

Minutes of the Work Session held September 17, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Lopez Rogers and Council Members

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

ABSENCE EXCUSED

Jim Buster

ALSO PRESENT

David Fitzhugh, Assistant City Manager
Rogene Hill, Assistant City Manager
Gina Montes, Neighborhood and Family Services Director
Andrew McGuire, City Attorney
Carmen Martinez, City Clerk

1) ROLL CALL BY THE CITY CLERK

2) LITTLETON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT PRESENTATION

Dr. Roger Freeman, Superintendent will provide information on the Littleton Elementary School District in the strengths, successes and aspirations of the District and how the City of Avondale can support the educational system.

Gina Montes, Neighborhood and Family Services Director, introduced the second in a series of presentations on the education system in Avondale. Littleton Elementary School District has grown rapidly over the last ten years with a series of capital projects that include the building of two new K-8 schools, and the extensive renovation of four other schools. The district has earned recognition for improving teacher retention and academic performance. Dr. Freeman was nominated for Supervisor of the Year, and was recognized as the All-Arizona Superintendent for medium-sized districts. He also was awarded the Arizona Distinguished Administrative Superintendent for 2011.

Dr. Freeman presented a Certificate of Appreciation from the Littleton School District to the City of Avondale. Avondale donated second-hand computers, saving the district thousands of dollars.

Dr. Freeman said public schools in Arizona have less latitude than people think. They have to follow revised statutes, procurement codes, and many other laws that apply to government agencies. In addition to the Department of Education, schools are regulated by the School Facilities Board, labor laws, equal employment requirements, and many other program requirements. This partially explains why administrative costs are so high. As recipients of federal education money, schools are Title I, which is part of the No Child Left Behind program. The rights of special needs students are currently a special focus of the Office of Civil Rights.

In terms of how schools are run and financed, Arizona is considered to be a high-equity, low effort state. Expenditure budget limits are set by statute, not by the Board, and depend on

blended property taxes and state aid. The percent of local tax revenue used to support the Littleton School District is fairly small. Apart from overrides and bond projects, Littleton's percentage is less than 20% of the local property tax effort; the rest comes from state equalization aid. The state legislature sets the expenditure limit, but the revenue is set by a completely different formula. The K-8 funding level is different than the 9-12 funding level. The state has added funding to charter schools to offset capital differences, so there is more money going into charters now than to regular schools. Regular school districts, on the other hand, have the ability to put override and capital questions on the ballot.

Council Member McDonald inquired how fluctuations in property taxes affect school funding. Dr. Freeman explained that schools have to raise a certain amount of money. As property values fluctuate, tax rates typically are adjusted to keep the bill the same.

Council Member Weise inquired how charter school enrollment impacts the budget for public schools. Dr. Freeman explained the budget expenditure limit is established by counting all the students enrolled for the first 100 days. If a student moves to a charter school after 20 days, and no other student takes their seat, then the school gets 20% of the formula to cover the costs of delivering education for that period. Student movement after 100 days is not counted in the budget at all.

Dr. Freeman said 30% of Littleton's base funding comes from property tax, and 70% comes from state and county aid. That generates \$25.2 million. The operational override funding, about \$3.3 million, comes completely from property taxes and has to be renewed by local voters every seven years. Additional funding comes from grants and fees, but those numbers have declined recently. Littleton sets targets for the budgeting program, and aims to keep administration costs under 10%, support costs under 30%, and instruction costs at 60% of the budget. The expenditure plan for the district is scaled to size. Special program money is generally applied to instruction. Littleton used to receive state aid for buildings and building renewal, and successfully built several schools with that money, supplemented by local bonds. Bond debt for property amounts to \$2.5 million.

Dr. Freeman stated that the Littleton School District just reached its centennial. The Heritage Committee is putting together a celebration for October. Students are rallied around a particular cause each year. In order to foster a greater sense of empowerment and responsibility, the school began leading by example by being involved in the community. Staff is expected to follow three big ideas: high expectations, personal responsibility, and accountability. The school gives parents and students strategies to overcome low expectations and encourages them not to accept the status quo for themselves, their school and their community. Kids at Hope children are present in every school.

Dr. Freeman commented that in recent years Littleton has been forced to do more with fewer resources, and has addressed that problem by using team planning to avoid duplication of work. One ongoing district goal has been to reduce the gap in AIMS achievement, and for the past five years the district has demonstrated more growth than state averages. Proficiency in math rose 37%, versus 8% for the state. Reading rose 10%, while the state average declined 5%. The AIMS scale is not an absolute scientific measure. The district is still behind state averages, but the gap is narrower than it was five years ago.

