



Minutes
Regular Session
Queen Creek Town Council
Queen Creek Town Hall, 22350 S. Ellsworth Road
Council Chambers
June 2, 2010
7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm.

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

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

3. Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Sanders

4. Invocation: Pastor Brent Richardson, The Rock Eternal

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

A. Citizen Leadership Graduation: the following were recognized and presented with certificates for graduating the 15th Citizen Leadership Institute: Talonya Adams; Dory Arrington; Gregory Arrington; Fred Brittingham; Mark Buzicky; Patricia Conrad; Wanda Conte; John Harris; Darren Holweger; Rhett Homan; Phillip Jablonski; Chuck Johnson; Eileen Koceja; Dennis McInerney; Dawn Oliphant; Sandy Redman; Cherie Richardson; William Shurtleff; Carol Webb; John Webb; Betty Webster; Phillip Williams; Nichelle Williams and Vicki Wood.

B. Presentation of gifts to outgoing Mayor and Council Members: Mayor Sanders presented the outgoing Council Members with a plaque and vase:

Council Member Joyce Hildebrandt: 16 years
Vice Mayor Gordon Mortensen: 4 years
Council Member Jon Wootten: 8 years

Mayor Elect Barney presented Mayor Art Sanders with a plaque and vase for 4 years of service.

C. Remarks from outgoing Mayor and Council Members

Joyce Hildebrandt: said she had served with three Town Managers and especially thanked Town Manager Kross and Assistant Town Manager Flynn, Town staff and citizens. Ms. Hildebrandt said she had served on many committees since 1989 and hopes the new Council will encourage others to also serve.

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Jon Wootten: Mr. Wootten remarked that several critical decisions have been made through the years and thanked the staff, current and previous Council's and especially his wife and daughters for their support over the years.

Gordon Mortensen: Mr. Mortensen commented on the joys and challenges of the past four years; meeting new people and the completion of several major projects including new commercial developments and public safety. He said the most significant was the selection and hiring of Town Manager Kross and Assistant Town Manager Flynn.

Art Sanders: Mr. Sanders said that much was accomplished as a team and thanked the previous Council's. He said he looks forward to the new Council taking over and thanked staff, especially Mr. Kross and Mr. Flynn, Town Attorney Fredda Bisman, the Fire Department and Maricopa County Sheriff's Office. He also expressed appreciation for the faith-based organizations and his family.

D. Swearing in of Mayor and Council Members – Justice of the Peace Sam Goodman

Honorable Sam Goodman gave the Oath of Office to Mayor Barney and then to Council Members Julia Wheatley, John Alston and Dawn Oliphant.

The new Mayor and Council Members took seats on the dais and took the opportunity to make the following comments:

Council Member Alston stated he was looking forward to working with the Council and staff and was grateful to the residents who voted for him and to his family for their support.

Council Member Julia Wheatley thanked the voters and expressed appreciation for her husband who helped her throughout the campaign. Ms. Wheatley also thanked the previous and new Council and added that she was impressed with Queen Creek.

Council Member Dawn Oliphant said she was looking forward to serving and thanked the Council and the residents for supporting her.

Mayor Barney thanked his family for filling in on the farm and especially former Mayor Wendy Feldman-Kerr for her encouragement to run for Mayor. Mr. Barney said he was looking forward to the new Council.

E. Reception

The meeting was recessed from 7:45 – 8:20pm.

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.

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Town Manager Kross provided a report on the Mayor Sander's attendance at the Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport Board meeting and the adoption of the 2011-2015 Strategic Business Plan and the adoption of new airport rules and fees effective July 1, 2010.

Mr. Kross also reported on the MAG meeting at which the commuter rail systems study was approved. The study will identify commuter rail routes and is looking favorable to Queen Creek.

B. Economic Development Commission – May 26, 2010: Chair Rustyn Sherer reported on the Commission's discussion on an "ombudsman program" to assist applicant's through the Town's project approval process. The Commission voted to have staff draft a program for further consideration. The next meeting is June 23, 2010.

