

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

**Tuesday, August 6, 2024 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 of Rim View Community Church.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- CALL TO ORDER
- 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.

- **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 comments.

Chief Wes Trayner of Hellsgate Fire Department introduced himself and explained his family history in the Rim Country area. Currently a resident of Strawberry, he served in the Phoenix Fire District for 45 years and retired as a Battalion Chief. He taught at various schools including Mesa Community College. Chief Trayner said his mission is to keep the Hellsgate Fire Department going and to keep the focus on finding a permanent chief.

There were no further 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 July 16, 2024.**
- B. Approval of Accounts Payable from July 16, 2024 through July 31, 2024 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 Highstreet.

A roll call vote was taken:

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.

The motion was voted on and passed 7 – 0.

PROCLAMATION:

1. Honoring Purple Heart Recipients

Town Clerk Chapin read the proclamation.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Discussion and possible action to adopt Resolution No. R 24-07 – A Resolution of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Star Valley, Arizona, authorizing the Town Manager to apply for funds from the Gila River Indian Community and providing for the expenditure of such funds.

Town Manager Grier explained that Town Clerk Chapin applied for tribal grant funds from the Gila River Indian Community for the Community Park ADA Accessibility Project, and she received notification that the application had been recommended for approval in the amount of \$51,360. The Gila River Indian Community requested a resolution by the Town to accept and use the funds accordingly. It will then be submitted for the final approval process. Mayor Davis asked for a motion.

A motion to adopt Resolution No. R 24-07 authorizing the Town Manager to apply for funds from the Gila River Indian Community and providing for the expenditure of such funds was made by Council Member McDaniel and was seconded by Council Member Binney.

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 .

2. First Reading and Public Hearing regarding Ordinance No. O 24-01 captioned as follows: AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF STAR VALLEY, ARIZONA, AMENDING STAR VALLEY TOWN CODE BY ADOPTING BY REFERENCE THAT CERTAIN DOCUMENT ENTITLED “AMENDMENTS TO STAR VALLEY TOWN CODE, TITLE 9 (BUILDING REGULATIONS), CHAPTER 1 (BUILDING CODE; PERMITS), SECTION 9-1-1 (BUILDING CODE).”

Town Manager Grier explained that the Town of Star Valley has been using the 2006 Building Codes, however, the Town of Payson uses 2018 Building Codes. Mr. Grier said this was a project that the Town has been wanting to address for some time in order to update the Star Valley Town Code to be compatible with Payson’s. The first step in updating the code, according to the statute, was to open it up for a public hearing. Mayor Davis asked for comments. There were no public comments. Mayor Davis then asked the council for comments. Council Member Binney expressed that he could not support more code changes as it would make it more costly for future homeowners. As no other council commented, Mayor Davis then closed the discussion.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding the Quail Valley Booster Pump Station, PRV & Water Tank Project. Presentation by Engineer Dale Miller, Town Manager Tim Grier and Water Operator Dean Shaffer.

Town Manager Grier began by explaining that the Town was notified a year ago that three wells had high levels of PFAS. Along with Mayor Davis and Water Operator Dean Shaffer, they strategized and shut off the Park Well, Circle K Well and the Lumberman's Well because of the water issues. Mr. Grier said he has been trying to work with Matthew Olson at ADEQ with no success in obtaining funding to fix the issue. Finance Administrator Woody investigated grants and loans reported Mr. Grier, and there might be a chance to get a loan for a booster station. Another option would be to take the cost of \$900,000 for the booster station from general funds. It would be a big hit to the budget but that is why it was important to build up the funds in anticipation of this kind of need. Mr. Grier said he is still working with ADEQ and a loan company, but it still may come down to using the Town's general funds. For the future, there is a concern with storage tanks if local RV Parks and private households hook up to the Town water system. Mr. Grier then turned the conversation over to Engineer Dale Miller.

Engineer Dale Miller began an overview of the project with a slide presentation. He said the number one risk for the Town is if the Knolls Well goes down or needs major maintenance repair. He said the pump booster station could be a backup for that well. The PRV (pressure reducing valve) would be used to downgrade pressure from the Knolls Tank to the low pressure zone (Quail Valley). The duplex pump station would pump water from the low pressure zone (Quail Valley) to the high pressure zone (the Knolls). The overall cost would be \$900,000 broken down between \$400,000 for the Quail Valley PRV and pump station and \$500,000 for the water storage tank.

Mayor Davis asked if the Knolls tank would still be full and operational. Engineer Dale Miller said yes as it would serve as a back-up water supply to the Knolls. Council Member Highstreet agreed the water system needs updating and asked if an additional fire hydrant could be added. Mr. Miller said yes, however, the fire hydrant would not meet the rating requirement of 1000 gallons per minute. The water system was not designed for fire flow but rather to fill local water tanks or fire engine water tanks as an example. He said it would be an \$8,000,000 investment to bring the hydrants up to the proper water flow rating. Council Member Binney asked if Blue Ridge water could be used as backup for the Knolls Well. Town Manager Grier explained that the Town of Payson cannot pump water out of their town limits per their Cragin agreement so it's better for Star Valley to have its own backup station. Dale Miller interjected that another justification for the backup station is to be able to handle the water needs of the RV parks, if necessary, because of their PFAS issues. Council Member Armington asked if another well could be considered. Mr. Grier responded that the Town received a bid of \$190,000 to do a test hole for a new well with no guarantee that water would be hit. After consulting with Engineer Dale Miller and Water Operator Dean Shaffer, it was decided not to waste that money but just go ahead with the booster pump station. Council Member Binney agreed but didn't think a loan was necessary. He said he was worried about the wells in the Diamond Point area. Mr. Grier responded that there will be a lot of demand in the future and there will be a need for a priority shift.

Council Member Dueker asked if it was possible for owners of private wells to hook up a house filter. Water Operator Dean Shaffer indicated that it would be expensive and need a lot of maintenance by the homeowner but that the well owners will need to take responsibility. He also said the Sky Run Wells are still testing zero for PFAS and will be able to get water all the way up to the Knolls. Town Manager Grier added that ADEQ may still fund part of the project, so it is a wait and see process right now. Council Member Binney asked if the Town started the project now could we pay ourselves back if ADEQ funds came through. Mr. Grier said no and advised the council not to make a motion at this time, adding it would be strategic to wait. Mr. Shaffer said to keep in mind that the Knolls tank is 30 years old.

Council Member Dueker asked if the council should table a decision for thirty days. Mr. Grier said that would be good or the council could not make a motion at all. Should an issue arise with the Knolls tank an emergency meeting could be called. The council agreed and no motion was made.

- **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 6th day of August 2024. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 8th day of August 2024.

Del Dupree, Administrative Assistant