



TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

APRIL 22, 2021

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MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

This document is developed and provided to help inform residents about what is happening with Town operations, services and programs; to answer frequently asked questions; and to encourage citizen participation in our local government. We aim to provide high quality programs and services to our residents in an effort to create a high quality of life. We welcome public comment and participation in the governance of our town. Residents are encouraged to join a council appointed board, commission or committee, speak at a council meeting during the public comment period, or fill out an online comment form. Town staff and I are honored to serve the residents of our town; we are committed to excellence and welcome you all to join us in the spirit of service.

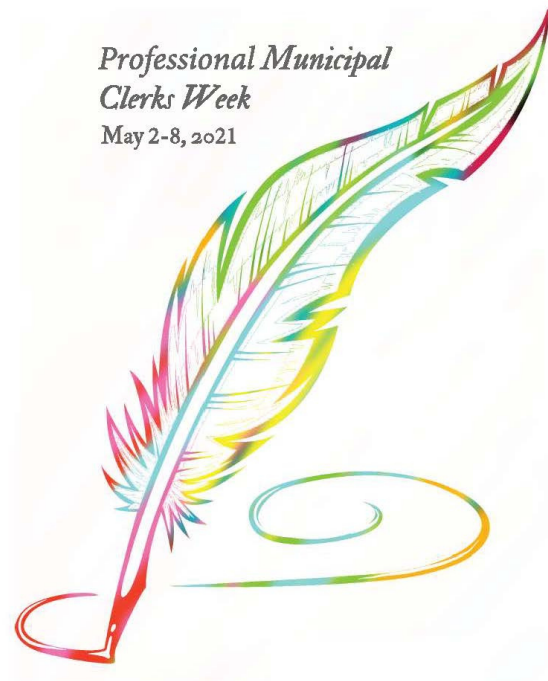
-Troy Smith, Town Manager

CLERK'S DEPARTMENT

This May 2 through 8, 2021 will be the 52nd Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week! Initiated in 1969 by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC) and endorsed by all of its members throughout the United States, Canada and 15 other countries, the week is a time of celebration and reflection on the importance of the Clerk's office. In 1984, President Ronald Reagan signed a proclamation that officially declared Municipal Clerks Week the first full week of May. In 1994 and 1996, President Bill Clinton also signed proclamations confirming Municipal Clerks Week. Tracie Bailey, Town Clerk, will be accepting the Town of Payson's first official proclamation celebrating Clerks Week at the April 22, 2021 Town Council Meeting.

Municipal Clerks perform many vital services for their community, including but not limited to:

- Maintain records of community history, official Council actions, Meeting Minutes, Code Books, and other important records and documents.
- Serve as liaison between local governments and its citizens; receive, distribute, and file correspondence from citizens and other governmental agencies.
- Process contracts and agreements, and support all administrative functions.
- Administer elections, registration, and voting, which is a key and vital piece in the democratic process.



In more good news for the Clerks Department, the Arizona Municipal Clerks Association (AMCA) Board and Scholarship Committee awarded Michelle Stanley, Deputy Town Clerk, a scholarship to the 2021 AMCA Clerks' Academy for full tuition of \$275.00. The Town of Payson Clerks Department strives to stay current on staff certifications and encourages ongoing education and training in order to continuing providing quality service to the community.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

On April 2nd, the police department conducted a hiring process for Police Officer Recruit. From that testing, we are currently performing background checks on four potential applicants.

Applications are currently being accepted for Dispatcher, and a hiring process for this position will be conducted in early May 2021.

On April 9th, 2021 the police department conducted an evacuation drill on the northwest section of town. During this drill, approximately 330 homes were visited and procedure was followed as if there were an actual evacuation in progress. With fire season quickly approaching it is important to conduct surprise drills to get new officers, dispatchers and volunteers familiar with what to do in case of this type of emergency.



POLICE DEPARTMENT



April 11th - April 17th was National Telecommunicator Week. We are so thankful for the men and women that choose to answer the call, work the long ever-changing hours and keep our officers and firefighters safe.

April 14th, 2021 - Detective Varga hosted a Facebook Live event to educate the citizens about the drugs currently effecting Payson, with a focus primarily on Fentanyl and it's increasing dangers. Citizens were not only able to gain knowledge of the affects, warning signs, and how to get help when dealing with this dangerous drug, but were also able to ask questions and interact with Detective Varga. As of today, the presentation has received over 2,000 views and has 98 comments and questions from the people of our town, the ones these drugs affect most.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

On April 9, 2021, units were dispatched to a reported person not breathing at a local gym. Captain Rice, who had just come off duty, heard the call and was in the same complex as the call and responded to assist. He arrived and found an adult male not breathing and no heartbeat. He began immediate CPR. Additional crews arrived shortly after and began Advance Cardiac Life Support measures. Before the patient left the scene, he had a strong heartbeat and was breathing on his own. The last update we had is the gentleman is expected to make a full recovery.

