

**TOWN OF PAYSON
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
February 18, 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

Pastor Joe Hittle, Calvary Chapel 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, Don Engler - Police Chief, Silvia Smith - Town Clerk, Cameron Davis - Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director, Emily Linkey - Library Director, and David Staub - Fire Chief.

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

John Zilisch came to the Council on behalf of Gila Community College to extend an invitation to the Council to come to the college to see Congressman Paul Gosar. Congressman Gosar's visit was rescheduled to March 9, 2016. Mayor Evans thanked Mr. Zilisch for the invitation and for his effort working with high school students to get dual credits.

Joseph DeCola wanted to discuss double standards and principles. Mr. DeCola explained his wife had a fry bread business on the reservation and that they had seen Realtor Cliff Potts to find a location in town to set up their business. Mr. DeCola noted they had met with the Town and other government entities regarding setting up their business and felt they were raked over the coals by the Town. Mr. DeCola noted last year a gentleman came to town selling fry bread all around town. Mr. DeCola had discussed this with the Town and the man never showed up again. Mr. DeCola explained there was a man selling fry bread again and he was not a Native American, but his signs said Indian fry bread. Mr. DeCola had seen Bobby Davis, Economic Development Specialist, to let Mr. Davis know he believed this was a double standard. Mr. DeCola noted their business was accepted by the MGM Grand Casino and other casinos to sell fry bread. Mr. DeCola was proud of his wife for all of her accomplishments. Mr. DeCola noted he had left a message for the Mayor to call him at the front desk at Town Hall. Mayor Evans would look into why he did not get the message.

Caroline Stanley explained she was the co-owner of the property Mr. DeCola had tried to rent and felt he was right on track. Ms. Stanley noted they had done everything they could to try to sell frybread from that location. Ms. Stanley believed the DeCola's have always been very supportive of the Town and the Chamber and felt there was a flaw if someone could sell fry bread on the corner and not from a rented building. Mayor Evans would look into this matter.

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.

Emily Linkey, Library Director, reminded everyone The Taste of Rim fundraiser was coming up on March 12, 2016, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the library and this fundraiser did provide the bulk of funding for the library. Council Member Wilson noted he still had tickets for sale.

Don Engler, Police Chief, reported on February 15, 2016, SafeWise released their 20 Safest Cities in Arizona 2016 Report. Chief Engler was pleased to announce that the Town of Payson had been placed in the top 20 safest cities in Arizona. Chief Engler noted SafeWise analyzed the most recent FBI crime data and ranked each city with a minimum population of two thousand people. Chief Engler noted due to the great accomplishment of the Police Department staff during 2014, Payson experienced a decrease to the Index Crime Figure with 41.9 index crimes per 1,000 population down from 48.0 index crimes per 1,000 in 2013. This was most likely a strong factor in the selection of Payson as one of the 20 safest cities in Arizona. Chief Engler noted this was a tremendous accomplishment by the entire Police Department because it was accomplished while working shorthanded in the 9-1-1 Dispatch Center as well as in the number of officer positions staffed.

Mayor Evans congratulated Chief Engler and asked him to let his officers know the Council appreciated them.

David Staub, Fire Chief, announced the Fire Department would be teaching 250 high school kids CPR.

Bobby Davis, Economic Development Specialist, gave a brief update on the broadband project. Mr. Davis had sent the Council an e-mail documenting the last four months of progress. Mr. Davis was trying to get an interest to help fund the project. Mr. Davis noted it has been identified where there was fiber and where fiber needed to be put in. Kelly Riggs, Gila County IT Director, was working on this with Mr. Davis. Mr. Davis believed broadband was a utility and without it the Town could not grow. Mayor Evans thanked Mr. Davis for his effort.

Cameron Davis, Parks, Recreation and Tourism Director, announced his department had received the Diamonds Back Field Building Grant which included new infield replacement. It would not include the artificial turf replacement. The grant would include new scoreboards and back stops. Mr. Davis would receive the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) next week and wanted to have this project completed by Little League's opening day. Mr. Davis thanked Barbara Rasmussen for her help with the grant. The player names on the scoreboard would be revealed later. July 8-10, 2016, was the Arizona ASA "B" State Championship Softball Tournament. Mr. Davis noted Payson was also voted Best of Small Town for 2016. Film crews would be in town the week of March 21, 2016, to film the commercial.

LaRon Garrett, Town Manager, announced the Town had secured another Water Infrastructure Finance Authority loan (WIFA). The WIFA Board approved the 11 million dollar loan of which 1 million dollars was forgivable and the interest rate would be in the low 2%.

