

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

**Tuesday, June 20, 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 Westcott of the 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.

- **HELLSGATE FIRE DISTRICT REPORTS FOR APRIL AND MAY, 2017**

Hellsgate Fire District was not in attendance.

- **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 June 6, 2017.

B. Approval of Claims Payable from June 1, 2017 through June 15, 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 Stephenson.

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 with Woody Cline, District 3 Supervisor regarding continued funding by Gila County for the Meals on Wheels and Senior Ridership Programs.**

District 3 Supervisor Woody Cline reported that the senior center funding is now a line item in the budget, and believes it is a more streamlined way to provide funding to the senior centers. Supervisor Cline pointed out that the very first bullet point on his handout (see attached) budgets \$150,000 for this line item, and that in the last year, a total of \$128,000 was funded by Gila County to the senior centers. Stated Supervisor Cline, the budget is not final yet and will be voted on soon, but that he does not foresee any problems with it. Olivia Guerrero, in collaboration with the directors of the senior centers, is working on a formula to make sure the division of the funds is a fair deal for everyone, explained Supervisor Cline. The last bullet point, pointed out Supervisor Cline, is that the line item will be reviewed each year during the budget preparation process.

Vice Mayor O'Connor asked how many senior centers will be dividing this funding. Supervisor Cline responded the funding will be divided between four Gila County senior centers located in Payson, Globe, Miami and Hayden. Vice Mayor O'Connor reported that he works with the Payson Senior Center, their kitchen has no air-conditioning, and this may be something that Supervisor Cline may also want to consider funding. Supervisor Cline responded that the focus and priority is meals and transportation to the seniors, and suggested the Payson Senior Center hold fundraisers. Council Member Coon asked where the \$22,000.00 came from. Supervisor Cline responded that the \$22,000.00 is an increase from Gila County. Council Member Stephenson questioned if the Town will be contributing an additional amount on top of the contribution from Gila County. Town Manager Grier responded that it would be Council's decision, and that what we have done in the past is contributed \$35,000.00, half of which was a contribution from Gila County.

Supervisor Cline stated he has been pushing the Youth Work Program, which has gained support with the Gila County Board, and reported there are 16 youth that have been placed in workforce summer positions. He is working in partnership with the Forest Service to expand this program next year. Mayor McDaniel stated it is an important program and a priority. Council Member Davis asked if Gila County is paying the full salary. Supervisor Cline responded that County and State tax dollars are paying for the Youth Work Program, at \$10.00 an hour. The Forest Service became involved, reported Supervisor Cline, as they have an opportunity to put the youth to work in different functions, such as recreation, range, and timber. Between now and next summer, the goal is to promote this program in the schools. Council Member Davis suggested to get the word out starting in middle school and high school. Mayor McDaniel recommended providing literature. Discussion followed concerning the Youth Work Program.

Supervisor Cline pointed out the Youth Work Program can assist youth in obtaining their GED, and getting them into college or trade school. Council Member Stephenson asked the approximate age group of the youth. Supervisor Cline answered the youth they hired are between 17 to 19 years old. Reported Supervisor Cline, the Youth Work Program has not been promoted enough and it's difficult to find young adults between the ages of 16 to 24, and that the target on his radar is the homeless youth in Payson. Council Member Stephenson complimented Supervisor Cline on taking the initiative to get this program underway. Supervisor Cline stated all three of the Gila County Supervisors are involved and on board with this youth program. Council Member McKinney thanked Supervisor Cline and his colleagues for their efforts and for attending Council Meetings to provide updates.

2. Public hearing, discussion and possible action to adopt Resolution No. R 17-05, adopting the Final Budget for fiscal year July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 in the amount of \$6,790,432.00. Presentation by Finance Administrator Chancy Nutt.

Finance Administrator Nutt stated this is the final public hearing for the budget process of 2017/2018, and that the tentative budget, Resolution No. R 17-04, was passed on June 6, 2017. Reported Ms. Nutt, the state "Schedule A" was published in the newspaper for two weeks and was also posted on the Town website. In preparation for tonight's meeting, the Town advertised this meeting as a public hearing for public participation. Ms. Nutt pointed out that no changes have been made to the budget since the tentative budget was adopted. Ms. Nutt requested that the Mayor open the meeting for public comment when appropriate, and that the Council consider Resolution No. R 17-05 to adopt the Final Budget, that will be implemented on July 1st. Explained Ms. Nutt, if the Council chooses to adopt the Final Budget she will publish "Schedule A" in the newspaper for two weeks, post on the Town website, and send the entire state documents to the Arizona Auditor General's Office.

