

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON
COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF STAR VALLEY**

**Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 6:00 pm
3675 East Highway 260, Star Valley, AZ
(Star Valley Town Hall)**

The Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- PRAYER was offered by Rev. Linda Wescott of Community Presbyterian Church
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- CALL TO ORDER

- ROLL CALL:

Mayor McDaniel X , Vice Mayor O'Connor X , Council Member Hartwell X , Council Member Coon X , Council Member McKinney X , Council Member Davis X , Council Member Stephenson X .

- **GILA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 2017**

Lt. Tim Scott of the Gila County Sheriff's Office gave the report for February 2017.

- **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

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.

A. Approval of the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on February 21, 2017.

B. Approval of Claims Payable from February 16, 2017 through February 28, 2017 for the General Fund and for the Water Department.

A motion to approve consent agenda items A and B was made by Council Member Hartwell, and was seconded by Council Member Davis.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mayor McDaniel X , Vice Mayor O'Connor X , Council Member Hartwell X , Council Member Coon X , Council Member McKinney X , Council Member Davis X . Council Member Stephenson X .

The motion was voted on and passed 7 - 0.

- **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. **Discussion and possible action regarding construction of a community garden at the B. Diane McDaniel Community Park or the Circle K well site.**

Town Manager Grier stated this is a fresh idea, and there is enthusiasm within the community to establish a community garden. The purpose of putting this item on the agenda is to determine if the Council has any interest in staff pursuing this project. Mr. Grier explained there are two possible sights - sight one is the B. Diane McDaniel Community Park where space is more limited and the size of the garden would be 60'x100'; and site two is the Circle K well site, a flatter and larger area where the size of the garden would be 150'x220'. Mr. Grier reported that Council Member O'Connor received a bid in the amount of \$9,200.00 for installment of an 8 ft. high fence from the Payson Fence Company. Roy Haught is enthusiastic about the project, and would donate his time to till and prepare the area, along with donating some top soil, stated Mr. Grier. George Binney has offered to donate some mulch, added Mr. Grier. The garden would be primarily sustained by volunteers, otherwise it would have an impact on staff. Mr. Grier stated he has also spoken with Glen McCombs of Plant Fair Nursery, who would volunteer his services, which would include Saturday gardening classes. Mr. Grier stated he does not believe the Town could start the garden at the Circle K well site while the CDBG project is in progress.

Vice Mayor O'Connor stated the community garden has generated a lot of interest. Comparing the two sights, pointed out Vice Mayor O'Connor, the Community Park site is limited with a steep incline. The Circle K site is large with flat ground, and able to accommodate parking, pointed out Vice Mayor O'Connor. Council Member Davis stated a community garden would be an economic stimulus for the Town, as community gardens are very popular. Mayor McDaniel stated he personally believes a community garden is a great idea, and would be well worth the effort, but is concerned that it is too late to start this year. Council Member Hartwell stated she is definitely in support of the Circle K site as the location for the community garden. Council Member Coon asked how many plots each site could accommodate. Vice Mayor O'Connor responded that the Community Park site could accommodate somewhere around 30 to 32 plots, and is unsure the number of plots the Circle K site could accommodate. Council Member Coon asked for clarification on the cost of a plot. Council Member Davis responded that the Payson Community Garden charges \$60.00 a year for a 6'x25' plot, which includes water. Council Member Davis stated he has concerns about safety at the Community Park site, as it is located on a steep hill, which would also limit access. Town Manager Grier reminded Council that as this project was not included in the approved four year budget, they will have to make a decision on eliminating an approved project.

Council Member Davis reported that for the Town of Payson apple orchard, they are installing a much bigger hog wire fence at a height of 6 ½ ft., at a cost of about \$4,500.00, which is much cheaper than chain-link fencing. The citizens of Payson have made donations to put up the fence, and the Town of Payson employees will be installing the fence, stated Council Member Davis. Council Member Coon questioned if there would be enough space for parking at the Circle K well site. Vice Mayor O'Connor pointed out it will be a 33,000 square ft area, and does not believe there will be an issue with parking. Mayor McDaniel stated he believes there would be a lot of preparation work involved, and that it may be too late in the year to get started, along with not knowing where the Town is at with the budget. Council Member Stephenson agreed with Mayor McDaniel, and stated it would be wise to hold off until next year. Council Member Stephenson suggested that the Town could sell each fence post, and place a plaque on the post recognizing the donor. Council Member Hartwell stated holding off will give the Town an opportunity to collect donations, and get the community involved.

