



**Minutes**  
**Regular Session**  
**Queen Creek Town Council**  
Community Chambers, 20727 E. Civic Parkway  
October 20, 2021  
6:30 PM

**1. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**2. Roll Call: (Members of the Town Council may attend electronically and/or telephonically)**

Gail Barney	Mayor	Present
Dawn Oliphant	Vice Mayor	Present
Robin Benning	Council Member	Present
Jeff Brown	Council Member	Present
Leah Martineau	Council Member	Present
Emilena Turley	Council Member	Present
Julia Wheatley	Council Member	Present

**3. Pledge of Allegiance:**

Led by Mayor Barney.

**4. Invocation/Moment of Silence:**

A moment of silence was held for first responders and men and women in uniform that are keeping our country safe.

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

Town Manager John Kross formally introduced Dave Lipinski as the new CIP Director for the Town.

Amber Gough with the Communications, Marketing and Recreation Department presented the three awards received by the department for their community outreach efforts:

- 3CMA Silver Circle Award for the Contactless QC Recycles Drop-off Event
- The Public Relation Society of America (PRSA) Award of Merit for the Law Enforcement Study
- The PRSA Award of Merit for the Hay QC Campaign (Halloween themed activity)

Mayor Barney commended staff for their work on these projects and for all they do for the Town.

**Queen Creek Town Council  
Regular Session Minutes  
October 20, 2021  
Page 2 of 8**

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

See attached.

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

1. Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (PRAC) - October 12, 2021

Dru Alberti, Vice Chair of PRAC presented the report. The Committee discussed updates to the dog park policy; new recreation management software testing; and Queen Creek Little League baseball season highlights.

- 7. Public Comments:** *Members of the public may address the Town Council on items not on the printed agenda and during Public Hearings. Please address the Town Council by completing a Request to Speak Card and turn it into the Town Clerk, sending an email to [PublicComment@QueenCreekAZ.gov](mailto:PublicComment@QueenCreekAZ.gov) by 6:30 p.m. on October 20, 2021 (limited to 500 words – identify your name, address and whether you wish your comment to be read at the meeting or just submitted as part of the written record). The Town Council may not discuss or take action on any issue raised during public comment until a later meeting. Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes each. Only one comment (either by email or by WebEx) per person per Agenda Item will be allowed and comments without identifying name and address will not be read or submitted as part of the written record.*

None.

- 8. 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 Town 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.*

<b>MOTION:</b>	<b>To approve the consent Agenda</b>
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Approved unanimously (7-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Julia Wheatley, Council Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Dawn Oliphant, Vice Mayor
<b>AYES:</b>	Barney, Oliphant, Benning, Brown, Martineau, Turley, Wheatley

**Queen Creek Town Council**  
**Regular Session Minutes**  
**October 20, 2021**  
**Page 3 of 8**

- A. Consideration and possible approval of the October 6, 2021 Regular Session Minutes.
  - B. Consideration and possible approval of Expenditures Over \$25,000. (FY 21/22 Budgeted Items)
    - 1. L.N. Curtis & Sons - Emergency Allied Equipment for Replacement Fire Apparatus E412: \$70,000 (Fire & Medical)
    - 2. Contractors West, Econolite, Wesco DBA Brown, Wesco - Traffic Signal Installation and all project related items: \$700,000 (Public Works-Traffic)
    - 3. Mallory Safety & Supply LLC - Gas Masks, Canisters, and related equipment: \$45,000 (Police)
    - 4. Universal Police Supply - Ballistic Shields and Blankets: \$30,000 (Police)
  - C. Consideration and possible approval of Annexation Ordinance 766-21, annexing certain real property to the Town of Queen Creek Pursuant to A.R.S. §9-471(O) adding right-of-way to the existing Town limits, generally described as Riggs Road from Power Road to Hawes Road located in Sections 29, 30, 31, and 32, Township 2 South, Range 7 East, Maricopa County.
- 9. Public Hearing Consent Agenda:** *Matters listed under the Public Hearing Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. Please address the Town Council on any items on the Public Hearing Consent Agenda by completing a Request to Speak Card and turn it into the Town Clerk, sending an email to [PublicComment@QueenCreekAZ.gov](mailto:PublicComment@QueenCreekAZ.gov) (limited to 500 words – identify your name, address and whether you wish your comment to be read at the meeting or just submitted as part of the written record) or by WebEx (instructions at [QueenCreekAZ.gov/WatchMeetings](http://QueenCreekAZ.gov/WatchMeetings)). Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes each. Only one comment (either by email or by WebEx) per person per Agenda Item will be allowed and comments without identifying name and address will not be read or submitted as part of the written record.*

