provided an update on the Lehi sports fields project. He reported the project was discussed with the neighborhood community, and the Transportation Department looked at ways to mitigate traffic in and out of the sports fields, which is located on Center Street. He added the major form of mitigation would be leaving the sports complex, where citizens will be forced to make a right turn out of two driveways headed south on Center Street to McKellips Road.

In response to multiple questions from Councilmember Freeman, Mr. Guderian inquired with Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) about adding an entrance and/or exit ramp off Country Club Drive and the Loop 202. He pointed out ADOT would not permit a driveway so close to the freeway interchange. He stated the department will be conducting traffic and speed counts in the future.

Parks and Recreation Community Facilities Department Director Andrea Moore stated as a reminder, driving north on Center Street is a single lane, but an additional lane will be added to help direct traffic out of the complex.

In response to multiple questions from Councilmember Freeman, Ms. Moore explained the complex will have LED lighting with light levels cut off effectively at the residential property lines ensuring no overflowing glare or lighting in the surrounding yards. She reported no complaints have been received from residents regarding the lights. She shared the reservation-based sports fields will be used for multiple activities such as soccer, kickball, recreational and tournament leagues. She added the fields, restrooms and most parking will be enclosed by a fence/locked gate when not in use, and in order for the fields to be used, a site supervisor must be present. She announced the sports fields will be open from roughly 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., at which time the lights will be turned off. She shared the sports fields would not be used to hold concerts.

City Manager Christopher Brady explained the sports fields are replacements for the ones the City lost when building the Union at Mesa Riverview and expanding the Chicago Cubs Stadium and parking.

Councilmember Freeman commented the prior Council thought about selling the five-acres to a developer or waste facility, but both offers were rejected knowing it would not be compatible with the area.

In response to a question from Councilmembers Thompson and Luna, Ms. Moore responded by stating the Lehi sports fields are comparable to the Greenfield Road and the Loop 202 fields, as well as the fields at Red Mountain Park. She noted by comparison the Lehi fields have newer lighting.

In response to multiple questions posed by Mayor Giles, Mr. Guderian clarified there will be two lanes southbound coming from the park towards McKellips Road, and one northbound lane. He stated he will verify if there will be lighting placed along Center Street with the build out of the sports fields.

In response to a question from Mr. Brady, Ms. Moore clarified there is one lane each running north and southbound in front of the park. She mentioned the City will build a separate lane southbound from the sports field complex driveways to McKellips Road along the frontage of the park.

2. Current events summary including meetings and conferences attended.

Councilmember Freeman – Arizona League of Cities Public Safety meeting

Councilmember Luna – Naleo Meeting – Combating misleading information relative to COVID-19.
Boeing Facility Tour

National League of Cities – Board of Director's & Social
Equity meeting
Maricopa Association of Governments meeting – Housing
trends
Hydration Campaign

Councilmember Thompson – Hydration Donation Campaign Kickoff

Vice Mayor Duff recognized the rights and equality of the City's LGBTQ community for Pride Month and announced the non-discrimination ordinance will go into effect on June 29, 2021.

3. Scheduling of meetings.

City Manager Christopher Brady stated that the schedule of meetings is as follows:

Thursday, June 10, 2021, 7:30 a.m. – Study Session

4. Adjournment.

Without objection, the Study Session adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

JOHN GILES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

DEE ANN MICKELSEN, CITY CLERK

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Study Session of the City Council of Mesa, Arizona, held on the 7th day of June 2021. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

DEE ANN MICKELSEN, CITY CLERK

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