The Engineer's academy finished up this week and qualified five Driver/Operators in the complex skills of safely driving apparatus and operating the water pump.

The Apparatus committee made its final trip to Florida to inspect our second new engine. A few minor corrections were made and both trucks should be in Payson very soon. We are eager to have them ready to provide service to the citizens of Payson.



PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM

Arbor Day Donation

The Payson Lions Club donated \$700 to the Friends of Payson Parks & Recreation for the planting of trees at Rumsey Park in observation of Arbor Day on Friday, April 30. Trees will be planted by the Town of Payson Parks, Recreation, & Tourism Department Friday, April 30 at 2:00pm and invite all those who would like to attend. The Town of Payson would like to thank the Lions Club for this generous contribution and serving together to help the community.



Payson's NIRA Rodeo named Grand Canyon Region Rodeo of the Year from Nationals

Each year, each region of the National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association votes on a Rodeo of the Year award recipient. The voting committee includes coaches, event directors, and two representatives from every school in the region. The Payson NIRA Rodeo held on March 27-28, 2021 was unanimously awarded the Grand Canyon Region's Rodeo of the Year for the 2020/2021 season. The National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association awards the winner's plaques at the College National Finals Rodeo in Casper, Wyoming in June.



PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM

Cinco de Mayo Fun Run/Walk

Bring the family and enjoy a 5k run or 1 mile walk, Saturday, May 1 at Rumsey Park. Registration ends on April 25, so get registered today! More information can be online at paysonrimcountry.com



Mogollon Monster Mudda & Kidz Mudda Registration Open!

Registration for the annual Mogollon Monst Mudda & Kidz Mudda is open online at paysonrimcountry.com and at the Parks, Recreation, & Tourism Office. Kidz Mudda will be held on Friday, June 18 for ages 6-11, and Mogollon Monster Mudda for ages 12+, all at the Payson Multi-Event Center. Specialty Hero Heats, Elite Heats, Teen Heats, and Masters Heats are also open for those looking to qualify for the Gladiator Challenge, Saturday, 6/19 evening. Find out more and register today at paysonrimcountry.com

Hashknife Pony Express

The Town of Payson was once again host to the Hashknife Pony Express for their 63rd annual ride from Holbrook to Scottsdale this past week. They arrived to an estimated crowd of 100+ at the Payson Post Office on 4/14, where they departed on 4/15 with 14 bags of mail to be delivered on the route. If you missed this historical event, the video of their arrival in Payson can be seen at https://fb.watch/4Zkc9r_Mfn/



PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM

Pop Up Food Truck Food Court

The Town of Payson hosted the Pop Up Food Truck Food Court in Rumsey Park on Friday, April 16 & Saturday, April 17. Eight food trucks participated in the event and served over 1,500 people. Full photo gallery can be seen at Adventure Payson on Facebook.



Monday Night Lights at the Payson Multi-Event Center

Open arena nights have started up at the Payson Multi-Event Center for community members. The main arena will be open on Mondays nights from 6pm-8pm for leisure riding, barrel practice, and more. Questions or information can be directed to Event Center Coordinator, Lauren Moore, at the Parks, Recreation, & Tourism Office at 928-472-5110.

