

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

**Tuesday, September 18, 2018 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 Ms. Lois Johnson of Crossroads Foursquare Church.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- CALL TO ORDER
- ROLL CALL:
Mayor McDaniel X , Vice Mayor O'Connor X , Council Member Coon X , Council Member McKinney X , Council Member Davis X , Council Member Stephenson X , Council Member Armington X .

- **HELLSGATE FIRE DISTRICT REPORTS FOR JULY AND AUGUST 2018**
Captain Doss of Hellsgate Fire District gave the reports for July and August 2018.

- **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 August 7, 2018 and the Special Council Meeting held on September 11, 2018.

B. Approval of Claims Payable from August 1, 2018 through September 15, 2018 for the General Fund and for the Water Department.

A motion to approve consent agenda items A and B was made by Council Member Coon and was seconded by Council Member Armington.

A roll call vote was taken:

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

The motion was voted on and passed 7 - 0.

- **PROCLAMATION**

1. Proclaiming the week of September 17-23, 2018 as Constitution Week.

Town Clerk Chapin read the Proclamation for Council and the public.

- **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- 1. Discussion and possible action regarding approval, disapproval or no recommendation for liquor license application of Ross Lee Tucker for the “Pour House Bar & Grill” located at 3870 E. Highway 260, Star Valley, Arizona.**

Cindy Thompson of 116 Quail Hollow Dr., Star Valley stated the business is in foreclosure and if council approves the liquor license she will have to obtain a lawyer to get it back. Vice Mayor O’Connor asked Ms. Thompson if she is the previous owner of the liquor license. Ms. Thompson responded she is the owner of the liquor license and the owner of the bar. Ms. Thompson explained that Mr. Tucker owes her money for the bar – she has never received any payments from him and she had to pay a lawyer for foreclosure. Vice Mayor O’Connor asked if Mr. Tucker has responded to anything since the last council meeting. Town Clerk Chapin answered she has not been able to get in touch with him. Ms. Thompson stated she has heard from very reliable sources that Mr. Tucker has not paid any of his taxes, which can go against the liquor license. Mayor McDaniel asked Ms. Thompson if the liquor license is granted to Mr. Tucker will she have to acquire an attorney to get the license back in her name. “Absolutely” responded Ms. Thompson, reporting that she has already spent thousands in just a short period of time. Mayor McDaniel asked if the liquor license is in her name. Ms. Thompson answered it is in her fiancé Ed Kienzle’s name. Vice Mayor O’Connor asked if the liquor board has finished their portion. Town Clerk Chapin responded when she last spoke with the liquor board the license was pending background checks and local governing body recommendation. The property is separate from the liquor license reported Ms. Thompson – she had to get a lawyer for the property and if the liquor license is issued to Mr. Tucker she will have to get a lawyer for that too.

A motion to recommend to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control disapproval of the issuance of this application before us to Ross Lee Tucker was made by Council Member Stephenson and was seconded by Council Member Armington.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mayor McDaniel Yes, Vice Mayor O’Connor Yes, Council Member Coon Yes, Council Member McKinney Yes, Council Member Davis Yes, Council Member Stephenson Yes, Council Member Armington Yes.

The motion was voted on and passed 7 – 0.

- 2. Discussion and possible action regarding how the transit surveys were conducted and the representation of Star Valley Ridership. Presentation by Joanne Conlin.**

Joanne Conlin provided handouts to council from Jacobs Engineering and reviewed the additional information on Star Valley demographics (see attached). Ms. Conlin explained the survey review has not been completed as everything got delayed and that it was a priority to give identity to the Beeline Bus in order to dismiss any confusion that it is senior transportation. Ms. Conlin reported the surveys were conducted by “Survey Monkey” and were available on their website and “facebook” and that articles were written in the Payson Roundup and the Rim Review. They felt, stated Ms. Conlin, that everyone had an opportunity to take a survey. Explained Ms. Conlin, the survey that Jacobs Engineering conducted determined the need for public transit. The “Survey Monkey” survey was to understand and fine tune the routes with five questions asked: 1. What are your major cross streets? 2. What times do you anticipate needing the bus? 3. How often will you ride the bus? 4. What places do you want to go on the bus? 5. How far are you willing to walk in order to take the bus? Ms. Conlin reported 400 responses were received with 299 of those responses from “Survey Monkey”. Of the 100 paper surveys submitted

thirteen were from Star Valley, sixty-six were from Payson and twenty-one were from Mesa Del. Ms. Conlin reported a small sampling of results from the “Survey Monkey” with the largest percentages as follows: 57.3% would anticipate needing the bus from 8:30am to Noon; 61.5% would ride the bus occasionally; 78.78% would be riding the bus to stores; and 62.35% would be willing to walk two blocks in order to take the bus. Ms. Conlin reiterated she is still working on the results of the surveys.

Mayor McDaniel asked how long it will take to complete the survey results. Ms. Conlin responded she needs to get the ridership bus schedule out by mid-October. Their plan is to hold the launch party on Saturday, November 3rd and start the buses the following Monday. Mayor McDaniel asked Ms. Conlin if she could return once she completed the survey. Ms. Conlin answered she believes she is scheduled for the October 2nd Council Meeting. The surveys are just a sampling, explained Ms. Conlin, and it’s a dynamic process. They will be studying each stop and analyzing how many people come on board to make sure the community’s needs are met in order to be a successful program. Mayor McDaniel asked if she is prepared to do all the things she needs to do. “We are doing them” responded Ms. Conlin and reported they are required by the Arizona Department of Transportation (“ADOT”) to record the trips. Ms. Conlin reported she has attended workshops and webinars to understand how to make the program successful and is receiving help from ADOT, Central Arizona Governments (“CAG”) and 5311 providers.

