

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
THATCHER TOWN COUNCIL
May 19, 2014**

Present: Mayor Bob Rivera, Vice Mayor Bill Mulleneaux Councilmembers, Wayne Griffin, Ken Larson, Don Innes, Aaron Allen, Joy Martin

Staff: Terry Hinton Manager, Heath Brown Engineer, Matt Clifford Town Attorney, Chief Shaffen Woods Police, Mike Payne Fire Department, Lona Duncan Town Clerk

Absent: None

Visitors: Misty Woods, Denise Cluff

AGENDA

Welcome and Call Meeting to Order. Mayor Rivera said God Bless our men and women in the armed forces and their families. God bless our first responder's fire and police God Bless Thatcher and the United States of America.

Pledge of Allegiance lead by Vice Mayor Bill Mulleneaux

Roll Call.

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Denise Cluff stood and said she lives by the Daley Estates Park and I was wondering if we could look at redoing the basketball court. It is like broken up asphalt it ruins your basketball and people still play on it. It would be nice for the kids to practice and also for Night Out each year. The one at the Ball Park is awesome. Mayor Rivera said we will pass that request on to staff and thank you for coming.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES:

CONSENT AGENDA:

Action Item

- A. Approve minutes of the April 22, 2014 Regular Council Meeting.
- B. Planning and Zoning Monthly Report.
- C. Police Monthly Report.
- D. Approval of Invoices.
- E. Financial Reports.

Councilman Innes made the motion to approve the consented agenda. Councilwomen Martin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed

OLD BUSINESS: Discussion, consideration and possible action.

- A. 2013 Audit – Scott Powell

Scott Powell stood and thanked Council for letting him take some time. I will be reviewing the audit we did. Our audit was conducted in accordance with the

General Audit standards and the Government Standards which is a higher level of audit. In the audit we examined over 100 transactions. We have discussed your finances with County Treasurer, State Treasurer, Arizona State Retirement System even ADOT making sure the money they sent to the Town is recorded correctly by the Town. We found no issues it matched up every well. The expensive transactions were taken from, credit card, utility transaction, checks that got paid nothing looked out of order. I like to look at the changes that took place over the year. One of those changes was your cash balance increased by 500 thousand dollars it was cash flow from your utility funds. The Town has assets on the books of 29 million dollars but most of that is streets, sidewalks, sewer, electric systems things that can't be sold. You do have hard liability in the amount of 3 million dollars which is mostly the GADA loan for electric and the fire truck. Your largest expenditures this year was on your streets. Your budget in general did not overspend, it was under budget. Mayor Rivera asked Mr. Powell to rate us with the other towns. Scott said they audit 20% of the Towns and you are in the top 2 or 3 you and Camp Verde are among the best. Councilman Innes said you talked about our biggest job is preservation of current assets talk about that. Scott said you have a sizable cash balance but you have to remember part of that came from borrowing money for the GADA Loan which was a good financial move. But you have to be aware of things that can happen like sewer issues or electrical unexpected things that you haven't planned on so you may need that cash balance. Scott said there is no set formula of how to do that. You need to work your 10 year plan to see what is best for the town and what might change over the years. Scott reminded Council if they have question to contact him. Mayor Rivera thanked him for coming.

Councilman Innes made motion to accept the audit. Councilman Griffin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed

B. Adoption of Preliminary 2014/2015 Budget.

Terry said this budget is similar to what we worked on at the work shop. The only increase about 20 thousand of additional Hurf money. I gave you information from K. R. Saline Associates showing the purchase cost adjustment factor for several years. With what power cost are doing it needs to climb. Even if we raise our fuel adjustment we will be lower than everyone else. With the estimated cost of power this needs to happen just to keep us even next year. Councilman Innes asked what the average percent would be. Terry said the average percent of bill will be 7% of bill or anywhere from \$14.00 to \$21.00 a month. Councilwomen Martin said I would be in favor of keeping it the same. Councilman Allen said it is like inflation we can do 7% now but will have to do 14% next year. Mayor Rivera said we can't wait to long or we will get ourselves in trouble. Councilman Innes said the cost adjustment needs to go up when it changes. Councilman Griffin said our position has always been the enterprise fund needs to support it's self. The vote tonight only sets the upper limit. Councilwomen Martin asked what is our target, and how much should we save how much is to much savings, should we do more with the surplus that comes in by end of year. Should we add more to the budget for different projects? Mayor Rivera said right now we are working on getting land from the college to create the Civic Center which should help the College, Thatcher Unified School and the Town of Thatcher. Terry said there may be a need for rebuilding the substation. Mayor Rivera said we need to have

a work session and look at everything.

