

PRESCOTT CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR VOTING MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2009
PRESCOTT, ARIZONA

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR VOTING MEETING OF THE PRESCOTT CITY COUNCIL held on TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2009 in the COUNCIL CHAMBERS located at CITY HALL, 201 SOUTH CORTEZ STREET, Prescott, Arizona.

◆ **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Wilson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

◆ **INTRODUCTIONS**

◆ **INVOCATION:** Pastor John Perry, Alliance Bible Church

Pastor Perry gave the invocation.

◆ **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Councilman Bell

Councilman Bell led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

◆ **ROLL CALL:**

Present:

Absent:

Mayor Wilson
Councilman Bell
Councilman Lamerson
Councilwoman Lopas
Councilman Luzius
Councilman Roecker
Councilwoman Suttles

None

◆ **SUMMARY OF CURRENT OR RECENT EVENTS**

Mayor Wilson updated the public regarding the efforts of the City under the Economic Stimulus program. He said that he and staff have made valiant efforts and sent a lot of letters, but have gotten very little payback. They are seeing the large voting blocks in Maricopa and Pima County taking most of the money. He said that there will be a small amount through CDBG funds that will be used in the Dexter Neighborhood, but any major projects will need to be handled by the City itself.

Mayor Wilson reported that he would be speaking on Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m. to the Citizens Water Advocacy Group (CWAG) at the Granite Peak Unitarian Universal Congregation, 882 Sunset, and he encouraged all of the citizens to come out to the meeting.

Mr. Norwood said that last week they set another attendance mark in the Library with nearly 2,000 patrons go through the Library in one day. Also, he wished Councilwoman Lopas a happy birthday.

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Lisa Barnes re the upcoming Complete Streets Town Hall.

Lisa Barnes, said that she was there to remind everyone and emphasize the importance of everyone attending the upcoming Complete Streets Town Hall on March 26, at 6:00 p.m. at the Prescott College Crossroads Center, being hosted by Prescott Alternative Transportation. She thought it was very telling that she was on the agenda at the same meeting where they are continuing the discussion about transit because the City's transportation system is incomplete as it does not adequately accommodate all modes of travel and does not serve the needs of all of the residents.

She said that at the Complete Streets Town Hall four panelists will discuss issues surrounding the problem—the costs, risks and benefits of completing the streets for walking, bicycling, transit and private vehicle, and for maintaining the current car-centered model of transportation planning. The intent of the event is true community dialogue. There will be a full hour dedicated to audience questions. Everyone is affected by transportation and it impacts their quality of life as residents and contributes to the ambiance of the City. She said that transportation impacts their environment, their pocketbooks and their health. They will discuss in particular one solution to fixing the system, adoption of a Complete Streets Policy requiring all new street construction and reconstruction projects must adequately accommodate all travel modes.

She said that the importance of and desire for streets that are multimodal was illustrated by the large number of votes given to the recommendations for both a complete streets policy and a comprehensive transit system at last month's Vision 2050 public open house. ADOT's *Building a Quality Arizona* transportation framework studies also indicate a strong preference for multimodal transportation network statewide, and a recommendation for a statewide Complete Streets Policy came out of the Arizona Transportation Reauthorization Summit.

She said that Prescott's Chamber of Commerce recognizes the value of dialogue that will take place at the Complete Streets Town Hall as they are one of the event's sponsors, along with Prescott College, Hotel St. Michael and EMI Printworks. She said that they hope to see all Council members there and she invited residents to attend as well.

II. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Presentation by Prescott Police Department re the Yavapai County Community Foundation (YCCF).

Police Chief Randy Oaks said that he wanted to give some information about smaller grants the Police Department have received, in particular with the canine program. The Yavapai County Community Foundation (YCCF) provided two grants the department last year. One was in August and they are looking forward to hosting training this coming April 6-10 for all agencies in Yavapai County that have police dogs. One of the mission statements of the department is to be a leader in the region for providing law enforcement services, and one of the objectives to accomplish that is to provide training for other agencies in the region. He said that it was because of a grant received for \$8,744 that they will be able to fulfill that objective.