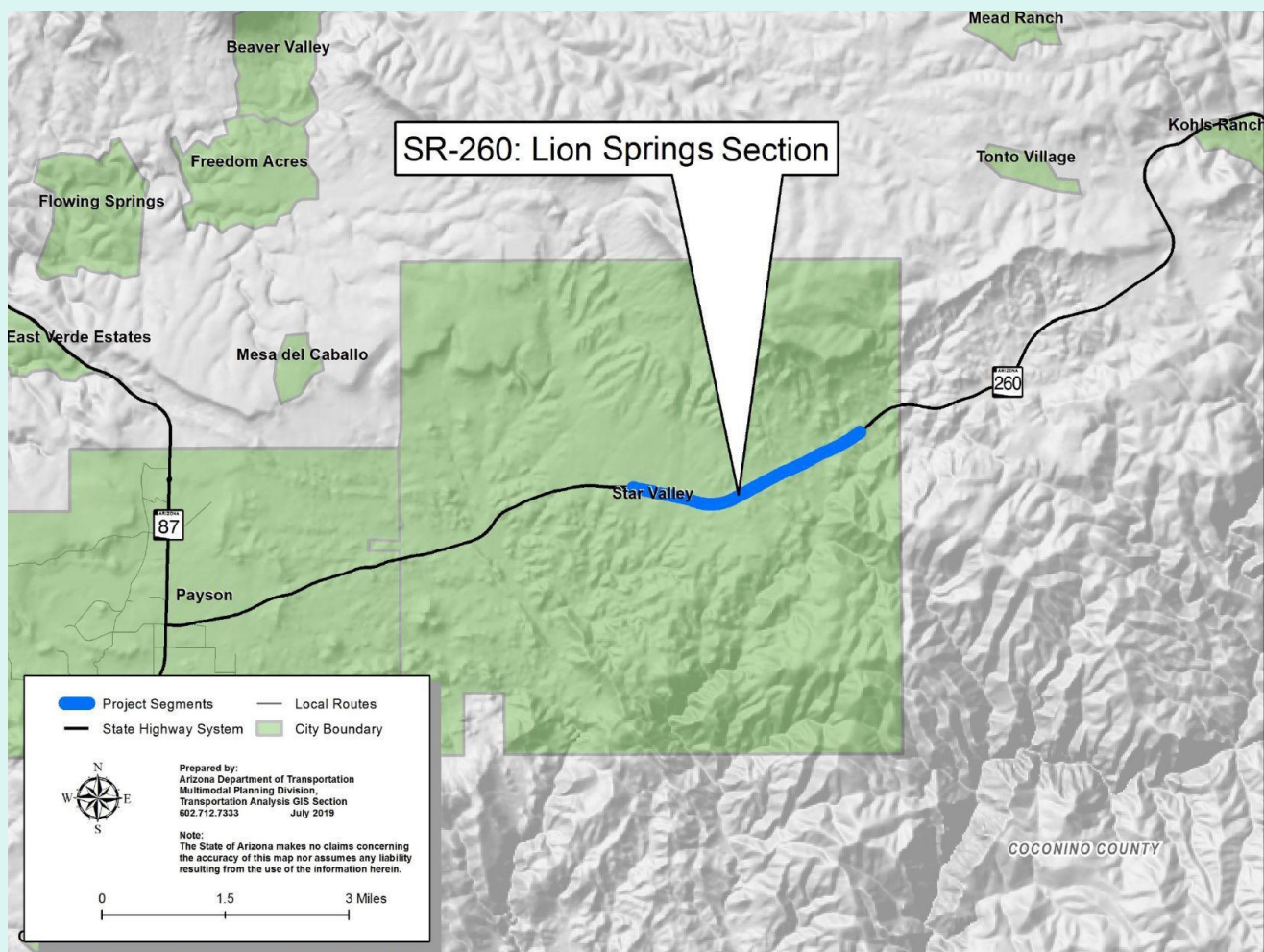


PUBLIC WORKS

SR 260 Lion Springs Project

On May 9, 2019, the Payson Town Council approved a Resolution supporting the completion of the improvements to Highway 260 in the area of Lion Springs. Design progress meetings have since been held, with the most recent being on April 8, 2021. During that meeting it was noted that funding for this project is not currently included in the tentative 5-year program for ADOT.

The public comment period for ADOT's Tentative Five-Year Construction Program is underway and will end at 5 p.m. on June 3, 2021. Additional information on the program, the public comment period, and how to participate can be found here: <https://azdot.gov/planning/transportation-programming/tentative-five-year-program>



WATER DEPARTMENT

CC Cragin Update

So far 2021 has been very sunny. Though this makes for beautiful days, it certainly causes issues for our water resources. The CC Cragin Reservoir currently has approximately 4,000 acre-feet of water which represents approximately 29% full. The winter snowmelt was simply absorbed into the ground and was not enough to fill the reservoir this year. So, as a result, the projected operating season for SRP to pump water over the Mogollon Rim and into the Verde River will be approximately 6 weeks beginning on May 3rd to approximately June 13th. During this time, the Town of Payson, and Mesa Del Caballo will receive their partial allocation from the reservoir. The Town of Payson will receive 553 acre-feet which will supply approximately 27% of the annual customer needs.

Thankfully, 2020 was a year that started with a full reservoir, so the Town of Payson was able to meet the customer needs and inject 1,752 acre-feet of excess surface water from the CC Cragin Reservoir into the aquifer for long term storage. With a natural recharge of 2,520 acre-feet that brings the total aquifer recharge last year to 4,272 acre-feet. That's nearly 2 years' worth of water needs and our well levels are showing the result because we are starting with higher levels this year than last. Thankfully, our long-term water banking efforts will pay big dividends this year. Even though our water resources are looking good for this year, we need to keep in mind that water is a precious resource in Arizona, and we all need to be conservative with our use. Hopefully the upcoming summer rains will be productive and help to refill the reservoir. Until then keep looking to the sky for clouds and enjoy the sunny days.

Watersheds Story Map

If you would like to learn more about the watersheds in our state, please visit <https://azwaterblueprint.asu.edu/feature/big-picture-health-and-function-arizona-watersheds>. Here you can learn all about Arizona's watersheds and their impacts in an interactive format.

Prescription Medications

We would like to encourage everyone to not flush medication down the drain. These medications can end up in our drinking water aquifer via the Green Valley Park lake recharge system. If you have prescription medications to dispose of, they can be dropped off at the Police Department lobby.

End of Report

Next Report: May 13, 2021