In AZ Learns, Littleton rated B, and was ranked third behind only Litchfield and Laveen in the entire state. The two lowest performing schools have new principals this year who will try to turn them around. Parents, staff and students are surveyed every year. The district generally gets approval ratings in the high 80s and low 90s. One out of six parents volunteers. Student expectations are important in terms of global competitiveness. This is one area where the district has improved dramatically in recent years, but there is more to overcome.

Dr. Freeman stated that 20 days will be added to the school year next year, and that Littleton is one of only four 200-day districts in the state. This was done to help overcome the summer slide. The district will try to restore full-day kindergarten with a capital override. Instructional improvement strategies are being held in conjunction with ASU. Common Core is a set of internationally benchmarked state standards based on entry to college and matriculated backward over the curriculum. The depth of knowledge will change to the extent that students will have to construct, deconstruct, and justify their answers. The district intends to work with the state legislature to ensure that proposed changes to the state evaluation system are practical and meaningful. The override is on the ballot this year. Instructional resource planning was suspended due to budget cuts. Performance pay to staff was increased this year.

Mayor Rogers thanked Dr. Freeman for taking the time to tell the Littleton story to the Council and appreciates the work that he does for the children.

Vice Mayor Karlin suggested that schools collaborate with local libraries for print and digital book purchases, and queried about the strategies to encourage parents to participate in the education process. Dr. Freeman reported that he has explored intra-agency library loans, and students have signed up for cards at the library. It should be possible to collaborate to avoid duplicating services. Since the school district touches upon several communities, it would be helpful to get the superintendents from various districts together to see what can be done for educational stability. Parent/teacher conference participation usually runs in the 80th percentile, but the school is trying to encourage more weekly participation.

Vice Chair Karlin said education relates to workforce and economic development, and inquired what the City Council could do to help. Dr. Freeman responded that City Council can help by supporting Kids at Hope and encouraging all districts to support a common philosophy. The school has benefited from the City's grant writing efforts. Schools have limits to what they can do. Families need stable homes and jobs, so anything the City can do to strengthen the social fabric around schools will help greatly. Currently the district is seeing a serious churning effect, which is tough for kids and draws resources from the system to deal with those issues.

Dr. Freeman said the Board's decision to go to a 200-day schedule resulted in a great deal of staff turnover this year. It creates many employment equity issues for teachers when the compensation difference is not great, and their own children are going to 180-day schools. It also creates many budget and wage compression issues. In order to foster community stability, the district has opened an enrollment center at the Littleton campus. The goal of the outreach center is to help families become stable residents of Avondale.

Council Member Vierhout inquired about funding for the 200-day school year and whether any summer programs are designed to improve writing skills. Dr. Freeman responded that the 200-day calendar comes at the expense of the summer program. Writing is much more integrated in the curriculum now, and the school is considering programs that recognize children for their writing abilities.

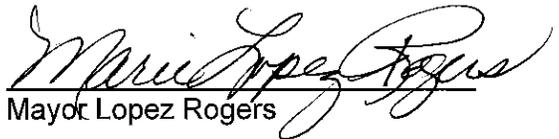
Council Member Scott requested Dr. Freeman's opinion on district consolidation. Dr. Freeman felt that Arizona lacks a good statute that allows for consolidation. Mayor Lopez Rogers said Kids at Hope is crucial to the community and is key to ensuring that all students can succeed.

Mayor Rogers thanked Dr. Freeman once again.

3) ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Council, Council Member Weise moved to adjourn the work session. Council Member Karlin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.



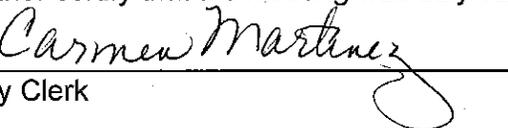
Mayor Lopez Rogers



Carmen Martinez, CMC
City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Work Session of the Council of the City of Avondale held on the 17th day of September 2012. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that the quorum was present.



City Clerk

Minutes of the Regular Meeting held September 17, 2012 at 7:10 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Rogers and Council Members

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

ALSO PRESENT

David Fitzhugh, Assistant City Manager
Rogene Hill, Assistant City Manager
Gina Ramos Montes, Neighborhood and Family Services Director
Kevin Kotsur, Police Chief
Ken Galica, Planner II
Pier Simeri, Community Relations and Public Affairs Director
Katrina Armstrong, Community Services Supervisor
Chris Reams, Parks, Recreations and Libraries 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 CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

a. New Employee Introduction - Stephanie Small, Family Services Manager

Gina Ramos Montes, Neighborhood and Family Services Director reviewed Ms. Smalls' qualifications and indicated she will supervise the Community Action Program, the Care First Resource Center and the community outreach and assistance programs. Ms. Small indicated she is excited about being part of the Avondale community.

