

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE  
THATCHER TOWN COUNCIL  
July 12, 2011**

Present: Mayor Bob Rivera, Vice Mayor Mulleneaux, Councilman Eric Merriman, Charles Morris, Wayne Griffin, Donald Innes

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

Absent: Councilman Larson, Attorney Dudley Welker

Visitors: Judy Reed, Jim Reed, Antoinette Griffin, Kevin Griffin, Aimee Staten, David Winsor, Hunter Winsor, Shari Sutorka

**AGENDA**

Mayor Rivera welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order stating there was a quorum. Mayor said God bless our troops God bless their families and God bless America.

Pledge of Allegiance. Hunter Winsor

Roll Call.

**OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

Hunter Winsor stood and said he would like to propose naming the ball park after Herb Winsor. Herb was born and raised here in Thatcher he was the Town Clerk for thirty five years. Back in the 60's there was no place to play baseball so Herb started the little league program and it is still running today. The area where the baseball park is now was an eye sore he cleaned up trash, desert shrubs, leveled the land and built a baseball park. His grave now overlooks the ball field, it was his favorite place to watch all the games. I believe naming the park after him would be a great way of honoring his memory. Mayor Rivera asked for this to be on next Council agenda.

Judge Long stood and explained the Senate Bill 1398 was passed and becomes law the 20<sup>th</sup> of July. What it does is direct all courts to access a 13 dollar fee along with whatever is accessed for the fine. It is to go for Az Department of Safety \$4.00 for projective equipment, \$4.00 for the gang and immigration intelligence, \$4.00 to agency that issues the citation and \$1.00 for the Justice Courts. We are not a Justice Court but a Municipal Court so we are left out for the second time. I am asking that the Town of Thatcher add to this fee another two dollars making it a total of \$15.00. We will use the money to enhance court operation for jury trials. The cost of jury trials include sending out notices paying the jury which I have heard is going up from the 12 dollar a day. The total amount of the fund would be probably less than \$1000 we have about 600 tickets a year. This will provide a cushion for jury trials. Mayor Rivera asked for this to be place on next Council agenda.

Mayor Rivera said Harry and Cathy William's who live at the corner of Hoopes and Anderson has a son Travis Williams who is a Warrant Officer II. He pilots an Apache Helicopter in Afghanistan his unit fly's a flag for each member of their unit from their Home Town. He has requested that we send the flag we fly at Town Hall. After they fly the flag in their unit he will return it with a letter saying that it was flown there. I think that is a great idea and an honor. Terry said it would be taken care of tomorrow.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES:**

- A. 28<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out Proclamation.

Mayor Rivera introduced Jim and Judy Reed as representative the committee and thanked them for all the work they do. Mayor Rivera read the proclamation. Judy thanked the Council for the support they give. She said the event is getting bigger and bigger each year. The date again is August 2, at 6:00pm at Daley Estates Park.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Action Item

- A. Approve minutes of the June 12, 2011 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 minutes and records. Vice Mayor Mulleneaux seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Discussion, consideration and possible action

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Discussion, consideration and possible action

- A. **RESOLUTION NO. 594-2011:** A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER, ARIZONA, DECLARING AS A PUBLIC RECORD THAT CERTAIN DOCUMENT FILED WITH THE TOWN CLERK AND ENTITLED "THE 2010-11 AMENDMENTS TO THE TAX CODE OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER."

Terry explained the State of Arizona years back made an agreement that we would maintain a model city tax code that all cities would adhere to. This is a way to maintain local sales tax rate. These items are negotiated each year by legislation the new changes are made and passed on to us. We are required to sign it each year. This Resolution and the Ordinance both deal with the tax code.

Vice Mayor Mulleneaux made motion to approve Resolution No 594-2011. Councilman Innes seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed

- B. **ORDINANCE NO. 166-2011:** AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER, ARIZONA, RELATING TO THE PRIVILEGE LICENSE TAX; ADOPTING "THE 2010-11 AMENDMENTS TO THE TAX CODE OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER" BY REFERENCE; ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS.

Terry explained this is the companion document to Resolution above.

Councilman Innes made motion to approve Ordinance No 166-2011. Councilman Merriman seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed

- C. **RESOLUTION NO. 595-2011:** A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER, GRAHAM COUNTY, ARIZONA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER, ARIZONA, AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OFFICE OF MANUFACTURED HOUSING AND THE TOWN OF THATCHER FOR THE TOWN TO PROVIDE MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT.

Terry said this has been going on since the late 1980's we contracted with the State of Arizona to inspect and give building permits for installation of mobile homes. They contract with all municipality and we need to renew the agreement.

Councilman Griffin made motion to approve Resolution No. 595-1011. Councilman Morris seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed

- D. Speed Limit Changes on Reay Lane and Hoopes Avenue.

