

**City of Phoenix
City Council Meeting
Public Works Office
1000 S. "B" Street
Tuesday, April 2, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jeff Bellah called the regular meeting of the City Council to order on Tuesday, April 2, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the Public Works Office.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Stan Bartell, Bruce Sophie, Karen Jones, Carolyn Bartell, Terry Helfrich, Chris Luz, Jeff Bellah

Staff Present: Eli Naffah, City Manager/Recorder
Janette Boothe, Deputy City Recorder
Derek Bowker, Chief of Police
Steve Weber, Finance Director
Dale Schulze, Planning Director
Kurt Knudsen, City Attorney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENTATIONS:

Proposing the Creation of Rogue Valley Heritage District by Tam Moore. Tam Moore described the reasons for the formation of the Rogue Valley Heritage District and gave details of what the district would entail should it be formed. He further added the reason for the proposed resolution for each of the cities in the rogue valley.

Dick Croley, President of the Phoenix Museum Historical Society, spoke in favor of the creation of the Rogue Valley Heritage District, expressing the importance of assistance in preserving history.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

1) Appoint Chris Luz to Water Commission. Mayor Bellah asked for consent from council for this appointment.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

**Ayes: Sophie, C. Bartell, Jones, S. Bartell, Chris Luz, and Helfrich
MOTION APPROVED WITH SIX AYES**

STAFF REPORTS:

1) Finance Director's Report:

- a) Mr. Weber gave an update on the Oregon Teamster's audit. He reported the City received a letter stating the two former employees the City paid for insurance coverage due to the audit are not able to file any prior claims for any time period prior to January 1, 2011. Further discussion followed.
- b) He reported he has updated the Budget Calendar, requesting the initial budget meeting be delayed one week. Further discussion followed, as council's consensus was to approve the request. Additionally, Mayor Bellah requested the summary of the difference between the prior year and the upcoming year be simplified with additional graphics in the upcoming budget message. In addition, Councilor S. Bartell inquired about the amount budgeted in the line item, and he requested the line item be addressed in the upcoming budget.

2) Planner's Report:

- a) Mr. Schulze commented he has the estimate for the cost for the Carlos DeBritto dedication sign. He requested some clarification regarding the date that will be on the sign. Mr. Naffah suggested submitting the year 2013, rather than a month or specific date. Council's consensus was to use the year 2013 on the sign.
- b) He reported the RPS plan has reached final approval.
- c) Councilor C. Bartell inquired whether he had contacted the owners of the Steadman house. Mr. Schulze replied that he had not. As discussion followed, council directed staff to contact the owners by the end of the week to ensure they have received the proper notification, as there is only 30 days remaining before council needs to take action.

3) Police Department's/Public Safety Report:

- a) Chief Bowker reported car thefts are on the rise and asked everyone to spread the word to lock the car doors at night.
- b) He reported that burglaries are on the rise in the Medford area and to be aware.

4) City Manager's Report:

- a) Mr. Naffah reminded everyone about the deadline for the Statement of Economic Interest.
- b) He announced there are two new businesses at the Shoppes at Exit 24.
- c) He reported he received an email from Rachel Kostman regarding the presentation that was given at the prior council meeting by the Agriculture Issues Program, informing the City the team placed 4th at State Finals.
- d) He reported the bike pedestrian grant was approved for Phoenix Urban Renewal.

The City Attorney arrived at the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

- e) He commented RosAnna Noval is currently working on the final option for the water rate that includes meter size.
- f) Councilor C. Bartell inquired about follow-up regarding apartments needing a business license. Mr. Naffah reflected that the issue is being looked into, as Mayor Bellah suggested a study session regarding business licenses, as the current list is missing information.

- g) Councilor C. Bartell inquired whether the City paid anything for the tear down of the property on 1st Street, as follow-up to a prior meeting's discussion. Mr. Naffah replied that the City was not involved in the demolition of that property.

