

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

**Tuesday, October 4, 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 Pastor Dave Barber.
- 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. **Council Member McDaniel appeared telephonically.**

- **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.

Patricia Ihle, a resident of Star Valley, stated she is in attendance regarding the agenda item about the intersection of Moonlight and Garrels. She has asked people on the property to cut the bushes down in order to be able to see vehicles coming around the corner on Moonlight. Three times in the past, reported Ms. Ihle, she's almost gotten hit because she can't see the vehicles the way they speed down the road. She is asking council to ask the property owner to cut down the bushes to prevent a serious accident.

Patrice Ryan, a resident of the W Ranch Resort in Star Valley, stated that area has been an elk crossing for decades. Of late, there have been quite a few elk being hit by motorists coming down the SR260 going too fast. Some sort of traffic calming is needed and the idea she has in mind is an animal overpass. She knows it sounds ridiculous and costly, but she feels some sort of research needs to be done by a committee. Ms. Ryan reported there are quite a few animal crossings that have been in existence for a long time in Europe, Canada and Colorado. It's something that's done and something that is important for animals and motorists. Ms. Ryan concluded by proposing that council look into this.

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 September 20, 2022.**

**B. Approval of Claims Payable from September 16, 2022 through September 30, 2022 for the General Fund and for the Water Department.**

**A motion to approve consent agenda items A and B was made by Vice Mayor McKinny and was seconded by Council Member Armington.**

**A roll call vote was taken:**

**Vice Mayor McKinny 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 exploring to improve the safety of the intersection at Garrels Drive and Moonlight Drive. Requested by Vice Mayor McKinney.**

This intersection, stated Vice Mayor McKinney, is an active danger to the community. Not so long ago there was a stop sign there. After the stop sign was taken down a convex mirror was installed. Vice Mayor McKinney disclosed he agrees with Patricia Ihle that the bush is obscuring oncoming traffic. Maybe as a first step at curing this danger, recommended Vice Mayor McKinney, the property owner should be encouraged to remove the bush. Mayor Davis commented he agrees. In the past, reported Mayor Davis, Roy Haught removed the slats in the fencing as requested by the Town. Motorists would be able to see through there a lot better if the bushes were trimmed up. There are also a couple of dumpsters blocking the view of oncoming traffic. Mayor Davis acknowledged he doesn't have a problem talking to Roy Haught to see if he can trim down the bushes and move the dumpsters.

Council Member Binney reported the Town has dealt with this corner off and on from day one. Everyone complains when we put up stop signs. Queried Council Member Binney – How many people complained on this? One, to him personally, responded Vice Mayor McKinney. Almost everyone else is satisfied, stated Council Member Binney. He went down and drove it and the bush is a little bit in the way. It was the Town, reported Council Member Binney, that demanded the slats be put in the fence. He believes the Town should pay to take the bush out. He feels the intersection is completely safe as it is. No one has been happy no matter what we do, concluded Council Member Binney.

Council Member Armington wondered if the Town should invest in another convex mirror. Mayor Davis stated he recalls the last mirror was vandalized. Council Member Binney responded that the mirror would just disappear again. Council Member Rappaport advocated to get rid of the bush. Council Member Dueker stated he's not familiar with this intersection and asked if the stop sign could be moved up closer to the intersection to improve the visibility. Council Member Binney responded the rules are you stop at the stop sign and then edge forward. Council Member Dueker stated he agrees the bush needs to be removed. All council members were in agreement for Mayor Davis to speak with Roy Haught about removing the bush and moving the dumpsters.

**2. Discussion and possible action to purchase playground border and safety surfacing for the playground behind the large ramada.**

Town Manager Grier reported that the tiny tots playground by the large ramada is now a hazard and has to be fixed. This will require changing the drainage pipe layout, digging out the area about nine inches, and installing the border and engineered wood fiber. The existing circular cement slab, added Mr. Grier, could be used for a sidewalk chalk area. He is proposing that council give the green light to improve the area and make it safer. Queried Council Member Rappaport – Why not just plant grass? The playground needs bordered safety surfacing, responded Mr. Grier. Council Member Binney stated he’s all for taking care of the kids. Having chalk in a box that kids can use will probably lead to vandalism, such as things being written that we don’t want to see, pointed out Council Member Dueker. He is not sure what to do with the cement slab, but he does not think a chalk area is a good idea.

**A motion to approve the purchase of playground border and safety surfacing for the playground behind the large ramada in the amount of \$3,204.57 from ExerPlay and any other related costs to install the playground border and safety surface was made by Council Member Armington 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 Dueker Yes, Council Member McDaniel Yes, Mayor Davis Yes.**

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

**3. Discussion and possible action regarding the current status of the SR260 Street Light Project. Requested by Mayor Davis.**

Mayor Davis stated that money has been appropriated for this project and he wanted to bring it back up for discussion with council. The Town is still waiting on details for the property development next door to Town Hall. It would be prudent, added Mayor Davis, to wait and see what happens with the development. He thinks a time should be set up to talk to the businesses on both sides of SR260 to discuss where the light poles would be located to see if it is a problem with them. Council Member Rappaport reported she read the email from Mr. Martinez that stated he has a commitment to the current plan. She doesn’t know what that plan is and in her estimation this letter is worthless and means nothing. Council Member Binney stated this whole thing is private property. Mr. Martinez is dealing with Maverik and ADOT, which he believes is holding things up. Our lights are just stuck in the middle. If we put them in now everything could move. Council Member Binney disclosed he likes the idea of asking the businesses what they like. The Town has \$79,000 invested into the project and he would hate to walk away from that. This is a complete private deal and the Town has no control, concluded Council Member Binney.