Mayor Rogers welcomed Ms. Small and indicated she has had the opportunity to see Ms. Small's work first hand in Charlotte and is excited to have her on board.

3 RECOGNITION ITEMS (MAYOR PRESENTATIONS)

a. Resolution 3069-912 - Honoring Detective Edmon Breshears

Mayor Rogers thanked the three retiring officers for their service to Avondale and gave a brief summary on each of the officers' accomplishments.

Council Member Weise moved to adopt Resolution 3069-912; Council Member Karlin seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

Council Member Vierhout	Aye
Council Member Scott	Aye
Council Member Weise	Aye
Mayor Rogers	Aye

Vice Mayor Karlin	Aye
Council Member McDonald	Aye
Council Member Buster	Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Resolution 3070-912 - Honoring Sergeant Jerry Davis

Council Member Weise moved to adopt Resolution 3070-912; Council Member McDonald seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

c. Resolution 3071-912 - Honoring Detective Christopher Medaglia

Council Member Weise moved to adopt Resolution 3071-912; Council Member Vierhout seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Council Members McDonald and Scott expressed appreciation to each of the retiring officers for their friendships and dedication to the Avondale Police Department and wished them well in their retirement.

4 UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES
(Limit three minutes per person. Please state your name.)

5 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 August 6, 2012
2. Regular Meeting of August 6, 2012

b. LIQUOR LICENSE TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF PREMISES - HENRY'S JACKS PLACE

A request from Ms Carmen Beltran for a Temporary Extension of Premises to the Series 6 Bar License to sell all spirituous liquors at Henry's Jacks Place located at 613 E Western Avenue in Avondale to be used in conjunction with a Retirement Party event on October 20, 2012.

c. COOPERATIVE PURCHASING AGREEMENT - PREMIER, INC.

A request to approve a cooperative purchasing agreement with Premier, Inc. to provide food products and services in the amount not to exceed \$103,000 annually and \$515,000 over the entire length of the contract and authorized the Mayor, or City Manager and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

d. FIRST AMENDMENT TO NON-EXCLUSIVE LICENSE - FARMERS MARKET SUPPORT SERVICES, LLC

A request to approve Amendment No. 1 to the non-exclusive license with the Farmers Market Support Services, LLC to hold a monthly farmer's market at Friendship Park and authorized the Mayor or City Manager and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

e. FIRST AMENDMENT TO PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT - KRML-KRN 2 "DI" 4, L.L.C.

A request to approve the first amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with KRML-KRN 2 "DI" 4, L.L.C. to extend the term of the agreement and revise the hours of operation and authorize the Mayor or the City Manager and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

f. RESOLUTION 3072-912 - AMENDMENT TO THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY FOR THE ZOOM NEIGHBORHOOD CIRCULATOR

A resolution approving an amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Regional Public Transportation Authority for the operation of the Zoom Neighborhood Circulator and authorize the Mayor or City Manager and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

g. RESOLUTION 3073-912 - INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY FOR ADA PARATRANSIT SERVICE

A resolution approving an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Regional Public Transportation Authority relating to ADA paratransit services and authorize the Mayor or City Manager and City Clerk to execute the necessary documents.

h. RESOLUTION 3074-912 - CANVASS OF VOTES OF THE AUGUST 28, 2012 ELECTION

A resolution canvassing the results of the August 28, 2012 Election.

Council Member Weise moved to approve the consent agenda as presented including Resolutions 3072-912, 3073-912 and 3074-912. Council Member Vierhout seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

6 PUBLIC HEARING – ZONING EXTENSION FOR AVONDALE GATEWAY CENTER PAD (PL-12-0153)

A public hearing and consideration of a request by Mr. Marcos Ergas, The Ergas Group, for a one year extension of PAD zoning for Avondale Gateway Center, located on approximately 84 acres of land at the southwest corner of 107th Avenue and Interstate 10.

