

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

**Tuesday, July 5, 2022 at 5:15 pm
3675 East Highway 260, Star Valley, AZ
(Star Valley Town Hall)**

The Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- PRAYER was offered by Vice Mayor McKinney.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- CALL TO ORDER

- **ROLL CALL:**

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

- **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.

Greg Herbert of 314 E. Saddleback in Star Valley explained that he has an ongoing problem of community park visitors, knowingly or unknowingly, trespassing on his property even though he has several “No Trespassing” signs posted. Mr. Herbert stated he has noticed that the community park has become more popular in the last four years and the increase of usage means an increase of trespassers coming onto his property. He then gave recent examples. Mr. Herbert stated he is requesting the Town of Star Valley pay for a fence in order to delineate the property lines as well as provide a physical barrier. Mr. Herbert concluded he would like to discuss this with Town Manager Grier and council further.

There were no further comments and the Mayor closed the public comment portion.

- **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 7, 2022.

B. Approval of Claims Payable from June 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022 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 Armington.

A roll call vote was taken:

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

The motion was voted on and passed 7 - 0.

- **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- 1. Discussion and possible action regarding paving around select mailbox pullouts.**

Town Manager Grier stated council has previously expressed interest in having some mailbox pullouts paved. He has been out with Roy Haught to get estimates on potential costs. Mr. Grier reported there are numerous mailboxes and some are on the highway right-of-way. He referred council to a copy of the letter sent to ADOT asking them what type of permit would be needed to do an asphalted area. We have not heard back from them yet and don't expect to hear back from them for some time. Mr. Grier reported he has chosen six areas that he thinks are in the greatest need and would work for asphalt. The estimated bid from Mr. Haught is approximately \$50,000 for the six areas. Mr. Grier referred to the photos of the six mailbox pullouts in need of paving. Council Member Rappaport stated she thinks \$50,000 is way out of line as she doesn't see that there is any grading that has to be done. Mayor Davis responded that some of them will need grading. Council Member Rappaport stated she is sure we can get another contractor to do it. Mr. Grier reported the asphalt areas are somewhat large and the cost of asphalt has increased dramatically. Council Member Armington pointed out it appears that every one of those areas are going to need to be cut four inches or better to establish a base to put the asphalt down.

Council Member Binney asked if the Town checked with the federal government about paving around the mailboxes. Town Manager Grier responded the Town owns the easements. Council Member Binney stated we live in a rural environment, there are more unpaved driveways than there are paved driveways in this Town and he doesn't know why the Town needs to spend \$50,000 for this. Council Member Binney added the back will need to be done too as the mail carrier uses it from the opposite end. Mr. Grier responded the front and back will have to be done on most of them. Mayor Davis reported the mailbox pullout at Rainbow is deeply pitted and very hard to get in and out because of that. Maintenance would be needed to keep it leveled out and clean. Once it's done it adds a lot of value for the citizens. Council Member Binney stated we have no liability right now because we haven't done anything. Queried Council Member Binney – How much liability are we picking up? Council Member Dueker responded we are going to carry liability because council discussed it. \$50,000 is a lot of money but it's a small project that will make some people happy. That's what we are here for, added Council Member Dueker. Queried Council Member Binney – How many people? Council Member Dueker responded he doesn't know, but maybe it's something council can address every year. The Town is here to do things to help people, concluded Council Member Dueker.

Council Member McDaniel stated she thinks a lot of people would appreciate it. It's a good investment for the Town even though it is rather expensive. Queried Council Member Rappaport – Why don't we get some comparison bids? Mayor Davis responded he doesn't think Roy is going to over bid it. Competition helps, responded Council Member Rappaport. Council Member Binney explained it costs

money to do that. You have to come out with a set of specs and you have to advertise for the bid. It's probably not worth the savings for something so small. Vice Mayor McKinney stated this is a project that impacts virtually everyone in Town and he is in favor of it because it impacts the general populous. It is something that is needful and it's something that we can afford. This year we can do the six, recommended Vice Mayor McKinney, and maybe next year we can do additional ones as the needs arise. Queried Council Member Binney – Is it HURF funds or General Funds? Town Manager Grier answered the money for this project will be taken out of either HURF or the county excise tax, which are restricted funds for road projects.

A motion to move forward with this project and approve the paving of the six photographed mailboxes for the cost of \$50,000 was made by Council Member Armington and was seconded by Council Member Dueker.

A roll call vote was taken:

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

The motion was voted on and passed 7 - 0.

2. Discussion and possible action regarding slowing traffic on SR260 through Town, a possible crosswalk and larger noise enforcement signs. Requested by Council Member Dueker.