Councilman Griffin made motion to approve preliminary budget. Councilman Allen seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Motion passed

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion, consideration and possible action

- A. **RESOLUTION NO. 620-2014:** A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER, GRAHAM COUNTY, ARIZONA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND MANAGER TO EXECUTE FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER, ARIZONA, IGA'S WITH GRAHAM COUNTY TO PROVIDE FOR DISPATCHING SERVICES, ANIMAL CONTROL SHELTER SERVICES, ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES AND WIDE AREA NETWORK COMMUNICATION SERVICES.

Terry said this is what we do every year. They are within what I have budgeted. Councilman Griffin asked do they track the number of our people that use it. Terry said no they go by the percent of population.

Councilman Innes made motion to approve Resolution No 620-2014. Councilwomen Martin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous

- B. **RESOLUTION NO. 621-2014:** A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER, GRAHAM COUNTY, ARIZONA, AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND MANAGER TO EXECUTE FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF THATCHER, ARIZONA, IGA'S WITH GRAHAM COUNTY TO PROVIDE FOR ELECTION SERVICES.

Terry said explained the Resolution is needed for the County to conduct our elections.

Councilwomen Martin made motion to approve Resolution # 621-2014. Councilman Larson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Resolution passed

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

- A. Town Manager's Report:

Terry said Tommy, Rob and Brent are going to have the Splash Park men show them how to start and properly take care of the equipment. We are thinking of keeping it open from 8 am to 10 pm but not a definite yet. Friday will be the first day for the public to use it I believe the next project we need to look at would be a Splash Park in Daley Estates. Mayor Rivera asked about when the monument would be started. Terry said about four weeks maybe sooner. We have been working on an idea from Councilwomen Martin of how to get the water from the pump at the waste water treatment plant to the ball park. I thought about that and we have a concrete channel that runs from the railroad tracks up to a couple hundred yards on the other side of 1st Street. We could go under the highway and the railroad tracks with a four inch pipe. If that idea works out we might be able to put green grass out there. Councilman Innes asked how far we would

have to run pipe, Heath answered 2 ½ miles. Terry said it is not a sure thing but we are working toward that idea. On the Walking Path we received another bill for 32,000.00 and will not award the bid until it is paid. The low bid came in higher then they thought.

B. Fire Department Report.

Chief Payne said they finished the pump testing Thursday. Engine 1 is not working correctly due to value. The other engines are doing pretty good. We are still waiting on the grant for air packets.

C. Police Department Report.

Chief Woods said last month our detective along with the task force served a search warrant on Claridge Street for drugs and they found meth, marijuana, heroin, pills, cash, rifles and a hand gun. It was a good start for us getting started with the task force. We also had one detective and an officer involved with a federal law enforcement agency in an investigation. It had to do with drug trafficking where 11 thousand dollars was seized. The investigation is still on going. We sent two officers to Active Shooter training in Florence. On Stone Garden grant allowed us to purchase trauma kits so each officer has one now. We will have an in house fire arms training next month.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Safe House- None

B. Chamber of Commerce- None

C. SEAGO- Mayor Rivera said they had a meeting last Friday in Bylas it was well attended. Nogales is experiencing a problem with their Senior Citizens Center. Where the director was using money unauthorized. He set up his own board of director which one was he son and the rest of the board resigned. We told him he had a month to get another board to run that center or they would not get money set aside for next year. We also completed the evaluation for our Executive Director. I would also ask that you give me your evaluation of our manger by Wednesday afternoon I will be going on vacation and will consolidate them having them ready for you by June meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Griffin made motion to adjourn meeting Councilman Innes seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous meeting adjourned at 8:43pm.

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 19th day of May, 2014. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Lona Duncan, Town Clerk