Chief Oaks said that in July of last year a smaller grant, but very important one, in the amount of \$1,393 was received, and was used to purchase a new bite suit for canine training.

Kristi Edwards, speaking on behalf of YCCF, gave a brief background the foundation. She said that Janet Konnig created the law enforcement canine fund. She had worked for the City of San Francisco and then Los Angeles in their retirement system as an investment counselor. She moved to Prescott in 1981 to retire. She loved bridge and golf, but mostly she like to listen to the police scanner and wanted to hear about the heroic police dogs and search and rescue dogs.

She said that Ms. Konnig got her aside because the YCCF were the endowment people and told her that when she passed on she would leave \$1/2 million to create the fund for law enforcement dogs. With the foundation, if a gift is made to them, it is made in perpetuity because the principal is not touched, just the interest is distributed. Sadly, at 77 she had a very fast cancer and passed away in four months. She did leave the YCCF over \$1/2 million from which they created an endowment fund to support the canine dogs.

She said that they are very proud of the fund, and very proud to be a funding partner of the Prescott Police Department.

- B. Presentation by Dave Maurer, Executive Director of the Prescott Chamber of Commerce, re the Chamber Jobs Program.

Greg Sober, 8 Cienega Drive, Chairman of the Prescott Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, thanked the Council for the opportunity to

present the Chamber's "Putting Prescott Back to Work" proposal. He said that when Prescott and the quad City area is prospering they all benefit through employment, purchased transactions and sales tax collections. He said that today their members are battling to survive and this year the Chamber is offering special programming to assist members in dealing with the downturn. He said the success of each business is in the hands of the business owner; however whether the local business environment encourages or discourages business activity depends in large part on the policies and procedures advocated by the Council.

Mr. Maurer then reviewed the four points of their proposal. He said that this is an opportunity for the Chamber and City to say they want business here and jobs created here by:

1. Doing business locally.
2. Referring to the voters continuance of the 1% sales tax dedicated to streets/roads.
3. Deferring implementation of the business license.
4. Deferring implementation of the impact fees. Recently the Council, on a 4/3 vote, imposed new water and wastewater impact fees that will be going into effect in July. He said that it is not the time to be raising fees and they are suggesting that those impact fees and future discussions of new fees be deferred to later.

Mr. Maurer said that he recently received a letter from a nonmember of the Chamber stating that they had been sitting on a project waiting for the economy to get better. It was for new offices for he and his staff, as well as a medical plaza, consisting of 16,000 sq. ft. He told Mr. Maurer that if the impact fees were waived as an incentive, that would spur him on to do his project.

Councilwoman Suttles asked the Mayor and Council if they could take those recommendations and do something with them. Mayor Wilson said that they would need to be placed on a future agenda for actual discussion and consideration. Councilwoman Suttles asked that it be placed on an agenda for sometime next month. Councilman Lamerson said that he agreed and would like to see it on the agenda.

Councilman Roecker asked Mr. Maurer how many members they had, and also how many businesses there were in Prescott. Mr. Maurer said that they have just over 1,000 members and they are not sure of the numbers of businesses as the City does not have a current business license. Ms. Bristol said that they think the number is around 3,000.

- C Presentation by the Prescott Police Department on Crime Stats Year-End Report.

Chief Oaks gave the presentation on crime stats, which addressed the following:

- ▶ 33% Reduction (overall)
- ▶ Part 2 Offenses – 16% reduction
- ▶ Part 2 Offenses – Last Year Comparison
- ▶ Comparison with Other Cities
- ▶ Why the Sharp Decline?
- ▶ Enforcement Focus
- ▶ What Are We Doing?
- ▶ What Else Can We Do?
- ▶ 10-Year Overview

III. **CONSENT AGENDA**

CONSENT ITEMS A THROUGH I LISTED BELOW MAY BE ENACTED BY ONE MOTION. ANY ITEM MAY BE REMOVED AND DISCUSSED IF A COUNCILMEMBER SO REQUESTS.