Ken Galica, Planner II reviewed the particulars of this item as more specifically described in the council report. He indicated staff is recommending approval of the application subject to the following conditions:

1. In order to conform to current City transportation and development plans, the alignment of Corporate Drive adjacent to this property needs to be abandoned and the Roosevelt Street alignment needs to be extended from Avondale Gateway east to 107th Avenue (Exhibit H). The approved roadway section for Roosevelt Street is COA Std. Det. A1004 (modified). The modification includes an additional 30' of right-of-way width to accommodate a future transit corridor. This yields a total required right-of-way width of 130'. In order to accommodate this need for the Avondale Gateway Center PAD extension, the following shall occur no later than September 18, 2012:
 - a. The City shall abandon all right-of-way previously dedicated as Corporate Drive.
 - b. The applicant shall dedicate the full half-street right-of-way of 65' along the southern parcel line of Parcel 102-56-003E.
 - c. The applicant shall dedicate the full half-street right-of-way of 65' along the southern parcel line of Parcel 102-56-002B.
 - d. The applicant shall dedicate the full half-street right-of-way of 65' along the northern parcel line of Parcel 102-56-005Q.
 - e. The applicant shall dedicate the full half-street right-of-way of 40' along the western parcel line of Parcel 102-56-005Q.
 - f. If not already dedicated, the applicant shall dedicate the full half-street right-of-way of 40' along the western parcel line of Parcel 102-56-002B.

- g. Right-of-way triangles shall be per City of Avondale General Engineering Requirements Manual.
- h. All dedicated rights-of-way shall include an additional 8' width for Public Utility Easements.

Dedications in addition to the above, may be necessary to accommodate undergrounding irrigation lines and utilities as determined by the utility authorities.

- 2. The last sentence in paragraph 5 of page 10, which requires City Council approval of each Master Site Plan, and the last paragraph (paragraph 6) of page 10, which requires Planning Commission review and City Council approval of changes to a Master Site Plan, are both struck and deleted from the Development Plan document. Master Site Plans shall be reviewed and approved administratively by staff.

Council Member McDonald asked when the property was acquired after the foreclosure it went through. Mr. Galica indicated it was sold in May. Council Member McDonald indicated that should another extension be sought next year, he would like to see an extensive explanation as to what has been done to date with respect to the property.

In response to a question from Council Member Weise, Mr. Bryan Lee spoke on behalf of the property owner and indicated the PAD helps market the property, but the market will dictate development.

Mayor Rogers opened the public hearing. There being no requests to speak, Mayor Rogers closed the public hearing.

Council Member Weise moved to approve the application PL-12-0153, a request for a one year extension of PAD zoning for Avondale Gateway Center through September 18, 2013, subject to the two staff recommended stipulations. Council Member McDonald seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

7 PUBLIC HEARING - CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR A NEW PERSONAL WIRELESS SERVICE FACILITY FOR VERIZON WIRELESS PHOENIX COLDWATER SPRINGS (PL-12-0137)

A request by Mr. Michael J. Campbell for approval of a Conditional Use Permit for a new Personal Wireless Service Facility, which includes a 65' high monopole, on a 21' by 45' leased area within the approximately 5.88 acre City water booster station at Coldwater Springs.

Assistant City Manager David Fitzhugh explained that Verizon's legal time has not had a chance to review the lease agreement so staff is requesting that Council continue this item to the October 1.

Mayor Rogers opened the public hearing. There being no requests to speak, Mayor Rogers closed the public hearing.

Council Member McDonald moved to continue application PL-12-0137, to the October 1, 2012 meeting. Council Member Vierhout seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

8 UPDATE ON RESIDENT APPRECIATION/GAIN NIGHT 2012

An update regarding the plans for the upcoming annual Resident Appreciation/GAIN Night, scheduled for Friday, Oct. 12, 2012.

Pier Simeri, Community Relations and Public Affairs Director reviewed the specifics of this item as more specifically described in the council report. Katrina Helm, Community Relations Supervisor of the Police Department reviewed the GAIN activities that will be part of this event.

Vice Mayor Karlin commented that this is one of her favorite events and asked if there will be an emergency preparedness component on display at the RAN. Ms. Simeri indicated that all departments and city programs, including emergency preparedness, will be featured at this event.

Council Member Buster asked if it will be possible to block a larger area of Western Avenue so that more vendors can participate. Ms. Simeri indicated that Western Avenue will be closed from 4th to 7th Avenue, vendors outside the blocked area will benefit from the publicity that is brought to the Historic Avondale area. Kreative Kupcakes will participate. Chris Reams indicated that there are some businesses along Western Avenue that will be actively involved in other programs scheduled throughout the year.

Mayor Rogers indicated that the resident survey is critical and it provides Council with the information needed by the Council's goal setting. She indicated she appreciates that all of Avondale is invited to be part of it. In response to a question from Mayor Rogers, Ms. Simeri and Mr. Reams indicated they would look into the possibility of using the Zoom to provide shuttle services.

9) ADJOURNMENT

Council Member McDonald moved to adjourn the meeting; Council Member Scott seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.



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 17th day of September 2012. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that the quorum was present.



City Clerk