

DRAFT

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF EL MIRAGE
EL MIRAGE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
10000 N. EL MIRAGE ROAD
6:00 PM -TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2021**

Minutes

1. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Alexis Hermosillo; Councilmember Roy Delgado; Vice Mayor Monica Dorcey; Councilmember Anita Norton; Councilmember Mike Hutchinson; Councilmember David Shapera; Councilmember Donna Winston

2. CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

Pledge of Allegiance
Moment of Silence

3. PRESENTATION

1. Presentation by WESTMARC President and CEO Sintra Hoffman WESTMARC Update. (Administration)

Sintra Hoffman from WESTMARC presented an update regarding the progress of WESTMARC as they reach year 3 of the 5-year strategic plan for West Valley growth. WESTMARC is a public/private partnership of 15 West Valley communities, businesses and educational organizations.

4. PROCLAMATION

1. Consideration and action to declare October 3-9, 2021 as Fire Prevention Week in the City of El Mirage. (Fire)

Fire Chief Long presented and stated the National Fire Prevention Association announced the theme for Fire Prevention Week (October 3-9, 2021) as "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety." The theme highlights understanding the reasons smoke alarms and sounds provide the know-how to effectively be safe in homes and communities. **Councilmember Shapera** asked if there was a program still available that provided smoke detectors to residents. Chief Long stated that program had been on hold due to the pandemic, and they would be bringing it back soon.

Mayor Hermosillo proclaimed the week of October 3-9, 2021, as *Fire Prevention Week* in the City of El Mirage.

5. **CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

Citizens desiring to speak on any issue within the jurisdiction of the public body may do so at this time. Comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes per person and shall be addressed to the City Council as a whole. At the conclusion of the Call to the Public, individual City Council Members may (1) respond to criticism made by those who have spoken, (2) direct staff to review or follow up on the matter, and/or (3) direct that the matter be put on a future agenda.

No public comments were received.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

All items listed under the Consent Agenda will be voted on with one motion. If discussion is desired regarding any Consent Agenda Item, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and voted on separately.

1. Consideration and action to approve the minutes of the Work Session and Regular Council meeting held Thursday, September 9, 2021. (City Clerk)
2. Consideration and action to purchase one unmarked replacement vehicle at a total cost of \$35,722.33 from Larry H. Miller Toyota Peoria under State Contract number ADSPO17-166119. (Police)
3. Consideration and action to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and enter into a Police Study Agreement with the Center for Public Safety Management LLC (CPSM) in an amount not to exceed \$57,500, billable in three installments (40% at signing, 40% upon delivery of data analysis draft and 20% upon delivery of final report). (Police)
4. Consideration and action to rescind the 2008 City of El Mirage Personnel Policy Manual and all revisions made by resolution and approve R21-09-23 which adopts the City of El Mirage Employee Policy Manual, dated September 21, 2021. (Human Resources)
5. Authorize a budget transfer from 111-5-1531-311 Professional Services to 111-5-2511-121 Cancer Insurance in the amount of \$93,000. (Finance)

Vice Mayor Dorcey moved to approve Consent Agenda items 1-5 as presented; seconded by Councilmember Shapera.

Vote: 7 - 0 Passed - Unanimously

7. **REGULAR AGENDA**

1. Discussion and possible action to fund the hire of a new sworn Police Officer position, K-9, vehicle and other necessary training and equipment. (Administration)

City Manager Crystal Dyches presented information provided by the Public Safety Sub-Committee regarding the funding of a sworn police officer, K-9, vehicle and necessary equipment. The purchase would be at a prorated cost of \$177,980 for 2021.

Councilmember Shapera stated that this request is the acceleration of an item from next year's CIP list. With the current situations in the city regarding criminal activities, the Public Safety

Sub-Committee believes this item is beneficial to the community. **Councilmember Winston** verified that some of the funding is for one-time expenses. **Councilmember Hutchinson** believes another K-9 officer would benefit the city.

Vice Mayor Dorcey stated that this is not entirely a one-time cost and this item was previously discussed in detail during the recent budget work sessions for 2021-2022. At the time of that discussion this item was determined to be an expense for 2022-2023. She does not believe this purchase is good fiscal management. **Councilmember Delgado** stated he believes this addition is necessary based on current events. **Councilmember Norton** asked for specifics on crime statistics and overtime costs related to only having one K-9. Police Chief Marzocca provided statistics on the requested items and noted the information was from April of 2020 through April of 2021.

Mayor Hermosillo stated that she would like to see the funds spent conservatively, but she has seen the recent reports of increased criminal activity and will support this item to provide safety for the community.

Councilmember Shapera moved to approve funding the hire of a new sworn Police Officer position, K-9, vehicle and other necessary training and equipment. (Administration); seconded by Councilmember Hutchinson.

Vote: 6 - 1 Passed

NAY: Vice Mayor Monica Dorcey

2. Consideration and action to fund the hire of an additional sworn Police Officer. (Administration)

City Manager Dyches presented the recommendation from the Public Safety Sub-committee regarding the funding of an additional sworn officer.

Councilmember Shapera explained that community outreach is needed in El Mirage to combat criminal activities. The committee believes public outreach works to prevent crime and this position would fill that need. **Councilmember Norton** asked if this officer would go to schools and **Councilmember Shapera** answered yes; Chief Marzocca has advised that this position would be trained to provide school outreach. **Councilmember Norton** asked if the officer would be available for emergency calls as well and Chief Marzocca stated yes. **Councilmember Winston** stated the officer would also act as a liaison in the community for domestic violence and abuse. **Councilmember Norton** asked if the position would be a new hire or an internal candidate. Chief Marzocca answered the position would be filled internally.

Vice Mayor Dorcey moved to approve funding the hire of an additional sworn Police Officer. (Administration); seconded by Councilmember Delgado.

Vote: 7 - 0 Passed - Unanimously

3. Consideration and action to fund the hire of a Fire Program Specialist position. (Administration)

City Manager Dyches presented information provided by the Public Safety Sub-committee recommending the addition of a Fire Program Specialist position. **Councilmember Shapera** noted the many opportunities for fire personnel to educate the community on safety. **Councilmember Winston** stated this position would assist with emergency management issues, trainings, and act as a liaison between communities.

Councilmember Norton asked Fire Chief Long if he has had this type of employee in his past departments. Chief Long stated yes, he has experience with this type of position and noted the

public will benefit from the additional public outreach this position would provide. **Mayor Hermosillo** stated she is a big supporter of public outreach. **Councilmember Delgado** stated he had experience with this type of liaison in previous communities, and they were very appreciated.

Vice Mayor Dorsey moved to approve funding the hire of a Fire Program Specialist position. (Administration); seconded by Councilmember Norton.

Vote: 7 - 0 Passed - Unanimously

8. CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS & SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

The City Council may not act upon any matter in the City Manager's summary but may have general comment or questions.

City Manager Dyches thanked Council for taking part in the work session on 9.20.2021, and she appreciates the support of the Council.

9. MAYOR'S COMMENTS and COUNCIL SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS

The Mayor and City Council may not discuss or act upon any matter in the summary unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

Mayor Hermosillo wished a happy birthday to Councilmember Hutchinson.

10. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 7:18pm.

Alexis A. Hermosillo, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sharon Antes, City Clerk

I hereby certify the aforementioned minutes are a true and accurate record of the Regular El Mirage City Council Meeting held on Tuesday, September 21, 2021, and a quorum was present.

Sharon Antes, City Clerk