COUNCILWOMAN SUTTLES MOVED TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS III-A THROUGH III-I; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN ROECKER; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- A. Award a contract for construction of the East Gurley Street Water Services Installation and Main Line Stub Out Project to T & H Construction in the amount of \$101,569.31.
- B. Approve a professional services agreement with Shephard-Wesnitzer, Inc., to provide engineering and design services for the Old North Reservoir Replacement Project in an amount not to exceed \$342,624.00.
- C. Adopt Resolution No. 3939-0945 – A resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Prescott, Yavapai County, Arizona, authorizing the City of Prescott to enter into an Assignment Agreement pertaining to the Agreement

for Potable Water #WSA07-015, Storm Ranch Middle Parcel, with RHP Investments, LLC, thereby assigning the rights and obligations under the existing agreement to SLF III – AZ Storm Ranch, LLC, and authorizing the Mayor and staff to take any and all steps necessary to accomplish the above.

- D. Approve Final Plat (FP08-007) for Mystic Hills, A Planned Area Development comprising 4 lots on 5.5 acres located west of Downer Trail and south of Iron Springs Rd, Applicant/Owner: Bryan Tucker, APN: 115-10-026A, Zoning is SF-35.
- E. Approve Revision of Plat for Lot 3 Prescott Lakes Commerce Center, Creating Four Office and Six Warehouse Condominiums (Existing Structures).
- F. Water Conservation Program changes and initiatives.
 - 1. Adopt Ordinance No. 4691-0934 – An ordinance of the Mayor and Council of the City of Prescott, Yavapai County, Arizona, amending Title III, Chapter 10 of the Prescott City Code by revising Section 8 thereto entitled “Incentive Program”.
 - 2. Authorize use of budgeted water reduction demonstration project funding for the retrofit of plumbing fixtures at the Grace Sparks Activity Center, and landscape modifications within the public right-of-way at Miller Valley Elementary School.
 - 3. Authorize solicitation of proposals for implementation of WaterSmart landscaping of Memorial Park as a design competition.
- G. Approve contract for airport property appraisal services with Southwest Appraisal Associates, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.00.
- H. WIFA Financing Resolutions:
 - 1. Adopt Resolution No. 3938-0944 – A resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Prescott, Yavapai County, Arizona, to authorize the application for a Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan from the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA). (North Prescott Regional Force Main)
 - 2. Adopt Resolution No. 3940-0946 – A resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Prescott, Yavapai County, Arizona, to authorize the application for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan from the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA). (Zone 39 Water Mains & Pump Station)

3. Adopt Resolution No. 3941-0947 – A resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Prescott, Yavapai County, Arizona, to authorize the application for a Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan from the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA). (Airport Centrifuge)
 4. Adopt Resolution No. 3942-0948 – A resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Prescott, Yavapai County, Arizona, to authorize the application for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan from the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA). (Airport Zone N and S Loops Water Mains)
 5. Adopt Resolution No. 3943-0949 – A resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Prescott, Yavapai County, Arizona, to authorize the application for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan from the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA). (Intermediate pump Stations & Reservoir)
 6. Adopt Resolution No. 3944-0950 – A resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Prescott, Yavapai County, Arizona, to authorize the application for a Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan from the Water Infrastructure Finance Authority of Arizona (WIFA). (WWTP Plants Plan and Design)
- I. Approve the Minutes of the Prescott City Council Special Meeting/Study Session of February 3, 2009 (amended from previously approved on February 24, 2009), the Study Session of February 17, 2009, and the Regular Voting Meeting of February 24, 2009.

IV. REGULAR AGENDA

- A. Public Hearing and consideration of a liquor license application from Nicholas Patrick Agar, Applicant for Mama Edda's Gourmet Pizza, for a Series 12, *Restaurant*, license for Mama Edda's Gourmet Pizza located at 221 North Cortez.

Ms. Burke briefly reviewed the application submitted. It was noted that the applicant was not in attendance.

