



**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
6401 E. LINCOLN DRIVE
PARADISE VALLEY, ARIZONA 85253
SUMMARIZED MINUTES**

February 23, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor LeMarr called to order the Town Council meeting of the Town of Paradise Valley, Arizona, held at Town Hall 6401 E. Lincoln Drive, on Thursday, February 23, 2012 at 4:00 PM.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Scott P. LeMarr
Vice Mayor Mary Hamway
Council Member Michael Collins
Council Member Paul E. Dembow
Council Member Pam Kirby
Council Member Vernon B. Parker arrived at 4:05 p.m.
Council Member Lisa Trueblood

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Town Manager James C. Bacon, Jr.
Town Attorney Andrew Miller
Town Clerk Duncan Miller
Community Development Director Eva Cutro
Planner George Burton
Senior Planner Molly Hood
Police Chief John Bennett
Acting Public Works Director Brent Skoglund

Discussion of Echo Canyon Shuttle Service and Parking

Town Engineer William Mead stated that the Town and City of Phoenix are continuing to work together to mitigate parking congestion at the Camelback Mountain trailheads. It is estimated that 300,000 people hike the mountain every year and yet there are only 68 parking spaces at the Echo Canyon trailhead. As a result, parking is difficult to find and results in on-street parking in nearby neighborhoods.

He reported that the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Board held a public meeting on January 26, 2012 to present various design options to alleviate parking issues at the Echo Canyon trailhead. Of the twelve conceptual designs presented by Phoenix staff, the Board directed the consulting engineers to refine three and develop cost estimates.

Mr. Mead reviewed the various designs. He stated that he favored options number 9 and 11. Option 9 includes an elongated round-a-bout on McDonald Dr and Echo Canyon Parkway that would allow "safe harbor" for pedestrians crossing McDonald Drive. It would also increase the total number of parking spaces at the Echo Canyon Trailhead to 176.

He noted that Arizona State University will conduct field research to assist the City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department in making a decision. The study will identify visitor attitudes about parking and willingness to pay for access.

He stated that the outcomes from the Phoenix Parks Board included the following:

- Directed staff to develop an IGA with the Town of Paradise Valley and an RFP for one shuttle company
- Approve the ASU research project
- Continue to partner with Paradise Valley on Echo Canyon issues
- Further refine parking lot designs 8, 9, and 11
- Develop a new alternative blend of options 9 and 11
- Develop cost estimates for refined concepts
- Reserve option 12 (32nd St trailhead expansion) to serve as future long term parking solution for Phoenix Mountain Preserve

He said the plans could be completed by December but funds will likely not be available until next fiscal year. The next step would be for the City of Phoenix to make a presentation to Council once the plans are completed and ask for feedback.

Council commented that any parking and traffic plan for Echo Canyon should take into consideration additional traffic resulting from potential development at Mountain Shadows and Ritz Carlton / Palmeraie.

Responding to a question from Council, Mr. Mead stated that the budgetary impact and cost participation in the final project has not been discussed. The Town is currently paying \$20,000 of the \$70,000 engineering design contract.

Responding to a question from Council, Mr. Mead stated that the City of Phoenix does not currently have a management plan for Camelback Mountain but it is part of the Parks Board's long term strategy. The City needs to consider the appropriate uses of mountain and manage the number of hikers to lesson erosion and environmental damage.

The Mayor concluded that, in the short-term, the shuttle service needs to continue to mitigate parking problems at Echo Canyon.

Discussion of Council Rules, Procedures and Schedule

Town Manager Jim Bacon reviewed the recommended changes to the Council policy on Rules, Procedures, and Scheduling items on agendas.

The majority of changes were cosmetic or minor process changes. The significant change related to scheduling items on the agenda. Currently the mayor and the manager determine what items will be considered. The Council discussed allowing two members to bring up a topic, but it would take a majority vote to add it to a future agenda. The current agenda order would be changed to allow Councilmembers to offer topics for consideration. This would include an opportunity to explain the goal to be achieved and what resources will be allocated to research the topic. The Council would then vote on whether to add it to a future agenda. It was understood that some flexibility would be needed in scheduling to account for previously unknown high priority projects. Council discussed allowing projects to be delayed one or two meetings.

Other proposed changes included establishing criteria that all ordinances and contracts over \$250,000 must be scheduled as an Action Item instead of placed on the Consent Agenda. Additionally, ordinances must be reviewed and discussed in Study Session at least one meeting prior to be scheduled for adoption.

Council requested that action reports must be provided to Council by Friday prior to the Thursday meeting, and in no case less than 24 hours.

