

**CITY OF BUCKEYE
COUNCIL WORKSHOP
SEPTEMBER 2, 2014**

**City Council Chambers
530 E. Monroe Ave.
Buckeye, AZ 85326
3:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Mayor Meck called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Members Present: Councilmember Strauss, Councilmember Hess (excused at 4:41 p.m., returned at 4:46 p.m.), Councilmember McAchran, Councilmember Heustis (excused at 4:09 p.m., returned at 4:11 p.m.), Vice Mayor Orsborn (excused at 4:41 p.m., returned at 4:48 p.m.), and Mayor Meck.

Members Absent: Councilmember Garza.

Departments Present: City Manager Stephen Cleveland, Assistant City Manager Roger Klingler, City Attorney Scott Ruby, City Clerk Lucinda Aja, Deputy City Clerk Summer Stewart, Assistant to Council Carol Conley, Fire Chief Bob Costello, Finance Director Larry Price, Economic Development Manager Len Becker, Public Works Director Scott Lowe, Water Resources Director Dave Nigh, City Engineer Scott Zipprich, Community Services Director Cheryl Sedig, Marketing and Communications Manager Jennifer Rogers, and IT Director Greg Platacz.

**2. Presentation by Western Maricopa Education Center (West-MEC) Regarding the Future Buckeye Campus
Staff Liaison: Stephen Cleveland, City Manager
District No. All**

Mr. Donovan (West-MEC) opened the discussion regarding the Southwest Campus that will be built in the City of Buckeye. West-MEC is a public school district providing career and technical educations programs for students. A brief history of the land ownership was presented; approximately 17 acres of land has been designated for the campus. The campus will be providing education in several areas including health sciences, cosmetology, industrial technology, transportation technology and veterinary sciences. A master plan of the campus was displayed. The plan is to build an award-winning building concept with use of windows and sustainable energy. Phase I floor plans are presented and discussed, which include sustainable energy and administration buildings. There will be 22 to 23 different career training programs with the authority to provide education to high school age children as well as adults. The goal is to complete the Arizona Public Services and Estrella Mountain Community College partnership operating in the sustainable energy building by January, 2016 and high school programs operating by August, 2016. Phase II of the process will be approximately six months behind Phase I and will include industrial technology, health sciences and cosmetology buildings. The process and estimated begin time for Phase III is on-going. All educational programs will result in industry recognized certifications; various programs will provide college credits for classes taken. West-MEC will provide a trainer guarantee. Students will be able to gain employment upon completion of their specific program. West-MEC will be working closely with the local High School Districts to ensure a better use of community. Jeanine Guy (West-MEC) presented statements regarding the West-MEC facilities and educational partnerships. Mr. Donovan stated ground-breaking is expected at the end of the current year. General discussion regarding the West-MEC facility and the programs it will offer was held.

3. Discussion of the Buckeye Traffic Signal Standard and Design

Staff Liaison: Scott Zipprich, City Engineer

District No. All

Mr. Zipprich opened the presentation and introduced Mr. Lemke (City of Buckeye Traffic Engineer). Mr. Lemke discussed the current signal standard, which is Trombone Style. Staff is requesting to supplement existing standards to include ADOT Style; using Trombone Style on gateway corridors and ADOT Style on minor streets. Trombone and ADOT Style design features were presented and the differences discussed; signals will define street corridors. A map representing signal corridors and proposed signal designs for each corridor was displayed as well as a design/build concept for Yuma Road demonstrating the use of both signal styles; all signals will be painted white. The benefits of using ADOT Style signals on lower classification roadways was discussed, including design flexibility, lower cost and easier maintenance. The City currently has 16 signals. Proposed illuminated street name standards were presented which will provide consistency with all street name signs and use LED lights and diamond grade sheeting. Mr. Zipprich provided further information related to current signs used within the City and the proposed standards for signals and signs.

4. Economic Development Department Update (Estimated Time – 45 Minutes)

Staff Liaison: Len Becker, Economic Development Director

District No. All

Mr. Becker opened the presentation and provided a list of the roles of the Economic Development Department, which include attracting new businesses, supporting the retention and expansion of existing business, helping businesses to create jobs, increasing sales tax revenues, increasing capital investment, and marketing the City's opportunities. The focus is currently on industrial, commercial and retail businesses and objectives involve focus on jobs that pay above average wages, diversification, and driving community wealth and well-being. A summary of Fiscal Year 13-14 accomplishments were discussed as well as large and small pipeline prospect activity. The main challenge facing economic development in the City is lack of existing buildings. The 6.25 Fund was reviewed and allocations of the Fund displayed. The Economic Development Catalyst Program was discussed. Marketing and communications activities include sponsorship retention and commitment, internal promotion, and professional standards. A slide depicting streamlined marketing collateral was displayed and discussed.

5. Adjournment

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Orsborn and seconded by Councilmember Heustis to adjourn the meeting at 5:34 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Jackie A. Meck, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lucinda J. Aja, City Clerk

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the Council Workshop held on the 2nd day of September, 2014. I further certify that a quorum was present.

Lucinda J. Aja, City Clerk