COUNCILWOMAN SUTTLES MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LAMERSON; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCILMAN LAMERSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY NICHOLAS PATRICK AGAR, APPLICANT FOR MAMA EDDA'S GOURMET PIZZA, FOR A

SERIES 12, RESTAURANT, LICENSE FOR MAMA EDDA'S GOURMET PIZZA LOCATED AT 221 NORTH CORTEZ; SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN LOPAS; PASSED 5-2 WITH COUNCILWOMAN SUTTLES AND COUNCILMAN LUZIUS CASTING THE DISSENTING VOTES.

- B. Public Hearing and consideration of a liquor license application from Lawrence Angel Hernandez, Applicant for L&L Chuy Distributing, for a Series 4, *Wholesaler*, license for L&L Chuy located at 565 EZ Street Suite C-3.

Ms. Burke briefly reviewed the application submitted. It was noted that the applicant was in attendance.

COUNCILMAN LAMERSON MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING; SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN SUTTLES; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCILWOMAN LOPAS MOVED TO APPROVE THE LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY LAWRENCE ANGEL HERNANDEZ, APPLICANT FOR L&L CHUY DISTRIBUTING, FOR A SERIES 4, WHOLESALER, LICENSE FOR L&L CHUY LOCATED AT 565 EZ STREET, SUITE C-3; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LAMERSON; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- C. Public Hearing and consideration of a liquor license application from Keri Hansen, Agent/Applicant for Sweettart, LLC, for a Series 12, Restaurant, license for Sweettart located at 123 North Cortez Street.

Ms. Burke briefly reviewed the application submitted. It was noted that the applicant was in attendance.

COUNCILWOMAN SUTTLES MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LAMERSON; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

COUNCILMAN BELL MOVED TO APPROVE THE LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY KERI HANSEN, APPLICANT FOR SWEETTART, LLC, FOR A SERIES 12, RESTAURANT, LICENSE FOR SWEETTART LOCATED AT 123 NORTH CORTEZ STREET; SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN SUTTLES; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- D. Appointment of member to the Advisory & Appeals Board.

Mayor Wilson said that another vacancy had become available on the Advisory & Appeals Board and the Council Appointment Committee was recommending that Marty Goodman fill the position.

MAYOR WILSON MOVED TO ACCEPT THE COUNCIL APPOINTMENT COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION TO APPOINT MARTY GOODMAN TO THE ADVISORY & APPEALS BOARD, TERM TO EXPIRE FEBRUARY 2011; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LAMERSON; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- E. Approval of an agreement with Prescott Community Access Channel.

Mr. Norwood said that staff had cleaned up both Version 1 and Version 2 of the agreement(s). Mayor Wilson said that paragraph 2A is the only difference—one is for a flat \$82,000 per year and the other is for 25% of revenues, up to \$82,000.

MAYOR WILSON MOVED TO APPROVE VERSION 1 OF THE AGREEMENT WITH PRESCOTT COMMUNITY ACCESS CHANNEL; SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LAMERSON; PASSED 4-3 WITH COUNCILWOMEN LOPAS AND SUTTLES, AND COUNCILMAN ROECKER CASTING THE DISSENTING VOTES.

- F. Approval of letter to Central Yavapai Metropolitan Planning Organization (CYMPO) regarding transit implementation.

Mr. McConnell briefly reviewed the request by CYMPO to respond to a survey for the purpose of indicating transit implementation preferences. He said that based on the discussions at last week's meeting a question was raised as to whether the service could be discontinued once it was started. He said that he had provided a memo to the Council, but the answer was yes. He said that if there are federal monies involved it would be on a grant basis with respect to operation of the system. If the system was discontinued then they would not apply for any of those grants. He said that there are grants available for capital and the salvage value would be gathered and returned to the FTA.

He said that the second item was a draft letter in the packet. He said that it was originally an outline to be sent to the CYMPO Executive Board, with the middle of it blank. He said that it has now been provided with a suggested response, which he then reviewed. He said that the recommendations were based on Council and public comment and had been drafted for consideration and further public input today. He said that it was the Council's prerogative to change any part of it, but it was developed observing the fiscal realities facing the City now. The letter addressed:

1. A regional approach to developing transit services.
2. Implementation of the Enhanced Voucher Program
3. Securing a New Funding Source
4. Constraining the Enhanced voucher Program by State LTAF II distributions.
5. Pursuit of Legislation
6. Creation/filling of a Transit Administrator

Councilman Roecker asked if he understood correctly that if implementation of the enhanced voucher program accepts LTAF funds, then the means testing for use of the vouchers would go away. Mr. McConnell said that if they use federal money, then anyone can use it; it has to be open up to the general public.

