

## Arvada City Council Meeting, June 15, 2015

Notes taken by Susan Shirley

In attendance were Mayor Marc Williams, Mayor Pro Tem Mark McGoff, and Councilmembers Don Allard, Bob Dyer, Bob Fifer, Jerry Marks, and John Marriott

At 6 p.m., attendance by citizens was 30; by 6:40 that had dropped to 5.

Minutes from the June 1 meeting were approved with no changes.

### Recognitions:

Councilmember John Marriott presented a certificate of recognition to Senior Assistant City Attorney Roberto Ramirez. Ramirez is the City's Litigation Counsel, handling all civil litigation for every city department and for individual employees. He is also a Major in the Air Force Reserve, dividing his time between the two jobs. Ramirez has been named the U.S. Air Force litigation attorney of the year. Marriott added, "This is quite an incredible accomplishment," because first Ramirez became the Trial and Appellate Prosecutor of the Year, which put him in the running for Criminal Attorney of the Year, and after winning that he then went up against a large number of well-qualified Air Force attorneys and won the top award. Ramirez stated his appreciation, saying, "Those of us that wear the uniform don't do it for the recognition...I do it to give back to the country that gave me citizenship." He thanked City Attorney Chris Daly for allowing him the flexibility to be gone, sometimes for weeks at a time, and so be able to work both for the City and for the Air Force.

Arvada's Faith Christian High School has a robotics team, a group of students who, in April of this year, went to Louisville, Kentucky, to compete against 449 other teams in a robotics championship. They came home in third place, worldwide, a stunning success for a robotics program which only began six years ago. Councilmember Mark McGoff presented the team with a recognition for this accomplishment. Team mentor Randy Miller spoke briefly, saying there were initially 12,000 teams from 20 countries, winnowed down to 450 teams and 1150 elimination rounds at the Kentucky competition. A brief video demonstrated the abilities of the team's robot. Miller said the team uses knowledge from science, math, technology and the arts to prepare the students for the future; the curriculum comes from Carnegie Mellon, one of the top three schools in the US for robotics. In response to a question from Councilmember Bob Dyer, Miller acknowledged that the students are looking toward future schooling, and said there is in excess of \$25 million available in scholarship awards toward robotics students.

<http://arvadapress.com/stories/Robotics-students-take-third-worldwide,187665>

### Public Comment:

Alvin Maes of the Arvada Festivals Commission appeared with star-spangled hats for the the councilmembers. He invited everyone to the 21st annual 4th of July celebration at Stenger-Lutz field, Saturday July 4; gates open at 3 p.m., events begin at 4. This year's theme is honoring active and retired veterans. Lauren Clausen of Faith Christian Academy will be singing the national anthem. There will

be a Battle of the Bands, with 30 minutes allotted for each band from the Jam Out Hunger winners, on the KOOL 105 stage. Rounding out the festivities will be a variety of food vendors, remote cars, and for the second year, a Children's Area, with games, bouncy houses, hamster balls, and face painting. Dave Palm spoke in favor of keeping the Redskins Monument on the site of the former location of Arvada High School: Between Ralston, 59th, Vance, and the Wadsworth Bypass. Palm is concerned that, with upcoming development, the monument will be seen as obsolete and superfluous, possibly becoming lost, damaged, or moved to an obscure location. Councilmember Mark McGoff said that the City is committed to helping with relocation, with the help of the Arvada Historical Society. While not saying what future plans there are for the monument, McGoff said the City will work with the Historical Society "and whomever else" to make sure the best possible outcome happens.

Another Arvada citizen appeared with a request on behalf of students in the Van Arsdale/Ralston Valley area. It seems that the asphalt barriers next to some of the city roads, which provide a margin of safety for pedestrians, are being removed and not replaced, as they are difficult to maintain. However, the citizen stated that he saw a horseback rider from the Wild West ranch actually force kids onto his property one day. He said that the combination of horses, no asphalt barriers, and a steep street are a recipe for disaster, and urges Council to make an exception, leaving the barriers in that location.

#### Consent Agenda:

Storm drainage improvements: The City is contracting with T. Lowell Construction, Inc., to replace and restore storm drainage in fifteen locations around the city. The cost will be \$624,850. (R15-079)  
Playground equipment: Meadowlake Park, Oak Park, and Jack B. Tomlinson Park will all be receiving new playground equipment. The contractor for the first two parks is Children's Playstructures and Recreation, Inc., at a cost of \$485,749 for both. Tomlinson Park's equipment will be installed by Made in the Shade, Inc., and will cost \$198,975. (R15-080 and -081)

Computer hardware, network switch replacement: OCx Network Consultants, LLC, will be replacing obsolete network switches. The replacement will allow the City to continue using equipment covered for 3 years under a maintenance agreement which is included with the purchase. The contract with OCx is for \$201,000. (R15-082)

Ralston Trunk Line Sewer Main, cleaning and inspection: Guildner Pipeline Maintenance of Commerce City will be inspecting and cleaning this line, which runs from Ward Road to the wastewater treatment plant on 56th Avenue east of Lamar. The cost will be \$332,716. (R15-083)  
Locker Room Remodel: The women's locker room at the Arvada Police Department needs a new ventilation system and old carpet replaced with smooth concrete. The work will be done by RJM Construction of Denver, and the \$281,957 cost will be covered from the Police 21 and 22 accounts. (R15-084)

