

**QUALITY OF LIFE AD HOC COMMITTEE MINUTES
CITY OF PEORIA, ARIZONA
RIO VISTA RECREATION CENTER, LAKEVIEW ROOM
8866 WEST THUNDERBIRD ROAD, PEORIA, ARIZONA**

MAY 11, 2016

A Meeting of the Quality of Life Ad Hoc Committee of the City of Peoria, Arizona, convened at the Rio Vista Recreation Center, 8866 West Thunderbird Road, Peoria, AZ in open and public session at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Chair Former Mayor John Keegan and Committee Members Dave Allsop, Clay Allsop, John Auckland, Jack Fletcher, Robert Hall, Michael Higgins, MJ Johnson, Ken Krieger, Scott Lekan, Kim Price Olsen, Franklin Schiller, Kathy Senseman, Barry Spiegel, Gene Sweeney and Christian Williams.

Members Absent: Kirk Haines, Vice Chair; Eva Osuna, Secretary; Committee Members: Ian Dowdy, Dennis Grenier, Ron Lyzniak and Howard Openlander.

Others Present: Jeff Tyne, Deputy City Manager; Rhonda Geriminsky, City Clerk; Lisa Estrada, Economic Efficiency and Sustainability Manager; Katie Gregory, Deputy Finance and Budget Director; Chris Jacques, Planning and Community Development Director; Stuart Kent, Public Works-Utilities Director; Randy Proch, Planner; Adam Pruett, Planning Manager; Tammy Shreeve, Strategic Management Officer; John Sefton, Community Services Director; and Karen Halstead, Administrative Assistant.

Audience: Approximately six members of the public were present.

Note: The order in which items appear in the minutes is not necessarily the order in which they were discussed in the meeting.

REGULAR AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Welcome**

Chairperson Keegan welcomed the Quality of Life Committee members and outlined the meeting agenda and scope of the Committee.

2. **Minutes**

Motion was made by Committee Member Kathy Senseman, seconded by Committee Member Barry Spiegel, to approve the minutes of the Quality of Life Ad Hoc Committee meeting held on April 27, 2016. Upon vote, the motion carried unanimously.

3. **Financial Strategies**

Chairperson Keegan read aloud the recommendations of Committee Member Ian Dowdy, who was unable to attend the meeting.

Tammy Shreeve, Strategic Management Officer, discussed City financial strategies.

Katie Gregory, Deputy Finance and Budget Director, presented regarding:

- Considerations for financing high-level projects
- Long-term financing
- Operational costs
- Timing of projects

Ms. Shreeve outlined the top project interests which include:

- Open Space
- North Recreation Center at Community Park
- Trails
- North Community Center
- Aquatics
- Shade initiative

Ms. Shreeve presented regarding the City's sales tax rate as compared to neighboring cities and outlined opportunities for projects that could be implemented with a 5/10ths increase in sales tax and a 6/10ths increase in sales tax.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Library in North Peoria
- Size of libraries
- Fit versus finish – making the library big but with scaled down options
- Aquatics facility
- Opportunities for locating a new pool at a high school
- School's willingness to partner with the City for a performing arts center
- Potential intergovernmental agreements
- Opportunity for a "year-round" pool in the City
- Citywide beautification plan
- How the City compares to neighboring cities if an increase in sales tax is approved
- Length of financing
- Cost analysis of what the average person would have to pay for the increase annually

Ms. Gregory outlined the annual average tax rate burden for residents.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- Impact on operating budget
- Percentage of spending that comes from non-residents
- Timing of projects
- Process for determining project costs
- Reserve funding
- Life expectancy of buildings
- Population projection and how that was calculated into sales tax generation
- What services will be lost in a diminished library
- Beautification on collector streets
- Shade initiative
- Electric Utility Net-Metering and solar services
- Scenarios as provided with a 5/10ths percent increase in sales tax versus a 6/10ths percent increase in sales tax
- Private industry sponsorships
- Current bonding capacity
- Number of ballot measures
- Potential for a productivity center

Chairperson Keegan declared a short recess at 7:40 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Discussion continued regarding:

- Amenities in South Peoria and incentive for citizens in the south to approve a sales tax increase
- Projects south of Bell Road in the Capital Improvement Plan

4. **Project and Financial Recommendations**

Motion was made by Committee Member Kathy Senseman, seconded by Committee Member Franklin Schiller to recommend that the City Council:

- Proceed with the list of projects as provided by staff using the Base Scenario for a 6/10ths percent sales tax increase
- That the City enter into partnerships with other governmental agencies and co-locates facilities where applicable
- The City obtains voter approval and
- Includes the issue of universal accessibility as part of the project list to be completed with the sales tax increase, if approved by the voters

Discussion ensued regarding the impact on households at 5/10ths percent and 6/10ths percent.

An amended motion was made by Committee Member Kim Price Olsen, seconded by Committee Member Barry Spiegel, to include language in the initial motion that the same standards in terms of amenities be applied throughout the entire City of Peoria.

Upon vote, the amended motion passed.

An amendment to the amended motion was made by Committee Member Franklin Schiller to include the words “make every effort to maintain the same standards throughout the City”. The amendment to the amended motion was accepted by Committee Member Kim Price Olsen and Committee Member Barry Spiegel.

Upon vote, the amendment to the amended motion passed.

An amendment to the amendment to the amended motion was made by Committee Member John Auckland to include the words “at least” the same standards. The motion died for lack of a second.

The original motion, as amended, passed to recommend that the City Council:

- Proceed with the list of projects as provided by staff using the Base Scenario for a 6/10ths percent sales tax increase provided the City makes every effort to maintain the same standards throughout the City
- That the City enter into partnerships with other governmental agencies and co-locates facilities where applicable
- The City obtains voter approval and
- Includes the issue of universal accessibility as part of the project list to be completed with the sales tax increase, if approved by the voters

5. **Update on Committee Meeting Schedule**

Chairman Keegan informed that since the Quality of Life Committee finalized its recommendations to the City Council, future meetings will be cancelled.

Call to the Public (Non-Agenda Items):

Deputy Dave Ayers, Maricopa County Sheriff’s Office, presented regarding the need for Emergency Medical Services at Lake Pleasant and explained that an expanded fire station on the lake would be an asset to citizen safety.

Christine Rosales presented regarding the need for universally accessible playgrounds in the City of Peoria.

Patty Melton presented in support of a continuously staffed fire station at Lake Pleasant.

Rafaelita Evanalista (sic) requested that shade structures along bus routes be included in the list of projects to be completed with a sales tax increase.

ADJOURNMENT:

Being no further business to come before the Quality of Life Ad Hoc Committee, the meeting was duly adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Eva Osuna, Secretary

Rhonda Geriminsky, City Clerk

Date

Date