

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

**December 15, 2020 at 4:00 pm  
3675 East Highway 260, Star Valley, AZ  
(Star Valley Town Hall)**

The Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- PRAYER was offered by Council Member Davis.
- CALL TO ORDER
- ROLL CALL:  
Vice Mayor McKinney X, Council Member Davis X, Council Member Armington X,  
Council Member Binney X, Council Member Rappaport X, Council Member McDaniel  
X, Mayor Coon X. **Council Members appeared telephonically.**

- **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 Regular Council Meeting held on December 1, 2020.**

**B. Approval of Claims Payable from December 1, 2020 through December 15, 2020  
for the General Fund and for the Water Department.**

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

**A roll call vote was taken:**

**Vice Mayor McKinney X, Council Member Davis X, Council Member Armington X, Council Member Binney X, Council Member Rappaport X, Council Member McDaniel X, Mayor Coon X.**

**The motion was voted on and passed 7 - 0.**

- **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. **Discussion and possible action regarding the appointment of Planning and Zoning Commission Members.**

Mayor Coon stated he understands the Town has four qualified applicants that have applied for the open positions. Planning and Zoning is an important commission and the interest from these four Star Valley residents is appreciated. Council Member Rappaport asked if they have any experience on Planning and Zoning. Finance Administrator Nutt responded they are all on the Board of Adjustment and have shown interest in the Planning and Zoning Commission. Ms. Nutt clarified the Planning and Zoning Commission is a recommending board, so they will put together a recommendation for Town Council to decide on. The applicants grasp the concepts and the role they would serve. They are anxious to hear back on the decision council makes regarding the appointment, concluded Ms. Nutt.

**A motion to appoint Matt Highstreet, Pat Woolsey, Christine Johnson and Tony McNeeley as commission members of the Star Valley Planning and Zoning Commission for the term of three years was made by Council Member Davis and was seconded by Council Member McDaniel.**

**A roll call vote was taken:**

**Vice Mayor McKinney Yes, Council Member Davis Yes, Council Member Armington Yes, Council Member Binney Yes, Council Member Rappaport Yes, Council Member McDaniel Yes, Mayor Coon Yes.**

**The motion was voted on and passed 7 - 0.**

2. **Second Reading and Public Hearing, discussion and possible action concerning Ordinance No. O 20-06 captioned as follows: AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF STAR VALLEY, ARIZONA, ADOPTING AMENDMENTS TO TOWN CODE TITLE 4 PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY: CHAPTER 1 (FIRE DEPARTMENT) AND CHAPTER 2 (BURNING RESTRICTIONS).**

Mayor Coon stated this is a second reading and he assumes council is aware of the details of this ordinance. Mayor Coon asked if there are any questions or comments from the council. There were none. Mayor Coon then opened discussion to the public. There were no public comments and the Mayor closed the public hearing.

**A motion to approve and adopt Ordinance No. O 20-06 adopting amendments to Town Code Title 4: Chapter 1 (Fire Department) and Chapter 2 (Burning Restrictions) was made by Council Member Binney and was seconded by Council Member Davis.**

**A roll call vote was taken:**

**Vice Mayor McKinney Yes, Council Member Davis Yes, Council Member Armington Yes, Council Member Binney Yes, Council Member Rappaport Yes, Council Member McDaniel Yes, Mayor Coon Yes.**

**The motion was voted on and passed 7 - 0.**

3. **Discussion and possible action to either consider renegotiating the animal control services contract with Gila County or enter into a new agreement with the Town of Payson to provide animal control services.**

Mayor Coon stated council received a memo from Town Manager Grier describing the situation. Town Manager Grier reported he attended the Board of Supervisors meeting this morning along with

Council Member McDaniel. The board ended up tabling the agenda item, which was to terminate the agreement with the Town of Star Valley to provide animal control services. Mr. Grier stated he explained to the board the letter from Mr. Driscoll arrived on December 7th, which he promptly provided to the council members, but that he was not able to have it for council consideration in four days.

Town Manager Grier reported he has had some discussion with Mr. Driscoll and apparently Gila County animal control services does not have an animal control officer available in the area on the weekends. Therefore, the price tag for the cost to provide animal control services would need to include a four hour round trip as well as paying their employee over-time. Gila County's concern is the existing contract should be terminated or at least renegotiated. Once he heard from Mr. Driscoll, reported Mr. Grier, he contacted Chief Tischer and the Payson Town Manager to see if they would be interested in providing that service to Star Valley.

Town Manager Grier stated it's been a great pleasure to be able to work with Chief Tischer, his officers and the Town of Payson. They want to provide a good service to the Town of Star Valley. Mr. Grier stated he thinks by combining both law enforcement and animal control services the Town will provide a better service to the community. That has been lacking in the past, reported Mr. Grier, as the Town has received complaints of dogs at large and Gila County has not responded in a timely fashion. For the care of the animal and the safety of the community, switching would provide a better service to the community.

