

**City of Phoenix
Special City Council Meeting
Public Works Office
1000 S. 'B' Street
Wednesday, March 9, 2016**

Mayor Jeff Bellah called the Special Meeting of the City Council to order on Wednesday, March 9, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the Public Works Office.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Carolyn Bartell, Chris Luz, Stan Bartell, Terry Helfrich, Jeff Bellah

ABSENT: Bruce Sophie

Staff Present: Steve Dahl, City Manager/Recorder
J. Ryan Kirchoff, City Attorney

Approve a Resolution Releasing Funds to Phoenix Urban Renewal Agency for Fiscal Year 2015-2016

Mayor Bellah reviewed the information leading up to the resolution presented to release funds to PHURA. He further explained the Council has some options, one is release \$500,000 from the bond proceeds. He added that another option would be to release funds from Street SDCs in the amount of \$200,000 and the remaining from bond proceeds. Continued discussion followed, as Mr. Dahl reviewed the items that RH2 has noted as qualifying as SDC funds. Further discussion followed regarding the amount to charge to SDC funds.

As discussion continued, Councilor C. Bartell clarified that that if the City releases the \$200,000 from the SDC fund, rather than the total \$500,000 being released from the bond proceeds, the remaining balance of the bond proceeds would cover the minimum expected cost of the community center. She further stated that whether or not the City is going to treat the SDC funds that are released as a loan to PHURA can be determined later; however, the total of \$500,000 needs to be released now for PHURA to distribute funds to the current outstanding debt PHURA has incurred. Further discussion followed. **MOVED BY S. BARTELL, SECONDED BY LUZ, TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 952, RELEASING FUNDS TO PHOENIX URBAN RENEWAL.** Mayor Bellah directed Mr. Dahl to speak to the Finance Director about the possibility of using other SDC funds rather than the full \$200,000 coming from the Street SDC fund.

**ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:
Ayes: C. Bartell, Helfrich, S. Bartell, and Luz
MOTION APPROVED WITH FOUR AYES**

Mayor Bellah recessed the Special Meeting into a Workshop at 6:55 p.m.

Discuss City Water Rights

Joe Strahl explained that the Medford Water Commission had developed a water rights master plan that involved requiring all the smaller cities to apply for water certification in order to maximize the water rights available for everyone. He added that following this determination, the Oregon Appeals court made a ruling giving fish a right to water, known as fish persistence. Due to this ruling, the City of Phoenix could lose up to 2.33 cubic feet per second to fish persistence. He further noted that it was recently discovered that Central Point had inadvertently applied for water certification, before there was a ruling requiring this certification.

He added that a possible solution to the predicament would be for Central Point to withdraw their claims of beneficial use and submit extension applications for them, to allow Phoenix to have the opportunity to apply for the remaining water rights to Phoenix of 2.33 cubic feet per second. Following further discussion, Council directed staff to ask for an extension, meet with other water resource experts, and discuss this issue with fish and wildlife, and depending the determination from those conversations, possibly meet with Charlotte Ann Water District and Central Point to resolve the issue.

Discuss City Council Goals

Mr. Dahl presented the Strategic Action Plan that was developed after meeting on February 5th and 6th to discuss City Council goals, and he is requesting Council place each of the items in order of importance. He noted that priority levels are high, medium, and low. He further explained a high priority would be an item that is supposed to be addressed within a few months, medium priority would be items to be addressed in three to eight months from now, and low priority would be items that are to be addressed eight months or longer from now. Further discussion followed, as Council discussed each item in the Strategic Action Plan and prioritized all the items.

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janette Boothe
Assistant Finance Director/City Recorder