

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE  
THATCHER TOWN COUNCIL  
May 11, 2010**

Present: Mayor Bob Rivera, Vice Mayor Bill Mulleneaux, Councilman Ken Larson, Don Innes, Eric Merriman, Charles Morris, Wayne Griffin

Staff Present: Terry Hinton Manger, Heath Brown Engineer, Dudley Welker Attorney, Chief Mike Payne Fire Department, Chief Mark Steven Police, Lona Duncan Town Clerk

Visitors: Aimee Staten, Mayor Ron Green, Chris Gibbs

**AGENDA**

Mayor Rivera welcomed everyone stated there was a quorum. Mayor Rivera said God Bless our Troops their Families and God Bless America I ask that you keep them in your prayers

Pledge of Allegiance lead by Mayor Green

Roll Call

**OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

Mayor Ron Green said I know you are going to vote on the Water Agreement tonight but the reason I came tonight is to thank this Council, the Water Committee, and the Mayor for the way you worked with us during the process of the water agreement. It shows that we can work together. My term ends on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June and I hope the spirit of cooperation continues. I have appreciated over the last few years the way that Mayor Bob Rivera has treated me with respect and as a true friend he has helped me out with many issues and we worked together on many issue. I would like to thank him publicly and the Thatcher Council for the work they have done with me while I have been Mayor I think we did some good things together. Mayor Rivera told Mayor Green that we appreciate you and thank you for coming.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES:**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**                      Action Item

- A.     Approve minutes of the April 13, 2010 Regular Council Meeting.
- B.     Planning and Zoning Monthly Report.
- C.     Police Monthly Report.
- D.     Approval of Invoices.
- E.     Financial Reports.

Councilman Morris made motion to approve the reports and minutes. Council Merriman seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous Motion passed

**OLD BUSINESS:**                      Discussion, consideration and possible action

**NEW BUSINESS:**                      Discussion, consideration and possible action

- A.     Safford/Thatcher Water Settlement Agreement.

Vice Mayor Mulleneaux made motion to approve the water agreement that we have worked out with the City of Safford. Councilman Larson seconded the motion. The vote

was unanimous Motion passed

Terry said that David Kincaid and I are trying to coordinate a joint meeting with the two Councils to sign the agreement. We are looking at May 17<sup>th</sup> Monday. Council agreed that 12:00 noon would be best for them. Terry said he would talk to David about where and let them know.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431.03 (A)(7) the Council may go into Executive Session to consult with the Town Attorney for legal advise on Water Lawsuit Settlement.

A. Decision on Executive Session.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

A. Town Manager's Report:

Terry said the Fire Chief has his new truck it is a ford truck we are putting the lights on it. The ice machine broke at the Fire Station so that is something that will have to be replaced.

Tomorrow at 8:30 the pedestrian bridge should be here the foundation is set and our plan is to pick it up off the truck and set it on there. As far as sidewalks in Daley Estates we are through with everything except from the bridge to the west so we are making good progress. Heath said the bridge may look unpainted when it shows up. Terry said it will also look at little out of place because there are no sidewalks on either side.

Just a reminder that Nathan's Barbecue is have their Grand Opening at 11:30 so if any of you can go please do.

I am still working with the College on a swim team they want us to rent the pool and I sent them back a note reminding them that they use our fire station and in return we can use your pool or other facility. Councilman Innes said they act like this is new to them it has been this way for years.

If you remember a while back we received a grant called EECBG it is an energy efficient grant we are going to put some solar panels at the waste water treatment plant. We are in the process of applying for a competitive grant to expand that project. Heath today found another grant through Sun Pumps as big as the first two grants to expand it even further with the intention that there will be enough solar panels to completely operate the waste water treatment plant it is a net benefit and it sounds like we have a good chance of getting that. Councilman Morris asked the cost for electricity right now. Heath said is about 2500 a month. Terry said we won't get it all in grants we will get about 75 to 80 thousand in grants and we will pay 30 thousand for the first phrase and then we were going to duplicate it the second time so we would pay 40 to 50 thousand and the next grant will be 100% with no cost to us.

Terry said the Hawaiian Barbeque restaurant is getting real close to opening they are trying to get it up and running before the temple dedication. The restaurants and hotels and doing very well right now. We are still waiting for people who want to build houses at Mountain View Estates. I am still getting positive comments on the 4 day work week.

Graham County Electric is starting the 4 day work week next week and City of Safford is getting closer to trying it. Mayor Rivera asked when are we going to resurface Ray Lane.