An addendum would be added to the existing law enforcement contract, explained Town Manager Grier, and for \$3,500.00 a year animal control services would be provided to the Town. Mr. Grier stated he thinks that's very fair and suggested to council to authorize him to enter into the addendum with the Town of Payson to provide animal control services. Mr. Grier added he would also send notice to Gila County that the Town is terminating the existing Intergovernmental Agreement. Concluded Mr. Grier, he and Chief Tischer are ready to field any questions council may have.

Council Member Rappaport stated she too is concerned about the time that it takes to respond. A good response time is safer for the animal and safer for the people. Council Member Binney stated Gila County animal control never did a really good job for Star Valley. The Payson Police Department will do a much better job. Queried Council Member Binney – What does Gila County do? Supervisor Tommie Martin was the only supervisor that really looked after Northern Gila County. Supervisor Cline doesn't seem to do anything for us. It is absolutely amazing how under represented Northern Gila County is going to be. Council Member Binney concluded he is definitely for moving animal control to Payson.

Council Member Armington stated all the Town needs to do is give Supervisor Cline a phone call. Council Member Armington explained he was approached by Town staff last week to see if he could get a county sign to put on Moonlight Drive for the citizens to be aware that the water was going to be turned off for a short period of time. He contacted Supervisor Cline in the evening and by first thing in the morning Supervisor Cline had a sign out there. Supervisor Cline is doing his best to represent the Town of Star Valley, concluded Council Member Armington. Council Member Davis stated he agrees to go with the Town of Payson with animal control services.

Chief Tischer explained he looks at what is best for the residents and how they can help to provide the best service they possibly can. He thinks it will be much more seamless and efficient – a one stop shop for the residents. If there are any problems or complaints let him know and they will be addressed immediately, concluded Chief Tischer. Mayor Coon stated he thinks the price is reasonable and fair and asked if the Town would pay up front or through the year. Town Manager Grier responded the Town would pay up front and a check would be written tomorrow if council motion tonight is to make the change. "Pull the trigger," announced Council Member Rappaport. Mayor Coon concluded it's a good solution and he is in favor of it.

A motion to instruct the Town Manager to write the check to Payson tomorrow, enter into negotiations with the Town of Payson for an animal control services contract and notify Gila County they are done was made by Council Member Binney and was seconded by Council Member Davis.

A roll call vote was taken:

Vice Mayor McKinney Yes, Council Member Davis Yes, Council Member Armington Yes, Council Member Binney Yes, Council Member Rappaport Yes, Council Member McDaniel Yes, Mayor Coon Yes.

The motion was voted on and passed 7 - 0.

**4. Discussion and possible action regarding Christmas bonuses for Town staff requested by Council Member McDaniel.**

Mayor Coon stated he believes a Christmas bonus is an excellent way for Star Valley to show appreciation for the hard work by Town staff throughout the year that often goes unnoticed. Council Member McDaniel stated she really appreciates the staff and would like to show staff how much they are appreciated by giving them Christmas bonuses and acknowledge the hard work they do for the Town. They more than deserve it, concluded Council Member McDaniel. Council Member Davis stated the Town's small staff is very efficient and does an outstanding job. Council can always count on them to provide accurate information on time, concluded Council Member Davis.

Council Member Armington thanked staff and stated the girls do a great job. Town Manager Grier is alright, jokingly concluded Council Member Armington. Council Member Binney stated he does not disagree with what anyone has said so far. The only thing he is concerned about is the amount. Mayor Coon acknowledged Council Member Binney is right. It was talked about at the pre-agenda but it has not been brought up today. As he recalls, reported Mayor Coon, the bonus last year was \$750.00 each. Town Manager Grier confirmed it was \$750.00 last year.

**A motion to approve Christmas bonuses for each of the staff in the amount of \$750.00 was made by Council Member McDaniel and was seconded by Council Member Davis.**

A roll call vote was taken:

Vice Mayor McKinney Yes, Council Member Davis Yes, Council Member Armington Yes, Council Member Binney Yes, Council Member Rappaport Yes, Council Member McDaniel Yes, Mayor Coon Yes.

The motion was voted on and passed 7 - 0.

Town Manager Grier thanked all the council members and expressed it sincerely means so much for staff to have council support. Staff has missed council this year and has missed having the Christmas party, where we were all able to get together. Staff very much appreciates councils support, concluded Mr. Grier.

- **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 up this portion of the meeting for public comment. There was no public in attendance and the Mayor closed this portion of the meeting.

• **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Davis and was seconded by Council Member McDaniel.

The motion was voted on and passed 7 – 0.

**APPROVED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Coon, 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 15<sup>th</sup> day of December 2020. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December 2020.

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Edie Chapin, Town Clerk