

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE
THATCHER TOWN COUNCIL
August 10, 2010**

Present: Mayor Bob Rivera, Councilman Ken Larson, Don Innes, Eric Merriman, Wayne Griffin

Absent: Councilman Charles Morris, Donald Innes

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

Visitors: Chris Gibbs Mayor of Safford

AGENDA

Mayor Rivera brought meeting to order at 7:00pm. Mayor said God Bless our Troops Families and God bless America

Pledge of Allegiance lead by Terry Hinton

Roll Call.

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

None

PUBLIC APPEARANCES:

None

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approve minutes of the June 8, 2010 Regular Council Meeting.
- B. Planning and Zoning Monthly Report.
- C. Police Monthly Report.
- D. Approval of Invoices.
- E. Financial Reports.

Councilman Larson made motion to approve minutes and reports. Councilman Griffin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous Motion passed

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. Town Manager's Report:

Terry said our damn spill way at about ten o'clock opened and it is now empty the pond behind the damn was gone in about 3 hours. Terry explained that the

pipe is 210 feet long and was completely sanded up. They had about 100 ft cleaned out and when they pushed the cleaning apparatus through to the box and when they pulled it back out the water began to run out. We know now what to watch for and make sure there is a slow flow of water. I have been here since 1988 and that is the first time anything like that has happened.

We are pouring sidewalks in Daley Estates but the last couple of day we have pulled the crew off to take care of rain related problems. Today the street crew was at the Canal and Reay Lane we filled in that hole and built a bigger scoffer to take care of that water. With all the water we have had there are a few places one being Mt View Estates that have some sink holes we will work on those and should be finished by Thursday. Again with the amount of rain we have had the weeds have taken off and I have three crews trying to get them down. Vice Mayor Mulleneaux asked about using roundup Terry said we do use it in some place where there is no private citizens because it kills everything around it. We do use it on the cemetery, retention pond. We have sent out letters to citizens whose places are looking bad. The parks are looking pretty good right now. Terry showed a picture to Council of where the solar panel will go in the Waste Water Treatment planet.

We are thinking of making a nice park right below the cemetery. We will have to move the entrance to the east and do away with the road that is there now. We would have to put in a sprinkler system and some grass and put play ground equipment in there. I have been looking at what they call water parks that do not have swimming pools they don't have the liability the staff or any of the problems that go along with a pool. The hotels are beginning to use them they run about 12 thousand dollars to put in. The tank is a 100 gallon tank and re circulates the water made of all soft material and safe for little kids I think it will give young families a place to go. I am not saying that is the place for it but it is something for Council to think about we might even put a couple of those in a short period of time. Mayor Rivera said I think it is a good idea and I would also like to see the baseball fields upgraded with maybe grass. Terry said the problem with upgrading those fields we would have to bring in a foot or two of top spoil they have been there a long time and still serving the purpose. Mayor Rivera said I agree the fields have been there a while but we could look at up grading this is just a vision maybe 5 years down the road but it needs to be looked at. Terry said it will take money that is why we put the lights on the high school field so we could use them since they already have the grass.

Terry said the other thing is the paper will probably have some article in it about the salary of the Mayor, Council and the head of each department because of that article in the paper about what happen in California. The paper didn't realize that the League of Cities and Towns publishes all the salaries through out the state each year and anyone who wants it can ask.

I was going to tell you that Chief Payne was late because of a bee call. Chief Payne said they are in a tree and we are going to have an exterminator take care of them.

Terry said we dipped at the sewer ponds last week and there was zero larvae. Yesterday Dan put larvicide in every place where there was standing water and last night he did fog. The cotton fields have water and there are mosquitoes there. Councilman Griffin asked who was responsible for the retention pond behind his house. Heath said I'm not sure if we formerly accepted those. Terry said we will do some research on that. Councilman Griffin said it looked like it was on the dedication of the subdivision showing it was the towns. Heath said the plats will show it has been dedicated but we have to go through a former

process before that happens. Terry said a lot of times we don't accept it if there is something that is not completed.

