



Minutes Tempe City Council Summit August 15, 2008

Minutes of the Council Summit held on Friday, August 15, 2008, beginning with a 12:00 noon luncheon at the University Club, North Room, 2nd Floor, 425 E. University Drive, Tempe, Arizona.

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor Hugh Hallman
Vice Mayor Shana Ellis
Councilmember P Ben Arredondo
Councilmember Mark W. Mitchell
Councilmember Joel Navarro
Councilmember Onnie Shekerjian
Councilmember Cory Woods

STAFF PRESENT:

City Manager Charles Meyer
Assistant City Manager Jeff Kulaga
Mayor's Chief of Staff Mike Crusa
Community Relations Manager Shelley Hearn
City Clerk, Jan Hort
City Department Heads

GUESTS PRESENT:

Jim Svara, Professor in the School of Public Affairs, ASU, Director of the Center for Urban Innovation

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Hallman at 12:30 p.m.

Expected Summit Outcomes and Top Issues of Importance

Expected outcomes included:

- Committee assignments
- Objectives (measurable)
- Goals
- Building a team (supporting one another)
- Staff cross connections (w/o intimidation)

Topics of importance included:

- Economic development
- City schools relationships
- Downtown – interdependence
- Budget Process
- Special Events
- Interdepartmental services to constituents

Discussions were further held with Council as well as department heads as to Tempe and its constituents' needs and goals as follows:

Economic Development

- Sustainability
- How to position Tempe for an upturn in the economy
- Mill and Lake district
- Neighborhood strip centers
- Gateways
- Business development (i.e., nanotech, high-tech, tourism, biotech, solar, museum, youth)
- Tourism (amateur and professional sports, youth, executives)

Affordable Housing

- Diversity of housing
- Foreclosures
 - Supporting services
 - New entrants
- New Resources (i.e., Federal)
- Tools to finance
- Trust Fund – (who, how)

Community Appearance and Safety

- Arterials/Landscaping
- Business Neighborhoods/Community Partners
 - Neighborhood supportive services & goals
- Appearance
 - Code enforcement
 - Households
 - Incentives
 - House maintenance
 - Communications
 - Follow-up on prior landscape plans submitted
- Look at Downtown Project for Public Spaces (PPS) study and where it fits

Recycling Sustainability

- Households/Apartments
- Business

- Types (i.e., plastic bags)
- Going Green
 - Building, recycle, energy, cleaning products
- Water Conservation

Communications

- Resident/Business constituents
- Marketing
- Approach to success
 - Create ways to react to challenges
 - Proactive opportunities (maintain successes while seeking new opportunities)

Arts & Culture

- Parks
 - Neighborhoods
 - Regional
 - Multi-city
- Historic preservation (i.e., O'Connor House)
- Facilities

Mill & Lake District (Downtown and Lake)

- Parking
- Transportation (i.e., Orbit, maintenance infrastructure, light rail, bike paths, canals, pedestrians, bicycles)
- Marketing

City Operations/Intra-City Needs

- Space planning
- OPEB
- Long range financial planning
- Hiring
- Contractors/part-time

Discussions were held by Council regarding the committee approach. A sample approach was illustrated as follows:

- Topic: Community Appearance & Safety
 - Issue: Code Enforcement
 - Goals: Residential
 - Continuity of Standards
 - Uniformity
 - Fairly
 - Equally
 - Objective: Selective Enforcement

- Achievable/appropriate standards
- Measurements

It was decided that a cross departmental approach be used and Council Committees be responsible for providing a summary at next year's Council Summit. A partnership process with the Community, Staff, and Board and Commissions would be undertaken by each Committee to assist in meeting objectives with measurable goals.

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Break at 3:00 p.m.
Reconvened at 3:10 p.m.
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City Code of Ethics Presentation; Present Model for City Code of Ethics and Discussion of Alternatives

Jim Svvara, Professor in the School of Public Affairs at ASU, presented on developing a code of ethics for public bodies.

He contended that the following questions must be expressed for each dimension of ethics which include: duties, virtues, principles, and benefits to society.

- What are the expectations of persons holding public offices? (duties)
- What are the qualities of a good person? (virtue)
- What is the right thing to do (principle)
- What is the beneficial action to take? (consequences)

Two approaches can be taken to develop a code of ethics – 1) prevent unethical behavior, or, 2) encourage ethical behavior.

Options in promoting ethics include a non-code approach, enacted ethics codes or laws, or a single code for officials and employees or a separate code. The city currently has a City Personnel Rules and the City Charter, Arizona Revised Statutes and Arizona Constitution provides for general regulations and laws.

Mr. Svvara maintains that the way that the code is developed is more important than its contents. It would be wise to look for what adds to the organization and the state laws. Members should be involved in its creation with periodically repeat general discussions of what the code is and what it means.

Councilmembers Shekerjian and Ellis were tasked with working with the City Manager to develop a process. An additional new Councilmember will be named to assist in the process as well. Communication (team building) training should be part of the process of creating a code of ethics.

Wrap-up

Mayor Hallman asked that Councilmembers brainstorm topics that may have been missed and priorities for tomorrow's discussions. Some issues that were not yet discussed included:

- Transportation and commuter rail
- Aviation (i.e., support of Williams Gateway)
- Freeway expansion
- Homelessness
- Human services
- Recreation facilities
- Education partnerships
- Construction/Streets
- Customer service – communications
- ASU
 - Coordination: police, development, infrastructure (easements), sales tax

The Council Summit was adjourned at 5:00 p.m. and will resume Saturday August 16, 2008, at 8:00 a.m. as posted.

Jan Hort
City Clerk