



**Minutes**  
**Town Council Regular Session**  
Community Chambers, 20727 E. Civic Parkway  
Wednesday, March 20, 2024  
6:30 PM

**1) Call to Order:**

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

**2) Roll Call:**

**PRESENT:**

Julia Wheatley, Mayor  
Leah Martineau, Vice Mayor  
Robin Benning, Council Member  
Bryan McClure, Council Member  
Dawn Oliphant, Council Member

**ABSENT:**

Jeff Brown, Council Member  
Travis Padilla, Council Member

**3) Pledge of Allegiance:**

Led by Council Member Oliphant.

**4) Invocation/Moment of Silence: Dr. Vernet Joseph, Mountain View Church**

Dr Vernet Joseph provided the invocation. Mayor Wheatley called for a moment of silence for Preston Lord.

**5) Remarks from Mayor Julia Wheatley and QCPD Police Chief Randy Brice regarding the ongoing October 28 homicide investigation.**

Police Chief Randy Brice provided an update on the ongoing October 28 homicide investigation which resulted in seven indictments and arrests for several charges including first degree murder. He said they are working on incoming tips that continue to come in as well as forensic evidence, small leads and interviews in preparation for the trial phase. The QCPD will continue to update via media releases and press conferences from this point forward. He thanked the Lord family, the Maricopa County Attorney's Office and the members of the community for their support throughout the case. Chief Brice asked the community to continue their efforts to combat teen

violence.

Mayor Wheatley said the Lord family will continue to be in our thoughts. She said we continue with the creation of our Mayor's Teen Advisory Committee and Queen Creek is interested in hearing directly from our teens. On Saturday, May 4, the Town will be hosting its first Teen Voices Summit, an opportunity for teens in our community to share needs, concerns, and their vision for the Town. She said the next For Our Town meeting is also taking place on Tuesday, March 26 at 8:30 a.m. at the Queen Creek Library.

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

6.A) Recognition of Queen Creek High School Girls Track and Field Coach Shaun Hardt for National Coach of the Year Award

Mayor Wheatley recognized Queen Creek High School coach Shaun Hardt who has been with the Track and Field program for 21 years. She listed his many successful seasons and said he also coached basketball, football and baseball for QCHS. She said Coach Hardt was recently honored as the National Federation of State High School Associations Girls Track and Field National Coach of the Year. The Council recognized Coach Hardt and the Queen Creek High School Athletic Director Christopher Driving Hawk for the role they play in the lives of our youth.

6.B) Recognition of Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program Basic Training Graduates

Mayor Wheatley provided information about the Town's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program which educates citizens and supports first responders. She congratulated that 17 volunteers who completed the 20-hour course given over a four-week period.

Vice Mayor Leah Martineau read the names of the graduates and they were presented graduation certificates. The graduates were as follows: Isabelle Aguirre; Keith Bowcut; Melissa Debnar; Todd Filewicz Ross; Peter Fleischman; Tom Glow; Brandon Hester; Issac Holwager; Timothy Kingery; Carter Kolba; Melissa McVicar; Terri Nethercott; Sally Nusslock; Colleen Phillips; Troy Phillips and Steve Roegge.

**8) Public Comments:**

None.

**7) Committee Reports:**

7.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.

## Council Committee Reports

Council Member Oliphant thanked the Friends of Horseshoe Park for their efforts on the Roots & Boots Rodeo.

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

#### 1. Downtown Arts and Placemaking Sub-Advisory Committee (March 14, 2024)


Council Member Benning provided the report. The Sub-Advisory Committee judged the "Reduce the Use" Art Contest receiving over 70 entries. They also discussed the Downtown Art & Placemaking Master Plan & Action Plan and discussed the process for "naming" and branding the downtown area. The next meeting will be May 9, 2024.

## 9) Consent Agenda:

- 9.A) Consideration and possible approval of the March 6, 2024 Regular Session minutes.

**Department:** Town Clerk's Office


Staff Report 

Minutes 03-06-24 DRAFT.pdf 

- 9.B) Consideration and possible approval of Expenditures \$25,000 and over, pursuant to Town Purchasing Policy. (FY 23/24 Budget Items)

**Department:** Finance

Staff Report 


Expenditures over \$25k 032024.pdf 

- 9.C) Consideration and possible approval of FY 23-24 budget amendments totaling \$3,378,485 in expenditure reallocations, and a corresponding decrease to the contingency funds for the same amount.