Terry said right now it is scheduled for May 24<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Larson asked about the walk way on Reay Lane. Heath said it is moving but it will be at least 2 years. Mayor Rivera asked about sidewalks on 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. Heath said that it bid out and it was awarded to Sollers. Mayor Rivera asked is that on both sides of street from Golden Corral to Relation Street and how wide? Heath said yes and I think it will be a 6 ft sidewalks. Heath said it will probably be a month before they start working.

Terry also said we are in the process of working on our web page it will be about six weeks before it completed. We hired a group to help create it.

B. Fire Department Report.

Mike said we have been working on getting something done on the radio's by the end of June 2011 the wide band will need to be changed over to narrow band so that is an ongoing project. We will be hosing down some the school kids I think we have five different groups. The second week in June we have the volunteer fire fighter conference in Tucson and we may have a couple of guys go to that. On June 29<sup>th</sup> there is to be an organic fire at the mine it is a mock drill that will involve a lot of agencies in the valley it should be good training. The ladder truck is looking to be at 45 days for delivery they are moving right a long. Mayor Rivera asked when he would be going out there and Chief Payne said they will let us know when they get further along probably about 5 weeks before we go. Chief said there will be 17 or 18 people attend the Fire 1 & 2 class we only have a couple from our department. Councilman Innes asked where we stand with the number of people in our fire department that have been through the Fire Class 1 & 2. Chief said we have about 20 out of 33. We are letting the younger guys take more responsibility and the moral is good we are get along well.

C. Police Department Report.

Chief Mark Stevens said we were to know by the end of April about our Resource Officer but I received a letter today saying it would probably be the end of May before we know. If you want to put on your calendar we have National Night Out set for Aug 3<sup>rd</sup> the first Tuesday of the month I believe it starts at 6:00pm. They will have the first meeting in a couple of weeks. On Saturday we assisted the Meth Coalition with what they call Dump the Drugs day it is prescription pills there were 27 pounds of pills collected we have about 54 pounds of controlled substance in our locker. We collected them at Home Depot. I believe it was very successful.

Heath said he received a letter from NRCS who has jurisdiction over our damn, the one south of 8<sup>th</sup> street. Because of the study they did we are on the verge of taking it off the unsafe list. The study shows there is less of a flow than they thought so we have capacity flow with the maximum flood. That is good news because they could have made us fix that.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

A. Safe House- Councilman Griffin said we have our next meeting in June so nothing to report until then.

B. Chamber of Commerce- Councilman Merriman said that Mark Finley reported on marketing he started the Salsa book and he does the web page for the Chamber and Graham County. He is right now fixing their web site and marketing the salsa book trying to get the books in the airports. There was a Clint Swap with the Graham County Community Foundation talked about grant money they have received about 500 thousand and the interest they get off that money is to help different organization. Drew John reported on Roper Lake looks like we will keep it the way it is the community is just going to have to help. Terry said there is going to be an IGA for the differ entity. Councilman Merriman said that David Kincaid was there and said the City of Safford voted to pass the water agreement and that we need the Prop 100 to pass it will help if it doesn't pass the County will be behind by about 2 million dollars. Drew Johns said that possibly in 2011 they might have a bike fest here. The Scottsdale Fly In brought 17 people and they stayed at the Marriott. There is the ribbon cutting tomorrow at 11:30 at Nathans Barbecue place. Councilman Merriman asked Chris Gibbs if we going to have something on the July 4th. Mr. Gibbs said the 3<sup>rd</sup> there will be the Battle of Bands and later there will be the fireworks. Terry said Dick Bingham has already called and asked is we have money for fireworks.

C. SEAGO- Mayor Rivera said there is a meeting this Friday and you have been invited. Councilman Merriman will be taking my place and I appreciate that. They will bring a lot of City and County Leaguers into this area to see what is going on. That will be at the EAC building.

D. Arizona Foundation- Councilman Larson said he didn't attend last meeting but I think they are still in the process of working on being a part of Arizona Foundation. Councilman Larson said that the 500 thousand that Councilman Merriman was talking about is where we get that 20 thousand to give out. Councilman Merriman said he was told that City of Safford has given about 100 thousand and Freeport has given about 200 thousand and Thatcher about 68 thousand dollars building this fund since 1997.

E. Library Committee- Councilman Morris said it has slowed down they are still trying to get information from different Counties on how they run theirs.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilman Morris made motion to adjourn meeting and second by Councilman Innes. The vote was unanimous meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED:**

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Lona Duncan, Town Clerk

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Robert Rivera, Mayor

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the regular/special meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Thatcher held on the 11th day of May, 2010. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

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Lona Duncan, Town Clerk