

RESOLUTION NO. 2509

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAYSON, ARIZONA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND/OR THE TOWN MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH APPROPRIATE PARTIES REGARDING THE TONTO NATURAL BRIDGE STATE PARK.

WHEREAS, the Town of Payson and the communities surrounding it in the Rim Country depend on Tonto Natural Bridge State Park (the "Natural Bridge") to draw visitors to the Rim Country; and

WHEREAS, the Natural Bridge has a Three Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollar (\$3,500,000.00) impact on the economy of the Town of Payson and surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, the State of Arizona is considering closing the Natural Bridge to visitors because of financial constraints; and

WHEREAS, the closure of the Natural Bridge would be a detriment to the Rim Country area specifically, and to the State of Arizona in general; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Payson, through its volunteers and otherwise, stands ready to provide assistance to keep the Natural Bridge open,

NOW, THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAYSON, ARIZONA, DO HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. That Kenny J. Evans, Mayor of the Town of Payson, and Debra A. Galbraith, Town Manager of the Town of Payson, each be and respectively is hereby authorized to commence and conclude negotiations with the State of Arizona, its departments and divisions, the Rim Country Chamber of Commerce, and any other parties appropriate for the purpose of maintaining the Natural Bridge as a tourist destination, either on a part-time or full-time basis.

Section 2. That Kenny J. Evans, Mayor of the Town of Payson, and Debra A. Galbraith, Town Manager of the Town of Payson, each be and respectively is hereby authorized to execute any and all agreements negotiated pursuant to Section 1, above.

Section 3. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Resolution Number 2509 is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution.

Prepared by Town of Payson Legal Department

SS:drs August 12, 2009 (12:37pm)

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Section 4. That the Town of Payson be and is hereby authorized to take and perform such other and further actions as are necessary or appropriate to carrying out the purposes provided for in this Resolution Number 2509.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND COMMON COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAYSON, ARIZONA, this 20th day of August, 2009, by the following vote:

AYES _____ NOES _____ ABSTENTIONS _____ ABSENT _____

Kenny J. Evans, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Silvia Smith, Town Clerk

Samuel I. Streichjman, Town Attorney