Town Manager Grier stated if the Circle K well site is the preferred location – the Town would not be able to start the project until the completion of the CDBG project. Something would still have to go, reiterated Mr. Grier. Mayor McDaniel stated that since the Community Park location is on a hill, and there is no wheelchair access, it would not be a good location. Council Member Davis suggested generating interest and receiving feedback from the community by taking a survey of the residents, or having the Roundup write an article specifically about the community garden. Council Member Davis asked if there is a fence size requirement to protect the Circle K well site. Town Manager Grier responded that there is a fence requirement for fencing in the well-site itself. The CDBG project is not scheduled to be completed for two years, the biggest delay the Town would have, reported Mr. Grier, and he is reluctant to start the community garden project until the CDBG project is signed off by the Arizona Department of Housing. Mayor McDaniel stated that would give the Town plenty of time to allow for further discussions.

A motion that Council instruct the Town Manager to conduct a feasibility analysis including perceptive costs of developing a community garden at the Circle K well site, and to present the financial findings to the Council for further review of developing a community garden, was made by Council Member Hartwell, and was seconded by Council Member Stephenson. The motion was voted on and passed 7 – 0.

2. Discussion with Woody Cline, District 3 Supervisor.

Mayor McDaniel questioned if Supervisor Cline would be contributing the same amount of revenue as had been contributed by former Supervisor Marcanti. Supervisor Cline stated the contributions to the Town last year were about \$30,000.00, and questioned why Gila County is getting hit so hard for senior program donations. Mr. Cline reported his findings that funds from the state and federal level have been cut back, and he disclosed that Gila County has spent well over \$130,000.00 for these programs. Mr. Cline stated he has been working with his Director of Finance to put a line item in his budget to address these contributions, how they are distributed, and added he will require progress reports. Mr. Cline stated he intends to keep supporting his constituents where and when he can.

Council Member Davis thanked Supervisor Cline for his attendance, and stated it was nice to see all three supervisors at the Chamber Luncheon. Supervisor Cline stated he has to pick his priorities, what is best for Gila County, and what is needed 25 to 50 years from now. Council Member Stephenson questioned the impact on county services if the Town of Miami un-incorporates. Supervisor Cline stated he has no knowledge of this, and is unable to give him an answer. Supervisor Cline reported there is a possibility of building an aquatic center between Globe & Miami. Mayor McDaniel questioned if the county would be putting taxpayer money into the aquatic center. Supervisor Cline answered that the county is not planning on putting money into the Aquatic center, that a tax district would be created, and that the mines would be putting in a large amount of the money. Supervisor Cline pointed out that the aquatic center is in the draft phase at this point, and will likely come up on the ballot for a vote.

Town Manager Grier clarified that the past few years of donations from former Supervisor Marcanti total somewhere around \$30,000.00, and stated the Meals on Wheels and Ridership would be difficult for the Town to support without the matching donations from the county. Supervisor Cline responded he wants to support the senior programs, and that in his opinion the best way to do this is by putting a line item in his budget. Mayor McDaniel stated that Town staff would provide any factual information Mr. Cline requires.

3. Discussion and possible action to appoint a Council Member as liaison to Central Arizona Governments (“CAG”) Regional Council.

Council Member Davis stated he would like to throw his name into the hat, as he currently works with CAG and would be honored to represent Star Valley. Council Member Hartwell stated she is behind Council Member Davis representing the Town.

A motion that Council appoint Bobby Davis as liaison to the Central Arizona Governments Regional Council, was made by Council Member Hartwell, and was seconded by Council Member Stephenson.

The motion was voted on and passed 7 – 0.

4. Discussion and possible action to change Town Manager Tim Grier’s deferred compensation to regular salary.

Town Manager Grier stated this is a housekeeping item that he has wanted to put in front of Council for some time. Mr. Grier explained that 7% of his salary has been in the deferred column and has gone into a 457 account. It wasn’t defined when Council decided to make that portion of the salary deferred, and he is afraid it will cause problems with the Arizona State Retirement System (“ASRS”). Mr. Grier stated it makes zero difference in the compensation he receives, and pointed out that the Town would have the impact of the contribution into ASRS, as would he.

A motion that Council move to change Town Manager Tim Grier’s deferred compensation to regular salary, was made by Council Member Davis, and was seconded by Council Member Hartwell.

The motion was voted on and passed 7 – 0.

- **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

During this portion of the meeting, members of the public may address the Town Council on items that are not on the printed agenda. Any remarks shall be addressed to the Council as a whole and not to any individual member. Speakers are limited to three (3) minutes per person unless additional time is granted by the Mayor. The Council may not discuss or act upon matters raised during public comments.

The Mayor opened this portion of the meeting up for public comments.

There were no public comments and the Mayor closed this portion of the meeting.

- **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Vice Mayor O’Connor, and was seconded by Council Member Hartwell.

The motion was voted on and passed 7 – 0.

APPROVED:

Ronnie O. McDaniel, Mayor

Date: _____

ATTEST:

Edie Chapin, Town Clerk

CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Star Valley held on the 7th day of March, 2017. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 9th day of March, 2017.

Edie Chapin, Town Clerk