

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF EL MIRAGE
EL MIRAGE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
10000 N. EL MIRAGE ROAD
6:00 PM – TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2017**

Minutes

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Lana Mook, Vice Mayor Joe Ramirez, Councilmember Roy Delgado, Councilmember Bob Jones, Councilmember Lynn Selby, Councilmember David Shapera

Excused: Councilmember Jack Palladino

II. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence

Silence Cell Phones & Pagers

III. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Citizens desiring to speak on a matter that IS NOT on this agenda may do so at this time. Comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes per person and shall be addressed to the City Council as a whole. At the conclusion of the Call to the Public, individual City Council Members may (1) respond to criticism made by those who have spoken (2) direct staff to review or respond to the matter, and/or (3) direct that the matter be put on a future agenda.

No Public Comment Cards were received.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

All items listed under the Consent Agenda will be voted on with one motion. If discussion is desired regarding any Consent Agenda Item, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and voted on separately.

1. Consideration and action approving the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held Tuesday, February 7, 2017. (City Clerk)
2. Consideration and action to accept a Map of Dedication for new right-of-way from the Southwest Steel property for the new Cheryl Drive to be constructed between El Mirage Road and 121st Avenue. (Development & Community Services)

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to approve Items 1 and 2 as presented on the Consent Agenda; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (6/0).

REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Public hearing, closure of public hearing, followed by consideration and action to approve a Site Plan Major Amendment at 12545 W. Butler Drive, El Mirage, Arizona 85335 Phoenix Doors LLC. (Development & Community Services)

Mayor Mook opened the Public Hearing

Development Services Coordinator Jose Macias presented the proposed Site Plan Major Amendment for Phoenix Doors, Inc. This site represents 3.3 acres with a 7,500 sq. ft. building. It is currently zoned E/1 Employment/Industry with a land use of Light Manufacturing. In the General Plan it is considered Commerce/Industry Park. The vicinity surrounding this location is Industrial Use and is within the A.R.S. 28-8481 required 70-65 LDN. No public comments have been received. Mr. Macias reviewed the site plan map designating the area involved and showed the elevation and structure of the building. He stated Phoenix Doors, Inc. is a family owned and operated business which has have been producing package sets of custom doors since 1987; they moved to El Mirage in 1999 and employ 25 people, 12 of whom reside in El Mirage. The business is growing and the facility needs improvements. Staff has no objections. The Planning and Zoning Commission recommended approval of the application at the January 10, 2017 P & Z Commission meeting/public hearing on a 4-0 vote with the stipulation that the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) review comments for the second submittal shall be addressed during the building permit process prior to a Certificate of Occupancy being issued.

Mayor Mook invited the owner to say a few words regarding this proposal. Phoenix Doors President Richard Kereny stated he never believed when they built the building in 1999 that they would outgrow it, but he was proven wrong and the proposed expansion is critical for them to continue operating successfully. They need the storage because currently all materials have to be brought inside when there is the slightest threat of inclement weather. The request is a simple building for storage only.

Councilor Delgado stated he believed Milgard windows are being produced in Surprise and asked if they are being produced here now? Mr. Kereny responded that his company does not produce windows, rather, they sell windows. Councilor Delgado asked if they will be having a sales office in El Mirage and Mr. Kereny informed him that the sales office is, indeed, in El Mirage.

Councilor Selby asked if the access road from Butler to the back of the property would be paved and Mr. Kereny responded yes, it will be paved.

Vice Mayor Ramirez asked where the new water retention area would be and whether there would be a need for a dry well. Mr. Kereny answered that the existing retention area is being expanded to be deeper and go all the way to the back of the property; there will be no need for additional equipment. Vice Mayor Ramirez asked if they would be required to improve the pavement to the north on the entryway and

was advised that pavement improvements to this area are scheduled in Fiscal Year 2018.

There were no public comments and Mayor Mook closed the Public Hearing.

Vice Mayor Ramirez moved to approve a Site Plan Major Amendment at 12545 W. Butler Drive, El Mirage, Arizona 85335 Phoenix Doors LLC as presented; seconded by Councilor Delgado. Motion carried unanimously (6/0).

V. CITY MANAGER SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

The City Council may not act upon any matter in the City Manager's summary but may have general comment or questions. Items to be discussed will include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Car Show – February 25, 2017

Public Relations Manager Amber Wakeman invited everyone to the 6th Annual El Mirage Magnificent Motors In The Park event, a classic car and truck show on Saturday, February 25th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at Gentry Park located at 14010 N. El Mirage Road. There will be classic cars and hot rods on display.

2. Police Badge Presentation

Police Chief Terry McDonald introduced Deputy Director Michael Ashley, Police Officer David Swingle and Police Property Technician Jason Michael. Mr. Ashley gave a short PowerPoint presentation depicting the new police badges and a brief history on their development. He showed a comparison of the old and new shields and the process for issuing officer badges with respective serial numbers once probation is completed. There were two designs; one design is solid gold for Chiefs, Assistant Chiefs, Lieutenants and Sergeants, and the other is two-tone gold and silver for Police Officers. The shields depict the new El Mirage police building and a sleek modern design. Technician Jason Michael designed the new shields and Officer Swingle surveyed officers; their feedback resulted in 87% approval of the new design. Council members were very impressed with the new badges. Chief McDonald commented that "cops" all talk about doing the same old thing and complain about change, so an 87% support of the new design is excellent. It is a beautiful badge and greatly appreciated by the employees.