5) City Attorney's Report:

- a) Attorney Knudsen gave an update on the greenery business and announced that the company had not formally applied for a business license up to that point. He added that the business was attempting to apply for a business license and were told that their type of business is prohibited as it is not in compliance with state and federal laws. Further discussion followed.
- b) He reported he is currently working on options to retrieve the past due transient occupant tax owed by America's Best Inn. He is attempting to discover whether the district attorney would pursue criminal charges for this action. Attorney Knudsen plans to update council with more information at the following meeting. Further discussion followed.
- c) He commented he is currently working on a grow ordinance concerning marijuana plants.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

Louis Junghans, Phoenix, suggested having hardship funds for low income citizens to afford their water bills in the community. He added he is in favor of the second and third option of the water rate analysis prepared by RosAnna Noval of RCAC.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) Recommendation to Urban Renewal for a Community Center. Mayor Bellah announced he would like to move this agenda item up for discussion. He explained the council was interested in a community center and asked Marla Cates for her input regarding having Urban Renewal involved in this project. Ms. Cates responded that she would need to know the type of uses council is interested in the short-term and long-term. Further discussion followed, as council narrowed the needs for the City, council discussed having a generalized building for multiple uses. Mayor Bellah added that finding a building in the short-term as a temporary facility would help the council define the type of permanent building the City would best utilize. Further discussion followed. **MOVED BY SOPHIE, SECONDED BY JONES, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY PURSUE SHORT-TERM PLANS FOR A COMMUNITY CENTER.** There was no further discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

Ayes: Sophie, C. Bartell, Jones, S. Bartell, Chris Luz, and Helfrich
MOTION APPROVED WITH SIX AYES

- b) Surplus Property (Bicycles). Chief Bowker came forward to answer any questions from council, as he has outlined five different options for the council to choose from on the agenda bill for this item. Council asked for Chief Bowker's recommendation and he chose option 3, as it would be the most cost effective way for the city to have all of the bikes taken care of. Councilor C. Bartell added that a member of the Boys & Girls club is interested. Mayor Bellah requested Chief Bowker explain the pros and cons of each of the options listed.

Further discussion followed, as council's consensus was to vote on this item at the following meeting.

- c) Water Commission Schedule. Mayor Bellah proposed attending the first meeting himself and review the charge letter to the commission and the comments from the last meeting with RosAnna Noval of RCAC. Further discussion followed.
- d) Schedule Future Study Sessions. Mayor Bellah reviewed items listed under study session topics on the agenda bill. Further discussion followed, as Ms. Cates announced she would like to schedule future study sessions with council for both the 99 Corridor and the City Center. Further discussion followed, as Councilor C. Bartell inquired whether the 3 year capital improvement plan each department head is preparing for the City will be ready for the upcoming budget discussion. Mr. Weber responded that the projections are currently being prepared. Further discussion followed.
- e) Consider a Resolution Approving the Formation of the RV Heritage District. Mayor Bellah inquired whether council would like to vote on this item tonight or table this item until the following meeting. Council's consensus was to take action at this meeting. Discussion followed regarding what the resolution means. Additionally, Mayor Bellah explained that if the ballot passes, it would mean the City of Phoenix would realize a small financial gain. Further discussion followed. **MOVED BY SOPHIE, SECONDED BY JONES, TO APPROVE THE FORMATION OF THE ROGUE VALLEY HERITAGE DISTRICT.** There was no further discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

Ayes: Helfrich, Sophie, C. Bartell, Jones, S. Bartell, and Chris Luz

MOTION APPROVED WITH SIX AYES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- a) Review of updated Issue Tracking Log. Councilor C. Bartell inquired whether the updates can made to the action log immediately following each meeting that it is discussed, rather than waiting until before the meeting it will be discussed. Mr. Naffah agreed to update the tracking log as requested.

EXTENSION OF MEETING:

MOVED BY SOPHIE, SECONDED BY JONES, TO EXTEND THE MEETING UNTIL 9:30 P.M. There was no further discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

Ayes: Chris Luz, Helfrich, Sophie, C. Bartell, and Jones

Nays: S. Bartell

MOTION APPROVED WITH FIVE AYES

Council reviewed the tracking log for required updates and any action that needs to take place in the near future. As discussion progressed, council scheduled a study session to review the capital improvement plan on April 16, 2013. Further discussion followed, as council reviewed each item listed on the tracking log.

COUNCIL ITEMS, INCLUDING MAYOR’S COMMENTS/REPORTS:

- 1) Councilor Sophie gave an update on RVMPO stating they approved the new Regional Traffic Plan.
- 2) Mayor Bellah commented he contacted So-Ready regarding the Jackson County Enterprise zone requesting more information.
- 3) Councilor Luz announced the City is holding a bike day May 4, 2013.
- 4) Councilor Luz announced the City is holding a fix a public park day on June 15, 2013.
- 5) Councilor Jones announced she is picking up 800 pounds of donated tangelos from Harry & David and to contact her if anyone would like some.

The meeting adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Attest:

Janette Boothe
Deputy City Recorder

Eli Naffah
City Manager/Recorder