Terry said we discussed the speed limit changes last Council meeting. Chief Stevens myself and Heath have come up with the recommendations of from Hwy 70 to just across the railroad track that is right now 25 mph would be changed to 35mph and going out to Daley Estates make it all 45mph until you get to residential area on Hoopes Ave this side of Johnson Street and then back to 25mph.

Vice Mayor Mulleneaux made motion to approve speed limit change. Councilman Merriman seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Pursuant to A.R.S. Section 38-431.03 (A)(1)(3)(7) the Council may go into Executive Session to discuss or consideration of employment, evaluation assignment or appointment, to give advise on negotiations and for legal advise from the Town Attorney.

Mayor Rivera asked to go into Executive Session with Council and Terry Hinton. Vice Mayor Mulleneaux made motion to go into executive session with a second from Councilman Innes. Motion passed

Time was 8:00pm

- A. Decision on Executive Session.

#### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

- A. Town Manager's Report:

Terry said the school project is going well we have about 5 weeks before school starts. The school intends on fencing the whole block so to have more control of access to the school it will not be locked just easier for teacher to watch the kids. The fog coating will hopefully be finished tomorrow for this year's streets. Next year we will fog it when it is not so hot because it takes longer for it to dry in the heat. Terry said the bird watching building is built just have a few things to work

on next week it will be finalized.

The sewer project on the hill we have signed the changed order it is surveyed and staked out it will be about 7ft to 8 ft. deep I think that is something we can manage. The contactor said they could be completed by Aug 1<sup>st</sup> which is the deadline.

Gila Outdoors new owners have put a number of different items in the store including a technical range and more products. The rain Saturday caused a number of problems with the roof leaking on that side of the building. I am going to get estimates on getting a different roof.

I received information today from RTAC that ADOT is concerned that they will not have budget money to match for federal funds coming our way which is only 5.7% so they could loose millions of dollars. Mayor Rivera said what they are asking for is to send letters to our legislators in the State because they are cutting transportation money there is not money for maintain.

Terry said he had a meeting Thursday with our consultant and the City of Safford. Our substation is at peak close to 70% capacity. That is not immediate danger but it does need to be addressed. I don't total understand what our consultant is saying but he said buy into Safford substation or build new the cheapest alternative is to rebuild the sub station, or build new substation out by the waste water treatment plant. I will know more after our meeting.

B. Fire Department Report.

Chief Payne said they have gone through pager and radio change over we have four trucks who's radio are not working right now but we have put in for grants to help with that. Terry said they receive but can't transmit. Chief Payne said the trucks that go out on fire normally have radio and we received four new hand held's from the County so we have thirteen total. The new base stations for us and the Police have been ordered.

Coming events are, this Friday the young single adults from the institute are going to clean all trucks and the bays. We will have a live burn at Freeport on Saturday and do some training up there. The parade will be on 23<sup>rd</sup> of July and also the radio test. They want 2 fire trucks in the parade and another one to stand by for the fire works. We also have National Night Out on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Then the Fire School training will be week of Sept 11<sup>th</sup> we have about 7 signed up and expect more. Councilman Merriman said that Hal Herbert said in Chamber meeting that there was going to be a Centennial Celebration in February and they would like the Fire department to pass the torch from one town to another. We will hear more about that as time gets closer just giving you a heads up.

C. Police Department Report.

Chief Steven all of our handhelds were compatible and all car except the two spare cars have radios that are compatible. We submitted our request to the Gila River Indian grant part of that will help with radios. Officer Kevin West is the organizer for National Night Out for the Police Department and Councilman Griffin son is going to do an Eagle Scout project he is doing the games this year. We are in charge of the Parade on July 24<sup>th</sup> and the Home Land Security exercise is that day. The parade is at 6:00pm starts at High School come down Church to Stadium to Ball Park.

11. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- A. Safe House- Councilman Merriman said he went Wednesday and I missed it the meeting was Tuesday. She did show me the kitchen that had been all remodeled looked really nice. Next month they will be electing officers.
- B. Chamber of Commerce- Councilman Merriman said today we had Hal Herbert discussed the Centennial it will be the week of Feb 12<sup>th</sup> .They are planning a parade and other thing we will here more later on. We also had a report from Safford they were saying in August the golf course deal might change some. He said there meeting time would change from 6:00 to 7:00 the first Monday would be at City Hall and the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at the Odd Fellows. Kent from the Forest Service said Mountain Graham is open but you cannot have fires or fire places. He said the telescope is getting close to the 20 year permit so they can starts tours up to the scope.
- C. SEAGO- Mayor Rivera said that Randy did sent that RACT information our and it is important that we send out letters to our legislators explaining they need to restore some of the Hurf money so we can qualify for Federal money.
- D. Library Committee- Councilman Morris said we have a meeting tomorrow at 6:00.

**Adjournment:**

Councilman Innes made motion to adjourn meeting with a second from Councilman Larson meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

**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 12th day of July, 2011. 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