

**TOWN OF PAYSON
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
January 21, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Evans called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers, 303 North Beeline Highway, Payson, Arizona.

INVOCATION

Minister Ken Davidson, Church of Christ in Payson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PRESENT: Mayor Kenny J. Evans, Vice-Mayor Michael Hughes, Council Member Fred Carpenter, Council Member Su Connell, Council Member Richard Croy, Council Member Chris Higgins, and Council Member John Wilson.

STAFF PRESENT: LaRon Garrett - Town Manager, Hector Figueroa - Town Attorney, Don Engler - Police Chief, Silvia Smith - Town Clerk, Cameron Davis - Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director, Emily Linkey - Library Director, and David Staub - Fire Chief.

OTHERS PRESENT: Tracie Bailey - Chief Deputy Town Clerk, Bobby Davis - Economic Development Specialist, Hope Cribb - Finance Manager, Tammy Enlow - Budget Analyst, Melainie Baird-Simmons - Human Resources Manager, and Justin Deaton - Police Officer.

A. PUBLIC COMMENTS (SPEAKER'S REQUEST FORM SUBMITTED)

Mayor Evans asked everyone to stand for a moment of silence for former Council Member Ed Blair who had recently passed away. Mayor Evans noted Mr. Blair was a dear friend and a good Council Member.

Lew Levenson commented on the impact on Southern Gila County and illegal immigration. Mr. Levenson explained that earlier this month the Miami Town Council had encouraged participation in the Promise Program for residents to become new Americans. Mr. Levenson believed that immigrants would survive on food stamps and welfare and that they were already coming to Arizona, but there was no way to track them. Mr. Levenson felt this program was a smoke screen to cover up illegal immigration and asked the Council to look a head and create a task force to stay a head of the problem. Mayor Evans thanked Mr. Levenson and noted this was a program to help get people to move to Miami and offer a way to revitalize the area.

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B. CONSENT AGENDA

Items listed on the agenda with an asterisk are considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion.

Motion: to approve all items listed on the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Council Member John Wilson, seconded by Council Member Su Connell.

Vote: Motion carried 7 - 0

Yes: Mayor Kenny J. Evans, Vice-Mayor Michael Hughes, Council Member Fred Carpenter, Council Member Su Connell, Council Member Richard Croy, Council Member Chris Higgins, and Council Member John Wilson.

C. CURRENT EVENTS PRESENTATION BY THE TOWN MANAGER, MAYOR, AND/OR COUNCIL MEMBER

1. Brief presentation of current events by the Town Manager, Mayor, and/or Council Members. The Arizona Open Meeting Law specifies that the Town Council may not discuss or take action on any matter mentioned during this presentation or on the attached materials unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

Cameron Davis, Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director, welcomed the Hashknife Pony Express Riders and was excited to support them. The Riders would be at the Payson Post Office on January 27, 2016, at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Davis announced he was launching a brand new tourism website and it would go live February 1, 2016. The Town's event calendar would have the ability to be shown on other websites and it would be very efficient to get information out. It would also allow people to submit events for everyone to see.

Bobby Davis, Economic Development Specialist, gave a brief update on a meeting he attended in Taylor, Arizona, with Navajo and Apache Counties regarding the broadband project the Town was working on. The project would house all of the internet providers together to get reliant service. Mr. Davis explained broadband service has become a necessity like a utility.

2. Documents, materials and information for Council review. (The Council will not discuss or take action on the attached; they are provided for information only)

There were no documents for Council review.

D. CEREMONIAL; ANNOUNCEMENTS; PRESENTATIONS; INTRODUCTIONS

1. Comments, Commendations, and Presentations by Mayor, Council Members, and/or Town Staff.

Mayor Evans presented Council Member Connell a birthday card and wished her happy birthday.

2. **Proclamation.** Mayor Evans read into the record a proclamation declaring January 27th, 28th and 29th, 2016, as Hashknife Pony Express Days. Mark and Steve Reynolds and members of the Hashknife Pony Express were present to accept the proclamation.

Mark Reynolds, Captain of the Hashknife Pony Express, explained this year would be very unique. Mr. Reynolds had been contacted by the New York Film Institute to film the ride and do a documentary on the Hashknife Pony Express. The Hashknife Dinner was Wednesday night, January 27, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. at the Mazatzal Casino and was open to the public. Tickets were \$30 per person and all of the money raised helped make the ride happen. Mr. Reynolds thanked the Council for their support and the donation from the Town.

