

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

**Tuesday, September 20, 2016 @ 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. Carl Peterson of Payson United Methodist Church
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- CALL TO ORDER
- ROLL CALL:

Mayor McDaniel X , Vice-Mayor Binney X , Council Member Hartwell X , Council Member Henderson Absent , Council Member Coon X , Council Member McKinney X , Council Member O'Connor X .

- **GILA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORTS FOR JULY AND AUGUST, 2016.**

Patrol Sergeant Dave Hornung of the Gila County Sheriff's Office gave the reports for July and August, 2016.

- **HELLSGATE FIRE DISTRICT REPORTS FOR JULY AND AUGUST, 2016.**

Deputy Chief John Wisner of Hellsgate Fire District gave the reports for July and August, 2016.

- **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 2, 2016.**

- B. Approval of Claims Payable from August 1, 2016 through September 15, 2016 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 Hartwell.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mayor McDaniel X , Vice-Mayor Binney X , Council Member Hartwell X , Council Member Henderson Absent , Council Member Coon X , Council Member McKinney X , Council Member O'Connor X .

The motion was voted on and passed 6 - 0.

- **PROCLAMATION**

1. **Proclaiming October 2016 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.**

The Town Operations Superintendent, Robert Rippey, read the proclamation for the Council and Public (see agenda packet information).

- **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. **Presentation by Mark Woodson with Woodson Engineering and Surveying, Inc. Discussion regarding Capital Improvement Project Plans and acquisition of grants.**

Town Manager, Tim Grier, gave a brief introduction to Mark Woodson, Owner of Woodson Engineering and Surveying, Inc. Mr. Grier explained his meeting with Grant Evans and Rusty Tweed of Woodson Engineering, to discuss the possibility of services, grant search and acquisitions, as well as potential grant management assistance. Mr. Grier stated that, having been impressed with the meeting, he wished to introduce the firm and its team to the Council. He encouraged Mr. Woodson to discuss possibilities of grants, and for Council to ask questions.

Mr. Woodson gave a short synopsis of his personal background in engineering and municipal operations. He stated Woodson Engineering has been in business for over twenty years. He understands the Town does not have the money for Capital Improvement Projects, and needs to find funding sources for such projects. Mr. Woodson stated grants are a great way to do that. He explained that his company has experience working with Transportation Enhancement Grants and Community Develop Block Grants. In most cases, Woodson teams up with city, county or agency staff to help with managing all aspects of projects, from start to finish, or taking on tasks as requested. There are numerous grant opportunities available, Mr. Woodson explained, it is just not easy to be awarded a grant. The challenge is competing with other good communities, and competitive projects. Mr. Woodson concluded that he is looking forward to an opportunity to help the Town, and that it was a pleasure to have had the opportunity to make a presentation for the Council.

Mayor McDaniel thanked Mr. Woodson for his time and effort, and was confident the Town will have occasions to use their service.

2. **Discussion and possible action regarding approval of liquor license application of Eddie A. Kienzle for “The Pour House” located at 3870 E. Hwy. 260, Star Valley, Arizona.**

Town Clerk Edie Chapin stated the Town had received, from the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control, copies of the Liquor License Application of Eddie A. Kienzle for “The Pour House” located at 3870 E. Highway 260 in Star Valley. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 4-201, the Clerk was required to file one copy of the Liquor License Application, and then post the other copy of the Liquor License Application, along with the Application to Sell Alcoholic Beverages Notice, on the establishment for a period of twenty days. This period was observed, and no objections had been received for denial of this application.

Ms. Chapin stated the next step is for the Council to recommend to the Liquor Board that it approve or deny issuing a liquor license to Mr. Kienzle. The Liquor Board makes the ultimate decision on whether or not to issue the license. Council Member Hartwell stated she does not see any reason why it should not be approved, as the prior owner had a liquor license for the establishment, and there have been no problems that she is aware of. Mayor McDaniel stated he feels the same, and he supports the approval recommendation. Council Member Coon stated it is more or less a transfer of the license and a

formality. Mayor McDaniel agreed and pointed out to Council that the Liquor Board makes the ultimate decision.

A motion that the Council recommend to the Arizona Department of Liquor Licenses and Control that it approve the issuance of a Bar-Class Series 6 liquor license to Eddie A. Kienzle for “The Pour House” located at 3870 E. Highway 260, Star Valley, Arizona, was made by Council Member Hartwell, and was seconded by Council Member Coon.

The motion was voted on and passed 6 - 0.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding contribution to Friends of Tonto Natural Bridge State Park. Presentation by Vern Leis.

Vern Leis stated he is the current Vice President of Friends of the Natural Bridge, now known as Rim Country Friends of the Bridge, as they have incorporated into an independent 501c-3 nonprofit organization. Mr. Leis stated that a number of years ago, Arizona State became financially destitute, and decided to pull the financial funding for many of the state parks, the Natural Bridge being one of them. At that time, the Town of Star Valley, along with the Town of Payson, pulled Intergovernmental Agreements with the State Parks Service to continue to keep the Natural Bridge open. Mr. Leis stated that the IGA’s were successful, and during that time period, Friends of Tonto Natural Bridge State Park was created. Their mission is to raise money to continue to enhance the visitors experience at the park. One of the first projects Friends of Tonto Natural Bridge State Park worked on was putting the bridge into the public eye throughout the entire country. Mr. Leis stated this was done in many ways, most notably, with signage. Friends of Tonto Natural Bridge State Park have also been a major funder of the APS Payson floats, which reflect the bridge and have won many awards. According to the State Parks Service, the average attendance has almost doubled from last year, stated Mr. Leis.

