

# 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, OCTOBER 1, 2024**

**Minutes**

**1. ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Alexis Herмосillo; Vice Mayor David Shapera; Councilmember Roy Delgado; Councilmember Monica Dorcey; Councilmember Bob Jones; Councilmember Anita Norton; Councilmember Donna Winston

**2. CALL TO ORDER - MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:00 PM**

Pledge of Allegiance  
Moment of Silence

**3. PRESENTATION**

**1. City Council's Award for Employee Excellence**

Mayor Herмосillo announced Salvador "Ray" Montes, the community Resource Officer, as the winner of the first City Council Award for Excellence. Mayor Herмосillo introduced a short video showcasing Officer Montes' incredible service to the community. The award was presented to Officer Montes and pictures were taken with Council, staff and family members.

**4. PROCLAMATION**

**1. Proclamation to recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month October 2024 (Police).**

Police Chief Paul Marzocca provided background information on domestic violence statistics and introduced Councilmember Norton who also provided information regarding domestic violence prevention.

Mayor Herмосillo proclaimed October 2024 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

**2. Proclamation to recognize October 2024 as National Cybersecurity Awareness Month. (Information Technology)**

Information Technology Director Tom Bacome provided background information on National Cybersecurity Awareness Month.

Mayor Herмосillo proclaimed October 2024 as National Cybersecurity Awareness Month.

3. Proclamation to declare October 6-12, 2024 as Fire Prevention Week in the City of El Mirage. (Fire)

Fire Marshall Napier provided background information on Fire Prevention Week and introduced the Fire Department mascot Sparky.

Mayor Hermosillo declared October 6-12, 2024, 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.

Resident Steve Gilliam stated he would like to see a change in allowing residents to clap during meetings if they feel something is said or done to warrant applause. Mr. Gilliam stated it would be good to recognize staff and citizens with applause.

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 Regular Council meeting held Tuesday, September 17, 2024. (City Clerk)
2. Consideration and action to approve the destruction of municipal documents that have reached the end of their retention period as authorized under A.R.S. § 41 -15I.19. (City Clerk)
3. Consideration and action to approve the destruction of municipal documents that have reached the end of their retention period as authorized under A.R.S. §41-151.19. (Police Department)

Vice Mayor Shapera moved to approve Consent Agenda items 1-3 as presented; seconded by Councilmember Dorcey.

**Vote:** 7 - 0 Passed - Unanimously

7. **REGULAR AGENDA**

1. A public hearing, closure of public hearing followed by a discussion and action on a conditional use permit for indoor self-storage in an Urban Corridor zone and building configuration in the Thunderbird Road Overlay District, and site plan approval located on Thunderbird Road and 126<sup>th</sup> Avenue in El Mirage AZ 85335 submitted by Withey Morris Baugh. (Development Services - Planning & Zoning)

Mayor Hermosillo opened the Public Hearing.

Senior Planner Jose Macias presented background information on the item. Consultant John Hartman also provided a brief presentation on the project and introduced Teale Bloom, the Commercial Advisor. Resident Thomas George asked if there would be security on-site and how the traffic signal

on 126th would affect traffic in the area.

**Vice Mayor Shapera** asked why runoff water was being collected in containers on-site rather than using the nearby wash. City Engineer Jorge Gastelum stated it is a Maricopa County requirement to contain the runoff water to prevent contamination. **Councilmember Dorcey** asked if approved, would the marketing for retail begin immediately and Ms. Bloom answered yes. **Councilmember Norton** asked for clarification on the use proposed for the far west parcel and Mr. Hamilton stated the site plan is conceptual at this point, and they are thinking retail use as well as food related. **Councilmember Winston** stated security is a concern for the site and wanted to know what type of security would be used other than cameras. Mr. Hamilton stated the storage area would be gated with customer access only between 6:00 am and 10:00 pm.

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Hermosillo closed the Public Hearing.