<b>MOTION:</b>	<b>To approve the Public Hearing Consent Agenda</b>
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>Approved unanimously (7-0)</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Robin Benning, Council Member
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Julia Wheatley, Council Member
<b>AYES:</b>	Barney, Oliphant, Benning, Brown, Martineau, Turley, Wheatley

Mayor Barney opened the Public Hearing. There were no comments from the public or Council and the Public Hearing was closed.

**Queen Creek Town Council**  
**Regular Session Minutes**  
**October 20, 2021**  
**Page 4 of 8**

- A. Public Hearing and possible action on Ordinance 767-21, Case P21-0162 Strategic Industrial Properties Rezone, a request by Daryl Mechem (Strategic Industrial Properties) to rezone a 10 acre (approx.) site from R1-43 to EMP-A, located at the southwest corner of Germann Road and 196th Street.
- B. Public Hearing and possible approval of a new Series 007 Beer & Wine Bar Liquor License application submitted by Randall Dean Waldref on behalf of BruCo, 7529 S. Power Road, Queen Creek, AZ 85142.
- C. Public Hearing and possible approval of a new Series 010 Beer & Wine Store Liquor License application submitted by Jeffrey Craig Miller on behalf of Aldi #153. 20229 S. Ellsworth Road, Queen Creek, AZ 85142.

**10. Public Hearings:** *If you wish to speak to the Town Council on any of the items listed as a Public Hearing, please address the Town Council by sending an email to [PublicComment@QueenCreekAZ.gov](mailto:PublicComment@QueenCreekAZ.gov) (limited to 500 words – identify your name, address and whether you wish your comment to be read at the meeting or just submitted as part of the written record) or by WebEx (instructions at [QueenCreekAZ.gov/WatchMeetings](http://QueenCreekAZ.gov/WatchMeetings)). Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes each. Only one comment (either by email or by WebEx) per person per Agenda Item will be allowed and comments without identifying name and address will not be read or submitted as part of the written record.*

A. None.

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

A. Recycling Presentation

Mohamed Youssef, Interim Public Works Director, introduced Environmental Programs Manager Ramona Simpson who delivered the Recycling Presentation.

Ms. Simpson showed the breakdown of residential curbside recycling by material and by level of contamination. She said we have a low contamination rate of 6%. She explained the audit process and said that residents are doing a good job of keeping our recycling material clean, which results in a higher market value for material for Queen Creek. She said the signage on the bins provided by the Town at the recycle center helps in this regard.

Ms. Simpson outlined recycling revenue share by fiscal year. Cardboard and paper make up a lot of the recycled material in Queen Creek, which are both a high commodity value at this time. We revenue share with Waste Connections and cost share to find the best market value for commodities to keep our rates low. She pointed out that Queen Creek is not in the negative and we do not have to pay for process recycling. She said this is very unusual for cities right now in the Phoenix area and it is attributed to our partnerships, outreach and our residents.

Ms. Simpson outlined key recycling challenges:

- China Ban on international recycling disposal. Waste Connections has transitioned to mainly domestic markets (not China) therefore, these challenges have not negatively impacted Queen Creek.
- Increased contamination during Covid influenced the market nationwide.
- Glass makes up 18% of the material in Queen Creek and it is expensive to process and transport. Glass shards can also contaminate other material.

