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

### Tuesday, March 4, 2025 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 <u>X</u>, Council Member Armington <u>X</u>, Council Member Binney <u>X</u>, Council Member Dueker <u>X</u>, Council Member Highstreet <u>X</u>, Council Member McDaniel <u>X</u>, Mayor Davis <u>X</u>. Council Member Highstreet attended 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 comments. There were no comments and Mayor Davis 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 February 18, 2025.
- **B.** Approval of Accounts Payable from February 16, 2025 through February 28, 2025
  - for the General Fund and for the Water Department.

A motion to approve consent agenda items A and B was made by Council Member Binney and was seconded by Council Member McDaniel. A roll call vote was taken:

Vice Mayor McKinney <u>X</u>, Council Member Armington <u>X</u>, Council Member Binney <u>X</u>, Council Member Dueker <u>X</u>, Council Member Highstreet <u>X</u>, Council Member McDaniel <u>X</u>, Mayor Davis <u>X</u>.

03-04-25 Town Council Minutes Page 1 of 4

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

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

#### THE ORDER OF THE DISCUSSION ITEMS WAS CHANGED AS VOLUNTEER GARDENER JENNY MATLOCK WAS NOT IN ATTENDANCE WHEN THE MEETING BEGAN.

# 1. Discussion and possible action concerning APS wildfire mitigation policies and their new tool to reduce fire risk during extreme fire conditions called Public Safety Power Shut Off. Presentation by APS.

APS Senior Public Affairs Manager Janet Dean and APS Supervisor of Construction Maintenance Mike Shaw began by describing the company's fire mitigation program. The five components are Vegetation Management; Grid Hardening Investments (to upgrade the grid); Asset Inspection (such as patrolling the lines); Monitoring and Awareness (such as weather data); and finally Operational Mitigations (such as areas in high risk due to high winds).

APS Senior Public Affairs Manager Janet Dean explained that APS began using the PSPS (public safety power shut-off) last year for communities in Coconino, Gila and Yavapai Counties but it was never used. As of this year, they have expanded the number of lines to sixty-five which would impact the Town of Star Valley. There would be four to five days of notification and they will be forecastable. APS also tries to identify how long the outages will last, which is about twenty hours. Council Member Binney asked if this was mandatory. Ms. Dean answered no but said litigation and community safety are the concerns. Mayor Davis said a twenty hour outage would scare the heck out of the town and the town would be looking at half a million for generators for the water system. Council Member Dueker expressed his concern that the power could be down for days. Vice Mayor McKinney said it would be financially awkward and asked for guidance from APS. Ms. Dean responded that some areas, mostly in Coconino County, already have generators in place for their water systems.

Queried Town Manager Grier - Does the PSPS shutdown make Star Valley a safer place? He said that is what the council needs to consider. Also, ADEQ requires the town to supply water to customers in four hours after a shutoff. APS Supervisor of Construction Maintenance Mike Shaw explained that a natural catastrophe could happen that would take out feeder lines to the area which impacts water supply and it's not just a PSPS issue. He said a water outage was something the town needed to prepare for regardless of the cause.

Funding generators, said Town Manager Grier, is an issue since it is not in the current budget. Council Member Dueker asked if APS knows of any available grants? APS Senior Public Affairs Manager Janet Dean said there have been a lot at the federal level and she would explore that. She said maybe an option would be a rental for generators to keep the water flowing. Mr. Grier said the problem is the urgency since APS now has the ability to shut off the town's water. Increasing water rates might be an answer but it's not fair that it is on the back of the municipality. Ms. Dean said she doesn't have the answers but will look for information quickly. Council Member McDaniel asked how to sign up for notifications. Ms. Dean said that could be done through APS.com.

## 2. Discussion and possible action regarding selection of a contractor for the CDBG #119-24 ADA Park Improvements Project.

Town Manager Grier explained that the town opened up bids for the ADA project on February 18, 2025 and the low bid came in at \$107,597 from Accelerated Construction. The contractor is wrapping up a project in Miami, Arizona but should be able to start soon. He advised the council to accept the contract bid for Star Valley. Mayor Davis asked for a motion.

A motion to approve Accelerated Construction and Excavating, LLC as the contractor for the ADA Park Improvements Project and authorize the Town Manager to enter into a contract with said contractor was made by Council Member McDaniel and was seconded by Council Member Binney. A roll call vote was taken:

Vice Mayor McKinney <u>Yes</u>, Council Member Armington <u>Yes</u>, Council Member Binney <u>Yes</u>, Council Member Dueker <u>Yes</u>, Council Member Highstreet <u>Yes</u>, Council Member McDaniel <u>Yes</u>, Mayor Davis <u>Yes</u>.

The motion was voted on and passed 7 - 0.

# 3. 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.

Volunteer gardener Jenny Matlock explained that there are two plots at the community garden which were donated by the Town of Star Valley to donate to food insecurity in the area. They have started donating to the Presbyterian Food Bank which has a high number of elderly people. Lettuce, celery, herbs, radishes and cabbage are among the types of food donated. The last date they donated was on October 29<sup>th</sup>. Right now they have onions and garlic which they will harvest in a couple of months. If there are no objections, they would like to continue donating to the Presbyterian Food Bank. Council Member Binney noted that the town does help finance Meals on Wheels. Ms. Matlock said she does want to talk to them also. Council Member McDaniel expressed that she thought it was amazing what they were doing and felt it should be up to their discretion as to where they send the produce. Mayor Davis 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 necessary places that Jenny feels is needed was made by Council Member Armington and was seconded by Council Member Binney.

A roll call vote was taken:

Vice Mayor McKinney <u>Yes</u>, Council Member Armington <u>Yes</u>, Council Member Binney <u>Yes</u>, Council Member Dueker <u>Yes</u>, Council Member Highstreet <u>Yes</u>, Council Member McDaniel <u>Yes</u>, Mayor Davis <u>Yes</u>.

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:** 

Date:

**Bobby Davis, Mayor** 

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 4th day of March 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 12th day of March 2025.

**Del Dupree, Administrative Assistant**