



Minutes
Regular Session
Queen Creek Town Council
Community Chambers, 20727 E. Civic Parkway
March 20, 2019
5:30 PM

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm.

2. Roll Call: (one or more members of the Council may participate by telephone)

Jeff Brown	Council Member	Absent
Jake Hoffman	Council Member	Present – telephone
Dawn Oliphant	Council Member	Present
Emilena Turley	Council Member	Present
Julia Wheatley	Council Member	Present – telephone
Robin Benning	Vice Mayor	Present
Gail Barney	Council Member	Present

3. Pledge of Allegiance:

Led by Mayor Barney.

4. Invocation/Moment of Silence:

A moment of silence was held in recognition of all men & women in uniform, especially Queen Creek Fire & Medical Department and MCSO Deputies.

5. Motion to Adjourn into Executive Session (to be held in the Ironwood Conference Room in the Community Chambers Building) for the following purposes):

MOTION:	To adjourn to Executive Session at 5:32pm:
RESULT:	Approved unanimously
MOVER:	Council Member Turley
SECONDER:	Vice Mayor Benning
AYES:	Barney, Brown, Wheatley, Benning, Oliphant, Turley, Hoffman

- A. Discussion and consultation with the Town's attorney for legal advice and with the Town's representatives regarding the Arizona Corporation Commission actions related to Johnson Utilities. A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3) & (4)

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- B. Discussion and consultation with the Town's attorney and with the Town's representatives regarding annexations and providing utility services. A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3) & (4)
- C. Discussion and consultation with the Town's attorney for legal advice and with the Town attorney and representatives to consider the Town's position and instruct its attorneys regarding the pending lawsuit(s): Johnson Utilities vs. Town of Queen Creek. A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3) & (4)
- D. Discussion and consultation with the Town's attorneys for legal advice and with the Town's attorneys and representatives to consider the Town's position and to instruct the Town's attorneys and representatives regarding contracts and agreements related to the Town's acquisition of water rights. A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3) & (4)
- E. Discussion and consultation with the Town's attorneys for legal advice and with the Town's attorneys and representatives to consider the Town's position and to instruct the Town's attorneys and representatives regarding contracts with Union Pacific Railroad. A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3) & (4)

The Regular Session reconvened at 6:25pm.

6. **Consent Agenda:** Matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. Members of the Council and or staff may comment on any item without removing it from the Consent Agenda or remove any item for separate discussion and consideration.

MOTION:	To approve the Consent Agenda as presented:
RESULT:	Approved unanimously
MOVER:	Council Member Turley
SECONDER:	Vice Mayor Benning
AYES:	Barney, Brown, Wheatley, Benning, Oliphant, Turley, Hoffman

- A. Consideration and possible approval of Expenditures over \$25,000. (FY19 budgeted items)
 - 1. Empire Southwest - heavy equipment rental: \$25,000 (Utilities)
 - 2. Courtesy Chevrolet - light duty pick-up: \$29,000 (Comm/Marketing/Rec)
 - 3. Corporate Interior Systems, Inc. - Utilities Field Operations office furniture: \$80,000 (Utilities)
- B. Consideration and possible approval of the February 6, 2019 and February 20, 2019 Regular Session Minutes.
- C. Consideration and possible approval of an updated Development Agreement with Ellsworth & Queen Creek, LLC for improvements to Ellsworth and Queen Creek Roads Improvements - Phase 2 Capital Improvement Project (CIP Project I0010).

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- D. Consideration and possible approval of the reappointment of Thomas Schuett to the Board of Adjustment.
- E. Consideration and possible approval of the appointment of Jesse Roth to the Transportation Advisory Committee.
- F. Consideration and possible approval of Resolution 1256-19 repealing Resolution 1204-18 and adopting a revised policy on the application of groundwater credits to subdivisions enrolled in the Central Arizona Groundwater Replenishment District.

7. Items for Discussion: These items are for Council discussion only and no action will be taken. In general, no public comment will be taken.