Update on HB 2470 – Municipal Fire Protection Fee

Mr. Bacon reported that HB2470 was held in the House Government Committee. Since the deadline passed to consider bill in the chamber of origin, it was decided to find a “strike everything” bill in the Senate. The new bill number is HB2060. It will receive a hearing on March 7 in the Senate Public Safety and Human Services Committee. The bill’s sponsor met with the Committee Chair, Senator Gray, who seems to support the bill at this point.

Mr. Bacon explained that the bill has been amended in 2 important ways. First the assessment is based on a square-footage calculation. Second, before the fee can be collected by the County Treasurer the Council must refer it to the voters.

It is hoped that if the bill makes it through the legislature during this session that the Town can hold a vote in November.

Motion and vote: Vice Mayor Hamway moved to go into executive session at 5:40 p.m. Councilmember Kirby seconded the motion which passed by a vote of 7 – 0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. Discussion and consultation with the Town Attorney regarding pending or potential litigation and current and/or future development agreement with Potomac Hotel Limited Partnership, MTS Land LLC, and or JDM Partners LLC related to Mountain Shadows as authorized by A.R.S. §38-431.03.A.4 and legal advice as authorized by A.R.S. §38-431.03.A.3.

- b. The Town Council may go into executive session at one or more times during the meeting as needed to confer with the Town Attorney for legal advice regarding any of the agenda items listed on the agenda as authorized by A.R.S. §38-431.03.A.3.

RECONVENE FOR REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor LeMarr reconvened the meeting of the Town Council at 7:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Scott P. LeMarr
Vice Mayor Mary Hamway
Council Member Michael Collins
Council Member Paul E. Dembow
Council Member Pam Kirby
Council Member Vernon B. Parker
Council Member Lisa Trueblood

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT

Town Manager James C. Bacon, Jr.
Town Attorney Andrew Miller
Town Clerk Duncan Miller
Police Chief John Bennett
Community Development Director Eva Cutro
Planner George Burton
Acting Public Works Director Brent Skoglund

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor LeMarr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Jerry Van Gasse presented the Council with a thank you card from hikers who use the Town Hall parking lot for shuttle service to Camelback Mountain. He also read a flyer that is being distributing to hikers at Camelback Mountain that, he said, seems to advocate a preferred solution to parking congestion at Echo Canyon. Hikers are asked to send comments to Chris Ewell at the City of Phoenix.

MAYOR / COUNCIL / MANAGER REPORT

There were no reports

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Minutes of Town Council Meeting February 9, 2012**
- b. Minutes of Town Council Special Meeting February 11, 2012**
- c. Approval of Special Event Liquor License for Montessori Academy**
Recommendation: Approve a Special Event Liquor License for Montessori Academy for an event on March 24, 2012, subject to the following stipulations: only those people authorized by law be allowed to dispense and/or consume alcoholic beverages; consumption shall be limited to the premises as indicated in the application; and Section 10-7 Control of Excess Noise be observed.
- d. Adoption of Resolution Number 1247 Abandoning a Portion of 66th Place Right-of-Way to John and Elizabeth Lennon**
Recommendation: Adopt Resolution Number 1247
- e. Adoption of Resolution Number 1249 Supporting the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter Training Mission at Luke Air Force Base**
Recommendation: Adopt Resolution Number 1249

Mr. Bacon summarized the items on the consent agenda.

Motion and Vote: Vice Mayor Hamway moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilmember Dembow seconded the motion which passed by a vote of 7 – 0

PUBLIC HEARING

There were no public hearings.

ACTION ITEMS

Authorization for the Town Manager to Release Schedule for Review of the Mountain Shadows Special Use Permit Application

Mr. Miller stated that a copy of the final version of the letter from Mr. Bacon to JDM Partners was distributed before the meeting. (See attached).

Councilmembers Kirby, Trueblood, and Parker stated that they own property in Mountain Shadows. They asked the Town Attorney if they should recuse themselves from the vote. Mr. Miller responded that since the Councilmembers do not have any current agreements with the owner of the resort property and their HOA does not have any current agreements with the resort owner at this time, there is no reason to declare a conflict of interest or recusal.

Motion and Vote: Councilmember Collins moved to authorize the Town Manager to send a letter to JDM Partners regarding a schedule for review of Mountain Shadows Special Use Permit. Councilmember Trueblood seconded the motion which passed by a vote of 7 – 0.

ADJOURNMENT

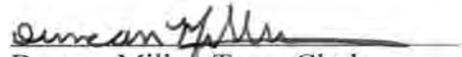
Motion and vote – Vice Mayor Hamway moved to adjourn. Councilmember Kirby seconded the motion which passed by a vote of 7 - 0.

Mayor LeMarr adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.



Scott P. LeMarr, Mayor

ATTEST:



Duncan Millef, Town Clerk