A motion that Council adopts Resolution No. R 17-05, adopting the Final Budget for fiscal year July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 in the amount of \$6,790,432.00 was made by Council Member Davis, and was seconded by Council Member Hartwell.

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.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding the purchase of an automatic gate for the B. Diane McDaniel Community Park entrance.

Town Manager Grier stated the issue is the gate at the entrance of the park. The Town has hired an individual to open and close the gates and bathrooms – upon observation, this individual is infrequently unreliable. An automatic gate with a timer would be more consistent in the opening and closing of the gates. This wouldn't solve the problem with the bathrooms, reported Mr. Grier., so an option would be to leave them open. Having secure front gates at the park would possibly discourage vandalism. Mr. Grier pointed out that this item is not in the four-year plan, but believes the Town can absorb the cost, and that staff has received quotes with two options available. Operations Superintendent Robert Rippey would work in-house with Mighty Mule at an estimated cost of \$2,046.00 for the materials. Unfortunately, reported Mr. Grier, Mighty Mule does not offer a gate with a timer, which does not solve the problem. The other option is to hire Payson Fence Company, at an estimated cost of \$12,300.00 for materials, labor and tax, to install solar gate operators on three gates with a timer.

Mayor McDaniel asked about the difference between the Town handling this project in-house versus hiring Payson Fence Company. Mr. Grier responded there is a \$7,000.00 difference between handling it in-house or hiring the Payson Fence Company. The issue with handling the job in-house is that the gate would not have a timer. Reported Mr. Grier, staff could open and close the gate during the week, but the park would be closing at 5:00pm, and there would be no one available to open and close on the weekends. Mayor McDaniel asked if the Town is covered by insurance. Mr. Grier reported the Town has insurance with a \$500.00 deductible. As park improvements are made, commented Mr. Grier, the Town should expect there will be some vandalism, part of the cost of having a park. Mayor McDaniel stated the Town needs control of the park entrance to protect the park. Mr. Grier pointed out that the Town pays an individual to open and close the gates and bathrooms at the park for \$100.00 per month.

Mayor McDaniel asked if the installation of the automatic gate would do away with the monthly cost. Mr. Grier stated Council would have to decide about the bathrooms and how to protect them from vandalism. Would the Town leave the bathrooms open, or continue to pay \$100.00 per month, questioned Mr. Grier?

Council Member Hartwell questioned if the Town should replace the incompetent individual. She stated she understands the need, due to vandalism, but that it would be a waste of money. Council Member Hartwell stated she does not agree with the purchase of automatic gates, and recommends the Town replace the incompetent individual. Council Member Stephenson stated that having a program dependent on a single individual is always problematic, and the gates are a needed expenditure to protect the investment of the Town. Mayor McDaniel stated he agrees with Council Member Stephenson, especially if the Town can absorb the cost. The Town has a great deal of money invested in the park, that we need to protect, pointed out Mayor McDaniel. Council Member Coon questioned how someone who gets locked in would be able to get out. Assistant Town Manager Nutt explained the three-arm gate system would open and close on a timer in opposite directions of each other. Each arm would operate with its own solar panel and timer. In case emergency personnel require access to the park after closing, they would punch in a master code on the outside key pad, which would allow them access into the park. For someone who gets locked in the park, there is a sensor that recognizes a vehicle approaching, it will open the gate to let them exit, and then automatically closes the gate behind them, explained Ms. Nutt.

Council Member Coon stated he agrees with the Mayor that the Town has quite a substantial investment in the park. Vice Mayor O'Connor stated he likes the idea, and the warranty from Payson Fence Company that comes along with it. Council Member McKinney stated he is in favor of the automatic gate, and the price points provided are well within the industry norms. Town Manager Grier stated he would like to address the cost of this and the next agenda item, and that he is looking at removing another budgeted project to offset the cost of these. Council Member Davis stated staff would not bring this to Council's attention if it wasn't necessary.