A. Discussion on railroad quiet zones.

Public Works Director Troy White presented the process and costs for implementing railroad quiet zones. He also discussed the growth along the Union Pacific Railroad line between 1986-2019; railroad crossing locations and Federal requirements for train horn blowing when approaching crossings/intersections. Mr. White explained that municipalities that implement railroad quiet zones must mitigate all risks associated with a quiet zone in addition to upgrading each crossing (1/2 mile distance). He said the approval process for a quiet zone is 18-24 months and provided estimated costs for just two crossings in Queen Creek: Ocotillo/Combs: \$300-500K; Ellsworth/Sossaman: \$750K-1.5M.

B. Update on Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) Transportation Survey.

Intergovernmental Relations Manager Heather Wilkey and Communications, Marketing and Recreation Director Marnie Schubert gave a presentation on an upcoming transportation survey being conducted by Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) to gather public perception on the value of Proposition 400 and the Regional Transportation Plan. Ms. Schubert commented on the community marketing program to encourage participation in the survey.

C. Discussion on the Ironwood Safety Audit.

Public Works Director Troy White reported that with the annexation of Ironwood Crossing in 2018, the Town was also required to annex Ironwood Road between Ocotillo and Germann Roads. Mr. White said that with the increase in calls from residents regarding Ironwood Road, the Town requested that ADOT conduct a road safety audit of Ironwood Road. The audit was performed between January and March 2019.

Mr. White reviewed several findings of the audit that fall in three categories: 1) Needs immediate attention; 2) Needs to be addressed; and 3) Can Wait. Mr. White provided examples of improvements and costs for improvements that are either in progress, completed or planned in each category.

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Council asked for additional information on the ITS (Intelligent Traffic Systems) improvements. Mr. White responded that currently the system goes to Signal Butte Road, and explained that the cameras used in the system are for vehicle detection - not speed cameras.

D. Discussion and follow up regarding wastewater rate reduction, including winter average effective date.

Finance Director Scott McCarty discussed the 2010 rate study that resulted in annual 9.5% rate increase (total 43%) during years 2011-2014 that would address a projected capacity fee shortfall and the current wastewater rate study that shows \$2M annual revenue and capacity for additional residential and commercial accounts. Mr. McCarty reviewed Council's discussion on reducing the monthly rate by 10% (on average bill about \$4.28 month) and increasing the wastewater reserves for repair/replacement. The current rate structure was discussed and options to reduce the average monthly bill on an equitable basis as well as changing the effective date of rate to July.

Council discussed the 10% rate reduction off the base rate as the most fair to all customers and the least cumbersome to calculate. The schedule for approving the new wastewater rates was discussed so that the new rates would be in effect on the July bill.

8. Ceremonial Matters (Presentations, Proclamations, Awards, Guest Introductions and Announcements):

Mayor Barney commended the Queen Creek Fire & Medical personnel who responded to an emergency on behalf of his wife Pam. He also relayed comments he received from the hospital emergency room on the thoroughness and professional response from QCFMD. Mayor Barney commended Chief Gray and Dr. Smith for their influence on the department.

9. **Public Comments:** Members of the public may address the Town Council on items not on the printed agenda and during Public Hearings. Please complete a "Request to Speak Card", located on the table at the rear of the Community Chambers and turn it in to the Town Clerk prior to the beginning of the meeting. The Town Council may not discuss or take action on any issue raised during public comment until a later meeting. There is a time limit of three (3) minutes for each speaker.

None.

10. Committee Reports:

A. Council summary reports on meetings and/or conferences attended. This may include but is not limited to Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport; MAG; East Valley Partnership; CAG. The Council will not propose, discuss, deliberate or take legal

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action on any matter in the summary unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

See attached report.

B. Committee and outside agency reports (only as scheduled)

None.

11. Carryover Consent Agenda Items: Any Consent Agenda item that was pulled for a separate discussion and vote will be heard at this time.

None.

12. Public Hearings Consent Agenda:

None.

13. Public Hearings: If you wish to speak to the Council on an item listed as a Public Hearing, please complete a Request to Speak Card and turn it in to the Town Clerk. Speakers will be called upon in the order in which their cards are received. Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes each.

None.

14. Final Action: If you wish to speak to the Council on an item listed under Final Action, please complete a Request to Speak Card and turn it in to the Town Clerk. Speakers will be called upon in the order in which their cards are received. Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes each.

