



Minutes
Regular Session
Queen Creek Town Council
Queen Creek Town Hall, 22350 S. Ellsworth Road
Council Chambers
March 17, 2010
7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

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

Council Members present: Barnes (telephone); Benning; Brown; Hildebrandt (telephone); Wootten; Vice Mayor Mortensen and Mayor Sanders.

3. Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Mayor Sanders.

4. Invocation: Pastor Ron Nelson, Life Link Church

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

A. Volunteer of the Year Awards: Mayor Sanders presented the following Nominees with Certificates:

Adult Category: Brian Schultz; Eric Fike; Pam Swicegood; Joe Kolnick and Myrna & John Flores

Organization Category: Ed & Kristen Guerra

The following were recognized as Volunteer of the Year and were presented with a plaque:

Adult: Chris Clark

Youth: Jennifer Swicegood

Organization: Ed & Kristen Guerra representing San Tan PRIDE

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; CAAG. 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.

Mayor Sanders reported on the PHGA Board Meeting; dedication of the atrium at the airport terminal and the approval of the Airport budget. Mr. Sanders also announced the groundbreaking for the new ICE building located at the airport.

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Council Member Brown reported on a tour of Banner Gateway Hospital and the grand opening of Banner Ironwood in November 2010.

Council Member Barnes stated that he was attending the National League of Cities Conference in Washington D.C. and would report at a future meeting.

B. Transportation Advisory Committee – March 4, 2010: Chair Ryan Nichols reported that the Committee discussed reports and presentations on Home Rule, budget process, Town Center project, current and 5-year CIP projects and grant funding. The next meeting is scheduled for April 1, 2010.

Mayor Sanders introduced Mayor-Elect Gail Barney.

7. Public Comment: 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 Council Chambers and turn it in to the Town Clerk prior to the beginning of the meeting. There is a time limit of three minutes for comments.

None.

8. Consent Calendar: Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. Public Hearing items are designated with an asterisk (*). Prior to consideration of the Consent Agenda, the Mayor will ask whether any member of the public wishes to remove a Public Hearing item for separate consideration. Members of the Council and or staff may remove any item for separate consideration.

A. Consideration and possible approval of the March 3, 2010 Work Study and Regular Session Minutes.

B. Consideration and possible approval of line item budget reallocations.

C. Consideration and possible approval of a contract with Stantec Consulting in the amount of \$88,000 for the design of a reclaimed, reuse and recharge waterline (Project RW001).

D. Consideration and possible approval of Amendment #1 to the Intergovernmental Agreement with MCDOT and Pinal County for the Ellsworth Road from Cloud to Empire Road to include sewer installation (Project No. WW016).

E. Consideration and possible approval of design and installation and installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Ellsworth Loop Road and Aldecoa Road alignment (Post Office/Ellsworth Loop Road) estimated at \$250,000 (Project No. 10066).

F. Consideration and possible approval of **Resolution 831-10** replacing the current Employee Handbook with an updated and renamed handbook the Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual.

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G. Consideration and possible approval of **Resolution 833-10** the Canvass of the March 9, 2010 Primary Election.

H. Consideration and possible approval of postponing the Family Rodeo to first Quarter 2011.

I. Consideration and possible approval of the Special Event Liquor License submitted by Our Lady Guadalupe Church for a fundraiser to be held on April 17 & 18, 2010 at the church location: 20615 E. Ocotillo Road.

Items C, E and G were pulled for discussion.

Motion to approve the remainder of the Consent Calendar as presented
(Mortensen/Wootten/Unanimous)

Item C: Staff requested a continuance to April 7, 2010.

Motion to continue Item C to the April 7, 2010 meeting (Brown/Barnes/Unanimous)

Item E: Council asked if this project should be sent to the Transportation Advisory Committee for capital improvement prioritizing and recommendation to the Council. Town Manager Kross stated that the item was placed on the agenda at the request of two Council Members after reviewing and analyzing the project and funding would be from project savings.

Council Members were concerned with public safety when making left-turns out of the Post Office and also asked if a signal was planned for the QuickTrip and future bank drives location.

Traffic Engineer Mike Pacelli explained that the QuickTrip and future bank were too close to the existing signal at Ocotillo Road and a signal was always planned for the Post Office and future Aldecoa Road alignment. He stated the location met the warrants for signalization but Council could decide on the timeline for installation. Council asked if this project should be referred to the Transportation Advisory Committee. Mr. Pacelli responded that most signal projects have gone through the committee for a recommendation; however, this project would be weighed against other projects also.

Motion to approve Item E (Benning/Brown/Unanimous)

Item G: Council Members urged residents to vote in the upcoming General Election.

Motion to approve Item G (Brown/Wootten/Unanimous)

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.

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9. Public Hearing and possible approval of **Resolution 832-10** the Notice of Intention for Ellsworth – Cloud – Empire Scalloped Street Assessment Project.

Community Development Director Tom Condit provided an overview of the Ellsworth-Cloud-Empire road improvement project through an intergovernmental agreement with Maricopa County Department of Transportation (MCDOT). Mr. Condit reviewed the procedure for a scalloped street project including the public hearings, time of assessment, time of development and abatement of assessment and time for filing objections.

The Public Hearing was opened. No one came forth and the Public Hearing was closed.

Motion to approve Resolution 832-10 the Notice of Intention for Ellsworth-Cloud-Empire Scalloped Street Assessment Project (Wootten/Mortensen/Unanimous)

Motion to suspend the rules and hear agenda item 11 before agenda item 10 (Benning/Brown/Unanimous)

(Agenda items 10 & 11 were discussed together)

10. Public Hearing and possible approval to authorize the hiring of a Horseshoe Park and Equestrian Centre Manager and the appropriate budget authority in the amount of \$25,000.

