

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

**Tuesday, October 16, 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 Rev. Linda Westcott of Community Presbyterian 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 REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 2018**

Chief John Wisner of Hellsgate Fire District gave the report for September 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 September 18, 2018.

B. Approval of Claims Payable from September 16, 2018 through October 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 Davis.

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 October 2018 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

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

- **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- 1. Update and discussion regarding the possibility of a round-about, traffic light, a pedestrian crossing, handicap access or other safety measures to improve the safety and slow traffic on Highway 260.**

Town Manager Grier stated he is providing this update per Council Member Coon's request. Initially, reported Mr. Grier, there was some discontent in working with Arizona Department of Transportation ("ADOT") on this issue. After the Roundup had addressed that in an article the Town immediately received a positive response from ADOT and they have taken some very positive steps. A meeting occurred between the Town and ADOT as they were very concerned about what had happened. ADOT took a bit of a beating that wasn't deserved, acknowledged Mr. Grier. We hope, stated Mr. Grier, this will resolve in something out on Highway 260 that is going to slow traffic. Reported Mr. Grier, he and Finance Administrator Nutt were scheduled to be part of a Road Safety Assessment ("RSA") conducted by ADOT in October. That meeting was cancelled and has been rescheduled to November. Mr. Grier reported he has been in communication with ADOT immediately after the last meeting and almost continuously and they too are very concerned about trying to find some sort of resolution to the problem.

At the RSA, explained Mr. Grier, the discussion will include primarily a look at safety items. Several council members have concerns about handicap accessibility, pedestrian crossings and signage – which he will bring up at the upcoming RSA meeting – along with the possibility of a round-about or traffic light. The relationship with ADOT is a positive one, we are going to be heard and hopefully from the RSA meeting in November a solution will be identified, stated Mr. Grier. The Town and ADOT need to work together as the problem will not be solved independently. Mr. Grier informed council this item will be put back on a future agenda once the meeting has taken place and more information is available. Council Member McKinney stated he appreciates the safety warnings specific to the Town that ADOT has placed on the overhead sign but has noticed that it is intermittent and frequently there is no message on the sign what-so-ever. Council Member McKinney recommended encouraging ADOT to remember the Town's message as well – to have a continuous presence – especially when there is no message. Mr. Grier commented ADOT had recently made steps to re-initiate the safety warnings specific to the Town and was told by ADOT that the message will lose its effectiveness if it is continuous. It is something he will remind them about acknowledged Mr. Grier.

- 2. Discussion and possible action regarding a shared funding contribution of \$2,500.00 per year for the Rim Country Trails working group. Discussion item requested by Council Member Davis.**

Council Member Davis reported he along with Council Member Stephenson have been involved in the Rim Country Trails working group for the last two years and the group is making some progress. The forest service initially funded the mediators of the Rim Country Trails working group meetings explained Council Member Davis. Council Member Davis stated he is a firm believer that this resource group is needed to help mediate the meetings because those involved with the Rim Country Trails working group are volunteers and it takes a lot of research and organization to keep this type of group going forward. The Rim Country Trails working group is asking for a shared funding agreement and are requesting from Gila County, the Town of Payson and the Town of Star Valley \$2,500.00 per year to help fund this group and continue the support. Along with that, explained Council Member Davis, the individual organizations involved, such as the Pine Strawberry Trails group, would have a dollar amount

they could contribute from their organizations. We are making progress, it may not seem like it, but progress is being made, reported Council Member Davis.

Mayor McDaniel asked if the funds will go to forest service personnel. Council Member Davis answered the funds will go to a resource development group out of Flagstaff and explained that this cost was initially paid for by the forest service for the first year. Council Member Stephenson disclosed he has a little different perspective in that it's mainly a feel-good group and provided an example of his experience. One of the key issues in trails is the mixed use, stated Council Member Stephenson, and that issue has not been addressed. There has been no facilitation in trying to solve the hard problem and to his knowledge they are no closer to designating a new trail today than they were a few years ago. Council Member Stephenson admitted he is skeptical explaining his concern that the forest service is not doing anything with the information and the facilitation group is holding meetings with no real outcomes of substance. The Town of Star Valley can't put resources into trail heads because there are no recognized trails at the end of the trail heads. He would be willing to see this for one more year on a year-by-year basis and a lesser amount contingent on the other partners contributions, disclosed Council Member Stephenson. Council Member Davis responded there is a lot of work that has been done informing council of the rimcountrytrails.com website and the historical data that has been collected and GSI maps that have been created.

Mayor McDaniel stated the Town of Payson has a really good trail system and reported that the forest service didn't do all that work, the residents of Payson did. Vice Mayor O'Connor pointed out that Council Member Stephenson is not listed as one of the participants on the provided handout and stated he doesn't understand why the council is not being provided enough information. He believes, stated Vice Mayor O'Connor, that Council Member Davis is doing a dis-service to Star Valley because he is not committing to Star Valley and what the people of Star Valley want. Vice Mayor O'Connor provided a motor vehicle use map to council pointing out the rules and regulations of the forest service. This tells you what you can and can't do on the national forest and this is what's coming to the Tonto National Forest not too far down the road. The only ones that suffer on anything to do with trails is the motorized group stated Vice Mayor O'Connor. Vice Mayor O'Connor then reminded council of a statement District Ranger Cress made that the trails group did choose non-motorized and they are intending to go forward with non-motorized as per the April 4, 2017 Minutes. Discussion followed regarding a handout provided by Council Member Davis. Representation from Star Valley needs to be committed to Star Valley residents reiterated Vice Mayor O'Connor. Council Member Davis stated he would be more than happy to resign from the Rim Country Trails working group and allow Vice Mayor O'Connor to take his place.