Councilman Merriman asked if Palmer has come in to change his stuff again. Terry said I received a call from the Department of Correction that said Mary's Mission was going to try to put a half way house for male and females paroles and so I call the County probations and they knew nothing so I call Mary's Mission saying we hear you are going to do this but you have to go through the Town first to get a use permit approved by Council. They asked me how I found out. I have also checked with League of Cities and Towns just to make sure I was right and was told if it was a group home for handicap they are cover by State Statue but this type of group would have to apply for permit thorough P&Z. Gary sent them use permit papers to fill out but we have not heard back and if they do there will be a P & Z public hearings then the Council will have to have a public meeting before the Town meeting and then you will have the final vote in Council meeting so it is a long process and won't happen for a least two months. Councilman Merriman asked if there was any more on Bealls going in Terry said they have signed a letter of agreement with Terry McCarthy. Mike Payne said they are supposed to come in this week for a building permit. He tells us he is working a deal with a fabric store that kind of follows the Bealls Stores.

B. Fire Department Report.

Chief Payne all we have is a big thank you for one heck of a ladder truck. We are going to train tonight with Safford so they can get familiar with the truck. The more we work with it the more we learn about things that we can do with it. We have had about 20 guys go through the training. Terry said most of the hydrants in the valley this truck will pump everything they will hold at one time it was pumping 1200 gallons a minute. Chief Payne said that was just the top the pump is rated 2000 gallons per minute it will put out a lot of water.

C. Police Department Report.

Chief Steven got through another National Night Out there were 3247 tickets if you average that to be four tickets a person there would be 812 people. We sold out of everything sold over 600 hot dogs. We have every good attends maybe because there was no rain this year and I think everyone enjoyed themselves. We had one complaint from one lady said she was upset she could not ride the fire ladder truck. Mayor Rivera said he heard a lot of good complements. We also caught the guy that hit the girl in the back of the head. It ended up being two cases because he was the same guy at EAC last year where the girl was jogging around the track. He is now in jail with a 100 thousand dollar bond and Silver City is very interested in him they have some crimes of the same nature. Chief said school starts tomorrow and we are going to work the zone the first week.

Heath said the Planning and Zoning Commission went over a few code revisions and so we will hold a public hearing next month and present those to you for your approval. Terry said it is such a process to get it changed you have to have a public meeting then a public hearing and then a meeting and then the Council has a meeting. So if you see anything that needs to be looked at now is the time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Safe House – No report
- B. Chamber of Commerce- Councilman Merriman said tomorrow there is a Social Media Work Shop at 5:30pm to 7:00 pm if interested in attending contact Dustin Welker and it will also be again on Aug 12th from 8:00 to 10:00am over at the college. There are ribbon cuttings one is Simon Chile that is tomorrow on the highway in front of the Chamber it is a rededication. Images Salon and H&S Pipe & Feed is Friday at 11:00 am and Los Olmos Ranch & Cabins in Glenwood on Aug 28th. The reason they are doing that one in Glenwood is the people who own the resort live here is Safford and this is an avenue for advertizing for the Chamber up there. They need more people for the Gila Valley Leadership class and the new web site is up and going. On Oct 1st they may have a luncheon on a Friday but they are still deciding for the Candidates in the General Election. EAC will have open house for new nursing facility on Aug19th they have 120 students and their school starts the 23th. We have a report that the airport is going to be closed from Sept 7th to Sept 23rd to overlay all the fields. We did question what that would do to the Salsa Fiesta because they are suppose to be bring in a plane and the guy jumping out into Safford Town Square. Mayor Gibbs said the plane will probably land in Willcox. Councilman Merriman asked if our web site was up and the answer was yes and it is connected to the Chamber. Also Arizona State Credit Union has an open house on Aug 20th from 9am to 6pm. The Salsa Fiesta is coming
- C. SEAGO- Mayor Rivera said they would not have a meeting until October.
- D. Arizona Foundation. Councilman Larson said we did some more training and everything is going good. What we decided to do is once we get Graham County official we are going to change it to Gila Valley Foundation and Clifton and Morenci may get involved.
- E. Library Committee- None

Councilman Griffin asked if we wanted to change the saying that is said for the Parade of Flags they sent me an email asking. Mayor Rivera said no we will keep the same phrase.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Merriman made motion to adjourn with a second from Councilman Larson. The vote was unanimous meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Lona Duncan, Town Clerk

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 10th day of August, 2010. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Lona Duncan, Town Clerk