Council Member Rappaport acknowledged her thing for the lights is to slow traffic down for safety purposes. Council Member Dueker questioned if the \$79,000 invested so far is for engineering. Town Manager Grier responded council voted for the street lights. Staff proceeded with the project and paid \$18,000 for engineering and \$56,000 to APS. The property development was not on the books when the process started, pointed out Mr. Grier. It is safe to anticipate that there will be an acceleration/deacceleration lane required if Maverik comes in and the proposed plan happens. This is a private business, clarified Mr. Grier, and we have to be careful about interference with business proceedings because they are negotiating. We are not going to know for sure if this project will go until we see a shovel in the ground. For now, explained Mr. Grier, the focus should be narrowed to go forward with the street lights or wait and see. We have \$79,000 invested into this project and there will be

additional costs such as paying for digging the holes and removing or trimming trees. We are still in the same place we've been for the last year or two, concluded Mr. Grier.

Council Member Rappaport disclosed she also likes the idea of speaking with the businesses on both sides of the street. She reiterated her reason for pushing the street lights so hard is for safety purposes. Mayor Davis responded that everyone at the table is concerned about safety and slowing traffic down on SR260. He recommends pushing it out another thirty to forty five days to see what Lee Martinez is going to do. If Maverik does come in, it will be very bright in itself, and street lights may not be needed in that area. Queried Council Member Dueker – Is the APS amount for doing the construction of putting the poles in and hooking them up to an electrical line? “Yes,” responded Town Manager Grier, but it doesn't include digging the holes. He thinks APS has already tried to compensate for the businesses. He doesn't know how much flexibility APS will have with the placement of the street lights. It's probably like every project the Town does, added Mr. Grier, somebody is not going to like it.

Council Member Dueker asked if the poles have been purchased. Mr. Grier responded he does not know if the poles have been purchased. Mayor Davis reminded everyone that the street lights were planned out by APS engineers and they determined how much weight can hang between each pole. Council Member Binney suggested finding out from APS if the poles have been purchased. Mayor Davis asked if everyone is in agreement to a thirty day extension. Mr. Grier added we may or may not know anything more in thirty days. He would like to pose the question to APS as to how to handle this dilemma. Council Member Dueker questioned what the monthly utility bill would be for lighting up that stretch of road. Mr. Grier answered he doesn't recall the amount but that council looked at that in the very beginning. All council members were in agreement to wait thirty days.

**4. Discussion and possible action concerning sponsorship of the 2023 Hashknife Pony Express. Requested by Council Member Armington.**

Council Member Armington explained he was asked by the Hashknife Pony Express if the Town would be interested in helping them out this year for their sixty fifth year riding through. They would like to stop at the park with a few horses and a few riders for the kids. Council Member Armington stated he was hoping the Town could help them out a little bit, maybe \$500 or \$1000. Council Member Binney stated he believes it's a hobby and no one pays for his hobbies. There is usually a big party at the end of it and he doesn't particularly like the idea of paying for a party. They also didn't provide a cost breakdown. This is public money, concluded Council Member Binney.

Council Member Rappaport reported the information provided states it costs approximately \$48,000 which comes out to \$800 a piece for sixty people. Council Member Dueker stated he thinks it's a great tradition and part of the history. He doesn't agree with spending the people's money on something that isn't going to benefit the people of Star Valley every day of the year. Council Member McDaniel stated she agrees with Council Members Binney and Dueker. She really loves the tradition of it and that they stop at the park in Star Valley for the kids. It is not the taxpayers responsibility to foot the bill for it, concluded Council Member McDaniel. Council Member Armington disclosed he does personally donate to them as he feeds all the horses as they come through Star Valley. Council Member Binney commended him for that. It's a good thing, but it's a personal thing. Vice Mayor McKinney stated he's in favor of supporting it for reasons of tradition and history.

**A motion to approve the sum of \$1,000 to the 2023 Hashknife Pony Express was made by Council Member Armington and was seconded by Vice Mayor McKinney.**

A roll call vote was taken:

Vice Mayor McKinney Yes, Council Member Armington Yes, Council Member Binney No, Council Member Rappaport No, Council Member Dueker No, Council Member McDaniel No, Mayor Davis Yes.

The motion was voted on and was denied 3 – 4.

- **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Armington and was seconded by Vice Mayor McKinney.

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 4<sup>th</sup> day of October 2022. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Edie Chapin, Town Clerk