Council Member Davis stated the Rim Country Trails group is trying to accomplish connecting the trails and disclosed he is pulled between the two – working for the Town of Payson and being on the council. Vice Mayor O'Connor agreed that Council Member Davis should resign from the Rim Country Trails group and stated he sees no benefit or advantage for Star Valley. Council Member Davis responded we are all part of the Rim Country and if we improve the trails for the Rim Country how could that not be good for Star Valley. Council Member McKinney asked what the budget is. Council Member Davis answered the total budget is about \$34,000.00. Council Member McKinney questioned where the money goes and stated that he would like complete transparency on the budgetary aspects. Council Member Stephenson pointed out the facilitation group is self-serving as they are looking to make more work than just trails and they can't do trails. Council Member Coon stated he agrees with Council Member McKinney and would like a breakdown as to where the money is going. Council Member Armington stated he is not much for fixing his neighbors fence and that the forest service should be picking up this tab to make our trails more usable for everyone. Council Member Davis stated he would like to recuse himself from the trails committee as a representative for Star Valley. Vice Mayor

O'Connor responded the Town needs someone that looks out for what the people of Star Valley are wanting. Council Member McKinney stated if there is no motion he looks forward to getting additional information at a later date.

A motion for the Town of Star Valley to continue participating in the Rim Country Trails working group effort with no contribution until the Town receives a complete budgetary picture for council consideration was made by Council Member Stephenson and was seconded by Council Member Coon.

Mayor McDaniel announced that Council Member Davis has recused himself from the vote.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mayor McDaniel Yes, Vice Mayor O'Connor No, Council Member Coon Yes, Council Member McKinney Yes, Council Member Davis recused, Council Member Stephenson Yes, Council Member Armington Yes.

The motion was voted on and passed 5 – 1.

3. Discussion and possible action to adopt Resolution No. R 18-12 – A Resolution of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Star Valley, Arizona authorizing the Town Manager to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the City of Phoenix and the Town of Star Valley for the purpose of using the municipal tax dashboards on the business intelligence system.

Finance Administrator Chancy Nutt stated Resolution No. R 18-12 will allow the Town to access certain software by the City of Phoenix. Explained Ms. Nutt, in 2015 state legislation required that the Arizona Department of Revenue take over all collection of city sales tax for every city and town in Arizona. This information was provided to the towns as raw data format and it became a very cumbersome task of downloading, filtering and processing on a monthly basis to produce reports. This is a very costly and timely endeavor for cities and towns and one that she undergoes monthly, stated Ms. Nutt. The City of Phoenix sales tax department developed a software they named “Oracle” for the sole purpose of processing the information from the Arizona Department of Revenue. The success of “Oracle” led other cities and towns to request partnerships with the City of Phoenix to access the software for processing their own data. Explained Ms. Nutt, the City of Phoenix saw the need and developed an agreement between other cities and towns providing them access to the software for the development of these reports – they never intended this to be a commercial product and have only requested costs of personnel populating the fields for individual cities and towns and a small access fee on an annual basis.

Ms. Nutt stated she is requesting the Town support Resolution No. R 18-12 and grant population and annual access fees to “Oracle”, so she might reduce the amount of staff time required in processing city tax reports and also increase the flexibility and sophistication of the reports currently viewed. This will allow her to understand what businesses are or aren’t doing and which businesses aren’t in compliance. It will allow the Town to increase performance as well as auditing on a monthly and annual basis. Ms. Nutt pointed out the handouts provided depict information that can be provided to management and council for budgeting and analysis purposes and reiterated she is asking the Town for access to this software for efficiency and flexibility in reporting city sales tax for the cost of populating the software of \$1,000.00 and an annual access charge based on our population of \$180.00.

Council Member Stephenson stated it’s a bargain and a wise investment to get the information the Town needs to track the Arizona Department of Revenue. Council Member Coon stated he thinks this would increase efficiency and accuracy and he would support it. Council Member McKinney asked for clarification if this would allow the Town to monitor and track sales tax generated at each individual business in Town. Ms. Nutt responded she can look at an aggregate and also look at specific businesses

as well as businesses by industry or name. She will be able to compare a specific businesses performance monthly or from this month to the same month last year and would also further understand businesses that are no longer reporting or reporting but not paying. Reported Ms. Nutt, she would also be able to track the businesses that are paying the Arizona Department of Revenue but maybe don't understand they are required to have a business license in Town. Optimistically, stated Ms. Nutt, she would like to say that the Town is going to recapture these funds by understanding who is contributing and not contributing and being able to audit businesses and provide information back to the Arizona Department of Revenue. Town Manager Grier added that access to this software would allow the Town to identify trends as sales tax revenue is not well predicted.

A motion to adopt Resolution No. R 18-12 – A Resolution of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Star Valley, Arizona authorizing the Town Manager to execute the Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the City of Phoenix and the Town of Star Valley for the purpose of using the municipal tax dashboards on the business intelligence system 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 – 0.0

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 Stephenson.

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 16th day of October 2018. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 17th day of October 2018.

Edie Chapin, Town Clerk