Council Member Brown asked about contamination rates and at what point would a load be rejected. Ms. Simpson explained that we are able to perform audits so they will not reject our loads and based on our contract we can keep the trash rate low.

Council had discussion as to why Queen Creek might have a higher amount of glass recycling than surrounding communities. Ms. Simpson said our residents may purchase more glass material, they may be switching from plastic to glass and they are also good at following the recycling rules. Ms. Simpson said that some communities have removed glass but Queen Creek has not made any changes at this time in the materials we accept. Ms. Simpson said we would review and research the glass issue closely with Waste Connections. She noted that tonight's presentation did not include commercial glass from bars or restaurants and said Waste Connections has commercial containers.

Town Manager John Kross asked what the national rate for glass is. Mr. Youseff said the US and North America percentage is 4.2% and said that Queen Creek is higher than the national average.

Council Member Benning asked what our waste diversion rate is. Ms. Simpson said it is based on the trash and recycling cart and how much we divert to recycling by weight. The Queen Creek rate is between 19-20% total by weight.

Council also discussed drop off options for plastic bags. They said they hope there will be a way to recycle and re-use glass in the future and keep it out of the landfill. Council was impressed with our low contamination rate and appreciated the wraps at the recycle center to inform residents.

#### **B. Smart City Presentation**

Assistant Town Manager Bruce Gardner outlined the Queen Creek vision for a smart city to improve efficiency and enhance the quality of life for residents with the use of technology. Mr. Gardner defined the three elements of a smart city: 1) connectivity; 2) generating and utilizing useful data; 3) public and private involvement. Mr. Gardner provided real time examples of smart city technology used in Queen Creek in regards to streetlights, water sensor meters and regional programs.

Mohamed Youssef, Interim Public Works Director presented the ten benefits of smart cities and explained how technology can provide better service to residents. He addressed transportation problems in fast growing communities and said that smart technology using our Intelligent Transportation Software (ITS) traffic software specifically helped traffic flow in Queen Creek. The software uses data driven decision making that can make efficient real time adjustments to the signal timing.

Mr. Youssef discussed other options for software to make improvements in trails, street light sensors for pedestrians, bulk collection streamlining, LED lighting and improved infrastructure programs with the use of fiber management systems and 5G small cell deployment.

Mike Black, IT Division Manager, discussed increased digital access including cellular connectivity and capacity. He discussed economic development opportunities; regional partnerships; and programs that enhance citizen and government engagement in areas of safety, permitting and outreach. Mr. Black also addressed technology used by police, fire and emergency operations to increase safety.

Council asked Mr. Black to comment on security and collection of personal data. Mr. Black said that the Town does not save or collect personal data. Mr. Black said that security is paramount and we take it very seriously. We protect data with the use of firewalls and various tools to maintain security.

**C. Update on Alternative Expenditure Limitation - Permanent Base Adjustment**

Town Manager Kross said this is a follow up to the August meeting for direction and further discussion on the option for the Permanent Base Adjustment. He said the Home Rule Option is slated to expire next year.

Deputy Finance Director Dan Olsen provided background on local options that exist to override the expenditure limit. He said the Town has been operating under Home Rule since incorporation. Tonight's presentation will focus on the Permanent Base Adjustment, which establishes a new permanent expenditure base that increases annually based on population and inflation. It requires a one-time election, unlike Home Rule, which requires voter approval every four years.

Mr. Olsen said that staff has been working on preliminary budget estimates using a 30-year projection based on our current high growth needs and long-term operating needs. Other considerations include our water service area and the water rights strategies. Mr. Olsen provided estimates of the current budget and the budget at 30-year build out in regards to population, operating budget expenses, CIP expenses and debt service. He said staff looked at other cities that are already at build-out to help with estimates. Mr. Olsen addressed the allowed exclusions, which are spending that is not subject to the expenditure limits and how to apply exclusions to calculate the expenditure limits each year.