Councilman Luzius said that although he agrees with the regional approach for transportation, if the other jurisdictions did not go along with it, he did not see why Prescott's citizens should be penalized, so he would like to see it regardless of whether or not there was a regional approach.

Councilman Luzius said that he also agreed with pursuit of legislation by CYMPO and that they need to obtain a transit administrator and address the governance portion as it would cost the City very little.

He said that he has read the memo from Lindsay Bell and when Council comments are over he would like her to have the ability to address the Council.

Councilwoman Lopas said that she agrees with the bullet points at the bare minimum. She said that they need transit as they have an elderly population, and she has heard so many stories of not being able to take a job because they could not get to work. She wants to see transportation and she thinks that if they go to the voters that they would hold money out for it. She said that she does want this included in the polling questions and wants to know if what she is hearing is the general feeling of the public. She said that she will not vote against the letter, but it is not as strong as she would like to see.

Mayor Wilson asked if there has been any contact with legislators to champion the legislation referenced in #5. Mr. McConnell said that there is a bill introduced for this session by Yuma County pertaining to a

transportation authority, but it is not the vehicle they are going for. They do not have a champion as yet.

Councilman Lamerson said that they just had the Chamber before them talking about the need to help workers. He has often been in support of helping those that are unable to help themselves. There are certain things there that enable a compromise as to who this is intended to help. He does not support helping those that do not want to help themselves. He said that if the suggestion is that if the federal money allows anyone, he does not support helping those that do not help themselves.

Lindsay Bell, 368 Dogwood Lane, said that she appreciated the effort that the Council has gone through to develop the list, but she does have some issues with the points. She said that she was in full agreement with the regional approach as it makes the most sense and most effective use of resources. She also thinks they should move forward with the advanced voucher program. She also supports getting a new fund source.

Ms. Bell said that she has a problem with the last three points. She said that the current LTAF II funds are sufficient to fund all of the pieces (administrator, governance, structure) by redirecting those funds and enabling them to leverage federal funding.

Mayor Wilson said that he was concerned with the LTAF II funds as they may not have them in the next few months. Ms. Bell said that even with the remaining LTAF II funds, if they could be redirected, it would provide for at least a year's worth of money to do all of those things.

Mayor Wilson asked what would happen to the voucher recipients if the funds were redirected. Ms. Bell said that they would be distributed through CYMPO. She said that they would have to comply with the federal regulations, but they would have a large expansion of the voucher system. It would have to be expanded to the general public, but 100% of the LTAF II funds are allowable for use with the federal transit monies.

Councilwoman Lopas said that they have a letter from Norm Davis, Public Works Director of Prescott Valley, from which she read a sentence, "*The Town understands that current LTAF II funding can be used as the 50% local match to draw FAT503 funds for transit operations.*" She asked Ms. Bell if that was what she was talking about. Ms. Bell said that was correct; she said that there are different match percentages. For planning purposes the match is 80% federal and 20% local so for the transit administrator, who would be a planner for the next few years, it would be a 80/20 match. She said that when they go into direct operations the match is 50/50.

Councilwoman Lopas continued with the letter, *“However, if annual state allocation of LTAF II is reduced or eliminated, the Town will only restore funding levels for regional transit vouchers with a new funding source by a regional property tax through establishment of the metropolitan public transit authority (MPTA)”* and it notes that State law will require legislative changes in order to do that.

Ms. Bell said that, with regard to pursuit of new legislation, she cannot speak for CYMPO, but she knows that they are maxed out for staff time to pursue new initiatives. That would be one of the assignments going to the transit administrator, just like it is anticipated that the transit administrator would work on some of the funding sources. She said that she was troubled by the last bullet point which is that they would only agree to hire a transit administrator when both an assured funding source and enabling legislation is in place. That person would have to pursue those activities or they will not be in place.

