

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held July 11, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Lopez Rogers and Council Members

Jim McDonald, Vice Mayor
Jim Buster
Stephanie Karlin
Frank Scott
Charles Vierhout
Ken Weise

ALSO PRESENT

Charlie McClendon, City Manager
David Fitzhugh, Assistant City Manager
Rogene Hill, Assistant City Manager
Marilyn DeRosa, Public Works Assistant Director
Andrew McGuire, City Attorney
Carmen Martinez, City Clerk

1 ROLL CALL AND STATEMENT OF PARTICIPATION BY THE CITY CLERK

Carmen Martinez, City Clerk, read a statement of participation regarding public appearances.

2 UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES

There were no requests to address the Council.

3 CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the consent agenda are of a routine nature or have been previously studied by the City Council at a work session. They are intended to be acted upon in one motion. Council members may pull items from consent if they would like them considered separately.

a. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Work Session of June 13, 2011
2. Work Session of June 20, 2011
3. Regular Meeting of June 20, 2011

b. FIRST AMENDMENT TO SERVICES AGREEMENT - DOS PRIMAS L.L.C.

A request to approve the first amendment to the services agreement with Dos Primas, LLC to provide concession operations at Friendship Park, change the payment terms of the agreement, and authorize the Mayor or the City Manager and City Clerk to execute the applicable contract documents.

c. COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AGREEMENT - MATLICK ENTERPRISE, INC. DBA UNITED FIRE EQUIPMENT

A request to approve a Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Matlick Enterprises, Inc. dba United Fire Equipment for the purchase of fire department protective clothing and authorize the Mayor or City Manager and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

d. EMERGENCY BASE STATION AGREEMENT - BANNER HEALTH

An emergency base station agreement with Banner Health to provide medical direction and pre-hospital coordination services and authorize the Mayor or City Manager and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

e. **THREE MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING - ARIZONA STATE LIBRARY, ARCHIVES AND PUBLIC RECORDS**

A request to approve three Memorandums of Understanding between the City of Avondale and the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records for participation in a NTIA-BTOP II Grant project at the Sam Garcia Western Avenue and Avondale Public Libraries and authorize the Mayor or City Manager and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

f. **RESOLUTION 2990-711 - INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH NATIONAL PURCHASING PARTNERS AND A COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AGREEMENT WITH MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICES**

A resolution approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with National Purchasing Partners and a request to approve a Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Municipal Emergency Services for the purchase of self-contained breathing apparatus in the amount of \$230,721.58 and authorize the Mayor or City Manager and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

g. **RESOLUTION 2991-711 - THIRD AMENDMENT TO THE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH FIRST THINGS FIRST SOUTHWEST MARICOPA REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL**

A resolution approving the third amendment to the grant agreement with the First Things First Southwest Maricopa Regional Partnership Council to provide funding for support services to families with children from birth to age five at the Avondale Family Resource Center and authorize the Mayor or City Manager and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

h. **ORDINANCE 1464-711 - AMENDMENT TO AVONDALE CITY CODE CHAPTER 24, ARTICLE II, MUNICIPAL WATER SYSTEM**

An ordinance amending the Avondale City Code, Chapter 24, Article II relating to security deposits and the person liable for payment of the bill.

Vice Mayor McDonald moved to approve the consent agenda as presented including Resolutions 2990-711 and 2991-711 and Ordinance 1464-711. Council Member Weise seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

Vice Mayor McDonald	Aye
Council Member Scott	Aye
Council Member Vierhout	Aye
Mayor Rogers	Aye
Council Member Weise	Aye
Council Member Karlin	Aye
Council Member Buster	Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

4 UPDATE ON AUTOMATED METER READING PROGRAM

An update regarding the Water Meter Automation Program.

Charlie McClendon introduced Marilyn DeRosa, Assistant Public Works Director to present this item.

Marilyn DeRosa indicated that previous meter read programs were labor intensive with a high potential for error explaining that in years past there were seven workers who spent all month reading meters and troubleshooting problems. In addition, each worker required equipment and a vehicle. In 2004 the City started a conversion to a new automated meter reader program at a rate of 10% a year. In 2010, staff received approval from Council to expedite the conversion which started in July of 2010 and was finalized in May of 2011. She indicated the system substantially reduces read times and it now requires only two customer service technicians. In addition, the new model being used minimizes the opportunity for tampering by customers.