3. **Presentation** of the 2014 - 2015 Town of Payson financial audit by Dennis Osuch, CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP.

Hope Cribb, Finance Manager, introduced Dennis Osuch, CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP. Mr. Osuch gave a summary of the audit report and explained each report individually. The Town was in compliance and the single audit report did not have any significant deficiencies. A clean opinion on internal control compliance was issued and the comprehensive audit report was issued a clean opinion. The Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (PSPRS) liability accounted for about 13 million dollars. Mayor Evans noted the Town's liability was about half what the State's was. Mr. Osuch noted the Town's governmental activity for the PSPRS liability still had a positive balance and the Town was not as impacted as some other governmental entities. Mayor Evans thanked Mr. Osuch and asked if a clean report meant there were no material weaknesses to report to the Council. Mr. Osuch replied no, the Town was expected to receive the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). Mr. Osuch thanked LaRon Garrett, Town Manager, and Ms. Cribb and her staff for their support.

E. MINUTES

1. *Council Meeting Minutes:
January 6, 2016, Special Meeting, Page 1
January 7, 2016, Regular Meeting, Pages 1 - 9
***CONSENT* APPROVED**

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS MEETING MINUTES (Note: Minutes of various boards/commissions/committees are for Council information only and may or may not have been approved by the respective board/commission.)

2. *Planning and Zoning Commission Minutes:
December 7, 2015 Regular Meeting Pages 1 - 6
***CONSENT* INFORMATION ONLY**

F. HEARINGS AND APPEALS

1. ***Application for a Special Event Liquor License.** Council approved, on the Consent Agenda, an application for a Special Event Liquor License filed by LeLand Schwein, agent for BPO Elks Lodge No. 2154, for a fundraiser to be held at 1206 North Beeline Highway, Payson, Arizona. Saturday, March 5, 2016, 12:00 Noon to 12:00 Midnight.
***CONSENT* APPROVED**

G. RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

1. **Resolution No. 2897.** Mayor Evans opened discussion/possible action concerning Resolution No. 2897 captioned as follows: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAYSON, ARIZONA, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE DISPATCH SERVICES CONTRACT ("CONTRACT") BETWEEN THE PINE-STRAWBERRY FIRE DISTRICT ("DISTRICT") AND THE TOWN OF PAYSON ("TOWN") (COLLECTIVELY "THE PARTIES") TO PROVIDE CENTRALIZED DISPATCH SERVICES.

David Staub, Fire Chief, explained this was an intergovernmental agreement with the Pine-Strawberry Fire District to provide dispatch services. The Town was not charging for infrastructure because the District was bringing infrastructure they had in. Mayor Evans complimented Chief Staub for working with the District.

Motion: to Approve Resolution No. 2897 captioned as follows: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAYSON, ARIZONA, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE DISPATCH SERVICES CONTRACT ("CONTRACT") BETWEEN THE PINE-STRAWBERRY FIRE DISTRICT ("DISTRICT") AND THE TOWN OF PAYSON ("TOWN") (COLLECTIVELY "THE PARTIES") TO PROVIDE CENTRALIZED DISPATCH SERVICES.

Moved by Council Member Fred Carpenter, seconded by Council Member John Wilson.

Vote: Motion carried 7 - 0

Yes: Mayor Kenny J. Evans, Vice-Mayor Michael Hughes, Council Member Fred Carpenter, Council Member Su Connell, Council Member Richard Croy, Council Member Chris Higgins, and Council Member John Wilson.

2. **Resolution No. 2898.** Mayor Evans opened discussion/possible action concerning Resolution No. 2898 captioned as follows: A RESOLUTION OF

THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAYSON, ARIZONA, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT ("IGA") BETWEEN THE RIM COUNTRY EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE, ("RCEA") AND THE TOWN OF PAYSON, AN ARIZONA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION ("PAYSON"), FOR PLAN REVIEW AND FIELD INSPECTION SERVICES.