A. Discussion and possible approval of an on call Project Order #6 with T.Y. Lin International in an amount not to exceed \$912,882 for the engineering design to improve portions of Meridian Road from Combs Road to Germann Road (CIP Project A1505). (This is a FY2019 budgeted Item)

Public Works Director White provided a brief overview of the project and explained the actual construction will occur in phases and Pinal County will be contributing 25% to the design costs. Mr. White added that the design will be for full street improvements and construction should occur July 2020-2022.

MOTION: To approve an on call Project Order #6 with T.Y. Lin International in an amount not to exceed \$912,882 for the engineering design to improve portions of Meridian Road from Combs Road to Germann Road (CIP Project A1505).

RESULT: Approved unanimously

MOVER: Vice Mayor Benning

SECONDER: Council Member Oliphant

AYES: Barney, Wheatley, Benning, Brown, Oliphant, Turley, Hoffman

15. Items for Discussion: These items are for Council discussion only and no action will be taken. In general, no public comment will be taken.

None.

16. Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session The Council may reconvene the Executive Session for any of the items listed on the Executive Session Agenda.

None.

17. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

TOWN OF QUEEN CREEK

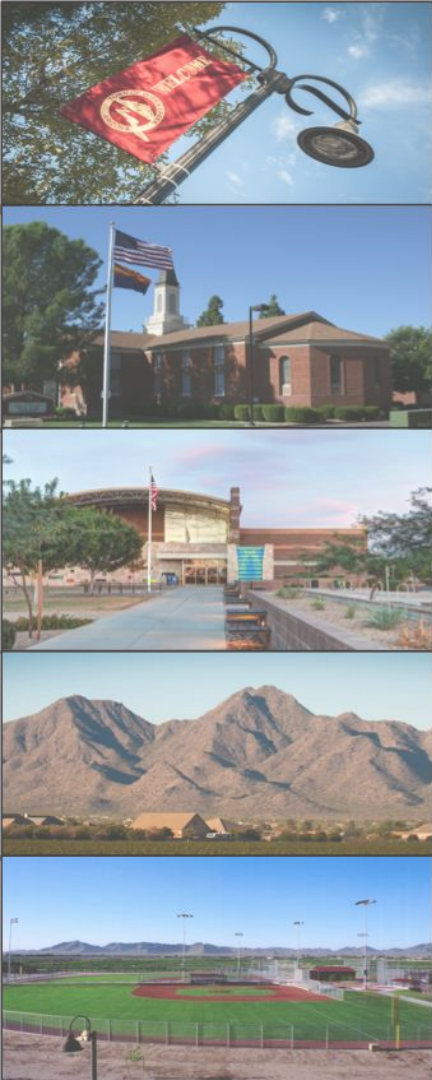
Gail Barney, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jennifer F. Robinson, Town Clerk

I, Jennifer F. Robinson, do hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing Minutes are a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the March 20, 2019 Regular Session of the Queen Creek Town Council. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and that a quorum was present.

Passed and approved on June 5, 2019



Council Committee Reports

- 03/07 – EVP Board of Directors Meeting (Hoffman)
- 03/08 – National School Breakfast Week – Pancakes for the Kids (Barney)
- 03/11 – Meeting with ASU School of Public Affairs Executive Director (Benning)
- 03/12 – Agenda Briefing with Assistant Town Manager (Hoffman, Turley)
- 03/12 – Meeting with QCUSD Assistant Superintendent (Benning)
- 03/13 – Schnepf Farm Lantern Fest Discussion (Barney)
- 03/14 – 03/17 – Roots ‘N Boots Rodeo (Barney, Benning, Oliphant)
- 03/14 – Roots ‘N Boots Rodeo 101 Tour for Sponsors (Benning, Oliphant)
- 03/14 – HPEC 10-Year Anniversary Event (Barney, Benning, Oliphant, Turley)
- 03/14 – QC West Stake Tour of the Replica of the Tabernacle of Moses (Turley)
- 03/18 – MAG Regional Council Executive Committee Meeting (Barney)
- 03/19 – SRP Electrification Signature Series (Benning)
- 03/19 – Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Board Meeting (Barney)
- 03/20 – MAG Transportation Policy Committee (Barney)