



Minutes
Regular Session
Queen Creek Town Council
Queen Creek Town Hall, 22350 S. Ellsworth Road
Council Chambers
September 7, 2011
7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm.

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

Council Members present: Alston; Barnes; Benning; Oliphant; Wheatley and Vice Mayor Brown. Mayor Barney participated by telephone. Vice Mayor Brown conducted the meeting.

3. Pledge of Allegiance: Council Member Wheatley

4. Invocation: A moment of silence was observed.

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

A. Recognition of the 10th Anniversary of 9/11: Vice Mayor Brown read a proclamation honoring those who lost their lives in the 9/11 terrorist attacks and promoting national unity in observing the day.

B. American Legion Day September 16: Vice Mayor Brown read a proclamation in recognition of American Veterans and supporting the American Legion and its auxiliaries.

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.

Council Member Benning attended the August 24th Pinal County Governmental Alliance meeting. Achievements of the committee were celebrated and a progress report on the redistricting mapping was given.

Vice Mayor Brown attended the August 21st East Valley Partnership meeting. Five new members were appointed and presentations were given by the Arizona Board of

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Regents on trending of associate degrees and cost of tuition. The next meeting is October 6, 2011.

Council Member Oliphant reported on the League of Cities & Towns Annual Conference August 30 – September 2 sessions 1) Upside of a Down Economy which focused on small businesses supporting the local economy and 2) Tourism in Arizona and partnering with Office of Tourism and Arizona Centennial Commission in promoting Queen Creek.

B. Partner agencies quarterly or periodic updates to Council. This may include but is not limited to Queen Creek Chamber of Commerce; Queen Creek Performing Arts Center; Boys & Girls Club of East Valley; and Maricopa or Pinal County Board of Supervisors or other governmental agencies. 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.

None.

C. Economic Development Commission – August 24, 2011

Council Member Oliphant reported that Lee Ester was re-elected by the members to serve as Chair and Carson Brown was re-elected to serve as Vice Chair. The Commission discussed FY11-12 work plan priorities including updating the Economic Development Strategic Plan; agreed on a new meeting schedule for every other month which will allow a task force to work on the strategic plan. Also, a presentation was given by David Valenzuela of Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport on passenger & freight service and business development. The next meeting is September 28, 2011.

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 August 3, 2011 Work Study and Regular Session Minutes.

B. Consideration and possible approval of the August 17, 2011 Work Study and Regular Session Minutes.

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C. Consideration and possible approval of expenditures over \$25,000.

D. Consideration and possible approval of the Transportation Advisory Committee's Work Plan for FY2011-12.

*E. Public Hearing and possible approval of **Resolution 885-11 and Ordinance 500-11** adopting the 2010-2011 Amendments to the Tax Code of the Town of Queen Creek”.

Motion to approve the Consent Calendar as presented
(Wheatley/Oliphant/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 action on a request from Pinal County for comments on Comprehensive Plan Amendment PZ-PA-006-11 to amend the Pinal County Comprehensive Plan to incorporate a proposed development concept for the 275 square mile Superstition Vistas project. The area is located east of the Town of Queen Creek.

Planning Manager Wayne Balmer gave an overview of the Superstition Vistas project history and Pinal County's proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendment for land uses including employment, residential, activity areas and future freeway alignments. Mr. Balmer stated that Queen Creek's General Plan identifies this area as employment and if Pinal County approves the Comprehensive Plan Amendment, Queen Creek may then need to amend its own General Plan. Mr. Balmer also discussed the future SR24 freeway alignments.

Mr. Balmer presented staff's comments regarding the conflicts with Queen Creek's General Plan regarding residential & employment and freeway alignment. Mr. Balmer also suggested ways to provide additional input to Pinal County including sending a letter with comments from staff or additional comments from Council.

There was discussion on the process and timeline of amending the Town's General Plan if PZ-PA006-11 is approved or even delayed (continued).

Motion to send a letter to Pinal County and if the Comprehensive Plan Amendment is approved by Pinal County to direct staff to begin a Town initiated

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General Plan amendment to be considered at the next available review cycle
(Alston/Benning/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.

10. Presentation and discussion with the Queen Creek County Island Fire District Board on their current efforts to provide emergency services for county island residents living in Maricopa County.

Fire Chief Van Summers introduced the Queen Creek County Island Fire District Board members: Rebecca Montgomery; Marion Memmott and Jeremiah Woodruff.

Ms. Montgomery presented the reasons for forming a committee after Rural Metro moved away. She said new people are becoming interested every week and explained the framework of the committee with 3 Board Members and 15 District Wardens.

Mr. Memmott explained the responsibilities of the District Wardens and the petition drive activities.

Jeremiah Woodruff discussed the promotional activities of the committee which include a website, direct mailings and social media. He discussed the benefits to the county island residents within the proposed fire district.

Assistant Fire Chief Ron Knight provided information on the affect on Queen Creek Fire Department and responding to calls within the county islands. Mr. Knight explained how automatic aid with the adjoining communities would enhance service to the county island fire district and the 911 system itself.

Council asked how many property owners were within the proposed district; how many signatures would be needed and who to contact for additional information. Response was 2400 properties with 4000 people and 50% + 1 of the owners would need to sign petitions. Mr. Knight responded that the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors or Queen Creek Fire Department could provide information.

Council commended the Board Members for being proactive and organized in their petition drive. Town Manager Kross also commented on the overall approval process begins when the Board of Supervisors gives approval to begin gathering petition signatures.

11. 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.

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12. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:00pm (Alston/Wheatley/Unanimous)

TOWN OF QUEEN CREEK

Gail Barney, 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 September 7, 2011 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 September 21, 2011.