Council Member Dueker reported he recently witnessed a citizen on a scooter and another using a walker, waiting in between the yellow lines to cross SR260, with weekend traffic going by at 55mph to 60mph. It's obviously a safety issue, stated Council Member Dueker. He knows the Town has been beating its head against the wall with ADOT for quite a while. The Town, recommended Council Member Dueker, needs to provide solutions to change their mind. He then referred council to a photo of Butler Avenue in Flagstaff. Council Member Dueker explained it is a crosswalk that is double lane, the speed limit is 35mph or 40mph and they have lights that light up. The biggest thing he sees is that it gives a safety area rather than standing between two yellow lines. Queried Mayor Davis – That's not a state highway, is it? No, it's not a state highway responded Council Member Dueker. Council Member Dueker pointed out that on SR87 heading north (by the casino), ADOT drops the speed limit to 45mph and then to 35mph. He also thinks the Town could possibly put in two crosswalks – one would be between the Spur Bar and Cornerstone and the other one would be by the motel. The crosswalks would allow pedestrians access to the park, Circle K, the Spur Bar or wherever they want to go. Council Member Dueker stated he believes it is something that needs to be revisited and he's asking council to take another look at this situation and enter into a conversation with ADOT to see if we can't come into some kind of agreement that slows traffic down a little bit. It is something that warrants the Town to take a look at again. People are more open to listening to you if you have a few concepts or like practices, concluded Council Member Dueker.

Mayor Davis stated this has been a fight with ADOT for nineteen years. The Town knows there is a problem and has had ADOT in here many times about a putting in a stop light or a crosswalk. It's a state highway and ADOT's goal is to move the traffic. Mayor Davis stated his concern that a stop light would screw up traffic even more. Queried Council Member Dueker – What about a crosswalk? Mayor Davis answered that he doesn't know that ADOT would allow the Town to put in a crosswalk. It would designate a crosswalk, but he thinks pedestrians wouldn't use it because they are going to cross wherever they want to cross. He doesn't think it would make it any safer, added Mayor Davis, and he can't see slowing down traffic that much. Council Member Binney reported we have asked for a crosswalk in the

past and that was turned down by ADOT because there are not enough pedestrians. The speed trap was the closest thing to slowing people down. Council Member Binney stated he was in favor of the road diet – it would have reduced the four lanes to two lanes and it could have been painted and changed later if it didn't work. The public that showed up at Town Hall didn't like it. If a stop light is put in he will hate it. ADOT is not the answer, concluded Council Member Binney. Council Member Rappaport stated maybe the Town could do something in conjunction with street lights. She is definitely against a stop light because there will be traffic for miles. Council Member Dueker stated maybe there will be fresh ears at ADOT and someone who is open to fresh ideas. If we can get it down to 35mph through the Town, that means they'll go 40mph – that's an improvement over 65mph. The crosswalk idea is something he thinks can possibly work in the Town.

Mayor Davis stated he doesn't have a problem talking to ADOT. He doesn't think ADOT will ever take the SR260 down to 35mph because it's such a heavy traffic highway. We were lucky to get it down to 45mph. Council Member Dueker responded if they go down to 35mph and we have those lanes opened up all of a sudden you've got traffic flowing. Mayor Davis stated once Lion Springs is widened to four lanes that might be a good opportunity to approach ADOT. Council Member Binney stated the problem is that this is not a 35mph road. Council Member Rappaport reported thirty percent of ticketed people were out of state. Photo enforcement, added Mayor Davis, didn't ticket until 11mph over the speed limit. Council Member Binney stated he is not in favor of putting the Town in a position to waste man hours with ADOT. We can't even do the street lights right now because of the development. There is no point in doing anything right now until the development does, or doesn't, go through. Queried Council Member Binney – How many times has the Town requested a reduction in the speed limit? Town Manager Grier answered there is no other issue that has consumed council and staff time more than the issue on the highway. Every council, for fifteen years, has said they want to reduce the speed on SR260 because of safety concerns.

Town Manager Grier stated he thinks council voting against the road diet plan was probably the end of any effort that ADOT was going to put in. There are no fresh ideas on this one and we understand it's a dangerous highway. Statistically, according to ADOT, it is not a dangerous highway. Council Member Dueker reported it's the number one issue when he speaks with people in Town. Council Member Rappaport stated ADOT is always going to be a pain. It's the squeaky wheel that gets the grease and she thinks Council Member Dueker deserves to do more of it. Council Member Dueker stated he would like council to give him an opportunity to talk to the powers that be at ADOT. He's had a lot of experience negotiating and working through issues and problems with government agencies. Mayor Davis stated he would like Council Member Dueker to work with Mr. Grier on it. He then suggested we wait until after Mr. Martinez decides what he's going to do with the development because it could make a big difference. Council Member Binney stated he agrees as long as staff time is not being wasted. Mr. Grier stated Council Member Dueker can go forward on his own to make contact with ADOT.

A motion to approve council support for Council Member Dueker to contact ADOT in an attempt to resolve the speeding issue on our highway was made by Council Member McDaniel and was seconded by Council Member Rappaport.

A roll call vote was taken:

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

The motion was voted on and passed 7 - 0.

• **ADJOURNMENT**

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

The motion was voted on and passed 7 – 0.

APPROVED:

Bobby Davis, 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 5th day of July 2022. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 8th day of July 2022.

Edie Chapin, Town Clerk