She said that she would like to see the Council open up the last three bullet points with a little more flexibility in terms of communication to CYMPO. She said that Prescott, along with their partners, has already invested close to \$300,000 over the last few years and if they do not move forward now they will lose the value of that investment.

David Quinn, 847 City Lights, said that he is a member of Northern Arizona Interfaith Council, but was speaking today as an individual citizen as he was not sure they would support everything he had to say. He said that the proposed response to CYMPO offers “the sleeves out of your vest.” It is clear that many of the steps outlined in the response could not be taken without a transit administrator in place.

He said that last week Craig McConnell estimated that Prescott’s share might be around \$6,000 to \$7,000 for that transit administrator. Although that is not an insignificant number, he has seen that when the Council wants to do something they find a way of doing it. He said that the General Plan for the City promised leadership on public transportation. Councilwoman Lopas has made several creative suggestions last week to devise a way forward, but it appears they have fallen on deaf ears. Lastly, he said, constraining the enhanced voucher program to LTAF II would remove the only form of public transportation for disabled or needy in the community. If that is a realistic prospect, he does not think he would feel good about it.

Fretzi Mavis, 912 Ohio Street, said that she was a member of Northern Arizona Interfaith Council, but was speaking as a private citizen. She has heard comments about once something is started they have to start feeding the baby. She said that is what they have been doing with the

voucher program, but that baby is not going to grow up and become a responsible adult. She said that the vouchers are rationed and cannot meet the needs of those people they are helping. She asked if the Council's hesitation to go forward was a matter of lack of funding or a lack of priorities for taking care of the people. She hoped each of them have the courage to say they can do this because they need it.

Doris Pyantac, 1025 Northwood Loop, said that when she started work with People Who Care it became immediately clear that they desperately needed public transit, and that was 13 years ago. She did some research at that time and it seemed like Cottonwood Cats was a rational approach. She tried to educate people in that direction and also helped out some on the master plan. She said that it is now 13 years later, and she is talking for herself when she says that they are not going to have public transit before she is in a nursing home.

Bill Town, 901 City Lights, said that he is a retired CFO of large companies and has probably wielded the budget axe for most of them. It is tough to make those decisions, but along with being a CFO, he was a part-time strategist for the CEO, and that required needing to consider what kind of projects were important to the business. They had to ask if they were on strategy and if they had a multiplier affect for the community. He said that the business in Prescott is retirement; 22% of the people are 65 and older. He said that many magazines rate Prescott in the top ten but they will not stay there without a competitive transit system. He hoped they could see a way to support the system. He said that reading the proposal, it is a perfect excuse to do absolutely nothing.

Eileen Nesmith, 1953 Buena Vista Trail, representing NACOG, thanked the City for their support of the current voucher program. She said that it was in jeopardy last year and they managed to get the LTAF II funds, and will continue to provide that service to the citizens as long as those funds are available. Because of the growing need for job seekers to get to their employers, and people not able to take care of their cars, they are still providing basic transportation needs, but when the funding is no longer there, they are going to need something to support that.

Councilman Roecker asked Ms. Nesmith if she had any demographics about who is receiving vouchers. Ms. Nesmith said that the number of people requesting rides is around 350, and that is about all they can support with the current voucher program. Councilman Roecker asked if they were retired or students, elderly, etc. Ms. Nesmith said that currently they are talking about the disabled, elderly, maybe a job seeker who does not have transportation. The uses of the vouchers are for medical reasons, basic needs such as grocery shopping, job search, working,

social service appointments, school, but generally, the majority of applicants are disabled or elderly.

Councilwoman Suttles said that a few of the comments made were to pull the money from the voucher system and create other funding. They said the voucher program was not working because the transit system needs to be going, and she asked Ms. Nesmith what her opinion was. Ms. Nesmith said that those being served by LTAF II are the elderly, disabled and sometimes job seekers. The problem is they are limited to a small amount of money, and provides maybe two to three trips a month. She said that part of it depends on where they live. If they are within the bus route area, they would be able to use that, and there is a provision for those that are disabled that it must be provided for them. She said that if there is no money, there are no more rides.