Mayor Evans asked Tammy Enlow, Budget Analyst, to come to the podium. Mayor Evans presented Ms. Enlow the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. The award identified an individual most responsible for the award. Mayor Evans read a portion of the award letter and recognized Ms. Enlow for her work and thanked her. Ms. Enlow thanked the Mayor and Council.

Council Member Croy noted he had recently had contact with a family in crisis and had referred them to the Police Department to inquire about the Guardian Angel program. Council Member Croy asked Chief Engler to clarify what the Guardian Angel program was. Chief Engler explained it was a program providing a pennant for an individual to enter numbers into of people to call if they had an emergency. The program has been very beneficial in the community and the Police Department has had the program for 12 years. Council Member Croy noted the family who spoke to him spoke highly of the program and had asked him to thank Chief Engler for his

efforts. Chief Engler noted the program was run by Police Department volunteers.

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.

E. MINUTES

1. ***Council Meeting Minutes:**
January 21, 2016 Regular Meeting Pages 1-7
***CONSENT* APPROVAL**

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. ***Airport Commission Minutes:**
September 21, 2015 Regular Meeting Pages 1-8
***CONSENT* INFORMATION ONLY**

F. HEARINGS AND APPEALS

1. **Public Hearing** on an application for a Class B Bingo License filed by John Zilisch, agent for Payson Helping Payson, 514 West Main Street, Payson, Arizona.

Mayor Evans opened the Public Hearing.

Motion: to Approve an application for a Class B Bingo License filed by John Zilisch, agent for Payson Helping Payson, 514 West Main Street, Payson, Arizona.

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

There were no public comments. Mayor Evans closed the public hearing.

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.

John Zilisch thanked the Council.

G. RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

1. **Ordinance No. 877.** First Public Hearing regarding Ordinance No. 877 captioned as follows: AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF PAYSON, ARIZONA, AMENDING CHAPTER 95 (AIRPORT) OF THE TOWN CODE RELATING TO USE OF AIRPORT PREMISES.

Mayor Evans opened the Public Hearing.

LaRon Garrett, Town Manager, explained this brought the airport into line with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) uses and the Airport Commission had recommended approval. Council Member Carpenter asked for a summary of what this would accomplish. Mr. Garrett replied this would modify the rules as to what was allowed in hangars so a person could work on their personal vehicle even though it was not aircraft related. The person could not do it for hire and it could not interfere with any of the aircraft operations. Council Member Carpenter asked if someone could do it as a business. Mr. Garrett replied no. There were no public comments. Mayor Evans closed the Public Hearing.

H. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. There were no items in this section.

I. NEW BUSINESS

1. ***Council Decision Request.** Council approved, on the Consent Agenda, a Council Decision Request filed by Silvia Smith, Town Clerk, to reschedule the Special Budget Meeting from May 3, 2016 to May 10, 2016.
***CONSENT* APPROVED**
2. **Council Decision Request** filed by David Staub, Fire Chief, to accept the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) as presented and authorize the Fire Chief to sign.

David Staub, Fire Chief, explained this was a major revision to the plan and was broken into five sections. The plan needed to be kept current and accurate and was done through Gila County. Chief Staub noted these were recommended actions and were not binding. The plan was necessary to get Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) grants. Council Member Carpenter asked Chief Staub to briefly tell the public some of the things they should be doing. Chief Staub replied the first thing was to communicate to the public that the plan existed. Chief Staub felt the plan needed to come before the

Council as part of the communication that there was a plan and that the Fire Department was working on a plan. The plan talked about basic wildland fire training for firefighters and specialized firewise training. The plan said to work with the State Forester on training and community needs. The Fire Department was working with the State Forester. The plan talked about a County wide communication system. Chief Staub noted merging the County Dispatch Center with the Payson Police Department Dispatch Center was a step towards that. The plan also addressed a community evacuation plan, "Ready Set Go", and what residents could do to prepare for a wildfire. Council Member Carpenter thanked Chief Staub.

Motion: to accept the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) as presented and authorize the Fire Chief to sign.
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.

J. CLAIMS

1. ***List of checks.** Council approved, on the Consent Agenda, a list of checks paid from January 15, 2016 through January 29, 2016, Check Nos. 048029 through 048273 and authorization to file the checks for audit.
***CONSENT* APPROVED**

K. MISCELLANEOUS

1. ***Council approved, on the Consent Agenda, the approval of Jim Hunt as Chair and Bill Day as Vice Chair of the Airport Commission.**
***CONSENT* APPROVED**
2. ***Council approved, on the Consent Agenda, the appointment of Kylie Guevara to the Payson Area Advisory Youth Council, to fill an un-expired vacancy, term to expire June 30, 2017.**
***CONSENT* APPROVED**

L. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Evans adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:08 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 18 of February, 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