Mr. Olsen gave a brief overview of the expenditure calculation that voters will see on the ballot. He explained the difference between the budget and the expenditure limit, and the need to educate the public on this without advocating for a ballot item. Staff must provide facts only and we are limited on what we can include in the publicity pamphlet that is mailed to voters. The publicity pamphlet does allow arguments “for” and “against” ballot items and he said that Council is allowed to submit an argument; but staff cannot do so.

Town Attorney Scott Holcomb provided further explanation and said that an elected official can voice their opinion but cannot use staff funds or resources. Council can do it on their own or individually and express positions for or against an item and they can use their title. Mr. Holcomb said that staff has to be completely neutral and provide facts only. He said that open meeting law must be adhered to at all times.

Mr. Olsen outlined the next steps involved in the process:

- Final decision on Home Rule vs Permanent Base by Town Council – December 1, 2021
- Call of Election by Resolution - Mar 16, 2022 (no public hearing required)
- Auditor General Review of the calculations and Summary Analysis
- Prepare Publicity Pamphlet with analysis and arguments for and against; receive final approval by Auditor General
- Send back to Auditor General for approval
- Send publicity pamphlets to printer; early ballots mailed to voters
- Primary Election – Aug 2, 2022

Mr. Olson said that staff would complete the estimates and present the final numbers to Town Council for a decision at an upcoming meeting.

Council asked who determines the population number for the Town. Mr. Olson said it comes from a state agency who does the population estimates each year using census information.

#### **D. Police Department Update**

Police Chief Randy Brice provided an update on monthly activities. He outlined ongoing progress regarding the hiring process of police officers and professional staff and the RMS system.

He reviewed the foundation of the QC Police Department and how it relates to the training programs and team building exercises being conducted. He discussed the vision, mission and values of the department, which focus on direction and perspective; community policing; and decision making models.

**Queen Creek Town Council  
Regular Session Minutes  
October 20, 2021  
Page 8 of 8**

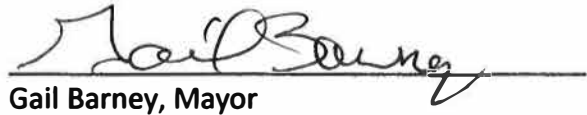
**12. Final Action:** *If you wish to speak to the Town Council on any of the items listed under Final Action Please address the Town Council by completing a Request to Speak Card and turn it into the Town Clerk, sending an email to [PublicComment@QueenCreekAZ.gov](mailto:PublicComment@QueenCreekAZ.gov) (limited to 500 words – identify your name, address and whether you wish your comment to be read at the meeting or just submitted as part of the written record) or by WebEx (instructions at [QueenCreekAZ.gov/WatchMeetings](http://QueenCreekAZ.gov/WatchMeetings)). Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes each. Only one comment (either by email or by WebEx) per person per Agenda Item will be allowed and comments without identifying name and address will not be read or submitted as part of the written record.*

A. None.

**13. Adjournment**

The Regular Session adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

TOWN OF QUEEN CREEK

  
Gail Barney, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Maria E. Gonzalez, Town Clerk

I, Maria E. Gonzalez, do hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing Minutes are a true and correct copy of the Regular Session Minutes of the October 20, 2021 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: November 3, 2021



# Council Committee Reports

- 10/07 – PHX East Valley Partnership Board of Directors Meeting (Benning)
- 10/12 – Chamber Network QC Luncheon (Oliphant)
- 10/13 and 10/14 – 22nd Annual Rural Transportation Summit (Benning)
- 10/14 – Antique/Special Event Fire Truck Preview (Barney, Oliphant, Brown, Wheatley)
- 10/14 – Town Council Recreation Facilities Tour (Oliphant, Brown, Wheatley)
- 10/16 – Trunk or Treat 2021 (Barney, Oliphant, Benning, Martineau, Wheatley)
- 10/19 – Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Board of Directors Meeting (Barney)
- 10/20 – Maricopa Association of Governments Transportation Policy Committee Meeting (Barney)