A motion that Council direct staff to move forward with the purchasing and installation of an automatic gate for the community park was made by Council Member Davis, and was seconded by Council Member Coon.

The motion was voted on and passed 7 – 0.

4. Discussion and possible action regarding the purchase of a trailer mounted radar speed sign.

Town Manager Grier reported that speeding traffic, specifically on Moonlight, but including other side streets as well, has been discussed several times with Council Members and the public. Staff has spoken to the Gila County Sheriff's Office, who have pledged to put officers out there, but the Town does not know how often that happens. Mr. Grier explained this radar speed sign is a mobile unit that will allow the Town to rotate for use at multiple locations, and collect data. The quotes (see attached) are for two versions, and Mr. Grier stated he recommends the \$7,388.28 unit, and that Council move forward with the purchase of the trailer mounted radar speed sign.

Mayor McDaniel asked for clarification of the Flint Road project. Mr. Grier explained the Flint Road project, presented as part of the four-year plan, was some paving on Flint Road. Town Manager Grier confessed he should have been more diligent in looking at this project, and that the problem is that it is too narrow of a road. If the Town were to pave this road, we would first need to acquire easements, an oversight on his part, disclosed Mr. Grier. We need to have a safe width before the Town proceeds with this project. Stated Mr. Grier, he does not think the Flint Road project is needed, and it will be agendized

at the next meeting for Council to remove this \$47,000.00 project from the four-year plan. Mayor McDaniel questioned if the cost of the Flint Road project included widening the road. Mr. Grier responded that the \$47,000.00 price was for paving the road, and he thinks the property owners would be very reluctant to release easements to widen the road. Not only would it cost more, stated Mr. Grier, he does not think the Town would get the easements from the property owners.

Vice Mayor O'Connor reported that he has received numerous complaints regarding speeding traffic on side streets, and that the Sheriff's Office was to set up a trailer to monitor speeds – it never happened. This trailer is a great idea, stated Vice Mayor O'Connor – because the Town can forward the data collection information to law enforcement – and it should slow everyone down. Council Member Stephenson stated this is assumedly the responsibility of the Sheriff's Department. The Town is spending big money with the Sheriff's Department, what services are we getting in return, questioned Council Member Stephenson – promises, then nothing. We need to look at this in a larger context, is it the Town's responsibility, or is the Town already paying for this through the contract with the Sheriff's Department, questioned Council Member Stephenson. Town Manager Grier responded that the Town has received nothing but empty promises from the Sheriff's Department, and suggested that Council take a political approach and invite Sheriff Shepherd to attend one of the Council Meetings to express to him the safety concerns which haven't been met.

Vice Mayor O'Connor stated the Town is ultimately responsible for law enforcement, and that Gila County is having problems juggling the officers they already have. Even if we ask, stated Vice Mayor O'Connor, he does not think Gila County would have the ability. The trailer would give the Town a response to complaining citizens, pointed out Vice Mayor O'Connor. Mr. Grier stated his recommendation is for Council to approve this agenda item because the Town needs to do something to provide safety to the community. Mayor McDaniel commented that once someone gets hit, it's way too late. Council Member Davis agrees that the Town should express it's concerns to Sheriff Shepherd, and that this is the Town's responsibility to the community. Mr. Grier pointed out that the trailer would enable the Town to collect hard data such as speeds and traffic count, and that the Town would also be adding data collection to the two highway speed display signs. This hard data, pointed out Mr. Grier, will provide the Town with convincing statistics to provide to the Sheriff's Department and ADOT. Council Member McKinney stated the most important issue to contend with is the safety of our constituents, and that the Town can no longer wait for the Sheriff's Department. We owe it to our constituents to get the trailer out there. Council Member McKinney stated he would like to address, in a future meeting, the incapability of the Sheriff's Department in providing the Town with the level of service that the Town is paying for.

A motion that Council direct staff to move forward with the purchase of the \$7,388.28 trailer mounted radar speed sign was made by Council Member Stephenson, and was seconded by Council Member Davis.

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 Council Member Hartwell, 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 20th day of June, 2017. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 3rd day of July, 2017.

Eddie Chapin, Town Clerk