**Department:** Finance

Staff Report 


Staff Report 

Attachment A - Proposed Expenditure Budget Adjustments 

- 9.D) Consideration and possible approval of the Second Amendment to Cooperative Purchase Agreement #2021-039 with Hughes Fire Equipment, Inc. through the NPPGov Contract #PS20240 for the acquisition of five fire apparatuses in the amount not to exceed \$7,826,226.

**Department:** Fire & Medical


Staff Report 

Second Amendment to Cooperative Purchase Agreement - Hughes Fire Equipment.pdf 

- 9.E) Consideration and possible approval of an amendment to our existing lease agreement with the Maricopa County Community College District for additional office/workspace on the second floor of the Communiversity Building located at 21740 S. Ellsworth Road, Queen Creek, AZ 85142, beginning April 1, 2024. The cost for base rent, security, and other incidentals shall not exceed \$180,000 annually (Budgeted item).

**Department:** Police


Staff Report 


RSC QueenCreekTownOf 030424 A1Lease Signed.pdf 

- 9.F) Consideration and possible approval of Resolution 1563-24, adopting revisions to the Town Council Policies and Procedures Handbook regarding the Agenda setting process.

**Department:** Town Manager's Office

Staff Report 

Town Council Policies & Procedures (Rev. 12/2022) 

Resolution No. 1563-24 

**MOTION:** To approve the Consent Agenda

**RESULT:** Approved unanimously (5-0)

**MOVER:** Robin Benning, Council Member

**SECONDER:** Bryan McClure, Council Member

**AYES:** Julia Wheatley, Mayor, Robin Benning, Council Member, Leah Martineau, Vice Mayor, Bryan McClure, Council Member, Dawn Oliphant, Council Member


**ABSENT:** Jeff Brown, Council Member, Travis Padilla, Council Member

**10) Public Hearing Consent Agenda:**

- 10.A) Consideration and possible recommendation of approval on a Series 012 Restaurant Liquor License application submitted by Jeffrey Craig Miller on behalf of Over Easy located at 37584 N Gantzel Road, Queen Creek.

**Department:** Town Clerk's Office

Staff Report 

Rule R19-1-702 

LGB Report 

QCPD Report 

Mayor Wheatley opened the public hearing. There were no comments and the public hearing was closed.

**MOTION:** To approve the Public Hearing Consent Agenda

**RESULT:** Approved unanimously (5-0)

**MOVER:** Leah Martineau, Vice Mayor

**SECONDER:** Dawn Oliphant, Council Member

**AYES:** Julia Wheatley, Mayor, Robin Benning, Council Member, Leah Martineau, Vice Mayor, Bryan McClure, Council Member, Dawn Oliphant, Council Member

**ABSENT:** Jeff Brown, Council Member, Travis Padilla, Council Member

**11) Public Hearings:**

None.

**12) Items for Discussion:**

12.A) Presentation on Economic and Housing Trends by Anubhav Bagley, Maricopa Association of Governments

Economic and Housing Trends Presentation 

Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) Regional Analytics Director Anubhav Bagley provided the presentation. He was joined by Peter Burnett, Regional Analytics Manager.

Mr. Bagley discussed population growth in the area; unemployment rates; inflation and cost of living. He provided an overview of the Phoenix area's diverse economy and the top employment sectors, noting a 44% increase in total employment for Queen Creek since 2017. Mr. Bagley also discussed residential unit completions and sales tax and said Queen Creek median sales price and apartment rental prices is higher than the Phoenix area. He said that overall the household income is not keeping up with housing costs for the region. Mr. Bagley concluded with a summary of the major takeaways in the economy, housing and real estate for Queen Creek.

Council appreciated the data and information provided in the presentation. Council had comments on employment centers; commute time; transportation issues; access to transit in Queen Creek; bringing jobs to the community; underserved housing units and affordability for the workforce.

**13) Final Action:**

None.

**14) Adjournment:**

The Council reconvened into Executive Session at 7:38 p.m. The Regular Session reconvened and adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

TOWN OF QUEEN CREEK

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Julia Wheatley, Mayor

ATTEST:

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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 Town Council Regular Session Minutes of the March 20, 2024 Town Council 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: \_\_\_\_\_