Ms. Conlin disclosed “This is one thing I’m a little confused about because the last time I was here you had a motion and a vote to do it for a year, you were going to take the risk at the \$25,000.00.” Ms. Conlin reported she received an email from Town Manager Grier that said it was contingent on surveys. “No, it wasn’t” stated Ms. Conlin – “there was a lot of discussion but there was never an amendment to the motion. It went on with you agreeing to take a risk, take that leap of faith for a year.” “We are not asking you to pay for something that you are not getting the service for” stated Ms. Conlin and “you are going to get the reports like everybody else...” Ms. Conlin stated she thought it was all settled and with the email from Town Manager Grier it seems like it isn’t and that she just wants to know what council wants to do as the user guide needs to be printed. Vice Mayor O’Connor stated being in a small business he has everything up front – there are contracts, and everything set up and then there’s no unknown. Disclosed Vice Mayor O’Connor “It’s really a tough one for me to look at and say okay because it’s like were jumping in to the unknown.” He would feel more comfortable after the survey information is provided, stated Vice Mayor O’Connor.

Council Member Coon pointed out he believes the motion said we would approve an amount up to \$25,000.00. Ms. Conlin responded with ADOT’s portion, very low revenue, and no advertising she thinks it was about \$75,000.00 total cost that she rounded up to \$100,000.00 divided between the four partners. In the beginning there are going to be costs, stated Ms. Conlin. Council Member Coon asked if the Town is out \$25,000.00 if it doesn’t work. “No – absolutely not” answered Ms. Conlin, explaining that the Town will be invoiced at the end of each month for the portion ADOT does not cover. “We are not asking you to give \$25,000.00 – we bill monthly” stated Ms. Conlin. The portion to be paid by the four partners depends on revenue, ads sold and sponsors. The goal stated Ms. Conlin is for the loss to get lower – the first year will not be profitable and she doesn’t know if it will ever be profitable.

Council Member Stephenson commented “I am a little disappointed to hear about the Town Manager’s email misinterpreting my reading of the motion we made. It was not contingent on surveys. Built into the motion was talk about monitoring first year ridership and costs.” Town Manager Grier responded and quoted a portion of Ms. Conlin’s response to a question posed by Vice Mayor O’Connor from the approved June 5, 2018 Council Minutes (attached) as follows: “...once we get all the surveys and we have the... and we get the tally’s and the results we will come back and present to you.” Mr. Grier stated he doesn’t think there was anything misrepresented as far as what the plan was to have Ms.

Conlin come back and present to council after the surveys. That is why I invited her here tonight, clarified Mr. Grier. Ms. Conlin stated she believes in total transparency and asked council if they are in or out. Council Member Stephenson stated this council passed a motion – “We are in the experiment.”

Mayor McDaniel stated it was good that Ms. Conlin explained the monthly invoice. Council Member Coon agreed and stated the Town still doesn’t have enough information and needs some good concrete answers to questions before council is comfortable. Vice Mayor O’Connor disclosed he is still not convinced on the program. Ms. Conlin stated the Payson Senior Center is taking a big risk and came to the Town of Star Valley to help share in the financial cost. Council Member Davis stated a lot more people will participate who didn’t take the survey and advocated this program is needed in the Rim Country. Council Member Coon asked if the partners would be liable. Ms. Conlin responded she can’t answer that and will speak with an attorney and insurance person but that the Town may become an additional insured.

Council Member Coon asked when the four partners will meet. Ms. Conlin answered she would like the Town of Payson, the Town of Star Valley and the Payson Senior Center to meet as Gila County’s involvement is writing out a check for the \$25,000.00. Vice Mayor O’Connor asked Star Valley resident Anita Johnston who lives in the Pineview RV Park to give her perspective. Anita Johnston of Pineview RV Park, Star Valley reported she has spoken to numerous Star Valley residents who told her they would be using the transit on a daily basis. The need is there, stated Ms. Johnston. Sharon Rappaport of 699 E. Highline Dr., Star Valley stated transit is a great idea and that a business plan with all the numbers should be presented. Ms. Conlin responded that council was given a two-year budget at a prior meeting. Ms. Rappaport reiterated that real numbers need to be seen and as part of a business plan. The Town has been given information on anticipated ridership with the help of Jacobs Engineering responded Ms. Conlin. George Binney of 197 N. Valley Rd., Star Valley stated he likes the idea of transit but does not believe it is financially viable for such a small percentage of the population. Mr. Binney then provided calculations in defense of his argument. Ms. Conlin thanked council for supporting transit and stated she appreciates council taking the leap of faith with them and reported she will be in touch with Town Manager Grier regarding a meeting with the partners. Council Member Coon stated the Town is certainly on board and not to be discouraged. Mayor McDaniel thanked Ms. Johnston for her input and disclosed if there is just one person this actually makes a big difference to then council has done the right thing.

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 Council Member Coon and was seconded by Council Member Davis.

The motion was voted on and passed 7 – 0.

APPROVED:

Ronnie O. McDaniel, Mayor

Date: _____

ATTEST:

Eddie 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 18th day of September 2018. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 19th day of September 2018.

Eddie Chapin, Town Clerk