**Vice Mayor Shapera** stated this project is well-thought-out and the additional traffic signal in the area would help with traffic. **Councilmember Dorcey** stated she likes the concept and it shows creativity. **Councilmember Norton** stated she likes the plan and the fact that commercial advisors are involved. **Councilmember Jones** stated the presentations were outstanding and that he liked the layout. **Councilmember Winston** agreed with the previous comments and stated she also liked the layout. **Mayor Hermosillo** stated she also agreed with the previous comments.

Vice Mayor Shapera moved to approve a conditional use permit and a site plan for an indoor self-storage located in the Thunderbird Road Overlay District, as presented; seconded by Councilmember Norton.

**Vote:** 7 - 0 Passed - Unanimously

2. A discussion and action on a site plan application for a restaurant with a drive-through facility at the intersection of Grand Ave and Acoma Drive in El Mirage, AZ 85335, submitted by Helix Engineering, LLC. (Development Services - Planning and Zoning)

Senior Planner Jose Macias provided information on the site plan application. **Mayor Hermosillo** stated she is very excited about this project. **Vice Mayor Shapera** asked if a large sign was going to be installed and Mr. Macias stated there was only a small sign proposed at this time. **Vice Mayor Shapera** stated a bigger sign would attract more traffic from Grand Avenue. He also stated it is not up to the City to decide if public restrooms will be available at the site and that this is a good project for the City. **Councilmember Norton** asked if the landscaping was more than the City requirements and Mr. Macias answered yes. **Councilmember Norton** encouraged the developer to cut back on the number of plants in order to conserve water. **Vice Mayor Shapera** agreed with **Councilmember Norton** on reducing the number of plants.

Vice Mayor Shapera moved to approve a site plan application for a restaurant with a drive-through facility at the intersection of Grand Avenue and Acoma Drive, as presented; seconded by Councilmember Dorcey.

**Vote:** 7 - 0 Passed - Unanimously

3. Consideration and action to approve the 60-day no-cost Trial Agreement with Axon for their Draft One product (Police).

Assistant Police Chief Doug Hildebrandt provided information on the Draft One product and showed a brief video demonstrating the product. **Councilmember Dorcey** asked how they would prevent officers from being distracted by on-vehicle computers and Chief Hildebrandt said the reports generated by the product would reduce the need for paperwork. **Councilmember Dorcey** stated there

needs to be a policy in place that prevents proofreading and report writing from being done in vehicles. Chief Hildebrandt stated there is no proofreading or report writing while the vehicles are in motion. **Vice Mayor Shapera** stated this sounds like an excellent item for the department.

**Councilmember Delgado** stated he is glad they are acquiring this system, and it looks like a great time-saver. **Councilmember Norton** asked if other nearby departments were currently using this system and Chief Hildebrandt stated it is currently in use in Buckeye, and it is getting good reviews.

**Councilmember Norton** asked if the information recorded by the system is protected and Chief Hildebrandt stated Axon is only the provider of the service, and they do not have access to the information. **Councilmember Jones** stated crime is lowered when police vehicles are parked near city parks. He also said this product would save officers a lot of time.

Mayor Hermosillo moved to approve the 60-day no-cost Trial Agreement with Axon for their Draft One product, as presented; seconded by Vice Mayor Shapera.

**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 had no comments.

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.

**Councilmember Dorcey** thanked the staff who helped with the Fiesta De La Gente event on Friday, and she is looking forward to the upcoming events. **Councilmember Norton** stated the event brought a lot of people to the domestic violence awareness booth, and she thanked Councilmembers-elect Eldridge and Gentry for their assistance. **Councilmember Norton** then stated there would be a celebration of life event at the Firehouse Event Center, 8307 W. Washington, to honor Thomas Russel Christmas, Jr., a firefighter who had previously worked for the El Mirage Fire Department from 1996 to 2012. **Mayor Hermosillo** stated the Fiesta De La Gente event was very fun, and she thanked everyone involved for making it possible.

10. **ADJOURNMENT - MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:30 PM**

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Alexis A. Hermosillo, Mayor

ATTEST:

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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, October 1, 2024, and a quorum was present.

  
Sharon Antes, City Clerk