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.

Venessa Whitener, Queen Creek, congratulated the new Mayor and Council. She stated she was an elected Higley School Board Member and asked the Council to meet with Cortina Elementary School staff and Higley School District Board.

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 expenditures over \$25,000.

B. Consideration and possible approval of the biennial appointment of Town Officers pursuant to Town Code Chapter 3, Article 3-1, Section 3-1-1 Officers.

C. Consideration and possible approval of a one-year renewal in the amount of \$37,950 to the professional services contract with Heinfield, Meech & Company for the year ending June 30, 2010 audit of the financial statements of the Town of Queen Creek.

D. Consideration and possible approval of **Resolution 852-10** authorizing the purchase agreement in the amount not to exceed \$47,000 for the acquisition of real property from Edward D. and Diane K. Welsh (Parcel 304-66-035) for the Ellsworth Road – Rittenhouse to Ocotillo Road Improvement Project.

E. Consideration and possible approval of **DR09-026** "Queen Creek Ranch Estates Fencing Amendment" a request by Josh Ehmke of JE Development Services for design review approval of an amendment to the approved perimeter fence plan for Queen Creek Ranch Estates. The project is located in the vicinity of the southeast corner of Chandler Heights and Hawes Roads.

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Staff requested Item A to be continued to the June 16, 2010 meeting.

Motion to approve the remainder of the Consent Calendar as presented
(Brown/Barnes/Unanimous)

Motion to continue Item A Expenditures over \$25,000 to the June 16, 2010 meeting
(Brown/Benning/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.

None.

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.

9. Discussion and possible approval of the appointment of a Vice Mayor.

Town Manager Kross reviewed the Town Code requirements and procedure for appointing a Vice Mayor to serve a one-year term and Mayor Barney's recommendation that Council Member Barnes be appointed.

Motion to appoint Council Member Barnes as Vice Mayor to serve a one-year term
(Brown/Benning/Unanimous)

10. Discussion and possible approval to repeal Resolution 837-10 and adopting **Resolution 853-10** approving a funding application to be submitted to Arizona Department of Revenue (ADOT) for Round 18 (2010) Transportation Enhancement Funding.

Parks & Recreation Director Debbie Gomez provided an overview of the trails system and discussed the purpose of the grant that would be used for the design, construction and landscaping of a multi-use path along the Queen Creek Wash from Desert Mountain Park to Ellsworth Road connecting Desert Mountain Park with Founder's Park. Ms. Gomez also explained the reason for repealing Resolution 837-10 after a review by MAG.

Motion to approve the repeal of Resolution 837-10 and adoption of Resolution 853-10
(Barnes/Brown/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.

11. Presentation of the end of legislative session report by Mike Williams of Williams & Associates.

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Sr. Management Assistant Wendy Kaserman provided a brief overview of the legislative agenda approved by the Council in December 2009 and the development of specific legislation from that agenda by the Town's Lobbyist Mike Williams of Williams & Associates.

Mike Williams discussed several significant bills that were discussed by the Legislature:

HB 2625: forgiving the Town's \$10 million loan provided through the State's Congestion Mitigation Fund for portions of Ellsworth Road.

HB 2249 & 2259 regarding development fee refunds. Both bills failed.

HB 2478: development fee moratorium: passed

HB 2512: banning private auditors to help cities collect sales tax: failed

HB 2504: records and reporting requirements for GPLET: passed

SB 1239: residential rental sales tax- would have required any sales tax on residential rental to be voted on at an election: failed

SB 1373: County Libraries: revenue reduction to operate libraries: failed

Council asked if there were any bills that might come back to the Legislature. Mr. Williams said revenue sharing, GPLET and libraries most likely.

12. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm.

TOWN OF QUEEN CREEK

Craig Barnes, Vice Mayor

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 June 2, 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 June 16, 2010