LaRon Garrett, Town Manager, explained this was to provide plan review and field inspection services for construction projects for the Rim Country Educational Alliance (RCEA). Mayor Evans asked if the money for the inspection fee went from the construction company to the Town. Mr. Garrett replied yes. Hector Figueroa, Town Attorney, noted the RCEA understood what the requirements were. Council Member Carpenter asked if the RCEA had to adopt some codes or what other options would they have if they did not want to adopt the Town's Codes could they adopt the County's Codes. Mr. Figueroa replied the RCEA could adopt the County's Codes, but when the Town adopted the codes they adopt them locally. The advantage was that the RCEA did not have to reinvent the wheel and they could implement the parts of the code they wanted. They had to have some type of codes and the inspections would be provided by the Town.

Motion: to Approve Resolution No. 2898 captioned as follows: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAYSON, ARIZONA, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT ("IGA") BETWEEN THE RIM COUNTRY EDUCATIONAL ALLIANCE, ("RCEA") AND THE TOWN OF PAYSON, AN ARIZONA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION ("PAYSON"), FOR PLAN REVIEW AND FIELD INSPECTION SERVICES.

Moved by Council Member John Wilson, seconded by Council Member Richard Croy.

Vote: Motion carried 7 - 0

Yes: Mayor Kenny J. Evans, Vice-Mayor Michael Hughes, Council Member Fred Carpenter, Council Member Su Connell, Council Member Richard Croy, Council Member Chris Higgins, and Council Member John Wilson.

3. ***Resolution No. 2899.** Council approved, on the Consent Agenda, Resolution No. 2899 captioned as follows: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PAYSON, ARIZONA, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE UNDERGROUND STORAGE FACILITY AND WATER STORAGE PERMITTING CONTRACT BETWEEN HYDROSYSTEMS, INC., AN ARIZONA CORPORATION ("CONSULTANT"), AND THE TOWN OF PAYSON, AN ARIZONA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION ("TOWN").

***CONSENT* APPROVED**

H. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. There were no items in this section.

I. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Council Decision Request** filed by Donald B. Engler, Deputy Town Manager/Police Chief, that the Payson Police Department move forward with exploring the possibility of combining the Payson Police Department Dispatch Center with the Gila County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center to become Northern Gila County Regional Dispatching Center.

Don Engler, Police Chief, introduced Sheriff Adam Shepherd. Chief Engler explained this was to combine the Gila County Sheriff Dispatch Center with the Payson Police Department Dispatch Center. There was enough funding from the Sheriff's Department to afford funding for their employees to become Town employees. Chief Engler would return to the Council with a six month implementation plan.

Sheriff Shepherd appreciated the opportunity to talk about this and would not enter into this agreement lightly. Sheriff Shepherd believed it came down to who was better prepared to go forward with this. Other agencies were not advancing their communication centers and Sheriff Shepherd felt that the end result would be better for everyone. Sheriff Shepherd thanked the Council. Mayor Evans applauded Chief Engler and Sheriff Shepherd's efforts and felt multijurisdictional agencies were good.

Motion: that the Payson Police Department move forward with exploring the possibility of combining the Payson Police Department Dispatch Center with the Gila County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Center to become Northern Gila County Regional Dispatching Center.

Moved by Council Member John Wilson, seconded by Council Member Fred Carpenter.

Vote: Motion carried 7 - 0

Yes: Mayor Kenny J. Evans, Vice-Mayor Michael Hughes, Council Member Fred Carpenter, Council Member Su Connell, Council Member Richard Croy, Council Member Chris Higgins, and Council Member John Wilson.

J. CLAIMS

1. ***List of checks.** Council approved, on the Consent Agenda, a list of checks paid from December 31, 2015 through December 31, 2015, Check Nos. 047953 through 048021, except Check No. 047984, and authorization to file the checks for audit.

***CONSENT* APPROVED**

- 2.

***Check No. 047984.** Council approved, on the Consent Agenda, Check No. 047984 and authorization to file the check for audit. (Note: due to a perceived and/or possible conflict of interest, Council Member Croy was considered to have abstained from voting on this item).

***CONSENT* APPROVED**

K. MISCELLANEOUS

1. *Council approved, on the Consent Agenda, the **reappointment of Joni Varga** to the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Payson Police Department Local Board, term to expire December 31, 2019.

***CONSENT* APPROVED**

L. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Evans adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:23 p.m.

APPROVED:

_____ Date: _____

Kenny J. Evans, Mayor

ATTEST:

Silvia Smith, 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 Payson held on this day the 21 of January, 2016. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

DATED this ____ day of _____, 2016.

Tracie Bailey, Chief Deputy Town Clerk