Councilman Roecker asked how much money they had for vouchers with the last go around. Mr. McConnell said that it was around \$78,000. Mr. Guice clarified that the total amount was \$120,000. Ms. Nesmith said that money was used for those residing in Prescott; Prescott Valley also makes a contribution.

Councilman Bell said that for as long as he has been on Council he cannot remember any time they turned down the money for the voucher program. He said that he did not think there was a person that did not want to proceed with transit. He thought the confusion came from them depending on CYMPO to come to the City and tell them what the steps were.

Mayor Wilson said that they have established a representative for CYMPO, just like any other liaison, to provide input and advice to the Council and for County to act upon. He said that CYMPO is more involved as it consists of a few technical advisory committees. He said that he concurred with Councilman Bell's general assessment.

Mr. McConnell said that the distribution from the State to Prescott occurred in December 2008 was \$77,788.33, but there were carryover monies that were used in addition to that.

Mayor Wilson asked about the shared funding for a transit administrator would be. Mr. McConnell said that it was his understanding that it would be an 80/20 match, so if they had \$100,000 total costs (estimated), 20% would be local. That would be \$20,000 locally with one-third of that being \$6,000 to \$7,000.

Mayor Wilson asked what was required to get the federal dollars. Mr. McConnell said that it was on a grant basis, but because CYMPO is

designated as urbanized, there are amounts of monies in different categories that are made available to CYMPO annually for planning or capital, etc., so those dollars would be there if CYMPO came up with the local match. Mayor Wilson asked if the local match would be the LTAF II fund redistribution or something else. Mr. McConnell said that they have not talked about taking any of the LTAF II funds and diverting it for a transit administrator.

Councilman Bell asked how they would proceed to get the agreement of the other entities. Mr. McConnell said that the item on the agenda was to respond to the survey, which the other communities will be doing as well. Once those responses are received, they would know where the other communities stand.

Mayor Wilson suggested that they modify the letter, specifically #6 to hire a transit administrator, as long as there was concurrence of the other partners. Councilwoman Lopas said that she liked what Prescott Valley had written in their letter. Mayor Wilson said that he believed there was a problem in that with Councilman Lamerson as that would open it up to the general public.

Councilman Lamerson said that his major concern is that monies intended to help those that cannot help themselves are not compromised by opening it up to those that will not help themselves.

Councilman Roecker said that it has been said that the CMYPO folks do not have time, but he wondered if they had asked them. Councilman Luzius said that he cannot see throwing this all out because one person is concerned that it will be taken advantage of. He suggested that they go back to the drawing board. He said that he was not given an opportunity to contribute to the writing of the letter and he would also encourage Lindsay Bell to help because she has a great handle on the transit issue.

Mayor Wilson said that his opportunity to participate was now and that was what they were talking about. He said that they should work on modifying the letter so that it represents the interests of the entire Council. Councilman Luzius agreed.

Councilman Roecker said that Councilman Lamerson was not standing alone. He also did not think they should be funding things that will take away from those that need it.

Mike Wilkey, 345 S. Virginia #3, said that he personally talked with Jodi Rooney and she said that she was hired to be the administrator of roads in the area. She said that she does not have the time to be the

administrator for public transit. Mayor Wilson asked about the others working for CYMPO.

Mr. Wilkey asked if there was anyone at the meeting from CYMPO. An individual identified herself as the ½ person working for CYMPO. She said that she is spending all of her time on transit right now.

Mr. Wilkey said that they are asking the Council to support Alternative #1. Mayor Wilson said that Alternative #1 is the bus system and the City does not have the money for the bus system, so they are looking at alternatives. Mayor Wilson said that they are discussing the transit administrator issue.