Chief McDonald invited Council, Department Heads and citizens to attend an official swearing-in ceremony next Monday at 2:00 pm in the Blue Honor Community Room at the police station to swear in and pin the four officers recently introduced to Council.

Chief McDonald also asked resident Dan Reilly to come forward to announce an award from the VFW recently given to Detective Monica Rios. Officer Rios has been with the El Mirage Police Department for 20 years and has worked very hard. Mr. Reilly reported Monica Rios was named VFW 10695 Police Officer of the Year.

Dr. Isom invited Executive Director Aaron Walters of the YMCA to present the activities currently taking place at the YMCA. Mr. Walters stated he held an all-staff meeting at the end of January and Dr. Isom gave his staff a presentation regarding the history of the partnership with the City and the NW Valley YMCA. Mr. Walters stated he is striving to ensure all his employees are working in the same direction and he has quoted to his employees a saying by Tampa Bay Buccaneers coach Toby Dungy that there are “no excuses, no explanations” - just serve the community. He is pleased with the progress being made and the City partnership. In response to the Mayor’s inquiry, he gave a little of his personal history to Council stating he grew up in suburban Philadelphia, played baseball in College, and owned his own gym in Philadelphia for about eight years. His true desire however was to give back to the community and with his three children, he set up a non-profit organization. Later he moved his family to Florida where he worked two years for the YMCA before the opportunity in Phoenix brought him to the West Valley. Dr. Isom stated that the addition of Aaron is making a true partnership a reality. He frequently joins and participates in Senior Staff weekly meetings and has developed ways to partner that have never before been addressed. He congratulated Aaron on his success and continued endeavors with the YMCA and the City.

Vice Mayor Ramirez reported that on his visits to the YMCA he has observed Mr. Walters as a “hands-on” kind of guy; something he did not see before. He is very visible in the facility, working out and engaging with members, which he believes is noticeable and will make a big difference.

Dr. Isom also announced a new anti-litter program, “El Mirage, Let’s Pick It Up!” He explained that while the Public Works employee hired to focus on litter is doing an excellent job throughout the City, he believes a challenge remains inside the communities and pocket parks. This campaign is meant to engage residents, adults and children, to take pride in their communities and “pick it up.” He explained that all residents put their trash cans out on Wednesday evening for Thursday pick up and encouraged teams to form and collectively pick up debris and trash every Wednesday. He has met with the Dysart Unified School District who is very open to partnering with the City on this effort. The campaign will involve advertising, photo contests with prizes, and T-shirts to promote anti-litter. He encouraged Council Members to contact Amber Wakeman with their desired shirt size to obtain a T-shirt to promote the campaign. He will be speaking to the HOA Academy attendees in upcoming weeks to inform and encourage their support and participation in spreading the word throughout the communities.

VI. MAYOR’S COMMENTS and COUNCIL SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

The Mayor and City Council may not discuss or act upon any matter in the summary unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

Councilor Delgado reported he attended a meeting in Gila Bend on behalf of the Library District to celebrate their recent expansion. Statistics for all district libraries

were given at the event and El Mirage usage has increased by 12%. Councilor Delgado also expressed his admiration of the new police shields.

Mayor Mook advised Council that there would be a group photo taken in the Council Chamber foyer at the time capsule site immediately following the meeting.

Mayor Mook asked City Clerk Sharon Antes to give a report on the on-going HOA Academy. Ms. Antes stated that three Monday evening sessions from 6:00 – 9:00 PM have been completed thus far with an average attendance of 25 residents. The first session focused on HOA legal issues, types of various documents, and general overview on the purpose of a homeowners association. The second session covered two topics; HOA insurance issues and documents and management companies. The insurance discussion was a joint presentation by retired real estate adjuster and El Mirage resident Monica Dorcey and Farmers Insurance Agent Kara Anspach. The role of the management company discussion was led by Certified Property Manager Misty Morgan and HOA Board President and El Mirage resident Mariane Anderson. The third session continued with Ms. Morgan and Ms. Anderson on HOA Board meetings and “hot topics.” Chief McDonald also gave an overview of how the City interacts with HOAs and how that interaction helps keep communities viable. The next session will address fiduciary responsibilities and the final session will discuss City and HOA partnerships with various departments giving short presentations. The intent of the Academy is to provide education to residents about the intent and workings of HOAs as well as open a dialog of communication. She advised there are five HOA board presidents in attendance along with board members and residents. A survey is taken at the end of each class and thus far, there has been very positive feedback.

Mayor Mook commented that many people are shocked at learning the various responsibilities making communication very important. Many HOA residents are unaware that they need to contact their management company to report HOA matters versus their board members or the City. Learning these differences is part of the intent of the Academy. There is a lot of misinformation because of different management policies and lack of communication. Information will appear in an upcoming newsletter regarding some of the hot topics discussed. Mayor Mook thanked Ms. Antes for doing an excellent job in putting together the Academy which involved a lot of work. Ms. Antes noted that the Academy was the work of a committee of residents that included Mariane Anderson, Laurie Carnal, Monica Dorcey, Donna Winston and Mayor Mook.

Mayor Mook also reported that she and Chief McDonald would be attending the Legislative session the following day to testify against a bill introduced to completely ban all photo radar in the State of Arizona.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 pm.



Lana Mook, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sharon Antes, City Clerk

I hereby certify the aforementioned minutes are a true and accurate record of Regular El Mirage City Council Meeting held on Tuesday, February 21, 2017 and a quorum was present.



Sharon Antes, City Clerk