

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

**Tuesday, December 6, 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. There were no 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 November 15, 2022.

B. Approval of Claims Payable from November 16, 2022 through November 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 Armington and was seconded by Council Member Binney.

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. **The Honorable Judge Garvin, Star Valley Magistrate Court, will administer the Oath of Office to:**
 - 1) **Bobby Davis, Mayor**
 - 2) **Andy McKinney, Vice Mayor**
 - 3) **Ray Armington, Council Member**
 - 4) **George Binney, Council Member**
 - 5) **Dennis Dueker, Council Member**
 - 6) **Matt Highstreet, Council Member**

The Honorable Judge Garvin administered the Oath of Office to Council Member Highstreet, Council Member Dueker, Council Member Armington, Council Member Binney, Vice Mayor McKinney and Mayor Davis.

- **SECOND ROLL CALL:**

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

2. **Discussion and possible action to recommit and contribute to the Meals on Wheels and Senior Ridership programs. Presentation and update by directors Debbie Stephens and Kelly Brooks of the Payson Senior Center.**

Town Manager Grier reported that the Town has proudly donated \$17,500 annually to the two programs. Director Debbie Stephens introduced herself and Director of Operations Kelly Brooks. She then thanked council for allowing them to speak tonight and for the many years of support. The Payson Senior Center, reported Ms. Stephens, has been serving the homebound and elderly in the communities since 1985. Their mission is to improve quality of life for seniors and the homebound. They do this through their programs such as Meals on Wheels. It is so much more than a meal, pointed out Ms. Stephens. It is a connection, for a lot of seniors and homebound that they serve, as they are the only people those seniors and homebound see on a regular basis. The other way they improve quality of life, explained Ms. Stephens, is through the door to door transportation service called the Senior Express. Quality of life is also increased through the center itself with lunches (served Monday through Thursday), music and exercise classes. Again, reiterated Ms. Stephens, it's not just about the meal, it's about those connections with the people. One in six seniors, reported Ms. Stephens, will face isolation, depression and hunger. They combat against those by providing the three programs.

According to the U.S.A. Data Census for Star Valley, reported Ms. Stephens, the median age is sixty-five, seventeen percent live in poverty and fourteen percent are widowed. With those stats we could all probably agree that Star Valley does need programs that support the aging population. Ms. Stephens read a few letters from Star Valley Meals on Wheels and Senior Express recipients. This year (their fiscal year is July 1 to November 30), reported Ms. Stephens, they've already surpassed the \$17,500 donation from the Town of Star Valley. They continue to see a rise in food and fuel costs. Despite that, they determined there was an extended need for the Senior Express and they hired an additional driver this year. It is because they had people that needed this transportation and Star Valley is included in that. The Senior Express, reported Ms. Stephens, services Star Valley on Wednesdays and they have one vehicle completely dedicated to Star Valley. Never before has Star Valley Council supported their in-house or what they call center meals. They do have Star Valley folks that come to the center and take advantage of

meals, activities and support groups. She asked council to consider that, as well, as part of the funding. Ms. Stephens then distributed the proposal. Director Kelly Brooks announced it is an open proposal and they only are asking for what the Town can do. More support will be needed, added Ms. Brooks, as they are transitioning in the next couple of years to a new building because they are almost at their max at the current facility. Ms. Stephens pointed out that they are asking for an increase and if council finds it in their hearts to give to them it would start January 1st. Added Ms. Stephens, they do their best to be good stewards of every dollar that comes in the door.

Mayor Davis opened up the meeting for questions. Queried Council Member Highstreet – Roughly how many units per center meals does it equate to for Payson? Neither Ms. Stephens nor Ms. Brooks were able to provide an answer. There are probably two people a day from Star Valley, added Ms. Brooks, it fluctuates. Town Manager Grier asked how many Star Valley residents receive delivered meals. Ms. Brooks responded there are roughly around fifty people served between all programs at this time. There are twenty two Star Valley residents that actively use the Senior Express, reported Ms. Stephens. There are probably around ten to fifteen Star Valley residents that take advantage of the center meals, reported Ms. Brooks. Meals on Wheels fluctuates, reported Ms. Stephens, and she believes there are somewhere between twenty and twenty five Star Valley residents who use it. Council Member Binney questioned if they donate money to other causes. Ms. Brooks responded they have one community outreach plan which is a donation of one meal a month to Payson Community Kids.