Marlene Hammond, 1112 Louis Street, said that she is part of the voucher program that is part of Open Door, that is part of the Coalition for Compassion and Justice. She said that she gets about 145-175 calls every Monday morning looking for financial assistance, and one third of those have to do with transportation. She just had a professional from ERAU lose his job. He needed a gas voucher because he had a choice of putting gas in his car or heating his home for his four children. He may have afforded it last month, but this month he cannot afford so they are not enabling anyone when they offer public transit or transportation assistance.

She said that the current bus system does not get people to where they need to go. They moved the health department to the other part of town and people cannot get there. To get food stamps, they have to go to another part of town. The buses do not go to where they need to go so they need to expand the route.

Mr. Town said that People Who Care, which he is President of the Board of, has a budget of \$150,000. Their volunteers contribute about \$5 for every dollar they spend, so right now they are spending \$900,000 to provide, primarily, transportation for people. There is a tremendous amount of spending by nonprofit groups moving people around the City. The \$78,000 for vouchers is just a little piece of the need.

Ms. Bell clarified that any public transit system, the core of the ridership consists of four transportation-dependent groups: elderly, handicapped, low-income, kids too young to drive. That is true regardless of how big the transportation system is. Even when they are able to have a big system, it will be serving the same ridership. She said that the plan, at full-blown, would continue the voucher system outside of the corridors so that people not within the corridors would have access.

She said that with regard to the transit administrator, they would be using

the LTAF II to leverage use of the federal money. A portion would support the administrator, but they would not do away with the voucher rides.

Councilman Roecker asked how long the federal dollars would last. Ms. Bell said that because CYMPO is a designated recipient they have funds earmarked from which they would draw down. She said that right now the projections are to go on for ten years with the 5307 monies. They have not stopped appropriating that in the last several decades, but what might change over time is the amount and formulas. She said that right now CYMPO's allocation is \$600,000 a year that the communities could draw down, if they had the match to do it.

Ms. Mavis said that she was very disappointed with some of the members of the Council. She thinks that the citizens of the community deserve better. When people are speaking, the Council should be listening to them and there should not be rolling of eyes and looks to each other. She would like the Council to learn a little bit more about civil dialogue.

Steve Blair, 1802 Northside, said that years ago when he was on Council he had the opportunity to attend the National League of Cities conference where Nashville used their CDBG monies to purchase buses and transit. He would suggest that before the City goes any further that they research those funds, of some \$500,000 a year in the community. He said that he knows that fixing up Dexter Neighborhood with sidewalks has been important, but he would like to make sure that they read the CDBG requirements to make sure that they cannot purchase buses for moving people throughout the community.

Ms. Hadley said that they get around \$100,000 a year for CDBG, but they did get some extra money this year because of the stimulus package. It has to be used exclusively for a certain population, either elderly or handicapped, which the voucher program does handle, but if they open it up to the general public, it would not. She said that she would look into it.

Mayor Wilson said that he believed that there was consensus with the first three points, but would like to table the item and have Mr. McConnell bring a letter back, taking into account discussions that took place. He suggested that Councilman Luzius and Councilwoman Lopas could get involved and bring it back. He said that perhaps there could be a representative from Northern Arizona Interfaith Council leader and Lindsay Bell. Council agreed with that direction. Councilman Bell asked that they include commitment from the partners for the transit administrator. Mayor Wilson said that the money is minor, but without the partners' commitment they could not go forward. Council agreed.

G. Recess into Executive Session.

COUNCILMAN BELL MOVED TO RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION; SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN LOPAS; PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Discussions or consultations with designated representatives of the public body in order to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations for the purchase, sale or lease of real property, pursuant to ARS 38-431.03(A)(7).
1. Possible purchase of property in the Granite Dells area.
 2. Possible purchase of property in the Thumb Butte area.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting of the Prescott City Council held on March 10, 2009, reconvened into Open Session at 5:20 p.m. at which time the meeting adjourned.

JACK D. WILSON, Mayor

ATTEST:

ELIZABETH A. BURKE, City Clerk

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Voting Meeting of the City Council of the City of Prescott, Arizona held on the 10th day of March, 2009. I further certify the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2009.

AFFIX
CITY SEAL

ELIZABETH A. BURKE, City Clerk