Mahnke Auto Body annexation: The owners of this 2.8 acre property at 5855 W. 56th Ave., are requesting annexation into Arvada for the purpose of receiving City water service. A public hearing will be held on July 20, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. (R15-085)

Van Bibber Trail Extension: Golden-based Edge Contracting, Inc. has been awarded a \$2.4 million contract to build a pedestrian/bicycle underpass under Kipling Parkway just north of W. 56th Place, and a ten-foot wide concrete trail from behind the APEX field house near Oak Street, to Independence. Federal funds are covering about \$1.4 million, with the remaining \$988,274 coming from the City's Capital Improvements fund. (R15-086)

All items were approved on a 7 to 0 vote.

Ordinances, First Reading:

Public Hearings for this item will be on July 6, 2015, at 6:30 p.m.

Arvada Center, Cooperative Agreement: If accepted by vote following the public hearing, this 20-year agreement will empower a non-profit Board of Directors to operate the Arvada Center. The City retains ownership of the real property, as well as artwork currently owned by the Arvada Center. Other tangible property will belong to the non-profit, such as office equipment. The non-profit will own and control the Historical Society's items housed at the Arvada Center. Banquet events, for the time being, remain under the City's control. The City is to be consulted on major operating and programming decisions. Personnel will be terminated from employment by the City and re-hired as employees of the Arvada Center non-profit.

The main purpose of this agreement is to facilitate raising of funds to benefit the Arvada Center. The current funding is far below that which would normally be expected for the type and size of institution. For notes on the City Council May 11, 2015 workshop where this was discussed, see: <http://earthside.typepad.com/fi.../council-meeting-5-11-15.pdf>

(CB15-022) This item was approved on first reading, by a vote of 7 to 0.

Public Hearing:

One of the displaced businesses from Arvada Plaza at 58th and Independence has been the Subway Sandwich shop, which operated for 21 years at that location. Because of impending construction of a Walmart, all businesses were forced to vacate the property. Owners Rod and Becky Walters took over the former Check into Cash building situated at 9315 Ralston Road, just to the west of Pennetta's One Stop Auto Repair. It's a smaller building, allowing less space for seating. The Walters have applied to the City for a pickup window, which was the subject of tonight's hearing. (Agenda Item 8A)

Director of Community Development Rita McConnell said the zoning allows a drive-up window, but that it must be designated in the preliminary development plan. Owner Rod Walters addressed Council with his request, explaining that there is no room for seating inside the restaurant; the pickup window will be on the west side, where there is room for a ten-foot lane. Customers will be able to drive up, ring a doorbell, and be served at the window. Unfortunately for the Walters, AURA will only give them a six-month guarantee to be able to stay at that location. It's been an expensive venture, having to move across the street, but Walters said they want to stay in the area and serve their long term customers. He does think that a drive-through window will help.

There was no public comment.

Councilmember Dyer remembered that location was once a Fotomat. He said, "I like this use, I wish the building had a lobby, but we had a McDonald's here that had about that much room...I like the innovative use, and that you can stay in the neighborhood and make use of this building until you can get back to the south side of the street." Councilmember John Marriott agreed, saying he hopes the restaurant will be very successful there.

The drive-through window was approved, 7 to 0.

Public Comment:

None.

Reports from City Council:

Councilmember McGoff serves on the Jefferson County Community Corrections Board, one of about 16 or 17 people under a 30-year-old charter. The board decides on about 20 or 30 cases a month to determine whether individuals are eligible for community corrections in the county. There are two locations for those facilities: males go to a building on the site of the old JCRS hospital, while females are housed further west on Colfax. McGoff said the board's bylaws were changed three weeks ago and alternates to the board members are now allowed. The alternates can attend meetings in place of the designated board member, and cast votes in their place. McGoff requested a volunteer to represent Arvada when he is not able to attend. Councilmember Jerry Marks volunteered; City Attorney Chris Daly said it was a matter for formal action, and Marks became the Council's nominee on a 7 to 0 vote. Councilmember John Marriott is the Council's liaison to the Transportation Committee. The committee wants to know if City Council is OK with the committee looking at a series of projects in a way similar to how it was done by the CCIPC citizens' committee. Mayor Williams said they can proceed.

Councilmember Fifer was appointed delegate to the Colorado Municipal League conference on a 7 to 0 vote.

Reports from City Manager:

Mark Deven outlined items to be discussed during the July 13 workshop: an update on Paladina Health; information on the Forward Jeffco Initiative, which is an economic development plan; a discussion of the construction defects ordinance; and a presentation of the recommendations of the CCIPC citizens' committee. CCIPC began meeting last October, has completed their massive assignment of prioritizing the next 10 years' capital improvements within the constraints of the available budget, and will offer a power point presentation giving their findings. Councilmember Dyer suggested putting the CCIPC at the beginning of the agenda; Mayor Williams suggested moving Paladina and Forward Jeffco to another date altogether. City Manager Deven said he will see what he can do to reschedule. Councilmember Don Allard requested copies of the CCIPC report in advance, which Deven promised would happen the week before the workshop.

Report from City Attorney:

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50.