After discussion concluded under Item 11, there was additional information provided on the HPEC Manager.

Mr. Kross said that the HPEC Manager position would be within the Economic Development Department and be involved in other economic development activities/projects as well. Council asked if the manager would have responsibilities for the 5-Park Master Plan including the future Queen Creek Sports Complex. Mr. Kross responded that the primary focus would be HPEC. Mr. Kross also provided information on the normal recruiting/hiring process. Council discussed having quarterly return-on-investment reports.

**Motion to authorize the hiring of a Horseshoe Park and Equestrian Centre Manager and the appropriate budget authority in the amount of \$25,000 (Benning/Mortensen) VOTE: 5-2 (Brown, Barnes)
Motion Passed.**

11. Public Hearing and possible approval of additional capital items and appropriate budget transfer in the amount of \$1,023,600 for Horseshoe Park and Equestrian Centre.

The Public Hearing was opened.

Audri Mansour, Queen Creek, stated her concerns with the proposed expenditures for Horseshoe Park, high manager's salary and funding for operations.

The Public Hearing was closed.

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Town Manager John Kross stated the capital items were included in the original approved HPEC budget and meets the Council's strategic goal of cost recovery and economic development/activity. Mr. Kross said the majority of the cost of improvement items is for doubling the seating capacity and additional covered stalls & arenas. Mr. Kross also stated that the HPEC Manager position was a part of the general fund two years ago but hiring was delayed to monitor how the first 12 months of operations went. Mr. Kross provided examples of other revenue generating economic development projects such as Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport, Ellsworth Road Improvement District, Power Marketplace and the Safeway shopping center.

Mr. Kross said that the HPEC Manager would market the facility but the position wouldn't be necessary without the additional capital improvements. He provided alternatives for consideration: status quo (no changes) or contracting with a third part operator, similar to the Big League Dreams facility in Gilbert.

Vice Mayor Mortensen commented on the number of community events held at HPEC but that the larger, revenue generating events are not booking. He said that by investing in capital improvements now would generate future revenue for the Town and local businesses. Mr. Mortensen also stated that he understood the concerns of residents and other Council Members of the proposed capital investments in the current economy.

Council Member Barnes suggested increasing funding to the Queen Creek Chamber of Commerce to attract revenue generating businesses and that the intersection of Ellsworth & Ocotillo Roads needs to be fixed.

Council Member Brown discussed his concern with interfund loans in an unstable environment and the lack of services to accommodate increased events at HPEC.

Discussion was held regarding the need for large commercial events at HPEC and investing in the community and how a HPEC manager would focus on the entertainment cluster of the Economic Development Strategic Plan and market other venues in the Town also.

**Motion to approve additional capital items and appropriate budget transfer in the amount of \$1,023,600 for Horseshoe Park and Equestrian Centre (Mortensen/Wooten) VOTE: 5-2 (Brown, Barnes)
Motion Passed.**

The meeting was recessed from 8:30 – 8:45pm.

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.

12. Discussion and possible action on the Economic Development Commission's recommendations related to the S.W.O.T. (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis performed on the Town's employment areas.

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Economic Development Director Doreen Cott provided an overview of the S.W.O.T. analysis relative to the Corporate Strategic Plan KRA:7 – Land Use/Economic Development; Objective 3: economic zones/sub-regions and Objective 6: installing/advancing infrastructure to key employment areas. Ms. Cott said three areas were identified – northern tier, southeast quadrant and Town Center. She said that short-term, intermediate and long-term recommendations include a wastewater master plan update, business attraction, improvement districts and possible use of bonds. Ms. Cott added that an action plan would be development for financing plans and priorities for infrastructure in these economic zones.

Motion to move forward with a short and intermediate term analysis and develop an action plan (Mortensen/Wootten/Unanimous)

13. Discussion and possible approval of Project Order #005 with Sunrise Engineering, Inc. (Contract 2009-42) for a wastewater master plan update in the amount of \$104,200 and the appropriate budget reallocation.

Utilities Director Paul Gardner stated that as part of the S.W.O.T. analysis, the capacity of each wastewater line would need to be identified. This would include future capacity for up-flow and down-flow and current flow vs. build-out capacity. Mr. Gardner said the state land to the north and southeast section of Town would be included in the update that should take approximately 6 months to complete. Council asked if effluent capacity would be included. Mr. Gardner replied it would.

Motion to approve Project Order #005 with Sunrise Engineering, Inc. (Contract 2009-42) for a wastewater master plan update in the amount of \$104,200 and the appropriate budget reallocation (Wootten/Mortensen/Unanimous)

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.

14. Motion to adjourn to Executive Session: The Council may reconvene the Executive Session for any of the items listed on the Executive Session Agenda.

Motion to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:08pm (Mortensen/Brown/Unanimous)

15. Adjournment


The meeting was adjourned at 9:26pm.

TOWN OF QUEEN CREEK


Arthur M. Sanders, Mayor

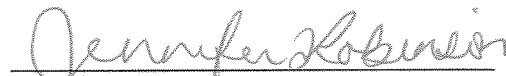
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Attest:



Jennifer F. Robinson, MMC

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 17, 2010 Regular Session of the Queen Creek Town Council. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and that a quorum was present.



Jennifer F. Robinson, MMC

Passed and approved on April 7, 2010