Friends of the Natural Bridge State Park have also provided assistance to the State Park Service, with rehabbing the trails to make them safe, stated Mr. Leis. The only fundraising they do is the “Taste at the Bridge” dinner, held at the Tonto Natural Bridge State Park. They have not been able to hold this event the last few years, as the lodge has been under reconstruction. Mr. Leis stated that on October 8, 2016, the 3rd Taste event will be held, and he is asking sponsorship by the Town in either three of the following amounts: Title Sponsor of \$2,500.00, Gold Sponsor of \$1,000.00, or Silver Sponsor of \$500.00.

Council Member Binney asked Mr. Leis if he has knowledge of the total yearly income of the Tonto Natural Bridge State Park. Mr. Leis explained that the State Parks Service does not disclose that information, that they only disclose the entire State Parks Service budget, which is not broken down by line item. Mayor McDaniel asked Mr. Leis if he could give him the visitor attendance numbers to the Park, from this year to last year, and also provide the amount of the entrance fee. Mr. Leis answered that the amount of visitors to the Bridge has doubled, from this year to last year, and that the Bridge has had 13,000 visitors so far this year, compared to about 6,200 from the prior year. The entrance fee is \$7.50 per person, with 12 and under being free, stated Mr. Leis.

Council Member McKinney questioned Mr. Leis as to how this donation money will be spent. Mr. Leis explained that this donation money will go into the fund bucket, which will pay for expenses that come up at the Park, as well as additional advertising, and sponsorship of the APS float. Council Member O’Connor stated he does support the Bridge, but is struggling somewhat with this donation, and questions whether his constituents would rather have the money spent locally. He is personally concerned about Star Valley’s financial position. Council Member Coon pointed out to Mr. Leis that the \$2,500.00 contribution he is asking for is two and one half times the amount of the \$1,000.00 donation made in 2013. Council Member Hartwell agreed, and if a decision is made to donate, she believes that due to the financial circumstances of the Town, the Council needs to keep the contribution at \$1,000.00.

Council Member Binney does not believe the Town can afford the donation. Council Member McKinney stated he did not feel comfortable with the \$1,000.00 donation, and is in agreement that the Town's situation has changed a great deal. He does enjoy the bridge, and appreciates its contribution to the general community of the Rim Country, but feels \$500.00 would be a more reasonable amount to contribute. Mayor McDaniel stated that the Town has taken a hit, as far as loss of revenue, and is in agreement that \$500.00 is a reasonable amount to contribute. Council Member Binney stated that it is up to the Council to spend the public money wisely, and he is not sure this is wise spending. Council Member Coon looks at it as a contribution to the community, it's like an investment, he stated, it brings people to the area, and people come here to spend money.

A motion that the Council approves assisting in sponsoring the "Taste at the Bridge" fund raising event on October 8, 2016, by making a contribution to the Friends of the Tonto Natural Bridge State Park in the amount of \$500.00 was made by Council Member Hartwell, and was seconded by Council Member Coon.

The motion was voted on and the tally was 4 – 2.

A roll call vote was then taken:

Mayor McDaniel Yes, Vice-Mayor Binney No, Council Member Hartwell Yes, Council Member Henderson Absent, Council Member Coon Yes, Council Member McKinney Yes, Council Member O'Connor No.

The motion passed 4 – 2.

4. Discussion and possible action to accept the canvass of votes and approval of the 2016 Primary Election results. Town Clerk Edie Chapin to make presentation.

Town Clerk Chapin stated the Star Valley Primary Election was held in Star Valley on August 30, 2016, and that the council books contain an abstract of the canvass, as the complete canvass is over 300 pages long. Ms. Chapin reported that of the 1,832 Star Valley registered voters, a total of 978 ballots were cast. There were 3 open council positions, and a total of 1,453 votes were cast. Gary Coon received 329 votes; Bobby Davis received 318 votes; Barbara Hartwell received 303 votes; George Binney received 269 votes; Ray Armington received 230 votes; and there were 4 write-in votes. Ms. Chapin explained that a candidate needed a minimum of 243 votes to be successful, and the candidates receiving the highest number of votes equal to the number of seats to be filled shall be declared elected.

Therefore, the three elected Council Members are Gary Coon, Bobby Davis and Barbara Hartwell. Town Clerk Chapin stated she was asking the Council to accept the canvass of votes presented as the official canvass of the 2016 Primary Election, and that the Council approves the results presented.

A motion that the Council accepts the official canvass of the 2016 Primary Election and approves the results thereof for the Town of Star Valley was made by Council Member Binney and was seconded by Council Member Hartwell.

The motion was voted on and passed 6 – 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.

Vern Leis of 33 E. Saddleback Trail in Star Valley thanked the council for supporting the Bridge. There were no further public comments, and the Mayor closed this portion of the meeting.

• **ADJOURNMENT**

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

The motion was voted on and passed 6 – 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 20th day of September, 2016. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 26th day of September, 2016.

Edie Chapin, Town Clerk