

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

**Tuesday, November 21, 2023 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 Absent, Council Member Dueker X, Council Member Highstreet 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 public 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 7, 2023.

B. Approval of Accounts Payable from November 1, 2023 through November 15, 2023 for the General Fund and for the Water Department.

A motion to approve the consent agenda items A and B was made by Council Member Ray Armington and was seconded by Council Member Matt Highstreet.

A roll call vote was taken:

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

The motion was voted on and passed 6 - 0.

- **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. **Discussion and possible action to adopt Resolution No. R 23-14 – A Resolution of the Town of Star Valley, Gila County, Arizona, Declaring a State of Emergency.**

Town Manager Grier explained that this was an opportunity to update the public regarding the events of the last 48 hours and to adopt a resolution for a declaration of an emergency, which may make some financial assistance available. Mayor Davis commented that the nice quiet Sunday morning escalated quickly into a full blown crisis in a matter of minutes due to a tornado. He reflected that he was so proud of the community because they came together so fast with neighbors helping neighbors, and the Hellsgate Fire Department and Payson PD responding so quickly. He also noted that Rockin' B Rentals bought \$600 worth of tarps for the homes damaged; Gila County provided dumpsters for the area, which was coordinated by Council Member Armington; and Lance, the owner of Tree Crafters, volunteered time and trucks with chippers at no cost for the day. In addition, the Red Cross came in to provide support. Mayor Davis noted that one family was put up in a hotel while others, were staying with family members. He stated that our hearts go out to anybody who has lost a home.

Council Member Armington acknowledged that Tree Crafters has been outstanding with their help and that Gila County offered trucks, etc. and the brush pit was open for free for cleared trees and brush. Mayor Davis commented that Gila County, via aircraft, mapped out the disaster area showing the path of the storm. He hopes this will help with insurance claims. Town Manager Grier commented that the town doesn't have the resources to handle tornado damage with the limited town staff available. He noted that it was amazing to see that neighborhood come alive and thanked the Mayor for coordinating resources with the county. He felt there was a lot of work ahead, but the community had a lot to be proud of. Town Clerk Chapin then read the resolution. Mr. Grier then introduced Lori Nelson from the office of Eli Crane. Mr. Grier said she was the type of person the town needed help from. Lori Nelson stated their office would do a letter of support to the Governor. Mayor Davis commented that the home owners could be covered by their insurance companies but some companies would not cover tornadoes. He also stated that he heard from the Red Cross and the Gila County Emergency Coordinator that there would have to be at least \$11 million in damages before they could step in. He then asked for a motion regarding the resolution.

A motion to adopt Resolution No. R 23-14 – A resolution of the Town of Star Valley, Gila County, Arizona, declaring a State of Emergency was made by Council Member Armington and was seconded by Council Member Highstreet.

A roll call vote was taken:

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

The motion was voted on and passed 6 - 0.

2. **Discussion and possible action concerning two community garden plots provided by the town to volunteer gardeners for growing and donating the produce to the Warming Center. Presentation by volunteer gardener Jenny Matlock.**

Since Jenny Matlock was not able to attend, Town Manager Grier offered to speak on her behalf. He explained that the Council agreed last year to donate two plots to her for the purpose of providing food to the Warming Center. It was put on the agenda to see if the Council wanted to continue this arrangement with Jenny Matlock. Council Member Armington said it was a great idea last year and it was an awesome way to support the Warming Center. Council Member Highstreet asked if this was an

annual renewal or could it be changed to a five year renewal basis. Mr. Grier said it was up to the Council. Anita Johnston, who volunteers with the plots, spoke in place of Jenny Matlock. She stated that the food grown provided quite a few meals this year to the Warming Center and was greatly appreciated. The plots were able to provide lettuce, tomatoes, squash, potatoes and sweet potatoes. She said it would be wonderful to have a five year renewal option for the plots at the community garden. Mayor Davis then asked for a motion.

A motion to continue providing two plots at the Star Valley Community Garden for growing and donating all the produce to the Warming Center for a five year extension was made by Council Member Highstreet and was seconded by Council Member Armington.

A roll call vote was taken:

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

The motion was voted on and passed 6 - 0.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding Resolution No. R 23-13, approving the revised IGA with Arizona Department of Revenue (“ADOR”) for collection of transaction privilege taxes.

Town Manager Grier explained that ADOR administers by law the collection, audit and licensing of TPT taxes. Therefore, the towns and cities have no choice but to continue with the revised IGA. Vice Mayor McKinney commented that he would state on behalf of Council Member Binney, who was absent, that the whole concept of transaction privilege tax is exorbitant and it should just be called a tax. Mayor Davis then asked for a motion.

A motion to adopt Resolution No. R 23-13 – A resolution of the Town Council of the Town of Star Valley, Arizona, approving and authorizing the Mayor to execute the revised IGA between the Town of Star Valley and the Arizona Department of Revenue for the administration, collection, audit, and licensing of privilege and affiliated excise taxes imposed by the state, cities or towns was made by Council Member McDaniel and was seconded by Council Member Highstreet.

A roll call vote was taken:

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

The motion was voted on and passed 6 - 0.

• 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 6 – 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 21st day of November 2023. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 27th day of November 2023.

Del Dupree, Administrative Assistant