Mayor Davis opened up the meeting for discussion. Council Member Binney stated the program has grown on him and he does realize the needs. To him, the saddest thing is these people don't have any family or friends. A lot of people retire to the beautiful Rim Country, responded Ms. Stephens. They are married, they have their health, they are young seniors, and they don't think about the aging process. And then the challenges of aging happen. People move away from their family and friends to retire. If you are blessed to live a long life you are probably going to use one of our services, concluded Ms. Stephens. Council Member Binney stated costs are going up and he thinks what they are asking for is a reasonable amount. Council Member McDaniel stated she loves the programs and supports the increase. Mayor Davis stated operating costs have gone up and he also supports the increase. Council Member Armington thanked them for what they do for the Star Valley community as well as Payson. Costs have gone up, added Council Member Armington, and he thinks the increase is a very justifiable amount. We have the money to do it, stated Council Member Binney.

A motion to authorize a contribution to the Meals on Wheels, Senior Express and Center Meals programs for the citizens of Star Valley in the amount of \$35,000 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 Dueker Yes, Council Member Highstreet Yes, Council Member McDaniel Yes, Mayor Davis Yes.

The motion was voted on and passed 7 - 0.

3. First Public Hearing and discussion on the proposed changes to the related Building Fees and Charges Schedule. Finance Administrator Tina Woody will present.

We are trying to get building fees at a rate that the Town is not subsidizing any longer, explained Town Manager Grier. Finance Administrator Woody, stated Mr. Grier, gave a great presentation on what the existing fees are and what they would need to be increased to in order that we aren't subsidizing the cost that we have with the Town of Payson that does this work for us. Mr. Grier explained the procedural requirements that staff had to follow according to Arizona Revised Statutes §9-499.15. At the last council

meeting, reported Mr. Grier, council instructed staff to move forward. Staff prepared a schedule of the proposed or new fees that included the amount and a written report that supports the fees. A copy of that report was filed with Town Clerk Chapin. The schedule of the proposed increased fees was posted on the Town's website for sixty days before the date the new fees were to be approved or disapproved by the council. Staff prepared a Notice of Intent to increase fees that included the date, and time and place of the meeting of the Town Council in which the fees would be considered. The Notice of Intent was then posted on the Town's website for fifteen days before the date the proposed fees would be approved or disapproved by the council. This is in front of council tonight as a public hearing. A public hearing, informed Mr. Grier, is not required by Arizona Revised Statute §9-499.15. Mr. Grier stated he thinks, in the interest of having it transparent, it is not a bad procedural step to add. Ms. Woody can answer any questions you may have, concluded Mr. Grier.

Queried Council Member Binney – How much will it raise all the costs? That depends on the type of permits being filed, answered Finance Administrator Woody. We're hoping to bring the Town out of the hole. The building fees, added Ms. Woody, only increased by ten percent. Everything else either remained the same or we added other fees onto the fee schedule. Council Member Binney stated he guesses he wants the building fees to be neutral. The government decides how much the fees are going to be, they insist you get a permit, they drive the cost of housing up and then they whine that houses are too expensive. The Town is not going to gouge anybody, responded Ms. Woody. We just want to break even on our costs in issuing those building permits. Council Member Binney responded he doesn't have a problem with breaking even. The issue in front of council, stated Town Manager Grier, is does council want to subsidize people that are applying for building permits and should the other taxpayers subsidize those that are applying for building permits. If we are subsidizing what we have to pay to the Town of Payson we are doing that with taxpayer money. Those taxpayers may not be getting the road work they want to have done or maybe water projects for the community aren't being done. Ms. Woody explained the reason it is posted for sixty days is to allow time for the public to comment on the proposed fee schedule. To date, reported Ms. Woody, staff has not received any comments from the public on the proposed fee schedule.

Mayor Davis opened the meeting for public comment. There were no public comments and the Mayor closed the public comment portion. Mr. Grier reported the second public hearing is scheduled for the Tuesday, December 20th council meeting. If there are additional questions it will be in front of council again. This is a modest increase, concluded Mr. Grier, that hasn't been done since incorporation. Mayor Davis thanked Finance Administrator Woody for all of her hard work on putting this all together.

- **ADJOURNMENT**

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

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 6th day of December 2022. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 13th day of December 2022.

Edie Chapin, Town Clerk