Ms DeRosa commented implementation of this program was very successful and was accomplished under budget within schedule and with minimal disruption to customers. She reviewed program costs commenting that the city has realized \$340,000 in annual savings due to reduced salaries, equipment and vehicle maintenance and replacement costs. The old meters were recycled which allowed the city to recoup \$82,000.

Ms DeRosa commented that meters have a ten year life. The future generation of readers will be a fixed base network which will have a stronger signal that will be transmitted through wireless communication network. It will provide more accurate and up to date consumption data and will not require visits at all. She concluded by introducing Leonard Moreno and Micah Leigh, employees who have been instrumental in the implementation of this program.

Mayor Rogers thanked Leonard and Micah for their dedication to their job and the implementation of this project.

Council Member Weise also thanked Leonard and Micah and asked if future technology will allow customers to view real time consumption information. Ms DeRosa responded that it would but staff has not started looking into it. Council Member Weise commented that currently technology is available for pre-paid energy and asked if there is similar technology for water usage. City Attorney Andrew McGuire responded that municipalities are not allowed to discontinue water service to a residence due to health regulations, so implementation of such a program would be tricky.

Council Member Vierhout posed questions regarding the life cycle of the different software systems that interface with the meter reader program. Charlie McClendon replied that citywide staff is always evaluating the capabilities and usefulness of software applications. Products and updates are available and priced based on the size of the municipalities that use them and staff is constantly evaluating options.

Council Member Karlin commented that she is aware of pre-paid programs being implemented in Vancouver, BC. And a pilot program is starting a pilot program with the fixed based network in California. She commented on the benefits of customers being able to monitor their water footprint by having real time usage data available and added that she would like to see Avondale explore those options more thoroughly, however she

understands the interface challenges that will need to be overcome. She complimented staff for their innovative thinking and coming under budget on this program.

Council Member Buster asked what is difference between shutting water service off due to nonpayment and prepaid water programs where customers may run out of funds. City Attorney replied that the customer would need to agree to a provision that if they run out of funds their water will be shut off. He said it would present management and monitoring problems to ensure that homes where service has been shut off are not occupied. Kevin Artz indicated that with the new bill print system, past due bills include a notice that service is subject to disconnection anytime time after the bill is received. In response to a subsequent question from Council Member Buster, Mr. Artz indicated once water service is shut off, customers are quick to make a payment to get service reinstated.

Vice Mayor McDonald commented that prepaid systems in parts of Europe allow for a customer to get emergency funds until they are able to deposit money in their prepaid meters.

In response to a question from Council Member Vierhout, City Attorney indicated that fortunately the process of red tagging a home is not one that has to be undertaken very often. In the case being discussed, staff would need to make sure that there is coordination with the health department to make sure that everything is done properly and within the law.

Council Member Weise suggested that when staff looks at implementing the fixed based network program, staff could consider assisting smaller surrounding cities in the same way that Avondale takes care of Tolleson's street light maintenance to perhaps offset some of the costs. Ms DeRosa commented that the receivers have a one-mile radius, so there will be an overlap and may be an option to share receivers along Avondale's borders with other cities.

Council Member Weise asked Chief Kotsur if there is a potential for interference between the city's different wireless networks. Chief Kotsur replied that there was an incident recently and it is something that staff will need to be aware of and address.

Mayor Lopez Rogers thanked Marilyn and her staff for the work done on this project.

5 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, Council Member Weise moved to adjourn the meeting; Council Member Vierhout seconded the motion.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

Vice Mayor McDonald	Aye
Council Member Scott	Aye
Council Member Vierhout	Aye
Mayor Rogers	Aye
Council Member Weise	Aye
Council Member Karlin	Aye

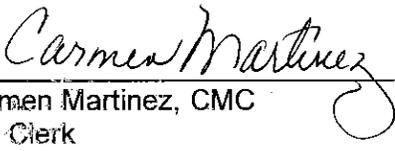
Council Member Buster

Aye

Motion carried unanimously.



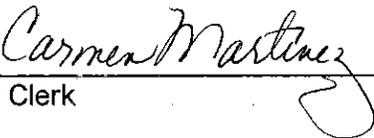
Mayor Lopez Rogers



Carmen Martinez, CMC
City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Avondale held on the 11th day of July 2011. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that the quorum was present.



City Clerk

